



California Fire
Prevention Officers
Association

2015
Annual Report



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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

2014-2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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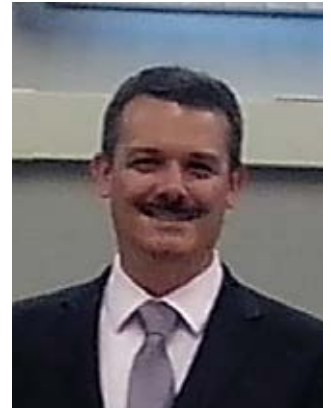
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It is hard to believe that another year has gone by with the Northern California Fire Prevention Officers Association. I knew that being president would travel by quickly, but this was even faster than I had imagined. Much of that is due to our many accomplishments for the year.



Perhaps the biggest accomplishment of the past year was the completion of the strategic plan of the organization which was adopted in January 2016. This document will guide our organization into the future, making us stronger and better able to manage the challenges that confront us in the years to come.

We have continued to provide high-quality education to our members, and have no plans to let up anytime soon. The better educated our members are the better we all do when dealing with our constituents at home.

As we always have, we participated in the code development process at the national level. This was especially important this year with the public comment hearings being in Long Beach, California, in October 2015. California is now well established within national circles in the code development process of the International Code Council (ICC), and with our success in getting Stewart Tom elected to the Board of Directors of the ICC only serves to solidify that. While we have made great strides, now is not the time to let up. The next code cycle is already underway, with hearings on the fire code occurring in April 2016.

We still have many challenges that we face, but your new Board of Directors with Amber Anderson leading the charge and Mike Peyton, our newest board member joining us, I believe that we are well-positioned to address the needs of the organization into the future. There will be changes, guided by the strategic plan that will make us stronger. But in order for that to work, we will need the assistance of everybody in the organization.

It is been my pleasure to serve the membership of the Fire Prevention Officers Association, as you have made it quite fun. Let us continue that tradition in 2016!

Robert Marshall - President
NorCal Fire Prevention Officers

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

2014-2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT

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What an amazing year it has been for the Southern California Fire Prevention Officers Association! It has been my honor to serve as your president for 2015 and I have enjoyed almost every minute of the experience. Our membership was met with many challenges this year and it has been very rewarding to me personally to see our members turn those challenges into opportunities.



I would like to thank the members of the Executive Board for their service and dedication throughout the year. The countless hours that they put in to make things happen is appreciated by the entire membership, especially me. Leading this organization is not a one person show, and it takes the efforts of everyone to ensure that we continue to make a difference in the lives of the people we serve and the California Fire Service. Our committee co-chairs have remained committed to advancing their goals and objectives, and we have seen new leaders emerge in some of these committees. I say thank you to your willingness to serve and I hope that you will consider expanding your leadership roles in the future.

This year has been one of relationships. As with any organization, the strength of our relationships is vital to the success of the organization. We have strengthened the bond that we developed years ago again with our building official brethren, and we are collaborating together more than ever. With the Los Angeles Basin International Code Council (ICC) Chapter, we jointly hosted one of the most successful training seminars ever when we presented the Photovoltaic Summit. The efforts of our chapters brought valuable information and experience to over 400 fire and building officials, as well as bringing code officials and the solar industry together in this type of setting for the first time. We look forward to having additional joint training sessions with the Los Angeles Basin Chapter in the future.

We had the opportunity to serve as a host chapter for the 2015 ICC Annual Business Meeting and Public Comment Code Hearings. This was a great opportunity to partner with California Building Officials (CALBO), Los Angeles Basin, and the NorCal Fire Prevention Officers to

continued...

S O U T H E R N

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

further establish California as a leader in the nation's code development process. We also took the opportunity to promote one of our members in their campaign for the ICC Board of Directors. It was an awesome experience to see Stuart Tom elected to the Board, giving California two representatives. We look forward to hearing from Stuart during the course of his tenure on the Board. Our fire and building officials have well-positioned ourselves in the ICC process for future years.

We continue to participate at the state level as a member of numerous work groups through the State Fire Marshal's Office, seeking to help guide the code development process in areas such as stored energy devices, photovoltaic systems, and school lock down procedures. We remain committed to contributing input to the process whenever called upon by the State.

I look forward to seeing the great things this organization will do in the future. Your leadership is dedicated to continuing the work of those that have gone before us and I am confident you will all help us get there collectively. It has been the highlight of my career to serve the membership of the Southern California Fire Prevention Officers Association and I thank you for bestowing me the honor!



Randal Metz - President
SoCal Fire Prevention Officers

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2016 GOALS

1. Continue to participate in the state and national code development process.
2. Recruit new committee members, retain regular committee members, and encourage their participation in the committee's activities.
3. Support the Fire Service Education Committee by providing training opportunities.
4. Strengthen the relationship between the north and south code committees.

