



PARADE

Prevention Advocacy Resources and Data Exchange

Co-Chair Training/Meeting

June 26-27, 2010



FEMA

PARADE

PREVENTION ADVOCACY RESOURCES AND DATA EXCHANGE

Co-Chair Training/Meeting

Report on the PARADE Training/Meeting, a gathering of America's fire marshals at the State and local levels, conducted June 26-27, 2010, by the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA), an element of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

Prepared by
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WELCOME AND AGENDA OVERVIEW

Ms. Rebecca Ryan welcomed the group and introduced several USFA/National Fire Program's Division staff in attendance. They included: Alex Furr, Director, National Fire Programs Division; Sandy Facinoli, Chief Prevention and Information Branch, and Teresa Neal, Fire Program Specialist, Prevention and Information Branch. Ms. Ryan then walked the group through the program packet they received when they checked in and gave a brief explanation on various documents. She asked that everyone go around the room and introduce themselves, as there are several new co-chairs. The 3 co-chairs from Region VII were unable to attend.

WELCOME BY ACTING USFA ADMINISTRATOR

Chief Glenn Gaines

The new Acting Administrator, Chief Glenn Gaines introduced himself. He discussed what had occurred over the last few weeks regarding the former Administrator Kevin Cochran's departure and about how he shares a lot of the same values as the former Administrator. Chief Gaines stated that USFA was beginning to focus on a business approach as to how to solve the fire problem. He discussed the USFA's strategic plan and how it's time for the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) to focus more on prevention and mitigation.

Chief Gaines presented a slide show of residential fires during a 10-year period. It depicted that civilian deaths in residential fires had flatlined, civilian injuries flatlined, cost of residential fires went up 22%, and firefighter deaths dropped. The slides also indicated that the U.S. population growth has changed to project 392 million people by the year 2050, which is more than a 50% increase from the 1990 population estimate. Chief Gaines believes we can learn a lot from the data and he encouraged the fire marshals to use it, and analyze it. Future residential fire problem—projections indicate that 80 million people will need assisted living housing. He gave examples of nursing homes and problems that occurred with the Sunrise Nursing Home in Virginia when he was chief.

Chief Gaines explained how he attempted to change the Virginia culture, which was a difficult task, and he thinks it will be a great opportunity to do the same nationally and we have to start here and go after the upcoming fire chiefs to instill the importance of prevention and mitigation. He stressed the importance of recruiting, as well as developing appropriate curriculum and supporting it. Chief Gaines believes working hand-in-hand in an all-hazards approach has its advantages and opportunities are not going to happen overnight. He encouraged the group to get fire safety messages out through various means. At the conclusion of his presentation, Chief Gaines answered questions from the group.

WELCOME

Dr. Denis Onieal, Superintendent

Dr. Onieal stopped by to say hello. He welcomed the group to the USFA. He addressed a couple issues regarding supporting and promoting fire prevention courses and issues to the State systems and reiterated that the world is not going to change tomorrow. He also discussed that our senior population are a high-risk group. We often have conversations about who is going to be responsible for making changes—you are! Dr. Onieal advised that the NFA is releasing a 2-week fire investigation course, and encouraged participants to deliver the course. Dr. Onieal then opened up the floor for questions.

U.S. FIRE ADMINISTRATION PRESENTATIONS

National Fire Incident Reporting System Update

Brad Pabody, Chief, National Fire Data Center (NFDC) and
Marion Long, Fire Program Specialists, NFDC

Marion Long told the audience that perceptions of the fire service vary, there's your perception and the public's perception. You cannot control what someone does or says, but you can control what you do or say. He stressed that there are three points for the fire service to remember: they must tell its full story; they must ensure that its incident reports are complete; and they must use its data to "fight fires with facts." The fire service must tell its full story by documenting and reporting all emergency response incidents and if it's not documented, it did not happen. It's just as important to document successes as it is to document failures. The fire service must ensure that its incident reports are complete; a valid incident is not necessarily a complete incident. The incident report reflects on more than the report writer and a consequential incident requires more attention. The fire service must use its data to "fight fires with facts" by supporting statements with numbers. It is important that the fire service integrate the data in all phases of decisionmaking and make the data visible.

Mr. Long described to the group what the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) is and how the data are collected from the fire departments and State fire offices. NFIRS is the fire service's tool to tell its full story within and outside the fire service, and NFIRS must tell that story at all levels. Mr. Long directed the group to visit www.nfirs.fema.gov and create an account to check their State's data. Mr. Long opened the floor up for questions/discussion.

Following Mr. Long's presentation, Brad Pabody, Chief, National Fire Data Center, discussed what NFIRS is and the background of NFIRS. He explained that the NFIRS database contains over 100 million nonfire incidents and 28 million fire incidents collected since the system's inception. Approximately 20 million emergency response incidents and 1 million fire incidents are collected each year from the 50 States. NFIRS was redesigned by USFA and its data partners from 1990 to 1998. The revised NFIRS system was designed to accommodate the full range of fire department activities. New modules were developed for emergency medical services (EMS), arson fires, personnel, apparatus, and wildland fires. Internet-based collection software was developed. NFIRS

5.0 was implemented in 1999. A comprehensive requirements analysis for identification of any gaps in the NFIRS system was conducted in 2009.

As a result of stakeholder interviews and analysis of the data conducted during the requirements analysis, 126 specific wants and needs (identified problems) statements were gathered, resulting in the identification of 10 different strategic need areas requiring improvement. The comprehensive requirements analysis of the NFIRS system gaps resulted in the identification of the following 10 strategic need areas requiring improvement: modernized system; data warehousing and mining; data management and quality; streamline output reporting and analysis; timely incident reporting; usability; information sharing; agility to respond to change; self service; and vendor support.

In order to facilitate a modular approach to the NFIRS enhancement process, the work has been separated into the following five discrete phases: Data Entry Browser Interface (planned release date: spring 2010); Data Warehouse and Mining (planned release date: Spring, 2011); New NFIRS Web Portal; Revision of the NFIRS Data Entry Applications; and Enhanced User Interface. Once completed, changes to the system will result in improved user experience through improvements to the user interface; improved system performance; overhaul of the USFA NFIRS 5.0 system software, applications, and infrastructure; and the addition of new or enhanced capabilities to USFA NFIRS 5.0 software, to bring NFIRS system software in line with Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) enterprise standards. Mr. Pabody indicated that if the group had any questions or concerns, they should contact him directly and he would be happy to discuss the information with them.

FIRE SERVICE INTELLIGENCE ENTERPRISE (FSIE) PROJECT

Keith Heinke, Fire Program Specialist

Mr. Henke discussed ways to incorporate fire personnel into fusion centers. There have been significant developments in State and local information sharing since 2003. *The Fire Service Integration for Fusion Centers, An Appendix to the Baseline Capabilities for State and Major Urban Area Fusion Centers* has been developed. Fusion centers are founded on the State level, with an all-crimes focus but most have evolved into an all-hazards approach and focused on information and intelligence sharing, in a collaborative environment. A fusion center is **not** focused only on terrorism, nor is it owned by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), and it is not a base for domestic spies. Each fusion center receives information from Federal, State, local and tribal law enforcement, DOJ, DHS, National Guard, the Intelligence Community and Private Sector. Working with many Federal partners, fusion centers create and disseminate various intelligence products which form the foundation of information sharing. The DHS, Office of Intelligence and Analysis, Joint Fusion Center - Program Office (JFC-PMO) is the vital link between critical partners in the all-hazards preparedness mission of DHS. DHS has deployed Intelligence Analysts to fusion centers across the country—a total of 80 fusion centers—and the goal is to have at least one analyst in every State.

Support is needed for the integration of first responders into fusion centers. The JFC-PMO supports the integration of traditional and new partners into fusion center information and intelligence sharing operations. Progress is being made toward enhanced information and intelligence sharing with non-law enforcement entities such as fire and emergency services. There are five organized support criteria through the FSIE: Framework, Requirements, Mechanisms, Technical Assistance, and Training. The incorporation of the fire service perspective into all of the fusion center's process capabilities enhances the collective homeland security effort, while supporting the prevention, protection, response, and recovery efforts of all homeland security partners. Mr. Henke referenced the Haymarket Bomb Plot in London, England in 2007 and discussed the information gathered and reported. Prevention and protection is what it's all about. Mr. Henke answered several questions and encouraged the participants to contact him if they wanted additional information.

USFA'S WILDLAND URBAN INTERFACE INITIATIVES: READY, SET, GO! AND FIRE-ADAPTED COMMUNITIES

Phyllis Krietz, Fire Program Specialist

Ms. Krietz mentioned that approximately one out of every three housing units in the United States is located in wildland urban interface areas. Wildfire risk is present in 38 States. Wildfires continue to threaten communities and cost the Nation millions of dollars every year.

Two programs that are currently underway to help address this issue are: Ready, Set, Go! and Fire-Adapted Communities. The Quadrennial Fire Review, January 2009, provided a strategic assessment of fire agency policies and programs designed to anticipate future needs and review of joint efforts of five Federal natural resource management agencies and their State, local, and tribal partner in the wildland fire community.

A quick summary of Ready, Set, Go! illustrates that **Ready** teaches the public to prepare in advance of a wildland fire; **Set** teaches residents situational awareness, how to monitor, and to be ready to implement a family disaster plan; and, **Go** teaches early and safe evacuation. Eight pilot communities have been identified to implement the program. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) has put a lot of effort into getting this program out.

