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CAL FIRE Director Names Tonya Hoover Acting State Fire Marshal

CAL FIRE Director Del Walters named Tonya L. Hoover (pictured right) California's new Acting State Fire Marshal on June 30, 2009. "With over 20 years of experience in the fire service and a commitment to public education and risk mitigation, Tonya is a proven leader," said Chief Walters. "I am confident she will provide a seamless transition in leadership and will play a vital role in shaping the future of fire safety issues in California."



Chief Hoover has served as Assistant State Fire Marshal since September 2007. She graduated from Oklahoma State University with degrees in Fire Science and earned a Masters Degree in Business Administration and Human Resources from the University of Phoenix. She is currently an Executive Fire Officer candidate at the National Fire Academy. Her professional associations include: National Fire Protection Association, International Fire Service Training Association, and International Fire Chief's Association. She is a past president of California Fire Chiefs' Fire Prevention Officers Section and winner of the Charlie Gray Award for Outstanding Service to NorCal Fire Prevention Officers.

IRC Phase III Begins at the OSFM

The Phase III Special Task Force of the Office of the State Fire Marshal strategic plan to adopt the IRC met on July 21, 2009 and began plans to address issues related to training and education for stakeholders throughout California as the State moves toward adoption of the new Code. The specific scope of the Task Force is to develop a communication strategy to educate all stakeholders of the recommendations of the Phase I and II Task Forces relevant to the installation of residential fire sprinkler systems. The Phase III Task Force will develop and provide technical training and education in response to the ICC-IRC approval of RB64-07/08 to require residential fire sprinklers in all one and two family dwellings

and townhouses during the International Code Council Hearings in Minneapolis, MN on September 21, 2008. The State of California started a comparison review process under the direction of the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) to compare the current State of Housing Code/Laws (Title 25, CCR) as well as the 2007 California Building Code (Title 24, Part 2) and those of the ICC-International Residential Code (2009 Edition). Minutes of the meetings can be reviewed on the Cal Fire Website.

Northeast study shows that sprinkler requirements are not detrimental to housing starts!

A recently completed research report concluded that the presence of sprinkler ordinances has no negative impact on the number of homes being built. In fact, in the comparison of two sets of counties, the municipalities actually saw an increase in construction in the year after regulations became effective, compared to the adjacent counties without sprinkler ordinances.

Conducted by Newport Partners, [Comparative Analysis of Housing Cost and Supply Impacts of Sprinkler Ordinances at the Community Level](#) compared residential construction in suburban Anne Arundel and Prince George's Counties, Maryland, and Montgomery County, Maryland, and Fairfax County, Virginia. Prince George's County and Montgomery County have sprinkler requirements; Fairfax County and Anne Arundel County do not. The counties were selected based on their demographic matches to each other.

Newport Partner's analysis was based on an extensive review of annual single-family building permits, the U.S. Census Bureau Surveys of Housing and Households, and analysis of local documents before and after sprinkler requirements were imposed. In addition, Newport conducted interviews with builders, trade association staff, and local government officials to provide insight into the housing landscape in these counties pre- and post-requirements. According to the report, "None of the statistical or interview information demonstrated that the requirements led to reduced housing supply."

NFSA S.F. Chapter Meets to Discuss “Best Practices!”

During a 2-day tour of the San Francisco Bay Area where Brian Cullen, ARM, CIC, Best Practices Coach, Fire Sprinkler Industry – Best Practices, met individually with contractor members of the NFSA San Francisco Chapter to give a presentation entitled, “Best Practices, Bring Better Value for Members.” The presentation reviewed the 3-major Best Practice areas, Getting the Business, Doing Business, and Running the Business that covered information on better insurance buying tactics. Discussion included tactics for controlling property damage claims, triage management, property damage claims, claims costs, and tactics for controlling workman’s compensation insurance costs. The July 23rd chapter meeting in Jack London Square was well received and useful for those who attended from throughout the Northern California NFSA Chapter. Members also received handouts and related information for best practice internal surveys to insure that they are using best practice methods for managing all aspects of their business.

NFSA Wins for Fire Sprinkler Recruitment Video!

The National Fire Sprinkler Association (NFSA), the longest-tenured fire sprinkler advocacy organization in the U.S., announces it won a Public Relations Society of America New Jersey Chapter "Pyramid Award" for its Fire Sprinkler Design Technician Recruitment Video, targeting entry-level workers to join

the fire sprinkler industry. The annual awards program recognizes companies and public relations firms for their exceptional performance generating public relations visions, strategies, and programs that result in measurable return for their client's brands and bottom lines.