This year the Building Standards Committee worked on various projects supporting the national and state code development processes, as well as general membership interests. Our Committee obtained a seat on the International Code Council (ICC) Means of Egress Committee that was held in Memphis, Tennessee, in April 2015. We have established a partnership with the "Code 5" group (our NorCal Building Department counterparts) and the ICC Los Angeles Basin Chapter (LABC) to collaborate and communicate with for code change proposals and to strengthen our position for the final action hearings that were held in Long Beach, California, in October 2015. Our Committee continues to hold midmonth meetings and will be assisting the Fire Code Committee in reviews for upcoming code changes.

In an effort to increase member participation, the Building Standards Committee continued efforts to recruit new Committee members that now include individuals from the fire service, building departments, and related design profession. Committee members met to stay involved and keep up-to-date with the code development process as well as to discuss additional pertinent issues facing the fire service.



CO-CHAIRS

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The Fire Code Committee experienced a transition in co-chairs this year as Ian Hardage stepped down as co-chair. Our many thanks to Ian's years of service to this Committee. The Committee welcomes George Laing of Contra Costa County Fire Protection District, a long time NorCal member, and former Wildland Urban Interface Committee co-chair.

This year the Fire Code Committee worked on various projects supporting the national and state code development processes, as well as general membership interests. In working cohesively with our SoCal Fire Code Committee representatives, Committee members participated in the 2015 (Group A) International Code Council (ICC) Code Development Cycle attending the public comment hearings in Long Beach, California.

The Fire Code Committee continues to support the organization by suggesting training courses for California Fire Prevention Institute (CFPI) and training throughout the year to the appropriate committees. As in the past, the Committee is anticipating the review of all upcoming fire code proposed changes in January 2016. At any time, please feel free to provide the Committee with suggestions and proposed code changes that you think would improve the international fire code.

The Fire Inspection Guide will return to a special task group assignment and will continue to not be a Fire Code Committee project. This is due to the Committee's large investment of time and energy directed at the review of proposed code change language and involvement at the code hearings. The Fire Inspection Guide updates occur concurrently and would overload the Committee affecting the quality of its work. All Fire Inspection Guide comments, recommendations, and edits can be forwarded through the email in the back of the Guide, any FPO Executive Board member, or directly to Ian Hardage.

In an effort to increase member participation, the Fire Code Committee continued efforts to recruit new Committee members that now include members from the fire service, building departments, and related design professional backgrounds. Committee members met to keep involved and up-to-date with the code development process as well as to discuss additional pertinent issues facing the fire service and to cohesively work on Committee projects.

Both co-chairs, Lori Jessell and George Laing, look forward to a productive and busy 2016 with the Group B Code Development hearings, scheduled to be in Louisville, Kentucky, in April 2016 and St. Louis, Missouri, in October 2016. As your Fire Code Committee co-chairs, we would like to thank everyone who dedicated their time, effort, and knowledge to the Fire Code Committee. It is your commitment, involvement, and expertise that come together for a successful and purposeful Committee.

CO-CHAIRS

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The SoCal Fire Code Committee meets at Orange County Fire Authority headquarters on the fourth Thursday of each month, unless otherwise announced. The Committee proposes and evaluates changes to the model codes including the International Fire Code, Building Code and Residential Code. The Committee is also active in the State Fire Marshal rulemaking process as well as in local code adoption workshops and committees. The Committee members come from as far north as Ventura, California, and as far south as San Diego, California.

In 2014, the Committee began work on the Chapter 56 project in which the Committee pulled together model code language not previously adopted by the state, Title 19 regulations, and California statutory language in an effort to update California's regulations on explosive materials. This project was completed and submitted to the Office of the State Fire Marshal for inclusion in the 2016 California Fire Code. Committee members attended the committee hearings and the Building Standards Commission adopted these regulations in December 2015.

The Chapter 56 project was completed in time to start work on the 2018 International Building Code (IBC). The north and south Committees met in Buellton, California, last year and distributed workload to evaluate approximately 600 code proposals for the 2018 International Building Code (IBC). Committee members attended the Committee Action Hearings in Memphis, Tennessee, and the Public Comment Hearing in Long Beach, California, to track proposals, provide testimony, and make our votes count.

As we march into 2016, the Committee has their work cut out for them with the 2016 International Fire Code and International Residential Code proposals and hearings. NorCal and SoCal FPO Committees will once again come together in Buellton, California, this March 2016 to distribute workload and discuss important proposals. And let's not forget, it's a California code adoption year!

As always, thank you to all of the SoCal Fire Code Committee members and our counterparts in NorCal for their dedication and hard work year after year. We could not be successful without each and every one of you!

FIRE EQUIPMENT & DEVICES COMMITTEE

CO-CHAIRS

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The Fire Equipment and Devices Committee was active in several projects in 2015. One major project that the Committee participated in was the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) Automatic Extinguishing System (AES) Certification Workgroup. The Group consisted of various stakeholders including OSFM staff, Authorities Having Jurisdiction (AHJ), contractors, trade groups, and associations from throughout the state. The Workgroup's mission was to come to a consensus on certification requirements for new and existing fire sprinkler installers. The Workgroup met monthly; at times twice a month, at various locations throughout California. Through this project, we were able to reach a consensus and draft a regulation package to present to the Automatic Extinguishing System Committee and eventually, the State Fire Marshal. The Workgroup met its deadline and the package is now moving along in the process.

