Date: October 18, 2013

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

From: Michael A. Garcia, DSFM III Specialist and Training Coordinator-South

Subject/Agenda Action Item: Active Shooter/Active Assailant (FSTEP) Program

Recommended Actions: Information/Discussion

Background Information:

Active Shooter incidents are taking place locally (within the State) and nationwide with increasing frequency. Fire Departments within the State are initiating Active Shooter programs working directly with local law enforcement in developing operations, command/control, and communications guidelines; with fire personnel now training to enter locations with law enforcement to immediately treat victims of these acts. Local policies and procedures must be developed by first responder entities to ensure coordination with assisting agencies. Appropriate training programs are vital to ensure firefighter safety working in this dynamic environment, including law enforcement (fire operations).

Analysis/Summary of Issue:

State Fire Training does not have an FSTEP course that addresses Active Shooter incidents. Other interested State Agencies (EMSA, POST, OES-Law, Fire, and Training) are meeting to determine the scope of training necessary for first responders that include fire, law enforcement and ambulance personnel. Tactical Emergency Medical Support (TEMS) is designed for law enforcement tactical team operations. Cal-EMSA retains statutory authority for all emergency medical treatment within the State including TEMS. FIRESCOPE developed an “Emergency Response to Tactical Law Enforcement Incidents” guide. There are no National Fire Protection Association training standards that address fire service first responders working in a law enforcement tactical operation. This item is being brought to STEAC for discussion to determine the need for a fire specific course on this topic.