Fire-Adapted Communities can use tools to aid in combating wildland urban interface fire issues and have goals to reduce these issues. It is important to prepare to evacuate and safely evacuate when necessary. Residents possess knowledge, skills, and willingness to properly prepare their home before a wildfire threatens. There are several local, State, and Federal government agencies and nongovernment organizations with a stake in protecting community wildfire: National Association of State Foresters (NASF), National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC), Institute for Business and Home Safety (IBHS), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Forest Service, Department of Interior, USFA, and many others. Some local partnerships, to mention a few, which may be helpful in identifying issues are the Rotary

Clubs, Homeowners Association, Conservation Groups, schools, and church groups. To become a fire-adapted community, one must create defensible space, perform pre-fire mitigation, have a strong collaborative partnership between local, State, and Federal authorities, and support regulations to guide development, building materials and location, and landscape to mitigate fire danger.

Ms. Krietz explained that the strategy of a fire-adapted community is to change public expectations, build a sense of shared responsibility, and increase knowledge and commitment. A fire-adapted community is one that can survive a wildfire with little or no additional protection resources and little or no damage.

Ms. Krietz discussed the outcomes of the programs and how development of an implementation guide for Ready, Set, Go! can be provided to fire departments. A comprehensive guide for structural firefighters to assist communities to become fire adapted will be developed and available in the future.

VISION 20/20: NATIONAL STRATEGIES FOR FIRE LOSS PREVENTION

Jim Crawford, Vision 20/20 Project Manager

Recently retired Vancouver, Washington Fire Marshal, Jim Crawford, introduced himself and gave a brief overview of Vision 20/20. He outlined some of his goals: provide a forum for sustained, collaborative planning to reduce fire loss in the United States; involve agencies and organizations with expertise and commitment to fire loss reduction; and focus on **actions** that are needed to bridge the gap between recommended solutions and the current status of fire prevention activity.

An Ad Hoc Group with a vested interest in fire prevention met at the NFPA meeting in Orlando, Florida in 2006. Assistance to Firefighter Grant funding was received to pursue Vision 20/20 initiatives. The Vision 20/20 strategic planning process began in August 2007. The effort started with an environmental scan of data from NFPA and USFA that defined fire loss by number of fires, death, injury, and dollar loss. Using a Web forum format, conducted simultaneously in 13 locations involving over 500 grass-roots practitioners, the top priorities requiring immediate action were identified and action steps were highlighted.

Five strategies were identified in Vision 20/20:

- Strategy 1: Increase Advocacy for Fire Prevention;
- Strategy 2: Conduct a National Fire Safety Education/Marketing Campaign;
- Strategy 3: Raise the Importance of Fire Prevention in the Fire Service;
- Strategy 4: Promote Technology to Enhance Fire and Life Safety; and
- Strategy 5: Refine and Improve the Application of Codes and Standards that Enhance Public and Firefighter Safety and Reserve Community Assets.

Vision 20/20 is a platform for collaborative efforts and is an ad-hoc coordinating body. Mr. Crawford discussed the long-term goal of Vision 20/20 to seek structure that will continue strategic planning and collaboration where possible.

REGIONAL REPORTS



Each Region had the opportunity to provide a summary of fire prevention activities that had taken place over the past year. In addition, the regional reports provide specific recommendations for improvement of the Prevention Advocacy Resources and Data Exchange (PARADE) concept, as well as a way to share common concerns/observations regarding the programs of the USFA.

REGION I

Connecticut
Maine
Massachusetts
New Hampshire
Rhode Island
Vermont

Current Chairs:

State: Vincent Quintero
Providence, Rhode Island

Metro: Roger Martin, Jr.
Hartford Fire Dept., Connecticut

IFMA: Vacant at time of this meeting

Region I has not been immune to the world's economic turmoil. Several larger departments that once were thought to be immune to cutbacks have now been or are in the process of being brought to the butcher shop.

Our Region is split with the origin-and-cause of fires between cooking and heating. While 4 out of the 6 states in Region I are over 75% compliant with the NIFRS reporting system, 2 States, Rhode Island 45%, and Maine 42%, are not compliant. Although regionally we are 72% reporting, more emphasis needs to be implemented for a higher completion of reports. This could be a good reason why several States did not receive a fire prevention grant (Maine and Rhode Island).

Since the last co-chair meeting there seems to be more emphasis on computer-based training programs. Massachusetts just launched several grade 3 educational programs where the education community can download the material, free of charge, to promote their safety message. Using local resources to assist with spreading the public education message has also been a popular trend; several Vermont firefighters help produce a TV program entitled "Fire Safety Vermont." They have produced over 40 episodes with various titles, and these shows are aired approximately 8 times a month. New Hampshire has just hired a part-time public educator to assist the State Fire Marshal in addressing and delivering the injury and fire prevention needs of the State.

With our Region being split between cooking and heating as our main causes of fires, the northern region, New Hampshire, Vermont, and Maine, has collaborated and put together several different local programs to address the needs and concerns of installing and operating their home heating sources. Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island's main fire origin is cooking.

Most of our Region has programs available online to not only share with neighboring States but the rest of the country as well. Each year the New England Fire Marshal Association gathers and has their annual training which helps provide resources to the

Region. A lot of good programs are brought to this Region, but unfortunately over the last couple of years, there has been a steady decline in attendance to this conference. There could be several reasons for this decline; 1) major turnover of manpower within the fire prevention divisions; and 2) budgetary problems, not only locally, but on a regionwide level. Several outside organizations, such as the National Fire Sprinkler Association, also provide regionalized training and through the grants provided by the USFA and NFA help to bring the different training to each State through their State Training Directors.

Although small in area, Region I has several areas where they appear far apart.

Networking: we need to network ourselves better! **Budgets:** like most of the country, money for training is a major factor. Most State and local department's budgets have been slashed leaving the remainder of the departments running with their tail between their legs trying to hide what little money and manpower they have left. **Consistency:** with a large turnover of personnel, the message is not being delivered on a consistent level. Although with the Internet/Web sites/regional grants through PARADE/and through the NFPA's public education network, the materials that once appeared to be too costly are now easily attainable.

We are not here to reinvent the wheel, but to reevaluate our roll, make it absorb more bumps while economically and safely achieving its goal in risk reduction and prevention.

Maine

- received a fire safety grant
- newsletters, TV, and radio spots focus on seasonal and year-round fire safety issues (four pieces running through spring 2011)
- unsuccessful campaign aimed at residential sprinklers for one- and two- family homes (vote 10:1)
- overall fires are consistent with past year
- fatal fires are down
- awaiting data on injuries and property loss estimate
- continue to run "older adults" fire safety program

New Hampshire

- statewide poster campaign with graphics furnished from USFA
- unsuccessful in receiving any Federal grant money
- new part-time public educator established--retired teacher and she is excited to get started--was a 2010 NFPA public education scholarship winner

Massachusetts

- Retro smoke alarm mandate for pre-1975 buildings--require photoelectric detection within 20 feet of kitchen/bath and dual outside of this area. Have legal authority to do this only on sale/transfer of property. They have filed legislation to require upgrades in homes built after 1975. Goal is to get sole ionization detectors out of the home.
- Should go to public hearing on a new regulation that will govern process safety--reason an explosion which occurred in Danvers, MA. And a smaller one that appended in Leominster--dramatically lower the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) process safety management (PSM) threshold.
- Instituted statewide certification of competency (test/license) for those engaged in hood cleaning.
- Safe cigarette appears to be doing well. Instituted a full program that includes compliance auditing, testing of cigarettes, and fined several companies for not complying.
- Launched a program that deals with smoking and home oxygen.
- Will be launching an online crowd managers program sometime this Fall (October 2010).

Connecticut

- Effective July 1, 2010, adopting NFPA 1, *Uniform Fire CodeTM* with their amendments, as the first fire prevention code in Connecticut history.
- Hartford, CT, got Assistance to Firefighter Grant (AFG) approved for a fire hazard house; the remaining funds were submitted and approved for the purchase of 10-year sealed lithium smoke detectors.

Rhode Island

- Residential sprinkler legislation for new one- and two- family dwellings failed. However, a group was commissioned to review more statistics in hopes of reintroducing this back in winter/spring 2011.
- Was unsuccessful in receiving any Federal money for fire prevention.
- Statewide inspection of all apartment complexes (eight units or greater)--large complex burned to the ground found numerous building and fire code violations that were never found during construction (25 years ago)--no injuries.

- Consumer fireworks are now legal to sell in Rhode Island--looking for assistance regarding regulations from other States that allow fireworks.
- New crowd managers training to now license all those who attend.
- Happy to report that approximately 45 percent of our fire departments are using NFIRS. Most are completing or correcting reports but Providence refuses to send back corrections. Will work to get the percent higher for reporting.
- On the verge of adopting a newer version of NFPA (2009) edition.
- Starting in December 2010 all three-family dwellings will be required to have a hardwired fire alarm system installed in all common areas.

Vermont

- Statewide educational TV programs used to promote injury and fire education message to the public.
- Continue to use their fire safety trailer to deliver the fire prevention message to the community.
- Fire education division used NFPA resources to deliver safety message to every county.
- By using the Boy Scouts Fall Camporee together they created a fire safety merit badge.

Current Chairs:

State: Paul Martin
Albany, New York

Metro: Robert Drexler
Rochester, New York

IFMA: William P. Timmons
Rochester, New York

Over the past year, Region II has achieved many great accomplishments, including:

- Creation and implementation of a *Public Fire and Life Safety Educator 1* (PFLSE) course. This course is being taught twice a year at the New York State Academy of Fire Science. PFLSE 1 meets the NFPA 1035 pro-qual standard and successful students achieve National Certification under the Office of Fire Prevention and Control's (OFPC) Pro-Board accreditation.
- We hosted our 37th Annual Public Fire Safety Educators Conference in May. With an attendance of 210 people from New York, Massachusetts, Maine, and Canada, this conference is one of the most highly attended and is an excellent training opportunity for fire/life safety educators in the Northeast. This year's conference covered several topics including Senior Fire Safety, Community Smoke Alarm Programs, Fire Prevention Grant Writing, and Fire Extinguisher Training.
- The annual Fire Marshals and Inspectors In-Service Program in New York City draws approximately 230 marshals and inspectors from throughout New York. This year's program offered attendees the opportunity to acquire the 24 hours of inservice training that is required annually under State mandate. Some of the topics covered at this year's program were Damage Prevention and Emergency Response for Pipeline and Gas Operations, Electrical Inspections for one- and two- Family Dwellings, Repair Garages/Spray Booth, and Legal Aspects of Building Code Enforcement.