The Committee also attended the International Code Council (ICC) Group A code hearings in Memphis, Tennessee. There was a lot of work leading up to the event, as the Committee was involved in reviewing, researching, and teleconferencing to discuss code change proposals and determining whether our organization should favor the proposal or not, or to provide testimony at the hearings. Being involved throughout the entire process has proved to be an invaluable experience and has created a better understanding on the code development process. This will put the Committee in a favorable position to contribute more in this area in upcoming code cycles.

The Committee continues to be involved in the California Fire Sprinkler Coalition, and participates in its monthly teleconference meetings and semi-annual face to face meetings. The Committee also continues to participate in monthly teleconference meetings with the SoCal FPO Fire Equipment and Devices Committee. This has shown to be of great benefit as it creates synergy amongst the NorCal and SoCal chapters, and reduces duplication of efforts.

FIRE EQUIPMENT & DEVICES COMMITTEE

CHAIR

JAMES CARVER

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The goal of the SoCal Fire Protection Equipment and Devices (FPED) Committee for 2015 was to continue recruiting new members and revive participation of existing members on Committee projects and activities. The Committee continues to enhance its relationships with the California State Fire Marshal's Office (OSFM), its respective advisory committees, National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), International Code Council (ICC), and various industry stakeholders that have a direct impact on issues related to fire protection equipment and the development of future codes and standards as they relate to fire prevention.

The Committee had the following accomplishments in 2015:

1. Actively participated with stakeholders in reviewing legislation as assigned and offered constructive feedback and recommendations for support/opposition to the Executive Board.
2. Completed the update to the fire alarm plan review checklist to the 2013 NFPA 72.
3. Reviewed the 2015 International Fire Code and developed three code proposals for the 2018 ICC Fire Code.
4. Reviewed the specifications and use of several fire protection devices and requested a determination from the State Fire Marshal's Office on the listing requirements for the devices. The devices reviewed included:
 - a) A deactivation switch on smoke alarms, which when activated, permanently disables the smoke alarm from operating.
 - b) Encore Firefighter - a remote listening device connected to a residential burglar alarm system that hears the smoke alarm activate and calls the fire/burglar reporting station to report a fire alarm.
 - c) The Roost battery - a nine volt battery for a smoke alarm that has Bluetooth technology to send a signal to your smart phone when the battery is low.
 - d) Continued to work with NorCal partners and the State Fire Marshal's Office on an Information Bulletin for Meter Setters, identifying the use of these devices in residential water systems, and the high pressure drop these devices can cause for a 13D sprinkler system.

FIRE SERVICE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

CO-CHAIRS

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GOALS FOR 2016

1. Continue to seek training opportunities to provide updates on the newly adopted California Codes and Regulations as well as revisions to the newly adopted standards.
2. Monitor trends and innovations in new technology and provide training and education opportunities to meet the education and awareness needs of our membership.
3. Continue to seek partnerships in education that will assist in providing high quality training and education, while meeting the economic challenges and needs of our membership.
4. Develop and implement a training plan that will enable our members to systematically complete the California Fire Service Training and Education System Fire Prevention Certification Courses.

The Fire Service Education Committee is comprised of Co-chairs Patrick Chew, Roseville Fire Department, and Bruce Lecair, National Fire Sprinkler Association.

The primary goal of the Fire Service Education Committee is to “Identify education and training needs of fire service and private fire prevention industry professionals and stakeholders; and strategically plan, promote, and manage classes and seminars with the goal of improving the skills, knowledge, and technical understanding of fire prevention and fire protection codes, regulations and technology.”

Throughout 2015, the Fire Service Education Committee completed that goal by conducting seven classes with a wide diversity of subject matter to 146 students throughout Northern California. The spreadsheet below indicates the months the classes occurred, the class subject, and the number of students instructed on behalf of the NorCal FPO.

MONTH	CLASS TOPIC – CLASS LOCATION	NUMBER OF STUDENTS
February 2015	Fire Alarm Plan Review: Mill Valley, CA	16 attendees
April 2015	Motion Pictures: Roseville, CA	26 attendees
June 2015	Plan Check-Public Safety Booster Systems: Roseville, CA	17 attendees
June 2015	Plan Check-Public Safety Booster Systems: San Jose, CA	20 attendees
October 2015	Fire Alarm Plan Review: Novato, CA	15 attendees
November 2015	Fire Prevention 3B: Fairfield, CA	22 attendees
December 2015	Fire Prevention 3A: Roseville, CA	30 attendees
Totals	7 classes	146 attendees

FIRE SERVICE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

CHAIR

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GOALS FOR 2016

1. "Code Adoption Workshop," the Committee's intent is to hold three full-day workshops located across SoCal, to be taught by Adria and Kevin Reinertson of Riverside County Fire Department.
2. "Chapter 7A, Wildland Urban Interface (WUI), Vegetation Management Program (VMP), and the Drought," this multi-disciplinary, one-day course will cover the timeless topics of WUI and VMP but with emphasis on the current drought and El Niño. The instructor is Doug Nickles, Registered Professional Forester, with the Glendale Fire Department.

