Memorandum

To: RON COLEMAN, CHAIR, STATEWIDE TRAINING AND EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (STEAC)
    VICE-CHAIR
    MEMBERS
    ALTERNATES

Date: January 11, 2011
Telephone: 916-445-8195
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From: MIKE RICHWINE, Division Chief, State Fire Training
      Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)
      State Fire Training
      1131 S Street, Sacramento, California 95811

Subject: ISSUE MEMORANDUM ACCREDITATION OF MIRAMAR COLLEGE

ISSUE:
The accreditation of Miramar College as an Accredited Regional Training Program.

BACKGROUND:
Miramar was one of the original applicants for accreditation in June of 1998, but did not complete the original process. Miramar College has since been a strong training partner by offering FSTEP and CFSTES classes in the greater San Diego area. In March 2010, an application for accreditation along with a Self-Assessment Report was delivered to State Fire Training. A site visit was conducted on December 7, 2010 by Mike Richwine, State Fire Training Chief, Tracy Rickman CFTDA representative, and Dennis Childress, STEAC representative.

The site visit revealed a robust program with strong local support of surrounding fire departments and courses delivered in a variety of locations around the county. Equipment and training resources are adequate, and course records revealed no deficiencies. Certification exams are kept in a locked and secured location. The academy is not currently doing local processing but is making plans to do so with approval of their accreditation.

The single greatest deficiency in the program is the lack of diversity in the academy student population. This is being mitigated with outreach efforts directed toward local sports facilities and the hiring of female instructors.

DISCUSSION:
The Fire Technology program at Miramar College meets all criteria for accreditation as an Accredited Regional Training Program. Miramar College’s dedication to
maintaining quality courses and instruction is evident by our long-term and dedicated instructional staff; many of whom have served as course developers for SFM.

ALTERNATIVES:

None addressed at this time.

IMPACTS

None addressed at this time.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the Miramar College as an Accredited Regional Training Program

Distribution: (Statewide Training and Education Advisory Committee)
Ron Coleman, STEAC Chair
Ken Wagner, STEAC Vice-Chair and STEAC Member, California Fire Chiefs Association
Ed Bartley, STEAC Member, Northern California Training Officers Association
Tim Capehart, STEAC Alternate, California Fire Technology Directors Association (South)
Dennis Childress, STEAC Member, Southern California Training Officers Association
Dan Coffman, STEAC Member, California Fire Technology Directors Association (South)
Jim Connors, STEAC Member, California Fire Technology Directors Association (North)
Bret Davidson, STEAC Alternate, Southern California Training Officers Association
Mary Jennings, STEAC Member, California Fire Fighter Joint Apprenticeship Committee
Ken Kehmna, STEAC Member, Fire Districts Association of California
Chuck Knapp, STEAC Member, California State Firefighters’ Association
Bruce Martin, STEAC Member, California Fire Chiefs Association
Ron McCormick, STEAC Alternate, California Professional Firefighters
Ron Myers, STEAC Member, League of California Cities
Kevin Olson, STEAC Member, CAL FIRE
Tim Scranton, STEAC Alternate, League of California Cities
Rich Thomas, STEAC Member, California Professional Firefighters
Suzanne Todd, STEAC Member, CAL FIRE Academy
Tennis Tollefson, STEAC Alternate, California Fire Technology Directors Association (North)
John Wagner, STEAC Alternate, Northern California Training Officers Association
Kim Zagaris, STEAC Member, California Emergency Management Agency