The technician recruitment video project was lead by NFSA's Technician Recruitment Committee, co-chaired by Terry Victor of Simplex-Grinnell and Alan Wiginton of Wiginton Fire Systems; and NFSA's public relations agency, R&J Public Relations. "As fire sprinklers have become more accepted among the general public, the need for trained fire sprinkler technicians has grown among fire sprinkler contractors," said John Viniello, president of NFSA. "To spearhead an industry effort to fill this need, NFSA developed an educational video to increase interest in the field while educating and engaging new talent. We are very proud this tool is recognized by the communications industry as an effective product to help recruit new professionals to our life- and property-saving industry."

The Public Relations Society of America strives to advance the standards of the public relations profession through the sharing of best practices, forums and professional development, showcasing the Pyramid Awards to recognize agencies and companies that advance the industry through successful programs and results. The winning video can be viewed at: www.youtube.com/watch?agYnQp3Q0os

West Region Welcomes 2 New Subscriber Members!

NFSA welcomed 2-new members to the West Region in July. James Capodiecici of the Walt Disney Company located at 15554 Parthenia Street, #7 in North Hills, CA 91343 and Joel Ross from the University of California at San Diego located at 9500 Gillman Drive, #0920 in La Jolla, California joined the NFSA as Subscriber Members!

NFSA “Business Thursday” On-lines Classes 2nd Half Class Schedule Designed For All Members!

“Business Thursdays” Onlines for the second half of 2009 are now posted under our “Seminars” link. NFSA is proud to offer a 30% discount for the full package of six. Also, for those that pick up this package in addition to the package of ten “Technical Tuesdays”, we will apply a 50% discount to the Thursday add-on package. The following classes are scheduled for the 2nd half of 2009;

Business and Professional Communication The ability to write clear sentences and paragraphs is considered essential to everyone working in the business world today. Use of proper punctuation, vocabulary, spelling and sentence structure is important for company image, which contributes to company success. This seminar will present the basics of proper written communication and will include look at the most common mistakes, including some involving terminology specific to the fire sprinkler industry. **Instructor:** Russell P. Fleming, P.E., NFSA Executive Vice President, **Date:** July 30, 2009

Impairment Procedures NFPA 25 spells out specific duties and responsibilities of impairment coordinators to minimize the length of impairments to fire protection systems and get the systems back up and running. The duties and responsibilities apply to both emergency and preplanned impairments. This seminar will explain the duties and responsibilities required of an impairment coordinator and offer cautions to fire sprinkler contractors that might want to fill this roll for the building owner. (Great study guide for NICET Work Element 43008) **Instructor:** Karl Wiegand, Manager of Installation Standards, NFSA, **Date:** August 20, 2009

Roles of the System Inspector and AHJ This seminar focuses on the assigned roles and obligations of both the system inspector and the Authority Having Jurisdiction charged with the enforcement of NFPA 25. It will highlight areas in which the inspector must be careful to avoid crossing the line into hazard analysis and evaluation of system design capabilities. What are the options for the AHJ who would like to see these issues addressed? How system deficiencies and impairments are best reported?

Instructors: Russell P. Fleming, P.E., NFSA Executive Vice President and Dominick Kasmauskas, NFSA New York Regional Manager, **Date:** September 24, 2009

Inspection Contracts This seminar focuses on Inspection Contract language and Form of Agreements. Large dollar settlements and court decisions may depend on the language that is used in an agreement between an owner and an inspecting contractor. For certain, there is concern on the part of the inspecting company as to what kind and how much liability will be incurred should a loss occur after inspections take place. The seminar will include examination of a model agreement and include a few case studies and suggested language for identifying deficiencies. **Instructor:** Michael J. Friedman, P.E., NFSA Consultant, **Date:** October 29, 2009

Time Scheduling, This seminar will cover some of the pertinent aspects of scheduling associated with Inspection and Testing. The need to plan the time that is necessary for the procedures to be performed, as well as, how much time will be necessary to get to the job before embarking will be featured. Also we shall cover concerns for site control, security, and safety. **Instructor:** Michael J. Friedman, P.E., NFSA Consultant, **Date:** November 19, 2009

