

**DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION
OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL**

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January 25, 2008

To Whom It May Concern:

In 1996, the California State Fire Marshal's office published the *Accelerant Detection Canine Manual*. This manual encompassed standards relating to all aspects of the accelerant detection canine program including, but not limited to, handler selection, canine specifications, and canine team certification. These standards were updated in 2003 and incorporated into the *CAL FIRE* procedural manual.

At the present time, we are in the process of reviewing the current standards and, if necessary, updating and amending them to reflect the latest applicable fire investigative techniques. In order to accomplish this review, we will be holding public meetings to solicit input from interested stakeholders. Please accept this letter as an invitation for you, or your representative, to attend one of the meetings. For your convenience, we've scheduled three meetings on the following dates. All meetings will be the same, so you need only attend one.

Date	Time	Location
02/14/2008	10:00 a.m.	State Fire Marshal Headquarters 1131 S Street Sacramento, CA 95814
02/19/2008	10:00 a.m.	<i>CAL FIRE</i> Southern Region Headquarters 2524 Mulberry St. Riverside, CA 92501 Embassy Suites Hotel
03/03/2008	5:00 p.m.	333 Madonna Rd. San Luis Obispo, CA 93405 (this meeting is being held in conjunction with the California Conference of Arson Investigator's Annual Training Seminar)

If you plan to attend one of these meetings, please RSVP to Marge Yarbrough at (951) 277-8796 or email Marge.Yarbrough@fire.ca.gov. If you will be unable to attend any of the meetings, but would like to comment on any issues relating to the Standards, you may forward your comments to us by email response to: Marge.Yarbrough@fire.ca.gov. In addition, if you are aware of any other interested parties that would like to assist in the review/update process, we would appreciate if you could forward this information to them.

Sincerely,

Thomas P. Hoffman
Chief of Law Enforcement
Office of the State Fire Marshal

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PLEASE REMEMBER TO CONSERVE ENERGY. FOR TIPS AND INFORMATION, VISIT "FLEX YOUR POWER" AT WWW.CA.GOV.