- The Great New York State Fair, which draws more than a million people, is a major event that occurs in Syracuse, NY. One of the primary exhibits at the fair is the Emergency Services Building with a large portion of that building dedicated to the fire service. There is a replica of a typical home, where the fairgoer has to find several common household hazards. Also provided is hands-on fire extinguisher training. Additionally the program includes a live action fire safety stage skit performed in conjunction with the Syracuse Fire Department. Annual public outreach through this display area exceeds 250,000.
- Education programs are conducted on New York's college and university campuses annually. Some of these training opportunities include Student Fire Safety Training; Resident Assistant and Hall Director Fire Safety Training; Fire Extinguisher Training; Campus Fire Safety Awareness Days; Administration, Faculty and Staff Training; and Campus Police Fire Safety Training. Total outreach through these programs surpasses 150,000.
- The New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control (OFPC) and the New York State Department of Health (DOH) have partnered on a FEMA Fire Prevention & Safety grant. This grant will provide for the installation of 10,000 smoke alarms and provide public education on fire safety in 12 counties across New York State. The counties were selected due to their fatal fire record, average age of the housing stock, and demographics, including poverty levels and mean age of the population. DOH and OFPC are working with the local fire departments who will be the "boots on the ground" in each participating community. The goal of the project is to reduce the number of fire-related injuries and deaths, to increase the number of functional smoke alarms, and to increase the level of fire safety knowledge among residents.

REGION III

Delaware
Maryland
Pennsylvania
Virginia
West Virginia
District of Columbia

Current Chairs:

State: Charles E. Altizer
Virginia State Fire Marshal's Office

Metro: James "Robbie" Dawson
Chesterfield Fire & EMS, Virginia

IFMA: Robert Ryan
Montgomery County, Maryland

Grant funds were used in the last cycle to support the Mid-Atlantic Fire and Life Safety Conference and the Spring Virginia Fire Prevention Association Conference. The funds were used to support outside speakers for presentations at the conferences.

Membership and participation in PARADE continue to be a challenge for some States in the Region and continue to be a concern for next year's conference due to budget cuts and cuts in staffing for the various fire prevention offices.

Virginia's residential sprinkler effort has been unsuccessful. The Housing Board has accepted the home builder's code change to remove the sprinkler requirement from the International Residential Code (IRC). The Virginia Residential Sprinkler Coalition submitted proposals for townhouse sprinklers, but that effort was not successful. The coalition will continue working to get this provision included in the next code adoption process in 2012/2013.

The Mid-Atlantic Fire and Life Safety Conference will be held in Laurel, MD, September 28, 2010, and will include a guest speaker from The Station Nightclub fire. Flyers were provided to the co-chairs at the meeting. The Web site for the conference is <http://www.mfri.org/announcements/lsc/2010lsc.pdf>

REGION IV

Alabama
Florida
Georgia
Kentucky
Mississippi
North Carolina
South Carolina
Tennessee

Current Chairs:

State: Jim Goodloe
Florida State Fire Marshal's Office

Metro: Jonathan Leonard
Charlotte Fire Department, North Carolina

IFMA: Steven Peavey
City of Altamonte Springs, Florida

Alabama

No report.

Florida

Efforts to stop legislation prohibiting the IRC residential sprinkler requirement failed. We were able to amend the language so that jurisdictions that currently have sprinkler requirements can continue enforcing their ordinances.

Georgia

No report.

Kentucky

No report.

Mississippi

This year will be a very successful year for the State of Mississippi, even in light of the number fire deaths that we continue to experience. The commissioner/fire marshal is taking a very proactive approach to Fire Prevention and Life Safety Education. With the support of his office, the "Novelty & Toy Lighter Campaign" and the "Safe Cigarette Campaign" were both successfully passed through the legislature and were signed by the Governor. Both new laws are scheduled to go into effect July 1, 2010.

The fire marshal's office also kicked off a "Smoke Alarm Campaign." This campaign was so successful last year that they submitted success stories to FEMA. Because of this campaign several people who experienced fires last year were able to make it out of their homes alive because they were provided a smoke alarm from the Mississippi Fire Marshal's Office. Residents were also provided educational information while having it installed; as a bonus there is no installation charge to the resident. This year they will be placing almost \$1 million worth of smoke alarms in residential homes throughout the State of Mississippi. The Fire Marshal's Office has also put a "Fire Prevention and Life Safety Education" task force together to further help reduce the fire deaths in the State. Mississippi is on the move!

North Carolina

North Carolina has been successful in passing legislation in the following areas:

- ban on sale of novelty lighters--October 2009;
- carbon monoxide alarms in rental property--January 2010; and
- fire safe cigarette--January 2010.

We continue to work statewide to build awareness on home fire sprinklers through our North Carolina Home Fire Sprinkler coalition group. We exhibit at homebuilder shows and conferences and at any venues that have educational components.

The Office of State Fire Marshal (SFM), Fire/Rescue Injury Prevention Section, has implemented and maintains a smoke alarm and carbon monoxide alarm program to make these resources available to fire departments in North Carolina that will do canvassing programs and complete evaluations for their communities.

Campus Fire Safety Project (in process)--through a FEMA Fire Prevention grant--six train-the-trainer regional workshops will be held this summer to provide fire safety/prevention resources that campus safety officials can use for students returning this August and September. In addition to providing workshops, educational toolkits with numerous DVDs, smoke alarms, and carbon monoxide alarms for off-campus housing will also be provided.

The Annual Fire and Life Safety Educator Conference was held in February 2010 with nearly 200 attendees. This 3-day conference provided more than 20 excellent workshops and also Juvenile Firesetter Intervention level one workshop with 30 students in attendance.

New requirements for North Carolina Fireworks Certification and permit process for Operators--2010 Pyrotechnic Law went into effect February 2010.

South Carolina

No report.

Tennessee

No report.

Region IV Updates:

On May 4, 2010, the Region IV Chairs held a conference call to discuss the banker position and the PARADE grant funds. Below is a recap of the issue discussed during that meeting.

Region IV will use existing-year funds to cover expenses for meetings with the State Fire Marshal's staff of Kentucky, Alabama, and Tennessee to solicit stronger interest in PARADE and to gauge their interest in participating in a program to install carbon monoxide detectors in a rural community within the State. The focus should be on a volunteer fire department where the use of fuel burning appliances is used for heating or cooking. If there is insufficient interest in participating in the carbon monoxide detector program, the emphasis will shift to another State within the Region, preferably Georgia, South Carolina, or Mississippi.

The funds obtained in the next fiscal year's grant (2010/2011) will be used to purchase and distribute approximately 100 carbon monoxide detectors to each of the three selected communities via the State Fire Marshal. The receiving departments must report back to the Region and the respective State Fire Marshal once the carbon monoxide detectors have been installed. A specific date will be set for the completion of the program.

To Do:

Each co-chair shall contact the SFM in the assigned State and seek to set a meeting to pitch the carbon monoxide program and to report back before August 30, 2010.

- Jonathan Leonard: Kentucky
- Steve Peavey: Alabama
- Jim Goodloe: Tennessee (will incorporate with a current meeting with NFPA scheduled for August 12).

Unfortunately due to workloads and issues with the Region's GMS account, we will not be able to proceed with the plans as outlined above.

REGION V

Illinois
Indiana
Michigan
Minnesota
Ohio
Wisconsin

Current Chairs:

- State: Ronald Farr
Minnesota Fire Marshal's Office
- Metro: Osrice Wilson
Detroit Fire Department, Wisconsin
- IFMA: George Michehl
Buffalo Grove Fire Department, Illinois

Illinois

This report recaps some of the major accomplishments of the Illinois Fire Inspectors Association (IFIA) over the past year.

Two of our proudest moments of this year resulted in the passage of two pieces of legislation that we sponsored in the Illinois General Assembly.

- **HB5139**--creates the Retail Sale and Distribution of Novelty Lighters Prohibition Act. This bill passed both chambers in the legislature and awaits the Governor's signature.
- **HB5664**--creates the Greek Housing Fire Safety Act. Requires automatic sprinklers in all Greek Housing by January 1, 2019. Establishes jurisdiction as to who has the authority to enforce. Passed both chambers of the legislature and awaits the Governor's signature.

A bill, **HB 5837**--Prohibits Sprinkler Fees, was introduced in the legislature and received some pushback from the water purveyors in the State. This bill is directed toward private water utilities that charge excessive sprinkler tap fees. We attended the Illinois Commerce Commission meeting where we were told to file a formal complaint against the private utility companies in Illinois that use this practice. This is an ongoing process that will take some time to remedy.

Besides legislation the IFIA is busy putting together a training program that will be taught by industry professionals. A curriculum has been formally presented to the Board of Directors and will be voted on next month. This program is designed to augment the

current Illinois Fire Prevention Officer Certification program. These regional training classes will be presented on a monthly basis.

We continue to sponsor Boy Scout activities in our State. This year the Boy Scouts will be celebrating their 100th anniversary. We will be participating in a large event marking the milestone which will celebrate scouting activities past and present. Annually we co-sponsor a fire prevention week door hanger program that proves to be very successful throughout the northern part of the State. We are looking to expand the program to include more of the scouting population in the southern part of the State.