Workplace Safety and "Right to Know" Information, This seminar focuses on informing the inspector how to recognize workplace hazards that may be encountered, particularly having to do with exposure to hazardous materials. Learn how to recognize the presence of hazards as well as some of the basic characteristics of the various classes of hazardous materials. Included will be labeling and packaging information and some of the things you really wished you would have paid more attention to in high school science class. **Instructor:** Dave Bowman, Ph.D., NFSA Associate Director of Regional Operations and Executive Director of the Florida Fire Sprinkler Association, **Date:** December 3, 2009

FSI to Consolidate Industry CPVC Information

The FSI Best Practices Board of Directors has authorized a new program to help the fire sprinkler installation industry monitor information about progress and changes related to CPVC compatibility. According to FSI Best Practices Program Manager Paul Johnson, keeping track of news and information about this important issue can be cumbersome and confusing. "There is a growing base of information about CPVC - but it is spread across many sources and websites. Our goal is to create a simple, effective 'one stop shop' approach." Johnson explains that FSI will place a special icon - called CPVC LinkSpot - on the front page of its www.FSI-bp.org website. When clicked, readers will be able to access a consolidated, organized list of links and information sources related to this important industry issue.

Johnson adds that FSI Staff will help post and update information. Manufacturers, suppliers and distributors may submit links to FSI that access direct readers to information and updates free of charge. Additionally, information will be accessible and available to any industry participant at no charge. CPVC LinkSpot is expected to launch in early September

3 More Classes Scheduled for 2009 in the West!

After completing a 3-day seminar in Apple Valley instructed by Director of Training Robert Trieber during the month of July, the Training Division will be cooling off in tropical Hawaii on the island of Maui during August 12-14, and returning in September to the 'Award Winning City of Brea! September 22-24. In October the Training Division will be in the historic city of Woodland during October 20-22 for another 3-day seminar. For more class information on the classes listed below and to sign up, please contact West Regional Manager Bruce Lecair or sign up on the NFSA website at www.nfsa.org. **Remember, NFSA members receive discounts for classes!**

Maui, Hawaii

NFPA 13 and Intro to Plan Review (2-day)	Date:	08/12/09
NFPA 13 and Intro to Plan Review (2-day continued)	Date:	08/13/09
Inspection, Testing & Maintenance of Water-based Fire Protection Systems	Date:	08/14/09

Brea, California

NFPA 13, 13R, 13D Update 2007	Date:	09/22/09
Hydraulics for Fire Protection	Date:	09/23/09
½ day Underground Piping for Fire Protection Systems	Date:	09/24/09
½ day Basic Seismic Protection for Sprinkler Systems	Date:	09/24/09

Woodland, California

½ -Day Underground Piping for Fire Protection	Date:	10/20/09
½-Day Commissioning, Acceptance, Testing of Sprinkler Systems	Date:	10/20/09
Sprinkler Protection for General Storage	Date:	10/21/09
Sprinkler Protection for Special Storage	Date:	10/22/09

Name the Green Column Contest Extended!

NFSA invites you to help us spread the message that fire sprinklers are green! As reported in the membership column of the July/August issue of SQ, NFSA is holding a members' only contest to name Dom Kasmauskas' SQ column. **Get involved!** The winner will receive NFSA's

Layout, Detail and Calculation of Fire Sprinkler Systems textbook, the most complete text ever written for the fire sprinkler engineering technician, a \$135 value and 50 "Fire Sprinklers are Green" bags to distribute to family, friends and business associates to help spread the "green" message, a \$200 value. That's \$335 in prizes! The contest deadline is set for September 1st, so get your entries in now! To submit your ideas, please e-mail your entry to genadio@nfsa.org. All entries will be forwarded to Dom, who'll pick the best name for his column. The winner will be announced in the November/December issue of SQ.



So Cal FPO's Greet Acting State Fire Marshal!

At the July 8th meeting in Brea, California, So Cal FPO members greeted Acting State Fire Marshal Tonya Hoover in her first appearance in her new position since the recent appointment was announced.

Chief Hoover gave an extensive report and expressed appreciation for the support and leadership provided by the California FPO's. The afternoon presentation featured a one-hour discussion and presentation on "Fraud Awareness" during NFPA 25 testing and maintenance in Southern California. The presentation was given by members of the Long Beach and Torrance Fire Departments. {For additional information regarding this and future meetings go to the website at <http://www.firepreventionofficers.org>. and click the information bar for North and South meetings.}

Northern California FPO meet on the Mountain!