We welcome Jeff Halpert who stepped into the SoCal Fire Service Education Committee midway through 2015. The goal of the SoCal Fire Service Education Committee was to hold workshops and training events to educate members on new technologies and to improve existing skills and technical understanding of codes and standards. The Committee seeks to provide training on topics that are not otherwise available and to address topics of timely value or significance, and to ultimately enhance the professionalism of fire prevention officers throughout Southern California.

Throughout 2015, the SoCal Fire Service Education Committee produced and maintained four successful classes with a wide variety of subject matter to 102 students in Southern California. The spreadsheet below indicates the months the classes occurred, the class subject, and the number of students instructed on behalf of the SoCal FPO.

MONTH	CLASS TOPIC – CLASS LOCATION	NUMBER OF STUDENTS
June 2015	Authority having jurisdiction (AHJ) Endorsement of 'L' License for Fire Pumps: Whittier, CA	15 attendees
July 2015	Statutes and Regulations: Los Angeles, CA Fire Department	24 attendees
September 2015	Emergency Responder Radio Communication Systems: Glendale, CA Fire Department	63 attendees
Totals	3 classes	102 attendees

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS COMMITTEE

CO-CHAIRS

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The Hazardous Materials Committee continued its efforts and ongoing goals to increase member participation and recruit new members. Active participation and attendance was intermittent at regular NorCal FPO monthly meetings throughout 2015. Committee Co-chairs Kilpatrick and Mendel are committed to continue encouragement and inspiration for new fire service members in this important technical committee.

Danielle Stefani of Livermore Pleasanton Fire Department continued her participation in the Certified Unified Program Agencies (CUPA) Forum Board on behalf of the FPOs. The Certified Unified Program Agencies Forum Board works on an ongoing basis to review and propose changes to hazardous materials statute and regulations, develop guidance documents, and coordinate with state agencies and other stakeholders to improve the implementation of the program. Current topics include, but are not limited to, California Environmental Reporting Systems (CERS), Certified Unified Program Agencies (CUPA) evaluations, and the violation dictionary. This year SB612, that implements changes to aboveground storage tank, underground storage tank, and hazardous waste regulations, was finalized.

The Hazardous Materials Committee did not host any formal training classes in 2015; however, the Committee worked closely with the Fire Service Education Committee to bring forward classes that will be helpful to fire inspectors. The Committee identified several emerging technologies facing fire officials that are not currently addressed by the Fire Code including, lithium ion battery storage, liquefied carbon dioxide systems, and mobile fleet fueling of Class I flammable liquids. The Committee continues to actively work to develop guidance documents for distribution to local agencies on these issues. Additionally, the Committee co-chairs worked with the Fire Code Committee developing potential code changes to the 2015 International Fire Code as well as amendments to the 2016 California Fire Code.

Members of the Hazardous Materials Committee participated and monitored meetings of the Western Regional Fire Code Action Committee (WRFAC) and their code change proposals being developed for submittal to the International Code Council (ICC) Building Code development process. Co-chair Kilpatrick attended the Western Regional Fire Code Action Committee's (WRFAC) meeting in October 2015 in Park City, Utah, where she focused on the proposals related to hazardous materials including laboratories, liquefied carbon dioxide systems, and gas detection systems. In addition, Committee Co-chair Kilpatrick participated as a voting member and fire service representative on the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 400 (*Hazardous Materials Code*) Technical Committee that met in San Diego, California, in early December 2015.

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Legislation during the 2015-2016 Session continued to be busy for the Fire Service and the Fire Prevention Officers Section.

This past legislative season was an explosive one for the Fire Prevention Section as we had two bills that attempted to work on fireworks in the state. SB677 was introduced by the industry in an attempt to create a fireworks sell back program wherein agencies confiscating fireworks could sell the viable products back to industry in an attempt to reduce the amount of waste created and cost of destruction. Additionally, the bill would have allowed for a second fireworks season during the New Year's period. Cal-Chiefs adamantly opposed the bill due primarily to the second season. We were successful with this one in that it ultimately failed. However, we know there will be future attempts and Cal-Chiefs is committed to working with industry and the State Fire Marshal's Office to come to a long term permanent solution.

Another bill that tackled the existing problems of confiscated fireworks in California was AB110. This was a budget trailer bill that authorized a specific amount from the general fund to dispose of previously confiscated fireworks and anticipated ones from the 2015 season. This bill was passed, and monies authorized to dispose of the existing cache.