On the topic of certification of Fire Inspectors, after a 2-1/2-year odyssey, the State of Illinois finally has renewed its commitment to certification of Fire Prevention Officers. The IFIA submitted a package that essentially adopts, by reference, the International Fire Service Training Association (IFSTA) based Fire Prevention Inspector I and II programs. We will begin instructing using this program beginning in September 2010.

In April we sponsored a very successful Fire and Life Safety Education Conference. In spite of the terrible economy we had 72 attendees participate in our conference.

Our Fall Safety Seminar, held in November of each year, also exceeded our expectations with over 100 attendees. The addition of a trade show during this 2-1/2-day event seems to have helped draw more attendees.

Fifty-four fire fatalities--lowest in years!

Minnesota

Here are a few things from Minnesota (other than our great baseball team and their new ballpark):

- **Fire Code**--A decision was made a year or so back to not adopt the 2009 edition of the International Fire and Building Codes (including 2009 IRC). The State Fire Code Committee is reviewing the changes to the 2009 and then the 2012 editions to see what changes exist.
- **Fire Protection Standards**--Since we are not adopting a new code, the decision was made to update the fire protection and liquefied petroleum (LP) gas standards (NFPA 13, 13D, 13R, 20, 25, 58, and 72). The plan is to adopt the latest editions of these within the next year or so.
- **Training**--In response to requests from fire code officials to provide training before we adopt new codes and standards (rather than after they have been adopted), the Fire Marshals Association of Minnesota (FMAM) has sponsored training on the updated sprinkler and fire alarm standards.

- **Public Fire Safety Education**--In August 2009, the Minnesota State Fire Marshal Division hired a new public fire safety educator. Her name is Becki White and her background was elementary education but she was also a paid-on-call firefighter for a suburban fire department. She has done a wonderful job adding fire safety education resources to the SFM Web site (www.fire.state.mn.us/FirePubEd.htm) plus starting a social networking page on Facebook (MnDPS_SFM_State Fire Marshal). Fire service personnel from other States are welcome to join as friends or fans of this Facebook page.
- **Fire Deaths**--In 2009, Minnesota experienced the fewest fire deaths (35) since the State Fire Marshal began tracking fire deaths (in 1970). This represents a 62 percent reduction in the fire death rate (number of fire deaths per 100,000 population) since the 1970s.
- **Online Reporting System**--The Minnesota State Fire Marshal introduced an online fire reporting system in 2009. This allowed fire departments to report their fire incident data using an online system rather than on paper (which USFA discontinued as of 12/31/2008) or using a 3rd party software vendor. This has saved fire departments thousands of dollars in computer software costs and is providing timelier reporting. As of May 1, 2010 (16 months after implementation), 72 percent of the State's fire departments are using this system.

Wisconsin

The following is a summary from the past several years of events and changes within the Wisconsin Inspectors Association.

2009

Our last annual educational conference was a great success. The committee had set up many different training opportunities and they were well received. The highlight of our executive board meeting was our guest speaker Steve Peavey from the Florida State Fire Marshals Association and the International Fire Marshal's Association (IFMA) board. Steve gave us a great overview of where the Association was many years ago and how it has achieved its growth over the years. This will give us a great framework to carry our association forward.

Our new carbon monoxide detector law is great for life safety, but is flawed with its implementation. The legislators once again are reactive, instead of being proactive. A couple of years back there was an unfortunate death of two elderly individuals at a rental resort property. The reaction to this prompted the crafting of our current carbon monoxide law. This law is targeted at multifamily dwellings and rental/resort properties. The intent was good natured but the practical aspect of the law is causing a lot of heartburn.

This year's conference provided some unique educational opportunities, specifically a Lunch 'n Learn with topics for the code officials and public educators. One opportunity was presented by Rinderle Door Company on passive fire protection. Those in attendance let us know that this is a subject they would like to see presented in a longer format. You can never know too much about fire doors. The other Lunch 'n Learn was presented by Dr. Shane Diekman from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on what other Nations are doing related to public fire safety education. One of the most interesting things in his presentation was that the CDC recognizes injuries from fire as an issue worthy of their research and program development.

John Dean, Maine Fire Marshal, provided insight on how his State enacted a ban on novelty lighters. If you want to get your legislature on board for this issue, it helps if one of the legislator's burns his hand with a novelty lighter during the hearings. This topic is one which the Association feels the need to be better addressed at a State level and if you look on our Web site will find a letter detailing our position on the topic.

Other conference topics included presentations by staff from NFPA, Simplex-Grinnell, and National School Foundation Association (NSFA), Commerce, Wisconsin School Safety Coordinators Association, Werner Electric, and Menomonee Falls and Kenosha Fire Departments. In closing the conference we asked the Wisconsin Alliance for Fire Safety to help us invite one of their campers turned counselor to close the conference by letting us know the value of the Camp for Burn Injured Youth that the Association supports. Miss Tanya Bolchen did an outstanding job of sharing her experiences at camp with us and how as a counselor she could see the confidence of each camper increase year after year. Few of us will ever know what these young people go through as they grow up with a serious burn injury and Tanya helped us put it in perspective in a way no one other than a camper could. It was a terrific way to end the conference.

The Fire Prevention Bureau needs to be an integral link in the "Everybody Goes Home" initiative and as officers of all ranks we need to embrace the opportunity to get in buildings and see what is in there, where things are, and make the fire prevention visit more than a seek and find for violations.

The theme in 2010 is looking into a fire safe future.

A letter from Tom Clark on a proposal for a regional training position in the Association was presented. The letter was discussed and how a training director would work. A prospective map of the area and training topics were also discussed. There were some great suggestions.

There was a brainstorming session on the advantages of membership and also how and what to do for our membership. There was a lot of discussion on this topic. Then we went on to discuss how to improve the organization. A list of items will be forwarded and we will discuss it at the next board meeting.

NFPA Conference: Attendance at the NFPA Conference and the benefits and resources that can be had were highlighted. There was discussion on sending persons to the conference. The NFPA Conference is the first week in June in Las Vegas.

As all Life Safety Associations in these current economic times find, our programs are the first to be cut. Our executive board is coming up with many ingenious ways for us to deliver quality and area specific training to our members at a reduced cost or no cost at all. With many ideas from other IFMA chapters, we are working on new ways to benefit our members which, in turn, will benefit our communities.

REGION VI

Arkansas
Louisiana
New Mexico
Oklahoma
Texas

Current Chairs:

State: Robert L. Doke
Oklahoma State Fire Marshal's Office

Metro: J. David Kerr
Plano Fire Department, Texas

IFMA: Michael Barnes
Edmond Fire Department, Oklahoma

Oklahoma

The Fire Marshals Association of Oklahoma (FMAO) wants to thank you for the opportunity to share with you once again some information about our chapter. The FMAO was first organized as Chapter 7 of the International Fire Marshals Association (IFMA) in December 1990. The FMAO was, at that time, also affiliated with the Building Officials and Code Administration, Inc. (BOCA), as Chapter 55, which was recognized in December 1991. Following the creation of the International Code Council (ICC), the FMAO was issued an ICC membership.

In 2009 the FMAO used a \$600 PARADE grant to help fund its annual conference. Invitations were sent out to PARADE members by email and a mailer was sent out to all Region VI co-chairs. Approximately 120 fire marshals, building officials, fire investigators, engineers, architects, and vendors attended the 2009 conference.

Our 2010 Annual conference will be held August 31 to September 3 and will be held at the beautiful Western Hills Lodge on Fort Gibson Lake. It is scheduled to start off with a golf tournament and preregistration on August 31. The conference registration and wide range of classes will start on September 1 and end on September 3 with a business meeting and board elections.

Our membership term coincides with the annual conference, and is renewed upon application. Our three mini-conferences educated our 140 members throughout the year, with two fire code-related conferences and one public education conference. We are proud to have welcomed several new members this past year that have never been a part of our association.

The FMAO continues to provide a \$500 annual scholarship to a student that is enrolled in an approved fire prevention program curriculum within the State of Oklahoma. The board receives applications throughout the year and determines the recipient prior to the

beginning of the school year. We are proud to say that some of our recipients are proud members of the fire service throughout the State.

The FMAO also makes a donation annually, from money collected at the annual conference, to a well deserving organization such as Oklahoma Safe Kids Coalition, Tulsa Firefighters Educational Clowns (Oklahoma Burn Camp), Oklahoma Firefighters Memorial Museum, as well as others. The FMAO presented a \$1,700 check from the funds collected at its annual conference to the Habitat for Humanity Home Sprinkler Project in Edmond, OK. This donation along with other donations from the International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI) and the Edmond Firefighter Association will provide enough money to fire sprinkler all 13 homes scheduled to be built by Habitat for Humanity. FMAO is proud to say that our first Vice President, Mike Barnes of Edmond, OK, spearheaded this campaign and has gotten many companies to donate materials and labor. There will be no added cost to the new homes being built for these deserving families.

The FMAO is very active in political matters here in our state. By staying informed and working in cooperation with our State Fire Marshal, we strive to make sure that we voice our concerns, as well as opposition to any and all matters that would affect the lives and loss of property in our State.

We are pleased to have the opportunity to make known this information about the FMAO to our fellow IFMA members and look forward to doing whatever we can do to help strengthen IFMA in whatever capacity possible.

The FMAO will continue to strive towards our mission: **to ensure a fire safe Oklahoma through support, education, justice, and training.**

Texas

The Texas Fire Marshal's Association (TXFMA) wants to thank you for the generous \$900 donation for the 2009 Texas Fire Marshals' Conference. The TXFMA applied the grant toward its annual conference. Invitations were set out to over 1,600 fire service members across the State of Texas. Approximately 220 fire marshals and fire and life safety educators from Texas attended the weeklong conference. This was a 10% increase in attendees from 2008. The 2009 conference also provided attendees a chance to visit over 30 vendors, an increase of 50% from 2008.

