

**FIREFIGHTER STANDARDS AND TRAINING COUNCIL MEETING
OCTOBER 12, 2001**

PRESENT:

Michael Randolph, Chairman	Fire Officer Member	Tallahassee Fire Department
Dave Casey	Fire Chief Member	Clay County Fire Rescue
Stuart Kaufman	Citizen Member	Plantation
Stockton Reeves VI	Citizen Member	Orlando
Shayne Stewart	Firefighter Member	Okaloosa Island Fire District

ABSENT:

Cynthia Diven	Fire Officer Member	Gainesville Fire Rescue
Larry D. Evans	Firefighter Member	Orange County Fire Rescue
Michael Gonzalez	Fire Training Member	Tampa Fire Department
Vicki Sheppard	Fire Chief Member	Palm Beach Co. Fire Rescue

Quorum was present and the meeting was called to order by Chairman Randolph at 12:00 p.m. Chairman Randolph welcomed Mr. Stockton Reeves VI as the newest member of the council. The minutes from the July 24, 2001 meeting were read and approved.

REPORT FROM DIRECTOR CLARK

Director Clark, Division of State Fire Marshal, stated that the revised Firefighter Health and Safety Rule is finalized and filed with the Secretary of State. He explained that the revised rule implements a task force made up of thirteen members. The task force essentially has the same member structure as the current Firefighter Standards and Training Council with the addition of members appointed by the League of Cities, the Florida Fire Marshals' and Inspectors Association, the Florida Association of Counties, the Florida Association of Special Districts and the Florida Fire Chiefs' Association. Certain criteria may be required for some members to be eligible for appointment. Copies were distributed of the letter that Director Clark sent to all affected parties who will be involved in appointing members. In addition to the new task force, if approved, House Bill 135 will rename the Firefighters Standards and Training Council to Firefighters Employment, Standards and Training and will amend 633.31 F.S., to include the identical membership as the task force.

REPORT FROM BUREAU OF FIRE STANDARDS AND TRAINING

Chief Napoli, Bureau Chief, distributed copies of the 2001 Florida Fallen Firefighter Memorial Service program.

Chief Napoli advised the council that the rule making process for the curriculum revisions is complete. After final approval from the Joint Administrative Procedures Committee, the rule will be filed with the Secretary of State and should be implemented by mid November.

Approximately two years ago the Governor and State Emergency Management established a State Working Group for Disaster Preparedness to look at the State's plan as it relates to responding to

weapons of mass destruction. This working group did an assessment of the state and identified threats, response capabilities, and weaknesses. They identified how additional training and equipment would resolve the weaknesses, and were able to apply for a grant through the Department of Justice resulting in approximately \$9 million being earmarked for Florida. In addition, a regional response concept was developed and became part of the state's strategy for response. Three days after September 11 the Governor convened a task force to do a quick assessment of the state's response capabilities. Assessment documents were sent to every fire service, law enforcement and health organization in the state to identify immediate needs. Copies of the recommendation report and the executive order were distributed. The Bureau of Fire Standards and Training, Florida State Fire College is mentioned as one of the agencies that has responsibility for training and will be in consultation with Florida Department of Law Enforcement. Terrorism response training is not new to the Florida Fire Service. Over the past couple of years programs dealing with domestic preparedness have been delivered by the Fire College and the National Fire Academy, with 69 being delivered by the Florida State Fire College. There is an initiative to train all supervisory law enforcement officers in the state on the incident command system and to provide incident management training. A train-the-trainer will be held at the Fire College for instructors from both fire and law enforcement on incident management training.

Chairman Randolph asked about the Firefighter I (FFI) and Firefighter II (FFII) programs. Chief Napoli gave an overview of the programs and stated that the cross-over for FFI and FFII works very well. Chairman Randolph also asked about the new Instructor I, II, and III programs. Chief Napoli explained that the bureau does not recommend instructor credentials to community colleges for general courses but has requirements for state certifications, however the Fire Instructor II and III certifications were partially at the request of the community colleges.

Stuart Kaufman stated that terrorist incident scenes should be treated like a criminal scene beginning with the initial investigation. Chief Napoli informed the council that these issues have been addressed.

Chief Napoli gave an update on the voluntary hazardous materials certification that was requested by the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) and reiterated that the certification examination will be written from competency standards and not from specific textbooks.

Stuart Kaufman discussed how some fire departments are addressing problems with suspicious packages and their handling; policies and procedures. Chief Napoli agreed and stated that each local jurisdiction now has or should adopt policies and procedures to deal with those issues as necessary.

REPORT FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Report on Training Center of the Year Award is tabled until next meeting.

Report on forestry classes (S130 & S190) is tabled until next meeting.

Report on firefighter fitness and wellness initiative is tabled until next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Dwayne Mundy, Staff Member, North Central Florida - Local Emergency Planning Council (NCF-LEPC) gave a presentation on hazardous materials responses in District 3. He explained that they have 7,000 square miles in their district with only one hazardous materials team in Gainesville. They contacted other regions in the state to set-up a statewide network on hazardous materials resources, cost recovery ordinances and inter-local agreements within each region. They were awarded an emergency management grant for geographic information system planning, training and equipment. They conceptualized initial response groups in surrounding counties and Gainesville Fire Rescue would be the core of technical responses. This concept fits in the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) regional response effort. The LEPC's are also analyzing sites that have reportable quantities of hazardous materials. District 3 identified the training and equipment needed specifically for their area and did a proficiency check list to determine what the current skill levels are. They are also using 4 initial response trailers in District 3 for response and training. More information is listed on www.ncflepc.org and a link on www.gfr.org. There also may be a consideration that Florida will work with Georgia and Alabama for hazardous materials responses. Shayne Stewart stated that the District 1 hazardous materials team that is stationed in Ft. Walton basically covers Escambia, Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, Walton, Holmes, Washington and Bay counties, has been working on a regional response program for quite some time.

AUDIENCE: None

NEXT MEETING: January 31, 2001 during Fire Rescue East
Prime Osborn Convention Center, Jacksonville
(meeting changed to Feb. 1)

ADJOURNED