The Northern California Fire Prevention Officers met on July 24, 2009 at the Link-Hamilton Observatory in Santa Clara County. The meeting hosted by the Cal State University at Santa Cruz featured began with a lecture on the observatory that included a demonstration of the elevating floor, history of the mountain, the observatory and a brief tour. The meeting feature committee meetings, fire service and CSFM updates and a presentation from Jim Lake, Fire Prevention Specialist from NFPA entitled, "NFPA 13 – 2010 Update. The 45-minute update included information on the new fire sprinkler requirements for special, high piled, and moveable storage, new density curve modifications, changes to the existing to the drop sprinkler concept and information on the new requirements for open ceilings. Acting Fire Marshal Tonya Hoover was also in attendance and provided an update on the activities of the Office of the State Fire Marshal. {For additional information regarding this and future meetings go to the website at <http://www.firepreventionofficers.org>. and click the information bar for North and South meetings.}

Regulations, Legislation, Codes, etc.

AB 660 (Torrico) Sprinkler fitters: Licensing

Last Historical Action: From Committee chair, with author's amendments, amend and re-refer to committee. Read second time, amended, and re-referred to Committee on Governmental Organization

Committee location: Senate Appropriations

Committee Action Date: 06/29/2009

Last Historical Action: Withdrawn from committee. Re-referred to Committee on Appropriations

See June 2009 for Summary

AB 1127 (Solorio) School Facilities: Automatic Fire Sprinkler System

Status: Referred to Committee ASM Appropriations, Hearing Date 05/28/2009

Last Historical Action: Set second hearing, held under submission:

ASM Appropriations. **See June 2009 for Summary**

SB 183 (Lowenthal) Carbon Monoxide Alarms

Status: Last Historical Action Date: 06/22/2009,

Last Historical Action: Read second time, amended. Re-referred to Committee on Judicial

Hearing date: 06/30/2009 **See June 2009 for Summary**

SB 405 (Cogdill) Contractors: Fire Sprinkler Installation

Status: 05/21/2009 Last historical action: In Assembly. Read first time, held at Desk.

Committee Location: Senate Labor and Industrial Relations,

Last Action Date: 04/27/2009

Last Historical Action: Set, second hearing. Hearing canceled at the request of the author.

Committee Location: Senate Business, Professions and Economic Development

See June 2009 for Summary

UPCOMING WESTERN REGION MEETINGS:

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection Cal Fire Meetings

- **CSFM NFPA 25 Work Group Meeting at 10:00 a.m.** at the California State Fire Marshals Office in Sacramento, Ca.

NFSA L.A. California Chapter, Thursday, August 20 and October 15 at 5 p.m. at the Rio Hondo Event Center at 10627 Old River School Road in Downey, CA 90241.

NFSA S.F. California Chapter, Thursday, September 17, 2009 at 6 p.m. at Jack London Square at 6:00 p.m.

- Guest speaker to be announced.

Southern California FPO Mtg. Wednesday, August 12, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. The meeting is to be hosted by the Riverside County Fire Prevention Officers and Riverside County Fire Department.

- The meeting is at the Pechanga Resort in Temecula, Ca.
- To RSVP, see the website at www.firepreventionofficers.org

Northern California FPO Mtg. Friday, August 28, 2009 in Napa, Ca.

- The afternoon presentation is entitled, "Public Education for this Economy--NFPA Resources for You."
- To RSVP, see the website at www.firepreventionofficers.org

Fire Sprinkler Contractors Association of Southern California

- **Special Meeting Wednesday July 22 -11:30 AM** Location: Los Serranos Golf Club, Guest Speaker: Jim Lake, Staff Liaison NFPA 13 & NFPA 25 (Golf –AM)
 - **RSVP is Mandatory!!!!**

San Diego Fire Protection Association, August 11, 2009, La Mesa, Ca. at Marie Callendar's Restaurant 11:30 a. m.

- The monthly meeting agenda is pending.

Hawaii Fire Chiefs Association Conference-Waikoloa, Hawaii, November 19-22, 2009

- The Hawaii Fire Chiefs Association will conduct its next meeting on the island of Hawaii at the Hilton Waikoloa Village in Waikoloa on November 19-22. The annual Conference features education and training seminars, presentations from the fire industry, a vendor's day and meetings and events. Regional Manager Bruce Lecair will be in attendance.

20th Annual California Fire Prevention Institute - March 15-19, 2010

- Planning is already starting for another GREAT workshop! The Santa Ynez Valley Marriott is once again the site of the 20th Annual CFPI Workshop.