

FIREFIGHTER STANDARDS AND TRAINING  
ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING  
OCTOBER 18, 1999

A regular meeting of the Firefighter Standards and Training Advisory Council was scheduled at the Florida State Fire College in Ocala, FL on October 18, 1999 at 10:00 a.m.

PRESENT:

Michael Iacona, Chairman	Fire Chief Member	Orange County Fire Rescue
Michael Gonzalez	Fire Training Member	Tampa Fire Rescue
Michael Randolph	Fire Office Member	Tallahassee Fire Department
Shayne Stewart	Firefighter Member	Okaloosa Island Fire District

ABSENT:

Cynthia Diven	Fire Training Member	Gainesville Fire Rescue
Larry D. Evans	Firefighter Member	Orange County Fire Rescue
Christian Swann	Civilian Member	Winter Park
Ben Wacksman	Civilian Member	Tampa
Vicki Phillips-Sheppard	Fire Chief Member	Palm Beach County Fire Rescue

Quorum was not present.

Randy Napoli spoke on behalf of Director Clark and reported that the critical issue in the Division office right now is the Fire Prevention and Life Safety Code.

Letters were sent to all Florida Certified Firesafety Inspectors and Special Firesafety Inspectors notifying them of the new code requirement. Also, notification will be sent to all Fire Chiefs and Training Organizations, as well as being posted on the Florida State Fire College website ([www.fsfc.ufl.edu](http://www.fsfc.ufl.edu)). Every inspector that wishes to retain their certification must complete the NFPA 1 course prior to January 1, 2001. This course may also count for 24 of the 40 hours required for renewal of certification. Train-the-Trainer courses are being developed in conjunction with NFPA. There are jurisdictions within the State that are already using NFPA 1 and we recognize that as the equivalent with the exception of the Florida specific parts. The Florida specific part of the course will be developed and delivered to them.

The Glitch Bill will be reintroduced in the upcoming Legislative session. Pending the outcome, a training course for school inspections will be developed.

In the next few weeks, there will be a Standards Council section on the Florida State Fire College website to post Standards Council minutes, agendas, etc.

Allen Lovvorn reported that the Bureau determined the survey instrument, as directed from the last meeting, should be a two step process. First, to contact organizations throughout the State and obtain information on who is conducting the Officer programs and what the components of those programs are. A survey instrument can be developed, somewhat modeling the electronic surveying program that FSFC is currently using. Second, by using the information collected, have the Council determine the specific things and the direction they want the survey to go.

Allen attended a meeting with the Department of Education, Hotel and Restaurants, and Adult Healthcare Administration (each entity having specific aspects of inspections) to discuss increasing the Special Firesafety Inspector 120 hours. These agencies are concerned with the monetary issue of training their existing inspectors to a 120 hour level, as well as meeting the requirement that their inspectors complete the 24-hour NFPA 1 course by January 1, 2001 to retain their certification. It was concluded that the two core courses will be Fire Inspection Practices, which is basically what the existing Special Firesafety Inspector course is now, and Codes and Standards. Codes and Standards will include, by the Spring of 2000, the 24-hour NFPA 1 component. Presuming that the existing Special Firesafety Inspectors complete the 24-hour NFPA 1 course, an additional 16-hour block will be provided, bringing them up to an 80 hour level. The agencies are interested in providing in- house help to develop the last course, which will be directed at specific types of inspections. The levels of certifications will have a track designation, i.e., Special Firesafety Inspector in Division of Hotel and Restaurants. This is all in draft form. A three-year window may be offered for existing Special Firesafety Inspectors to complete the components of the 120-hour requirement, which will lower the financial impact. There was no objection to new Special Firesafety Inspectors taking the entire 120 hours of training. Chairman Iacona suggested the Staff to provide an update and possibly recommended curriculum for discussion at the next meeting.

