



# THE FIRELINE

## State Fire Training Division

### The Evolution of CICCS



#### Introduction:

The California Incident Command Certification System (CICCS) Task Force, established in 1998 by the State Board of Fire Services following a series of After Action Reports, identified a need to develop minimum training and qualifications standards for personnel who manage emergency incidents under the Incident Command System (ICS) to assure safe and efficient performance. The CICCS was adopted by the State Board of Fire Services (SBFS) and the OES Fire and Rescue Advisory Committee/FIRESCOPE Board of Directors in 2000.

The CICCS Task Force proposed four guidelines for the successful implementation of CICCS:

#### 1) Voluntary Participation

Participation in CICCS is voluntary. Each department has the option to decide whether to adopt these training and experience standards. The CICCS standards apply to those hazard risks that involve movement of resources from one agency to another outside of incidents that are routine first level responses within their jurisdiction or usual dispatch response

area. With that said, CICCIS has been recognized as the "industry standard" throughout the California Fire Service and generally safety organizations, such as Cal-OSHA, will hold public safety organizations accountable for not adhering to existing standards should an accident occur.

## **2) Historical Recognition**

When the decision was made to adopt CICCIS, a provision was made to recognize the past training and experience of fire service personnel. Those persons who met or exceeded CICCIS requirements would not be required to take additional training. The cut-off period for historical recognition was 2006 after the transition period was over the requirements of CICCIS would be followed.

## **3) System Components**



The Wildland and Prescribed Fire Qualification Guide (PMS 310-1), developed under the sponsorship of the National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG), provides guidance to participating agencies and organizations who would like to have their personnel utilized by federal agencies on wildland fires at the national level. This guide establishes the minimum training and experience standards for wildland firefighting and prescribed fire personnel that must be met for those personnel to be considered "qualified" to be in a Fireline (ICS) position outside of their own geographic area. PMS 310-1 was adopted by all the federal wildland firefighting organizations as the minimum standard that must be met to be recognized. 310-1 2006 is the current document being used by CICCIS.

## **4) ICS Certification Review Levels**

The local agency fire chief is authorized under CICCIS to determine that an individual meets the certification requirements for the ICS 100 and 200 positions. Additionally the chief certifies fitness and currency requirements of their personnel for assignments through the state mutual aid system of the California Fire Assistance Agreement. Peer Review Committees are established at the California Emergency Management Agency (Cal EMA) Fire and Rescue Branch operational areas for the 300 level and at the Regional level for 400 certification. At the ICS 500 and 600 levels applications are reviewed by the Peer Assessment for CICCIS Evaluation Committee (PACE V). Each of these committees is made up of a diverse group of individuals representing a wide spectrum of fire agencies and organizations.

With the adoption of CICCIS the state of California has made great strides in adopting the four initial guidelines of the system. With the passage of time and implementation of CICCIS for a number of years it is apparent that some changes and additions need to be adopted to insure that CICCIS continues to be successful.

## **Present:**

### **The CICCIS Task Force**

The current CICCIS Task Force is a large group of volunteers representing fire agencies and labor organizations. We have been very fortunate to have six members of the original task force continue with the current task force. The membership of the CICCIS Task Force has representatives from large metro departments to volunteer departments. Tribal governments as well as federal military and wildland departments are represented, as is CAL FIRE, State Fire Training and Cal EMA Fire and Rescue. Each task force member brings to the group not only a wealth of knowledge on fire fighting, organization and management but a perspective on how CICCIS guidelines would affect the ability of their personnel to respond and operate on the fire ground.

### **Current Activities**

In the past 3 years the Task Force has obtained approval from the SBFS to recommend to the California Fire Service the adoption of; a fire qualifications card, the use of IQS, and a California All Risk Qualifications System Handbook modeled on the NWCG 310-1.

Completion of the California Specific All Risk Qualifications System Handbook is the main focus of the task force at this time. With the completion of this document all the CICCIS policies and procedures will be located in one place and the information will be current. This will resolve the consistency issues found throughout California because there is no single source of information on CICCIS. This document should be completed prior to the 2010 fire season.

Prior to completion of the handbook there are several items that need to be resolved and among these are; revision of the equivalency matrix, development of alternative methods of maintaining currency, standardization of peer review committees, recommending alternatives for physical fitness, what fire and rescue positions will be included in the handbook, revised historical recognition standards for new positions and alignment with the National Incident Management System (NIMS).

## The Unveiling of Rescue Systems (RS) 1 & 2

The update for RS1 and RS2 has literally been years in the making. With funding from Office of Homeland Security (now CAL EMA) and support from the Office of Emergency Services (also CAL EMA), the workgroups of subject matter experts have endured several critical budget cycles along with stops and starts in their funding. But now, they have finally prevailed!



The updated CFSTES courses will provide the necessary knowledge, skills, and abilities to perform and teach Rescue Systems 1 and/or Rescue Systems 2. These Instructor Update offerings are intended for currently registered Rescue Systems 1 and/or Rescue Systems 2 instructors. Registered instructors in these disciplines must attend the roll-out classes to maintain their instructor registration. The hands-on, in-the-field class will be taught in the approved eight (8) hour format using the student task book as the evaluation tool for all participants.

Only currently registered State Fire Training Rescue Systems 1 and Rescue Systems 2 instructors are eligible to attend the Rollout Classes. The fee of \$290.00 for RS1 and \$230.00 for RS2 instructor update classes pays for the instructor cadre, student materials, SFT certification and consumable materials necessary for these classes. Maximum enrollment is limited to thirty-six (36) students per class. A Certificate of Completion will be provided by CFRTA and State Fire Marshal certification will be issued.

### North Net (back-to-back rollout)

Oct. 6      RS1  
Oct. 7      RS2

### San Bernardino

Oct. 9      RS1

### McClellan/Sacramento (back-to-back rollout)

Nov. 10     RS1  
Nov. 11     RS2

### Menlo Park

Nov. 13     RS1

### Ventura

Dec. 9      RS1

Register and pay on line: [www.fireandrescuetraining.ca.gov](http://www.fireandrescuetraining.ca.gov) or contact Mollie Povey, CA Fire and Rescue Training Authority, 916-640-1420 (business line), or visit [www.fireandrescuetraining.ca.gov](http://www.fireandrescuetraining.ca.gov).

## Notice of Proposed Regulations

The Emergency Medical Service Authority (EMSA) - Proposed Regulation Change in Conjunction with AB 2917 has a 45-Day Public Comment Period - July 24, 2009 through September 8, 2009 regarding the following chapters:

Proposed Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Regulation Change (Chapter 2)

Proposed Advanced Emergency Medical Technician (Advanced EMT) Regulation Change (Chapter 3)

Proposed Process for EMT and Advanced EMT Disciplinary Action Regulation Change (Chapter 6)

Proposed California EMT Central Registry Regulation Addition (Chapter 10)

Directions regarding public or written comment to the above listed proposal are on the EMSA website:

[http://www.emsa.ca.gov/about/Public\\_Comment.asp#AB2917](http://www.emsa.ca.gov/about/Public_Comment.asp#AB2917)

###

The State Fire Training Webpage can be directly accessed via the following web address: <http://sft.fire.ca.gov>



OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL

Direct Access to  
the State Fire  
Training  
website:  
<http://sft.fire.ca.gov>