Another big topic at the Legislative Committee meetings was that of Oil By Rail. There were several bills addressing the topic ranging from notification to training and emergency response. As you can imagine, this was a big topic for Cal-Chiefs as it crossed multiple sections from the FPOs to ops to training. These issues will continue to be on the table this next cycle and into the future.

In conclusion, the Legislative Committee and the Boards are looking forward to another busy year. The Cal-Chiefs Legislative Committee has joined forces with the Fire Districts Association of California Legislative Committee this year in an effort to be more united across the board from the Fire Service. We believe this will help us in strengthening our positions and efforts towards bills affecting the California Fire Service.

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**ADDITIONAL
COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES**

The Public Education Committee coordinated all of the volunteers at the annual NorCal FPO Golf Tournament.

The NorCal FPO Public Education Committee continues to send out weekly emails, collecting public education news items from around the country.

The Northern California Public Education Committee goal is to educate the public on preventing fires and injuries before they occur. Public Education Committee personnel serve as a vital link between the fire department and the community. The Committee meetings introduce members to the latest and greatest fire and injury prevention information and programs.

Committee members meet monthly to exchange information on local, state, and national fire and life safety outreach programs. Committee meetings typically consist of a guest speaker or member presentation, Committee business items, and roundtable time. During roundtables, each attendee shares what their department is working on, challenges they face, and events occurring in their community. This exchange of ideas was extremely valuable in 2015 as there is typically only one staff person assigned to public education in each department. The NorCal FPO Public Education Committee holds meetings on the second Wednesday of every month from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm.

GOAL #1: MONTHLY MEETINGS

1. Monthly meetings will rotate to different department locations.
2. Date of meeting was changed to the second Wednesday of every month.

In 2015, the Committee chose to change meeting locations to be rotated among Committee members. Meetings were hosted by The Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) Napa Unit/Napa Fire, Moraga-Orinda Fire District, Firefighters Burn Institute, San Ramon Valley Fire, Central County Fire, and Livermore-Pleasanton Fire. Attendance at our meetings has varied with between five and 10 Committee members attending regularly. The Committee enjoyed participation from partners beyond the fire service this year, including hospitals and burn foundations.



Public Education Committee

GOAL #2: SUPPORT MEMBERS WITH DEVELOPING A POOL OF POTENTIAL MEETING GUEST SPEAKERS

1. Routinely discuss and share new science and technology in fire and life safety.
2. Determine potential and type of guest speakers based on shared information.
3. Assign a member to schedule speaker for each monthly meeting.

Committee meetings featured five guest speakers in 2015. The speakers were from the American Red Cross smoke alarm program, National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), Safe Kids California, CookStop Stovetop Fire Safety, and Rebuilding Together Oakland/East Bay.

Presentations were also made by Committee members including the Firefighters Burn Institute Youth Firesetters Program, a presentation on social media, San Ramon Valley Fire's residential care facility education program, and the Alisa Ann Ruch Burn Foundation Firefighters in Safety Education program.



Public Education Committee - Napa Meeting

GOAL #3: SUPPORT CALIFORNIA FIRE PREVENTION INSTITUTE (CFPI) IN COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION TRACK FOR 2015 CONFERENCE

1. Create an on-going list of courses, with course descriptions, of interest to public fire and life safety educators.
2. Identify potential presenters for courses listed and create on-going list.
3. Attend Fire & Life Safety Educators Conference in Colorado to attend classes and talk with instructors.



Public Education Committee - Orinda Meeting

The State Fire Training Community Risk Officer class series was not ready in time from CFPI 2015. One public education workshop was scheduled at CFPI, Children in Disasters: Safety & Health for Our Next Generation. The Committee sent two Committee members to the Fire & Life Safety Educators Conference in Colorado in April 2015, Brittany Lemon from Cosumnes CSD Fire Department and Selena Brown from the Woodside Fire Department. Joyce Castro also attended as an instructor to present her program on residential care facilities. Castro and Lemon presented ideas gathered from the conference at a Committee meeting.

GOAL #4: HOST NEW STATE FIRE TRAINING (SFT) COMMUNITY RISK OFFICER CLASSES THROUGH THE NORCAL FPO

1. Find instructors for classes and encourage members to become instructors.
2. Find facility and organize logistics for classes.

The first class in the SFT Community Risk Officer series, Community Risk Educator, will be taught at Cosumnes Fire in Elk Grove, California, in February 2016. Community Risk Educator is also scheduled to be held at the CFPI Conference in March 2016.

GOAL #5: CREATE RESOURCE LIBRARY ON NORCAL FPO PUBLIC EDUCATION WEB PAGE

1. Train new co-chairs to use website system.
2. Solicit resource documents and web links from committee members monthly.
3. Save resource documents and links in website folders created in 2015.

Resource folders were added to the NorCal FPO Public Education web page. Resource documents and links are being added by the Committee co-chairs as time allows.