Allen reported that the Bureau has drafted a proposed change to the Administrative Code regarding Firefighter One (FF1) and Firefighter Two (FF2). Staff not only separated the skills and attributes according to NFPA, they also assigned hours to the components as well as changed some of the description in the rule. It was determined that 160 hours of required study (lecture and/or drill) be the level of FF1 training. The FF2 segment is defined at 200 hours. Some issues are the training locations (the FF1 course does not have to be delivered at a certified training center; FF2 does), instructors, and the transition into FF2. There are two approaches for the transition; one, that the student can go immediately from FF1 into FF2 continuously, completing a 360 hour program; or two, the student can complete FF1 separate from the total 360. There are two possibilities for students who complete only the FF1 course to re-enter into the FF2 program. One of which is if the student is affiliated with an organized fire department (volunteer or paid) and maintains that affiliation continuously, they have a three year window to re-enter the FF2 program. If they are not affiliated with an organized fire department, they only have one year to re-enter the FF2 program. In both cases, the Bureau is requiring that each training center give an entry level examination into FF2 if training was not continuous. However, the Bureau is not defining the instrument and is leaving it up to the training centers to determine that the student meets the requirements of FF1 to their satisfaction. Discussion was held regarding the age requirement. Chairman Iacona asked that a copy of the rules be provided at the next meeting to continue this discussion. Randy Napoli stated the rule is in draft form.

Ron Thomas reported that there are no changes in the proposals of Instructor II and Instructor III and are awaiting comments from the Council. Ron stated that the difference between them is that Instructor II requires an examination, Instructor III requires the Bachelors Degree review of credentials. It does not make a change in the ability to teach at a certain level, but it provides enhanced recognition and encouragement for people to involve themselves in higher education. Chairman Iacona suggested that a discussion of Instructor II and Instructor III be held at the next meeting.

The new Government In The Sunshine manuals were distributed to the Council members present. Gabe Mazzeo will review the Sunshine Requirement at the next meeting.

Randy Napoli asked for suggestions from the Council on what they would like included in their notebooks. Discussion will be held at the next meeting.

**Old Business:**

Shayne Stewart distributed a copy of a publication he wrote regarding the Standards Council to be posted in Alarm Alert and on the Bureau's website. Chairman Iacona asked for comments and suggestions to be communicated to him.

Mike Gonzalez distributed and reviewed the recommendations for awards for training institutes. He focused on keeping it fair across the board and more than one award may be given out. Ron Thomas suggested that large and small schools be separated. Chairman Iacona suggested that the Staff provide one year's worth of data to Mike Gonzalez prior to the next meeting. Discussion to be held at the next meeting.

**New Business:**

none

**Audience To Be Heard:**

none

**Next Meeting:**

Monday, December 6, 1999, 9:00 a.m.  
Atrium Building, 325 John Knox Rd.  
Tallahassee, FL 323903

AGENDA  
PUBLIC MEETING  
FIREFIGHTERS STANDARDS AND TRAINING COUNCIL  
DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE, STATE OF FLORIDA  
DIVISION OF STATE FIRE MARSHAL  
December 6, 1999  
9:00 A.M.

Atrium Building, Division Office  
Conference Room  
3125 John Knox Road  
Tallahassee, FL 32303

\*\*\*THIS MEETING IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC\*\*\*

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. APPROVAL OF THE JULY 19, 1999 MINUTES
4. REPORT FROM DIVISION DIRECTOR
5. REPORT FROM CHIEF, FIRE STANDARDS AND TRAINING
6. REPORT FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS
7. OLD BUSINESS
  - Overview of FF1 and FF2 rules (draft)
  - Update on Community College - Technical Center Issue
  - Recommendation on Instructor Certification
  - Report from Staff on the Officer Candidate survey
  - Overview of Company Inspection program
  - Update on the Special Firesafety Inspector program development
8. NEW BUSINESS
  - Review of the Sunshine requirements
  - Discussion on Council Member notebooks
9. AUDIENCE TO BE HEARD
10. ADJOURN