

Newsletter for Alaska's Fire Service and Building Professionals

Department of Public Safety Division of Fire and Life Safety

From the desk of The Alaska State Fire Marshal

Greetings,

There are more potential challenges on the horizon for the Division of Fire and Life Safety. This time we are facing a possible funding reduction in the Bureau of Fire, Accreditation, Standards and Training.

The Senate sub-committee for DPS was looking for more funding for Alaska State Troopers. To accomplish this they, in part, submitted an amendment to the Governor's budget which would reduce the amount of Unrestricted General Funds for support of the Fire Standards Council (FSC) by \$121,400.

As a result of this recommended decrement we are taking the initial steps for reorganizing. The Fire Training Administrator (FTA) position that has supported the FSC is slated for elimination. The remaining FTA would assume some of these responsibilities. If this budget is approved the FTA position in the FSC will be eliminated resulting in Jan Mitchell being laid off effective June 30, 2017.

It should be understood that this is the Senates version of the budget. The House version still includes this funding. The final decision will be made in conference.

I realize the importance of the work being accomplished by the Fire Standards Council and its staff. The accreditations, standards, testing and certifications are essential. BFAST will continue to use the same systems and processes to accomplish its goals, and will do everything possible to support the council and accommodate your departments training needs.

In the years since we first received funding to support the FSC the number of certifications issued has increased by 168%. This was made possible by the efficiencies put in place by Gordon, Aubrey, Jordan, Lisa and everyone who has spent time on the Fire Standards Council. We will continue to look for more efficient ways to provide these services. As we wind our way through these challenges I would appreciate hearing any insight or ideas you may have.

Just a reminder. Our Plan Review Office in Fairbanks will be closing effective June 30, 2017. April 1, 2017 we stopped accepting plans at the Fairbanks office. Plans can be mailed to or dropped off at:

Division of Fire & Life Safety Plan Review Bureau 5700 East Tudor Road Anchorage, AK 99507-1225

If you have any plan review questions you can call our Anchorage office at (907) 269-2004.

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Contact Numbers

- <u>State Fire Marshal/</u> <u>Director's Office</u> (907) 269-5491
- <u>Life Safety Inspection</u> <u>Bureau</u> (907) 269-5637
- <u>Plan Review Bureau</u> (907) 269-2004
- Fire Accreditation, Standards and Training (BFAST)

(907) 269-5490

- Fire Standards Council (907) 269-5052
- Fairbanks Office (PRB & LSIB) (907) 451-5200
- <u>Juneau Office (BFAST)</u> (907) 465-4331

www.akburny.com

The mission of the Division of Fire and Life Safety is to prevent the loss of life and property from fire and explosion. Please note that we will still have a Deputy Fire Marshal assigned to the Fairbanks Life Safety Inspection Bureau (LSIB) office. Deputy Kyle Carrington can be reached at (907) 451-5214.

Thanks to Dan Jager, Sven Pearson and Brian Balega for putting on an excellent AAFAI conference in Juneau. Great instructors and an incredible turnout. It sounds like next years conference will be in South Central somewhere. Well done!!

I had planned on welcoming a new employee here, but we'll have to wait until next time. The process to replace Jessica Reed as the Office Assistant II in the Plan Review Bureau is taking longer than expected. Hopefully we'll have this filled soon and I'll have a picture and a name for you.

I sincerely appreciate your support and understanding as we move forward. If you have any questions or concerns with regard to the changes we are going through please let me know. Your input is always welcome. 7

Office Assistant II Plan Review Bureau (907) 296-2004

That's all for now. Stay Safe.

David L. Tyler, State Fire Marshal david.tyler@alaska.gov Office (907) 269-5491



REMEMBERING THE PAST AND MOVING INTO THE FUTURE Alaska State Fire Fighters & Alaska Fire Chiefs Associations Sitka Fire Department Lock in these Dates

Pre-Conference September 25 – 26, 2017 Conference September 27 – 29, 2017 Harrigan Centennial Hall

2017 ALASKA FIRE CONFERENCE







-2018-Alaska Fire Conference The week of September 24, 2018

Planning for the 2018 Alaska Fire Conference is in the early stages. If you have any ideas for classes, or would like to instruct please contact Chief Jeff Tucker at the Kenai Fire Department.

jtucker@ci.kenai.ak.us

(907) 283-7666