CO-CHAIRS

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The SoCal Public Education Committee continued to grow in membership, while still maintaining its standard core of members. All year long there was lively discussion and lots of resource sharing. Midway through the year there was a co-chair switch with Alicia Welch from Los Angeles City Fire stepping down and introducing Cathey Mattingly with CAL FIRE San Bernardino. It is very convenient for the current co-chairs, Overstreet-Murphy and Mattingly, as they work across town from each other.

February 10, 2015—hosted by Monrovia Fire in a rustic cabin where the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) discussed some of its educational topics.



Public Education Committee

March 20, 2015—our joint meeting with NorCal Public Education Committee, where we discussed issues from the New Community Risk Officer series with State Fire Training, smoke alarm messaging, and current topics effecting our regions.

April 14, 2015—hosted by Orange County Fire Authority, where we had a presentation by Orange County Fire Authority (OCFA) in regards to their water safety campaign and how they

maintain their statistics. In addition, we also had a presentation on Project Wipeout and how we all can educate people about ocean safety.

June 9, 2015—hosted by Rancho Santa Fe Fire, where we had a presentation by the American Red Cross (ARC) and how successful fire departments and ARC are with smoke alarm installations.

September 8, 2015—hosted by Chino Valley Fire, where we had a presentation from the Inland Empire Safe Kids Coalition and the Chino YMCA. Rancho Cucamonga Fire Department also demonstrated its drowning prevention program.

November 10, 2015—hosted by Los Angeles City Fire, where we had a presentation on drones along with a demonstration by one of Los Angeles city's drone experts. We also were provided a tour of the fire department headquarters.

WILDLAND URBAN INTERFACE COMMITTEE

CHAIR

DWIGHT GOOD
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This past year, 2015, was a transition year for the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) Committee. Dwight Good accepted the position of Committee co-chair in March and the Committee thanked outgoing Co-chairs George Laing and Carol Rice for their service. Despite repeated and continuing efforts, the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) Committee has been unable to identify a second co-chair.

Chair Dwight Good participated in a SoCal FPO Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) Committee Defensible Space Inspector Training hosted in Cambria, California. The interaction and exchange of ideas was invaluable and led to many new opportunities. Good has been working closely with California Fire Safe Council, fledgling community groups of the National Fire Protection Association Firewise project, and is also participating in a county-wide Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) within his jurisdiction.



Wildland Urban Interface Committee

Over the summer Good initiated conversations with the California Board of Forestry and Fire Protection, providing a list of recommended changes to the Defensible Space Maintenance requirements found in Title 14. The Committee asserts that the requirements found in Title 19, Public Resources Code, Government Code, and Title 14, should be published in a single document, written in plain language, and presented in a logical progression. Good also recommended a shift from requirements applicable only in State Recreation Areas

to requirements applicable within identified fire hazard severity zones. In response to a FireLine report by the Insurance Services Office, Inc. (ISO), that correlates fire losses to areas with limited access, egress, and identification, the Committee also recommended a new emphasis on these areas of concern within the Defensible Space maintenance codes. The Committee anticipates that these proposed changes will be incorporated into Title 14 by the end of 2016.

Based on the extensive legislative analysis involved in the above project, the Committee also developed a version of these requirements that could be adopted locally as a modified version of California Fire Code Chapter 49. At the direction of Co-chair Dwight Good, the Commit-

WILDLAND URBAN INTERFACE
COMMITTEE

tee worked on adaptations of existing Defensible Space maintenance regulations that would be acceptable and meaningful to Labor Relations Agency (LRA). A documented draft has been distributed to the NorCal and SoCal Wildland Urban Interface Committee members for comment and review. The Committee's intent is to distribute this amended version of Chapter 49 to the general membership for local adoption in the upcoming triennial cycle.

Chair Dwight Good shared his research on the ignitability of landscape mulches. Based on his findings, and in a cooperative partnership with the San Jose State University Wildland Fire Dynamics Laboratory, the WUI Committee is planning to conduct large-scale testing on mulch fires in the summer of 2016. The Committee's early intent is to classify mulches by their susceptibility to ignition. Good is also working on a National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) research grant and a partnership with The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) to conduct these experiments.

The 2015 California wildland fire season produced some unprecedented fire behavior, with the Valley Fire earning the dubious title of the third most damaging wildland fire in California's history. Findings from damage assessments in Middletown will require months of analysis, but early reports validated Chair Dwight Good's assertion that fires in mulch beds contributed to the phenomena of secondary ignition. The WUI Committee is now developing test methods to determine effective setback distances between landscaping mulches and combustible exterior construction, and hopes to include these tests in the large-scale ignition testing planned for 2016.

WILDLAND URBAN INTERFACE COMMITTEE

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The Wildland Urban Interface Committee functions as an advocate/agent of code development and interpretation, a peer advisory for active and passive fire mitigation devices and materials, and as an instructional arm of the California Fire Chiefs Association.

