Date: October 16, 2015

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

From: Rodney Slaughter, Deputy State Fire Marshal III

Subject/Agenda Action Item: Accreditation of Sacramento Metropolitan Fire Department

Recommended Actions: Accredit Sacramento Metropolitan Fire Department as an Accredited Local Academy (ALA)

Background Information:

An accreditation site visit was conducted on August 31, 2015 at the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire Department (Metro Fire) Training Center (Station 21) located at 7641 Greenback Lane, Citrus Heights, California. The accreditation evaluation was conducted by Rodney Slaughter, Deputy State Fire Marshal-State Fire Training (SFT), Leona Allen, Fire Academy Coordinator Lake Tahoe Community College, Larry Savage, Training Chief, Timothy Beard, Captain and Dana Lipps, Administrative Specialist.

A review of Metro Fires self-assessment report was discussed with the Chief Savage and the fire academy staff. No deficiencies were noted. Chief Savage provided an overview and history of Sac Metro’s involvement with SFT over the years. Metro Fire has a dedicated Training Division that is managed by a training coordinator (Assistant Chief), two full time Training Captains and an Administrative Specialist. Starting in 2015 all fire academy recruits will be issued laptops so that they can access programs and course materials. Fire Academy staff use Apple iPads for evaluation purposes using Evals.net. Metro Fire is projecting firefighter turnover and is actively working on succession planning. A review of the self-assessment report was followed by a tour of the training facilities and classrooms in multiple locations around the fire district. An electronic records storage system is being devised for all training records including those required by SFT.

Analysis/Summary of Issue:

Pride of ownership was evident in both the facilities and the training staff. Metro Fire has all the requisite tools, equipment and apparatus to deliver the new 2013 Firefighter 1 curriculum successfully. Staff is very dedicated to the quality in their training program. A best practice employed here included the foundation for a small building (400 sq ft), in which cadets build a complete structure with a hip and gabled roof. Once the building is complete, the class then deconstructs the building afterwards.

Metro Fire meets all of the SFT requirements as an Accredited Local Academy. The Accreditation of Metro Fire will be a welcomed addition to the range of Accredited Academies within the SFT.