

**STANDARDS AND TRAINING ADVISORY COUNCIL
OCTOBER 18, 1999 MEETING BRIEFS.**

On October 18, 1999 the Florida Firefighters Standards and Training Advisory Council met at the Fire College in Ocala. While a quorum was not present, discussion on various important issues took place. Please take a few minutes to review the following information.

By now all certified Firesafety Inspectors have received their letter notifying them of all the new code requirements. Remember that every inspector must complete the NFPA 1 course prior to January 1, 2001 to retain his or her certification. This course may also count for 24 of the 40 hours required for renewal of certification. If you have not received your information, contact the Fire College or go to the web site (www.fsfc.ufl.edu) for more information.

Randy Napoli reported to the council that the most critical issue at the Division of State Fire Marshal is the Fire Prevention and Life Safety Code. This issue will be watched closely during the next Legislative session. Also during the session, the Glitch Bill will be reintroduced and pending the outcome, a training course will be developed for school inspections.

Discussion on increasing the amount of training hours needed to become a Special Firesafety Inspector is underway between the Department of Education, Hotel and Restaurants, and Adult Healthcare Administration. Allan Lovvorn reported that increasing the hours from 40 to 120 has representatives of those agencies worried about the amount of money it will take to train existing inspectors to the new 120 hour level. Concern also arose with the requirement that their inspectors complete the 24 hours NFPA 1 course. For more information on this matter, check the web site for under the Standards and Training Advisory Council icon and read the minutes from this meeting.

Allan also reported that the Bureau has drafted a proposed change to the Administrative Code regarding Firefighter One (FF1) and Firefighter Two (FF2). Fire College staff is preparing the proper breakdown of skills required for each of the "levels". Discussion on how the transition will take place between the two and where the classes can be taught followed. Again, access the minutes of this meeting on the web site for further explanation on this matter. Remember that this change to the rule is in draft form only.

Ron Thomas reported to the members of the Advisory Council that there would be no change to the proposed new Fire Service Instructor II and III classifications. The difference between the two is that Instructor II requires a final examination before certification and Instruc-

tor III requires the Bachelors Degree review of credentials. This will hopefully encourage members of the fire service to involve themselves in a higher level of education. This matter will be discussed at the next Advisory Council meeting in December.

Speaking of meetings, the next meeting was scheduled for December 6, 1999 in Tallahassee. We represent you, the fire service. Please try and attend an Advisory Council meeting when one is near you. Meetings are usually scheduled in conjunction with major fire service meetings to make attendance easier. Please call the Fire College or check the web site for scheduled meeting dates and times. We look forward to *your* input.

The Advisory Council is looking for input on an Officers Candidate School curriculum. A survey should be sent to Fire Chiefs and Fire Officers to gauge the wants and needs of such a program.

This being the first meeting brief the Advisory Council has published here in the *Alarm Alert*, we hope you find it informative. If you have any suggestions on what you want to see in this section, place contact me or Angie Cain, Administrative Secretary at the Bureau of Fire Standards and Training at (352) 732-1330.

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