Activities during 2015 included development and presentation of one-, and two-day classes; including the Annual California Fire Prevention Institute Conference in Buellton, California. The Committee presented a class in Cambria, California, on April 23 – 24, 2015 that was against the backdrop of great potential with a dying pine forest intermingled with vulnerable homes and limited infrastructure. Co-chair Mark Miller, Fire Chief of Cambria at the time of the class, was instrumental in bringing attention to the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) risk represented by this dangerous mix, and subsequently bringing significant resources to bear on the problem. Miller was ultimately the principle architect of a successful effort to legitimize the fire service role in controlling existing urban-interface areas within the California Coastal Zone. He has retired and we welcome Tom Peterson, Fire Marshal from Atascadero City Fire Department.

The implementation of continuing revisions to Chapter 7a in the California Building Code (CBC) and the parallel evolution of the International Wildland Urban Interface Code (IWUIC) produced numerous requests for interpretation as well as requests for educational presentations. The Committee continues to be very active in code and standards development with members sitting on the International Association for Testing and Materials (ASTM) E5.14, Wildland Urban Interface Committee, National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), and Wildland and Rural Fire Protection Committee. During the coming year we will continue the legislative and training/education effort, in general, and particularly with respect to the development of a comprehensive WUI Code reference package for California. We directed additional time and energy to the improvement of attic and eave vent design and the ASTM development of ember intrusion test apparatus and protocols to standardize the approval of such products. Committee members were actively involved in the investigations and fact findings associated with the more significant fires of 2015, and will be using the acquired knowledge to continue our efforts in the code change process. The Committee continues to serve the California Fire Chiefs Association and our community at large as a brokerage and clearing house for new techniques and technologies with respect to issues associated with the WUI.

THE CHARLES H. GRAY MEMORIAL FUND SERVICE AWARD AND SCHOLARSHIP GRANT

APPLICANTS

Applications for scholarships/program grants are accepted annually from June 1st – December 31st. Scholarships and grants are awarded in March of the following year. For applications or information, call or write:

CHARLES H. GRAY MEMORIAL FUND

C/O Morgana Yahnke, Campus
Fire Marshal
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Davis, California 95616
(530) 752-5772
myahnke@ucdavis.edu



Charles H. Gray

Charles H. Gray served as Fire Marshal for the City of Santa Rosa Fire Department. He was a long-time member of the California Fire Chiefs' Association Fire Prevention Officers' Section – Northern Division and rose up through the chairs to hold the office of President in 1977.

Chief Gray contributed his time and talents to the betterment of the Association by promoting fire and life safety through code development processes and throughout the community. As a tribute to his dedicated service, the Charles H. Gray Memorial Fund Service Award and Scholarship program was established.

The goal of the fund is to promote, recognize, and foster dedicated service in the field of fire prevention. An annual award is given to recognize one member of the Association who has exemplified these goals. Additional awards and scholarships may be made as deemed appropriate by the Board of Directors.

Scholarships and grants are available through an application process. Successful proposals best meet the intent and guidelines of the Foundation.

The award recipient for 2014 was Ray Bizal, southwest regional director for the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). Bizal is a registered mechanical engineer in California and has worked professionally as a fire protection engineer and loss prevention consultant. He also worked at the International Conference of Building Officials (ICBO), where he served in a variety of positions involved with code development, technical advisory services, and certification.

In addition to Bizal's professional efforts in fire prevention, he has been a strong supporter of the California Fire Prevention Officers organization, both North and South sections. He has been instrumental in supporting and participating in the California Fire Sprinkler Coalition. He has secured donations and sponsorship for the "Driving Ahead for Fire Prevention Golf Tournament" annually, as well as annually sponsoring a general membership meeting. Bizal has also served on the California Fire Prevention Institute (CFPI) organizational Committee and Board of Directors for many years, and provided assistance and technical support for Camp Smokey at Cal Expo.

THE CHARLES H. GARY MEMORIAL FUND SERVICE AWARD AND SCHOLARSHIP GRANT

2014 AWARDEE RAY BIZAL



Bizal was chosen as this year's recipient to recognize his outstanding efforts on behalf of fire prevention safety. Specifically, we are honored by his unwavering support for the NorCal FPO and continued generosity with his time and resources.

Nominations for the Charles H. Gray Memorial Award are solicited annually from the membership in November. Nomination letters or emails can be sent to any current NorCal Executive Board member or to Morgana Yahnke. The nomination information should include the nominee's professional background and qualifications, as well as the specific actions taken on behalf of the NorCal FPO organization that makes their contribution to our Association significant.