The 2010 Texas Fire Marshals' Conference will be held the week of October 17-22, 2010, at the Crowne Plaza in Austin, TX. Preregistration will begin on October 17, with conference registration and classes beginning on October 18. Attendees will receive 36 hours of continuing education credits. This year we will be offering an 8-hour class on NFPA 25, plus numerous other informative classes throughout the week.

Our membership term coincides with the annual conference and is renewed upon registration, although we offer our membership year-round via the TXFMA Web site, as well as, offer memberships at various other fire service-related conferences we attend.

The TXFMA also began making a donation to the National Fallen Fire Fighters Fund last year. TXFMA was able to donate over \$1,000; we hope to increase the donation in 2010.

The TXFMA is very active in Texas political matters. TXFMA strives to make sure Texans are protected and that any concerns or oppositions of laws or legislation that may affect the safety and/or loss of property of the citizens of Texas are expressed.

The TXFMA will continue to strive toward providing top-quality training for local fire marshals and fire and life safety educators in order to help protect the great State of Texas against any loss of life or property due to fire loss.

REGION VII

Iowa
Kansas
Missouri
Nebraska

Current Chairs:

State: Neal Brockmiller
Chesterfield, Missouri

Metro: Charles Coyle
St. Louis, Missouri

IFMA: Craig Fraser
Ankeny, Iowa

No representation from Region VII at the 2010 PARADE Co-Chair Training/Meeting.

REGION VIII

Colorado
Montana
North Dakota
South Dakota
Utah
Wyoming

Current Chairs:

State: Kathy J. Gierke
North Dakota Fire Marshal's Office

Metro: Justin Smith
Casper Fire Department, Wyoming

IFMA: Stephen Cox
S. Davis Metro Fire Agency, Utah

Like other Regions we also have been faced with a slow economy and some economic struggles. Jobs that are reduced are not being filled with new personnel and programs are being cut as budgets are being tightened, but we are still striving to push forward and do our best to get the message of fire prevention out.

In Casper, Wyoming, the Fire Prevention Bureau does a spot on the local television station every other week and promotes a message of fire safety along with their normal school and community events.

Both Utah and Colorado have been working together and sharing information on several programs, particularly juvenile firesetting and NFPA 1035 training. Both are fire and life safety education programs.

Utah is fortunate to have Monica Colby, who leads our Utah Fire and Life Safety Education Association. She does a wonderful job of gathering information and distributing it to all within the State and it is a valuable resource for our teachers and fire personnel to use and teach with.

Utah's Fire Marshal's Office and several businesses, along with the sprinkler society and the Layton Fire Corps, put together a sprinkler display for every fire department within the State and put on a side-by-side burn demonstration to show the effectiveness of sprinklers in homes and presented this at our State Fair.

Utah would like to do more of these side-by-side burns to raise awareness of the sprinklers in homes, and get more media time with local television stations to promote fire sprinklers, firework safety, and wood stove concerns, as well as Christmas tree precautions or just general home safety concerns, be it smoke alarms, or carbon monoxide detectors.

Utah also recently passed the novelty lighter ban. Now it is an education process and awareness to get this message out to all so they continue to understand the importance of the restriction.

We in Region VIII are still striving to reach out to those who are not as active within the region and those of us who are will strive to continue to push our message of home safety and fire prevention out to our communities and the schools.

REGION IX

Arizona
California
Hawaii
Nevada

Current Chairs:

State: Daniel Uthe (rep. SFM)
Tucson Fire Department, Arizona

Metro: James Ford
Scottsdale Fire Department, Arizona

IFMA: Glenn D'Auria (rep. Eric Kriwer)
Tucson Fire Department, Arizona

This overview will recap some of the activities associated with PARADE Region IX. This has been a very turbulent time for the Region IX PARADE organization. At the last regional meeting, conducted during the most recent National PARADE Conference, a new set of co-chairs were identified. Jim Ford (Scottsdale FD) was the Metro Co-chair, Phil Mele (Arizona State FM Office) was identified as the State FM Co-chair, and Eric Kriwer (Prescott FD) was identified as the IFMA Co-chair.

Additionally, at this point in time, Cina Sunderhaus (AFMA--Mesa FD) is identified as the treasurer. We have been and still are experiencing a large amount of turnover and significant departmental changes with many of our regional members. Because of the dramatic changes with the Arizona Fire Marshal's Office, they have temporarily assigned the Tucson FD as their representative. Phil Mele is no longer the Arizona State Fire Marshal and the newly appointed SFM, Bob Barger, is requesting assistance due to the political and operational challenges he is currently facing with their Office. Additional discussion will need to occur before we are able to identify a new slate of officers at the next annual meeting.

We were not able to use the Grant Funding: \$3,000 for the current year, due to issues with Federal information related to PARADE Region IX. Numerous attempts have been made to update contact and banker information (to the AFMA) without much success. We had planned to have a midprocess regional meeting in Nevada. But due to the tremendous impacts related to the national and local economic conditions, there was not a positive response by regional representatives towards having the event.

At this point it appears we will be returning the \$3,000 and re-evaluating (again) if the Region should attempt to request a new grant until the Federal paperwork for Region IX can somehow get corrected. The failure to have the backup Federal paperwork for Region IX's grant request was not due to a lack of effort by the Region or from the PARADE Program Manager at USFA. The Federal grant process and representatives

were unable to make agreed upon corrections to the Dunn's and CCR information in spite of numerous attempts and direct contacts.

We have established a current update of contact information for all known Region IX PARADE members. We would like another list from PARADE/USFA to verify membership and to conduct any additional surveys in an attempt to see if there are any additional jurisdictions that would now qualify in Arizona, California, Hawaii, or Nevada. At the last conference we were able to add 3 new members.

Region IX is still interested in establishing an enhanced Guest Delegate program. We would like to confirm the total number of Region IX spots for the next PARADE meeting in 2011. The goal is to get ahead of the process if we can, in an effort to address the ongoing financial, budget, and travel restrictions that are being experienced by Region IX departments.

A State discussion was held at a local Arizona Fire Marshal Meeting and we have a recommendation for the next R. Wayne Powell Excellence in Fire Prevention Award. We know that there is only one nomination per Region and would like to get with the Nomination Committee early in the process.

Future issues and discussion items:

- Further discussion on attempts to host regional PARADE events, as was supported by attendees at the last national PARADE Conference.
- Because of local budget and travel restrictions, ongoing training for prevention personnel has become challenging. A template seems to be developing to include more localized delivery of training by regional organizations. How can we as an organization support this better?
- Possible impacts to national and regional programs (and future funding) due to upcoming changes associated with a new national administration.
- Update and progress reports needed for the Vision 20/20 initiatives. Many of the Region IX Departments are still active with the Vision 20/20 projects. One example is increased participation in the national code development processes. There was a very good response to the residential sprinkler discussion, but this type of participation and activity needs to continue.
- Local budget impacts on fire and life safety departments and activities. Also, discussion related to the threat of some jurisdictions to completely contract out fire prevention services to private, third party organizations. Possible short-term and long-term impacts to fire prevention services throughout the country.

Any questions related to this update can be directed to Jim Ford at (480) 312-1804.

REGION X

Alaska
Idaho
Oregon
Washington

Current Chairs:

State: David Tyler
Division of Fire and Life Safety
Anchorage, Alaska

Metro: Lisa Jones
Fire Marshal
Spokane, Washington

IFMA: Jeff Donahue
Fire Marshal
Independence, Oregon

Introduction

FEMA Region X is comprised of the States of Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington. The Region's meetings were held at the Fire Marshals Roundtable in Spokane, WA, in October 2008, and in Vancouver, WA, in October 2009 and again in Emmitsburg, MD, during the 2010 Regional Co-chair meeting. Three FEMA Region X states were represented at the 2010 Co-chair meeting at the USFA--Alaska, Washington, and Oregon.

Attendees

- David Tyler: Alaska State Fire Marshal, State FM Co-chair
- Lisa Jones: Spokane, WA City Fire Marshal, Metro Co-chair
- Jim Crawford: Vancouver, WA City Fire Marshal, PARADE Guest Speaker; and
- Jeff Donahue: Polk County Fire District #1, or Fire Marshal, IFMA co-chair.

Narrative

Region X has had many successes and challenges since the last co-chair meeting 2 years ago. Overall Region X has good PARADE support among the members associated with past and current events. The challenge remains, however, to reach out to new members and instill PARADE concepts in offering support and sharing in a collaborative process to leverage prevention efforts on a regionwide basis.

Successes

Personnel Changes:

- Three of the Region's four States have had fairly recent staffing changes in the State Fire Marshal's Offices. Alaska State Fire Marshal Dave Tyler has been at his post for 3+ years. Oregon's State Fire Marshal Randy Simpson has been at his post since March 2009, and Washington's State Fire Marshal Charles Duffy was sworn in this past spring. We appreciate the opportunity to welcome aboard the newer State Fire Marshals.
- Vancouver, WA's Fire Marshal and the former Portland, Oregon Fire Marshal Jim Crawford also retired from Vancouver, WA, this past spring. Although officially retired, Jim has not slowed down a bit in his professional fire service initiatives and if the recent Vision 20/20 efforts are any indication, he will continue to be a welcomed influence at the State, regional, and national levels.
- Region X also greeted a new IFMA Representative, Jeff Donahue. Jeff, formerly of Las Vegas Fire & Rescue, is now the Fire Marshal for Polk County, OR. He was also recently voted as the PARADE National IFMA Co-chair.

Training and Collaboration:

- FEMA grant dollars went to support the Washington State Fire Marshals Roundtable, a cooperative event for fire prevention professionals. Much like the National PARADE Conference, the Roundtable incorporates training, presentations, conferences on "hot topics," and networking opportunities for attendees.
 - The 2008 Roundtable was held in Spokane, WA.
 - The 2009 Roundtable, a cooperative effort between Washington and Oregon States, was held in Vancouver, WA.
 - Both events were very well attended.
 - Special outreach efforts were aimed at Public Fire Education professionals to make sure that input was received and emergent topics of interest were presented or addressed.
- 2009 International Fire Code update training was held in various areas throughout the Region.

