Date: December 12, 2018

To: Ronny J. Coleman, Chairman
Statewide Training and Education Advisory Committee
c/o State Fire Training

From: Caryn R. Petty, Deputy State Fire Marshal

SUBJECT/AGENDA ACTION ITEM:
Alameda County Fire Department, Accredited Local Academy (ALA) Re-Accreditation

Recommended Actions:
Recommend Alameda County Fire Department continue to be recognized as an Accredited Local Academy (ALA) in the State Fire Training (SFT) system for the Re-Accreditation period of five years.

Background Information:
A re-accreditation site visit was conducted on December 11, 2018, at the Alameda County Fire Department headquarters at 6363 Clark Avenue in Dublin, California, by Deputy State Fire Marshal Caryn Petty, State Fire Training. Introductions were facilitated by Training Captain Brandon Buckley and included Division Chief of Training James Hoskins, Battalion Chief Paige Bowie, and Training Secretary Katy Marciel.

A review of the Department’s Self-Assessment Report (SAR) was discussed with agency representatives present, with requirements for supplemental documentation noted. Said documentation has since been received and has met the requirements as set forth by State Fire Training policies and procedures. The review of the SAR was followed by a tour of all classrooms and training facilities with opportunity to review training course records and equipment compliment.

Analysis/Summary of Issue:
Alameda County Fire Department is a progressive agency dedicated to consistent professionalism, tradition, and pride with a focus on diligent training. The Department consistently strives for improvement throughout its recruitment and development, with efforts focused on community service of the highest caliber. With unwavering standards and aggressive training, ACFD personnel are exemplary leaders in the California fire service.

“The Department of Forestry and Fire Protection serves and safeguards the people and protects the property and resources of California.”
A tour of the training facilities indicated sufficient classroom space with a fully functioning training tower complete with all necessary props, tools, equipment, and vehicles to accommodate a fire academy training program as supplemented by satellite and partnered training sites and locations. Alameda County Fire Department successfully adheres to the 2013 Fire Fighter I curriculum and certification exam testing with all necessary equipment and props. The training facility presents an appropriate academy classroom equipped with enhanced audio/visual equipment and personal electronic learning aids. All Academy recruits are provided sufficient study materials, devices, and equipment for applicable success within the Academy training.

Several Registered Instructors within the agency participate in the Academy delivery and the Department will continue hosting additional State Fire Training courses at their facility and in conjunction with cooperating and neighboring agencies. Academy staff utilize a video-based testing system for evaluation purposes, with all student records maintained in a compliant and confidential manner.

To ensure continued success and compliance with Fire Fighter I testing, State Fire Training recommends that Alameda County Fire Department witness and participate in the testing process with other experienced agencies or colleges in the region.

Alameda County Fire Department has demonstrated a strong devotion to training that is indicative of a progressive organization. It is recommended that Alameda County Fire Department be re-accredited as an Accredited Local Academy in the State Fire Training system.