PAST RECIPIENTS OF THE CHARLES GRAY MEMORIAL FUND SERVICE AWARD ARE:

1985	Charles H. Gray	2000	Steve Hart
1986	James H. McLaughlin	2001	Vernon Brown
1987	James Luce	2002	Fort Hartsfield
1988	Lawrence Toellner	2003	Tonya Hoover
1989	William Greene	2004	Doug Williams
1990	Darrell W. Harguth	2005	Gene Gantt
1991	Kenneth J. Slamon, Jr.	2006	Rick Terry
1991	Gale Bate	2007	Forrest Craig
1992	Robert Burns	2008	Rick Rodewald
1993	John Gillilan	2009	Lorin Neyer
1994	Robert Kinney	2010	Ken Wagner
1995	Joan Jennings	2011	Kevin Reinertson
1996	Mary Cornelison	2012	Wes Arvin
1997	Howard Hopper	2013	Morgana Yahnke
1998	Dave Milanese	2014	Ray Bizal
1999	Joe Perry		



THE WILLIAM E. FOX AWARD

THE AWARD STATES:

In recognition of outstanding leadership, vision and continued dedication to the fire service and the causes of life safety and fire protection.

William E. Fox joined Inglewood Fire Department on September 1, 1939. He spent 29 years, from September 1, 1940 to January 1, 1969, as an officer in the Fire Prevention Office. He was promoted to Battalion Chief, serving until July 17, 1971 when he retired. His commitment to teaching the public to be safe from fire, earned him the affectionate titles of "Mr. Inglewood" and "Mr. Fire Prevention" among the young people and citizens of the community. Captain Fox was president in 1948-1950 of the Harbor District Fireman's Association and was president in 1949-1950 of the Southern California Conference of Fire Prevention Inspectors. He helped organize the California Conference of Arson Investigators and was president from 1957-1958. He also assisted organizing the Fire Prevention Section of California Fire Chiefs Association and served as president.

Aside from his fire service involvement, Captain Fox served 29 years on the Inglewood Employees Credit Union, serving six years as president. He was an active member of the Optimists, Elks, and Junior Chamber of Commerce; served on committees for the YMCA; assisted in awarding scholarships, and serving as president for the American Field Service Organization (AFS); member and president of his local Red Cross Chapter; and served on the Board of Directors of the Centinela Valley Historical Society.

This Award was created to exemplify outstanding efforts and development in the field of fire prevention.

PAST RECIPIENTS OF THE WILLIAM E. FOX AWARD ARE:

1995	Sam Husoe	Past President, SoCal FPO
1997	Bill Hopple	Co-chair, SoCal FPO Devices Committee
2009	Rick Terry	Past President, NorCal FPO, CFPI Workshop Co-chair
2010	Ken Kraus	Past President, SoCal FPO
2012	Laura Blaul	Past President, SoCal FPO
2013	Tommy Thompson	Fullerton Fire Inspector
2014	Tonya Hoover	Past President, NorCal FPO, State Fire Marshal
2015	Robert Espinosa	SoCal FPO Liaison Chief

THE MARY ERIKSEN-RATTAN AWARD

Mary Eriksen-Rattan started her professional life by earning a bachelor's degree in psychology in 1966 from Fort Hayes State College and becoming a certified medical technician.

Not satisfied with that profession, Mrs. Eriksen-Rattan went on to obtain various credentials in fire protection, including certification in fire protection engineering and a lifetime teaching credential in fire science from UCLA. She taught fire science at El Camino College in Torrance and taught courses on building construction for hazardous materials at University California Irvine, San Diego State University, and Oregon State University.

She was working for an El Segundo fire alarm company when the city of El Segundo hired her as a fire plan reviewer, which eventually led to her appointment as fire marshal – one of the first females to hold that title in the country. After marrying, Mrs. Eriksen-Rattan moved to La Mesa where she opened a fire prevention consulting business in 1984, specializing in provisions of the Uniform Fire and Building Codes. She maintained that business until five days before her passing on March 7, 2006.

Mrs. Eriksen-Rattan distinguished herself throughout her varied career. Among her many accomplishments, she chaired the Uniform Fire Code Article 80 (hazardous materials) Rewrite Committee, and co-wrote A User's Guide to Article 80 in 1991. More noteworthy than her resume, however, was her reputation as a problem-solver and perfectionist who was endlessly driven. But above all, Mrs. Eriksen-Rattan was known as an authority who always made herself available to assist her fellow fire prevention colleagues with applying the codes fairly and accurately.

The Mary Eriksen-Rattan Award was created to recognize those special fire prevention professionals who represent the technical ability, sound leadership, and endless drive that Mary possessed. This is a special recognition which is only awarded when a person meeting the criteria is identified.

PAST RECIPIENTS OF THE MARY ERIKSEN-RATTAN AWARD ARE:

2006	Mary Eriksen-Rattan	2013	Kevin Scott
2009	Penny Overstreet-Murphy	2015	Don Oaks
2012	Rolland Crawford		

THE YEAR IN PICTURES



MISSION STATEMENT

TO PROMOTE THE PROTECTION OF LIFE, PROPERTY AND THE ENVIRONMENT FROM EFFECTS OF FIRE AND OTHER HAZARDOUS EVENTS THROUGH EDUCATION, ENGINEERING, AND ENFORCEMENT