- Modeled after the Marble Mountain, WA, and Orange County, CA, fire sprinkler demonstrations, side-by-side fire sprinkler system demonstrations were also held throughout the Region to highlight the effectiveness of home fire sprinklers. The demonstrations had a compelling impact on viewers. More demonstrations to follow.

Legislation, Policies, and Procedures:

- As the first Region to be audited, grant management (gm) policies and procedures were developed in 2009 by Bridget Bushue, Deputy Chief, Anchorage, AK, and were approved. Bridget was also kind enough to share Region X's gm policies and procedures to other regions, so they would be prepared for the coming audits.
- After much work by child safety advocates and fire safety professionals, novelty lighters were banned in Oregon and Washington States!
- **Numerous** legislative efforts are underway throughout the Region, including the contentious residential fire sprinkler issue. More progress to follow.

Challenges

The Region has faced several challenges that have been faced by many jurisdictions throughout the country.

Personnel Changes:

- The retirement and loss of highly experienced fire service professionals and the transition of newer State Fire Marshals (also highly experienced) has presented the typical challenges associated with change.
- The Region also lost IFMA Representative Jakki MacLean, Yakima County, WA, Fire Marshal, due to a term limit and Anchorage, AK's Deputy Chief Bridget Bushue, due to organizational restructuring.
- We will miss retired State Fire Marshals Nancy Orr (Oregon State), Mike Matlick (Washington State), Gary Powell (Alaska State), IFMA Representative Fire Marshal Jakki MacLean and Deputy Chief Bridget Bushue. Many thanks to them for their contributions to FEMA Region X and the fire service. Hopefully, they will be willing to continue collaborating with us.

Training and Collaboration:

- We have not had a lot of participation from the State of Idaho and larger metro areas throughout the Region. We look forward to bridging that gap and collaborating with Idaho and Regional metro representatives now and in the future.
- The Region has not escaped the economic hardship facing the rest of the country and budgets are being cut across the State to balance deficits. Fire prevention efforts, always scrutinized as a source for fire department cost-cutting, are under threat again. The future outlook will undoubtedly hold more change as we embark on overall national and regional economic recovery.
- Again, we recognized the desire to be inclusive of potential members while still remaining within the overall membership guidelines established for PARADE membership. We will continue to pursue inclusive measures to reach out to other fire service professionals interested in prevention initiatives.

Legislation, Policies, and Procedures:

- The Washington State Fire Protection Policy Board, responsible for developing a comprehensive State policy regarding fire protection services, has lost State funding and doesn't appear to be functioning at this time. The Board was successful in providing guidance and support for fire protection efforts throughout Washington State.
- Looming budget cuts continue to threaten progressive work on legislative and other initiatives. Already overwhelmed and understaffed Fire Marshals Offices continue to take on more work with less staff. This trend is likely to continue.

Conclusion

As a result of these challenges, progress in pursuing PARADE goals has been limited. PARADE co-chairs are looking forward to creating new opportunities to collaborate with others around the Region and renew interest in moving progress forward.

A number of established fire prevention organizations exist (for example the Washington State Association of Fire Marshals and the Oregon Fire Marshal's Association) that have at least annual meetings with good participation. At least for the time being we will continue to "piggyback" onto existing organizations' efforts. We will also continue to establish a presence and identity and attempt to lend support to the networks in place while cultivating regional relationships.

Currently no specific date for a Regional PARADE meeting was established and the co-chairs will work to have planning meetings for annual events. Region X's efforts will include providing our members and those in other Regions with effective tools that show the value of what we/they do and provide benchmarks for comparison between other jurisdictions. We know that this will be a long-term effort and ultimately will include other partners such as the International Fire Chiefs and the NFPA. Additional work to develop a Regional PARADE presence within existing meetings will continue, facilitated by the co-chairs.

2010 NATIONAL PARADE CONFERENCE PLANNING

PARADE DISCUSSION ISSUES

Ms. Rebecca Ryan, PARADE Program Manager

USFA PARADE Grants

Ms. Ryan spoke regarding a few issues within the PARADE group. There was lengthy discussion about the current grant process and all were in agreement that the on-line application process was extremely challenging and time consuming. Many of the "bankers" experienced difficulties with the system, and felt the requirements were excessive in relation to the amount of the grant. The co-chairs came up with the following suggestions for consideration:

- One grant for \$30,000
- Every region can initially apply for \$3,000
- One National PARADE banker who is responsible for:
 - Applying for the grant funds
 - Distributing grant funds
 - Keeping the records
 - Filling out and submitting appropriate paperwork
- Each region submits a budget request 60 days before grant deadline
- Any region not submitting a budget by deadline is not eligible for funds
- The National PARADE Banker will notify those regions who did submit budgets of any funds not allocated and shall divide the funds evenly between regions who submitted budgets
- Regions should revise their budget estimates to include additional funds
- Revised budgets shall be resubmitted to the banker and program manager 30 days before deadline
- Co-Chairs have ability to allocate funds for a specific purpose with a 2/3 vote of entire group of co-chairs
- Regional co-chairs, or assigned regional bankers, shall submit approved invoices to the single banker for payment
- The National PARADE Banker shall submit quarterly, to each region, a copy of the financial records/books for review
- The 3 National co-chairs will audit the books annually
- The 3 National co-chairs will have maximum flexibility to appoint the best person to be the banker; the appointed banker may or may not be a PARADE member

Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)

Ms. Ryan reviewed the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and Business Plan with the group. The group discussed several issues and wording changes to include:

- that there will be no term limit on term of office
- Regional PARADE meetings shall be conducted as needed instead of no less than once a year and more often as needed

- strike out banker under PARADE Regions
- under Roles and Responsibilities within the PARADE Network: identify merging PARADE eligible organization and recruit them to be a PARADE member
- under Accountability and Action Plans and Issues Related to Governance: the PARADE co-chairs shall meet or conduct conference calls as needed for the basis of discussing, implementing, and tracking the National PARADE goals, objectives, and accountability/work plans
- under PARADE Planning Conference/PARADE co-chair Annual Meeting: strike out Identify USFA Liaison Requests

NATIONAL CO-CHAIRS AND OTHER ISSUES

Due to the vacancy of the IFMA National Co-Chair, it was decided that Jeffery Donahue would serve as IFMA National co-chair. It was also decided that J. David Kerr would continue as the Metro National co-chair.

The group also discussed the podcast issue. These podcasts will build upon USFA/NFA's successful Coffee Break Training series by having PARADE State and metro fire officials create raw fire prevention training footage, and have USFA/NFA/PREPnet refine into podcasts for posting on its web page. Podcasts would target a single learning objective and range from 4-6 minutes in length. James "Robbie" Dawson, chair of the committee, talked about how difficult it is to get people committed to this issue and how no one is stepping up to prepare these videos. Several attendees agreed to help out and additional discussions will take place to ensure this initiative is addressed.

Ms. Ryan talked about how she would like everyone in the group to subscribe to *FMDigest*, a distribution list restricted to PARADE members only. USFA will be utilizing *FMDigest* for PARADE related issues as well as for posting conference information, agendas, position papers, etc.

[NOTE: To date nearly 70 PARADE members have subscribed to FMDigest.]

PARADE GRANT OVERVIEW

Ms. Ryan reviewed the grant process with the group. The current cycle of grants expires September 7, 2010. As part of grant requirements, Regions are to submit progress reports. Progress reports are due within 30 days after the end of each quarter, depending on when the money is received. Ms. Ryan reviewed the status of each Regional grant regarding the submission of progress reports and financial reports.

The Regions were reminded they will not receive funds until a Form 270, *Request for Advance on Reimbursement*, is submitted. Once the form is submitted, Ms. Ryan will review the form and apply the proper accounting code, forward to Grants Management Division for processing, and within a few days the funds are transferred electronically to regional accounts.

**R. WAYNE POWELL EXCELLENCE IN FIRE PREVENTION AWARD
AND GUEST MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM**

Ms. Rebecca Ryan, PARADE Program Manager

Powell PARADE Prevention Award

Ms. Ryan reviewed the criteria necessary to receive the R. Wayne Powell Excellence in Fire Prevention Award. This year the odd-numbered Regions will be on the selection panel. Anyone can send in a nomination from any Region, and the selection panel will review the nominations and make a selection. This year Region III is responsible for purchasing the plaque for the award winner. The discussion was raised again about whether there should be more than one recipient. The decision was made to keep the R. Wayne Powell Award as it is, and possibly look into another award to honor anyone on the national level that exemplifies the PARADE mission. Ron Farr, 2007 award winner from Region V, will be acting as chair of the committee. He will not be a voting member just the "go to person" unless Region VII is unable to participate, then Ron will step in to make a decision. The selection panel members are:

- Region I: Roger Martin
- Region III: Robbie Dawson
- Region V: George Michehl
- Region VII: not available
- Region IX: Jim Ford

UP FOR DISCUSSION

J. David Kerr, Plano, TX Fire Department

Mr. Kerr discussed Jim Crawford's summary regarding Strategy 5 of the Vision 20/20 initiative. He explained that there had been a meeting and discussion about code advocacy. How can we, as fire marshals, be advocates for the code? We should have people in place and resources available to do that. David suggested that this is up for ownership and we (PARADE) need to make sure we are not creating something new that doesn't need to be there.

