



DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION
Office of State Fire Marshal
State Fire Training

P.O. Box 944246
SACRAMENTO, CA 94244-2460
(916) 445-4444
Website: www.fire.ca.gov



June 18, 2008

To all State Fire Training Registered EMT Instructors:

This memo is to inform State Fire Training EMT instructors of two issues that this office is currently experiencing. Please read this notice carefully as it contains important information.

Firstly, our office recently experienced a problem with several students who were trying to recertify their status as EMTs. Instead of including with their applications a copy of a current EMT card, these students provided their National Registry card, erroneously believing that *it* was their official certification. Please be aware that the National Registry card is not an EMT card and does not confer upon its holder any legal authorization to practice as an EMT in California.

Practicing without proper certification poses serious problems, not only for the EMTs in question, but also for the fire departments employing them and for State Fire Training. It is extremely important, therefore, that you, as an EMT instructor, inform all of your students that a National Registry card is *not* a license to practice as an EMT in California. Please also advise them of the correct certification process: after completing their basic course and taking the National Registry exam, students must go through either State Fire Training or their local Emergency Medical Services Agency to obtain certification.

Secondly, beginning July 1, 2008 we will require each instructor to supply State Fire Training with a current copy of medical credential when submitting a course request. Our Procedures Manual states that instructors shall “be a physician, registered nurse, physician’s assistant, EMT-Paramedic, EMT-II, or EMT-I currently licensed in California” [ref: §100070(d)(3)(C) and §100070(d)(3)(B)]. Please be aware that if we do not receive proof of medical credential along with the course scheduling documentation, our office will be unable to process your request.

We appreciate your cooperation with each of these issues. If you have questions regarding either of the matters in this notice, please feel free to contact Laine Schendel at (916) 445-4758, or EMT Program Coordinator, Sandy Margullis at (916) 445-8154. Thank you.