Another idea that was discussed was a mentoring program for newly appointed fire marshals. Often times they don't know the process for getting codes developed/approved or who to contact about various code-related concerns/issues, etc. Some may not feel comfortable asking for help or even know who to ask for guidance or counsel. PARADE would be the perfect avenue for providing this type of assistance. David suggested that between now and the next National PARADE Conference members consider putting a link on the PARADE website that would contain subject matter expert contact information, in various topical fields, that would prove beneficial to these newly appointed fire marshals. The group decided to think about this and discuss at the next PARADE National Conference.

OVERVIEW OF NATIONAL PARADE CONFERENCE PLANNING

Ms. Ryan led the group through an overview of the PARADE conference and then a brainstorming session to determine keynote speakers, banquet speakers, PARADE Grounds and general session topics, and ideas for workshop topics.

After concern was expressed by several Co-Chairs about conflicts with the proposed National PARADE Conference dates (May 22-24, 2011), Ms. Ryan told the group she would investigate the possibility of a date change for the May National PARADE Conference.

[NOTE: New date for National PARADE Conference is May 15-17, 2011, with travel on Saturday, May 14 and Wednesday, May 18]

The group then brainstormed ideas for all the different aspects for the conference.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE FORMAT AGREEMENT

The group voted on a list of topics that were suggested by all in a brainstorming session. The following is a list of the suggestions that were decided upon.

Banquet speaker choice:

- Steny Hoyer
- Vice President Joe Biden

Keynote speaker choices:

- Common Voices panel
- Frank Brogan
- Jeff Johnson
- John Doyle

Workshop topics:

- accreditation of fire prevention (CPSE)
- selling prevention/Pub ed difficult times
- performance measures for organizational effectiveness
- NFIRS--interpreting the data
- bridging the fire and life safety gap
- legal aspects of fire prevention
- alternative fire sources for fire prevention

- alternate energy (biofuel, E85)
- structural stability (lightweight construction)

[A complete list of brainstorm topics and suggested keynote speakers can be found in Appendix A of this report.]

APPENDICES

NATIONAL CONFERENCE BRAINSTORM TOPICS AND KEYNOTES

Topics

- selling prevention in difficult times
- autism training/special needs
- deinstitutionalizing the developmentally disabled (CMS)
- performance measures for organizational effectiveness-developing your programs worth
- NFIRS--interpreting the data
- telling our story--relating to news media
- history of fires and the code development process
- social media and fire prevention
- code development process and how you get involved
- legal aspects of fire prevention
- measuring code compliance effectiveness
- senior/elder care safety education
- overview of new technologies (H₂O mist and smoke alarms)
- international prevention efforts
- politics in code enforcement
- Vision 20/20 update
- Fire and Emergency Services Higher Education (FESHE) update
- update on sprinkler initiative
- media, friends of foe
- challenges in healthcare (101)(IFC)
- conflicts in codes-non-ambulatory care centers
- consolidation of fire prevention and building department
- alternative energies
- crossing cultural barriers
- educating legislators
- developing/adopting strategies for senior housing
- educate fire chiefs on code issues
- center for campus fire safety--off-campus housing
- fire prevention and the green movement
- getting the message to the untargeted
- alternate funding sources for fire prevention/user fees/cost recovery--operational permits
- biofuels/e85 (alternate energy) biomass plant
- risk analysis and preincident planning (computer based)
- code inspection frequency (self-inspections)
- discussions-inspection cycle (round table)
- threats to fire prevention
- homebase healthcare
- structural stability-UL (lightweight construction)
- mass notification
- Common Voices or Phoenix Society

- can the fire service be privatized/privatizing fire prevention
- Jeff Johnson--Prevention Passion
- NFPA--environmental impact or residential fires cost benefit of residential sprinklers
- accreditation of fire prevention--CPSE
- ionization versus photoelectric smoke alarms update
- residential fire sprinklers lessons learned
- defends in place your local or dinanies (NFSA)
- insurance (trade) group (fire loss)
- lessons learned

Keynote/Banquet Speaker Possibilities:

- Common Voices Panel/Phoenix Soc.
- Gina Russo-"From The Ashes"
- Frank Brogan
- Bob Matson (UVA)
- John Doyle (UK)
- Jeff Johnson--Bridging the Gap

**2008 PARADE CO-CHAIR MEETING
ATTENDEE LIST**

Region I

State: Vincent Quintero
RI Fire Marshal's Office

Metro: Roger Martin, Jr
Hartford Fire Dept., CT

Region II

State: Paul Martin
NY State Office of Fire Prevention

Region III

State: Charles E. Altizer
VA State Fire Marshal Office

Metro: James Dawson, Jr.
Chesterfield Fire and EMS, VA

IFMA: Robert Ryan
Montgomery County, MD

Region IV

State: James E. Goodloe
FL State Fire Marshal Division

Metro: Jonathan Leonard
Charlotte Fire Department, NC

IFMA: Steven Peavey
City of Altamonte Springs, FL

Region V

State: Ronald Farr
MI Fire Marshal's Office

Metro: Osrice Wilson
Detroit Fire Department, WI

IFMA: George Michehl
Buffalo Grove Fire Dept., IL

Region VI

Metro: J. David Kerr
Plano Fire Department, TX

IFMA: Michael Barnes
Edmond Fire Dept., OK

Region VII

No Attendees

Region VIII

State: Kathy J. Gierke
ND Fire Marshal's Office

Metro: Justin Smith
Casper Fire Department, WY

IFMA: Stephen Cox
S. Davis Metro Fire Agency, UT

Region IX

State: Daniel Uthe (rep. SFM)
Tucson Fire Department, AZ

Metro: James Ford
Scottsdale Fire Department, AZ

IFMA: Glenn D'Auria (rep. Eric Kriwer)
Tucson Fire Department, AZ

Region X

Metro: David Tyler
AK State Fire Marshal

Metro: Lisa Jones
Spokane Fire Department, WA

IFMA: Jeffery Donahue
Polk Co. Fire District #1, OR

Invited Guest: Steve Sawyer
IFMA Exec. Sec.

Invited Guest: James Crawford, Project
Manager
Vision 20/20

PARADE Co-Chair List

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---	---

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---	---

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---	--

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---	---

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---	---

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--	---

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Vacant

Region IX - METRO

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PARADE Conference Agenda

<u>Saturday, May 14</u>		<u>Location</u>	
3:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.	Travel Day for Participants	C Building	
9:00 p.m.	Campus Check-In/Registration	B Building	
	No-Host Social		
<u>Sunday, May15</u>		<u>Presenter</u>	
6:45 a.m.	Breakfast	K Building	
7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.	Conference Registration	E Auditorium	
8:00 a.m. - 8:25 a.m.	PARADE Orientation (new members or anyone?)	E Auditorium	R. Ryan
8:30 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.	Opening Ceremony/USFA Welcome: Pledge of Allegiance, Self-Introductions, Conference Overview	J Auditorium	R. Ryan/USFA Mgmt.
9:15 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.	Break		
9:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.	Opening Seminar: Common Voices Panel	E Auditorium	
10:45 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	Break		
11:00 a.m. - 11:50 a.m.	Presentation: Need a Title, but will tie in to opening seminar	E Auditorium	Possible Presenter: Frank Brogan
11:50 a.m. - 12:00	Group Photo		
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Lunch	K Building	
1:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.	Presentation: Bridging the Gap?	J Auditorium	Possible Presenter: Jeff Johnson
2:15 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.	Break	J Auditorium	
2:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Regional PARADE Meetings (see back page for room locations)	J Building	
5:00 - 5:30 p.m.	PARADE Grounds Setup	J Building	
5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.	Steak and Chicken Cookout	Log Cabin	
<u>Monday, May16</u>			
6:45 a.m.	Breakfast	K Building	
8:00a.m. - 9:00a.m.	Presentation: "Culture Change Topic"	J Auditorium	Possible Presenter: John Doyle
9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.	Had Glenn Gaines here last conf....what do you want to see in this ½ hr. block?	J Auditorium.	
9:30 - 10:00 a.m.	WHAT GOES HERE (An UPDATE?)	J Auditorium	
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	PARADE Grounds Opens (J 1st Floor, J Atrium)	J Building	
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Lunch/ PARADE Grounds Closes/Tear Down	K Building	
1:15 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.	Program Updates: Include: FESHE; Vision 20/20; Sprinkler Initiative...what else?	J Auditorium	
2:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	Break		
3:00 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.	Issues and Answers		PARADE Co-Chairs
5:00 p.m.	Dinner	K Building	
6:30 p.m.	Optional State/Metro or IFMA Mtgs.		

<u>Tuesday, May 17</u>		<u>Location</u>	<u>Presenter</u>
6:45 a.m.	Breakfast	K Building	
8:00 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.	Presentation: Environmental Impact of residential fires was suggested, but it didn't make the cut	J Auditorium	Need a topic/presenter
8:45 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.	Five Workshops Begin "Accreditation of Fire Prevention"	J-	Possible Presenter: Rick Archer IAS/ICC/CPSE ????? S. Sawyer (POC)
<i>Workshops are 90 min. each</i>	"Structural Stability"	J-	
	"Bridging the Fire and Life Safety Gap"	J-	M.Giesler & Patrick Kenny (POC George Michehl)
	"Selling Prevention/Public Education in Difficult Economic Times"	J-	Monica Colby
	"NFIRS: Interpreting the Data"	J-	Possible Presenter: Marion Long
10:15 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.	Break		
10:30 - 12:00 Noon	Five Workshops Repeat		
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Lunch	K Bldg.	
1:00p.m. - 2:30 p.m.	Five New Workshops Begin "Legal Aspects of Fire Prevention"	J-	Possible Presenter: Ray Walker Need a presenter
	"Alternative Funding Sources for Fire Prevention"	J-	
	"Alternative Energy: Biofuel, E85, etc."	J-	Need a presenter: DOE? S. Sawyer also to try
	"Fire Prevention & the Green Movement"	J-	POC Ed Altizer
	"Performance Measures for Organizational Effectiveness"	J-	Need a presenter: Shane Diekman (?)
2:30p.m.- 2:45 p.m	Break		
2:45 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.	Five Workshops Repeat		
5:15 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	PARADE Social	Log Cabin	
6:15 p.m.	PARADE Banquet w/Speakers Presentation of "The R. Wayne Powell Excellence in Fire Prevention Award"	K Building	

Wednesday, May18

8:00 a.m. Depart Campus

Regional PARADE Meetings
Sunday, May 15, 2011
2:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Region/Location

I J-112
II J-113
III J-107
IV J-102
V J-130

Region/Location

VI J-264
VII J-268
VIII J-134
IX J-260
X J-138

NOTE: PARADE Conference Operations Center located in J-124
PARADE Post Office located in J-123

PowerPoint[®] Presentations

USFA/National Fire Data Center



USFA / National Fire Data Center
The Fire Service – Its Own Worst Enemy!



2010 PARADE Co-Chair Training/Meeting
June 26-27, 2010



Perceptions of the fire service

- My first perception
- Your perception
- The public perception



3

It's in the News!

- City manager apologizes for saying 'average firefighter goes on a real fire about once a year', Michigan, Mar. 30, 2010
- Fatal fire report not filed by volunteer fire rescue, Virginia, Mar. 20, 2010
- Worst-case budget cuts police, fire, recreation, Maryland, Mar. 25, 2010



4

It's in the News!

- 'Safer' cigarettes credited for drop in number of fires, Standard-Examiner, Mar. 28, 2010
- Volunteer fire department presents annual report to council, Virginia, Feb. 25, 2010 🦉
- Fire and rescue companies answering more calls, Virginia, May 18, 2010



5

You cannot control what someone does or says, BUT you can control what you do or say.



6

Three Points

1. The fire service must tell its full story.
2. The fire service must ensure that its incident reports are complete.
3. The fire service must use its data to “fight fires with facts.”



7

Point #1 – The fire service must tell its full story.

1. Document and report all emergency response incidents.
2. If it's not documented, it did not happen.
3. It's just as important to document successes as it is to document failures.



8

Point #2 – The fire service must ensure that its incident reports are complete.

1. A valid incident is not necessarily a complete incident.
2. The incident report reflects back on more than the report writer.
3. A consequential incident requires more attention.



9

Point #3 – The fire service must use its data to “fight fires with facts.”

1. Support statements with numbers.
2. Integrate the data in all phases of decision-making.
3. Make the data visible. 🦋🦋🦋🦋🦋



10

WHAT IS NFIRS, AND WHY IS NFIRS SO IMPORTANT?



11

Three NFIRS Misconceptions

- NFIRS takes too long to complete.
- NFIRS is too difficult.
- I never see or get anything back from NFIRS.



Two NFIRS Nemeses

- Reporting fire dollar loss
- Number of unknowns



What is the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS)?

- Voluntary
- Incident-based
- Locally driven – quality, completeness, content
- All 50 states and Washington, D.C. reported in 2008
- 22,800 fire departments reported in 2008
- More than 1.2 million fires incidents reported for 2008 by approximately 76% of all U. S. fire departments
- 19.5 million total incidents reported for 2008



How is the data collected?

NFIRS data flow



15

NFIRS Database

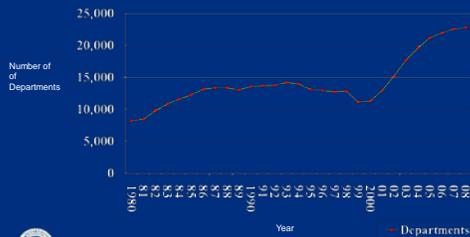


- The NFIRS database contains over 100 million non-fire incidents and 26 million fire incidents collected since the system's inception.
- Approximately 17 million emergency response incidents and 1 million fire incidents are collected each year from 50 states.



NFIRS Participation

Fire Departments Reporting Per Year 1980-2008



Fire Incidents Reported Per Year 1980-2008



NFIRS is the fire service's tool to tell its full story within and outside the fire service, and NFIRS must tell that story at all levels.



19

Fighting Fires with Facts

*In our ever-changing world, the **FIRE SERVICE'S first line of defense is** timely, accurate **INFORMATION** that is shared, integrated, analyzed, and acted upon quickly and efficiently.*



20

Questions?



My contact information

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Fighting Fires with Facts!



22



FEMA

The National Fire Incident Reporting System

The National Fire Incident Reporting System

Infrastructure Upgrades
An Overview

NFIRS What is the National Fire Incident Reporting System?

- Voluntary
- Incident-based
- Locally driven – quality, completeness, content
- 50 States reported in 2008
- More than 1.1 million fires reported for 2008, or about four-fifths (79.7%) of all U.S. fire departments' fires
- 19.5 million total incidents reported for 2008



NFIRS Background

- Initial National Fire Incident Reporting System was created in 1975
- NFIRS Version 2.0, 1976
- NFIRS Version 3.0, 1980
- NFIRS Version 4.0, 1985
- NFIRS Version 4.1, 1990
- NFIRS Version 5.0, 1999



NFIRS Database

- The NFIRS database contains over 100 million non-fire incidents and 28 million fire incidents collected since the system's inception.
- Approximately 20 million emergency response incidents and 1 million fire incidents are collected each year from 50 states.



NFIRS 5.0 Initiative

- NFIRS was redesigned by USFA and its data partners from 1990-1998.
- The revised NFIRS system was designed to accommodate the full range of fire department activities.
- New modules were developed for EMS, Arson fires, Personnel, Apparatus and Wildland fires.



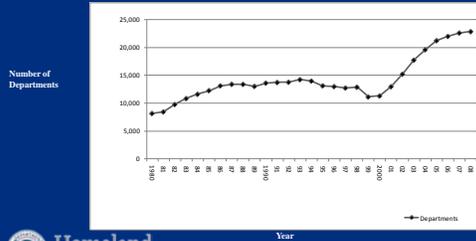
NFIRS 5.0 Initiative

- The Fire Service Casualty, Civilian Casualty and Hazmat modules were redesigned.
- Internet based collection software was developed.
- NFIRS 5.0 was implemented in 1999.

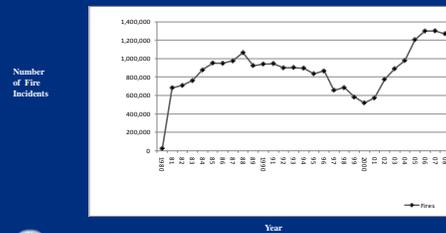


NFIRS Participation

Fire Departments Reporting Per Year 1980-2008



Fire Incidents Reported Per Year 1980-2008



NFIRS Enhancements

- A comprehensive requirements analysis of the NFIRS system gaps was conducted in 2009. As a result of stakeholder interviews and analysis of the data conducted during the requirements analysis, 126 specific wants and needs (identified problems) statements were gathered, resulting in the identification of 10 different Strategic Need areas requiring improvement.



Strategic Needs

The comprehensive requirements analysis of the NFIRS system gaps resulted in the identification of the following 10 Strategic Need areas requiring improvement:

- **Modernized System:** NFIRS requires modernization in order to align with modern software coding standards as well to adhere to the DHS/FEMA Enterprise Architecture (EA). The solution must be web-based and improve system performance, usability, efficiency, scalability, and security including audit and archival capabilities.
- **Data warehousing and mining:** The As-Is NFIRS system does not facilitate a flexible and efficient way of retrieving data. The enhanced system must provide efficient and effective processes to get data out of the system. The system must support the up-to-date and timely data needs of data analysts, government agencies, non-government organizations, and the public. The system architecture must be scalable to handle increasing quantities of data, and be powerful and flexible to report on and export data in bulk.



- **Data management and quality:** The system must have enhanced capabilities that allow fire department users and State Program Managers to manage their data files and improve the quality of data entered.
- **Streamlined output reporting and analysis:** The system requires enhanced reporting capabilities to provide functionality offering robust reporting capabilities and analytical tools to make the most of the important data collected. Updated pre-defined reports, ad-hoc reporting capabilities, graphical representations of statistics, drill-down capabilities for details, Geographic Information Systems (GIS) queries and output are highly requested features.
- **Timely incident reporting:** Improvements to the system usability and analytical tools within the system are required for encouraging users to report incident data more frequently.
- **Usability:** The system requires improvements that provide intuitive ways to report incidents.



- **Information sharing:** The system must be capable for facilitating information sharing with other entities' systems using interoperable and flexible data-exchange technologies that are beneficial to the users.
- **Ability to respond to change:** The application must be able to evolve as user needs grow. The system must be agile so that it may respond to change by providing the capability to configure business rules, be easy to maintain, and be intuitive for users.
- **Self service:** The system should support self-help services to reduce the need for USFA and State Program Managers involvement.
- **Vendor support:** The system should support third party software vendors to validate their application data against NFIRS incident reporting standards. This will streamline the changing of standards with limited effect on the vendors.



Analysis of Alternatives

- An analysis of alternatives was then conducted to identify the viable solutions that would meet the strategic needs identified in the requirements analysis. From this work, a blueprint was developed for how to build a modernized NFIRS that best meets the Strategic Needs identified by the project. The blueprint is separated into phases with the most critical enhancements prioritized to occur first.



In order to facilitate a modular approach to the NFIRS enhancement process, the work has been separated into the following five discrete phases:

- **Data Entry Browser Interface.** This feature provides for a totally web based data entry tool eliminating the need to download and install client software on the user's computer. Use of approved 3rd party commercial software as an alternative will still be permitted. (*planned release date: Spring, 2010*)
- **Data Warehouse & Mining.** This feature will provide flexible and efficient ways of retrieving and exporting data. (*planned release date: Spring, 2011*)



- **New NFIRS Web Portal.** This objective continues the modernization of the USFA solution by adding a web based portal, and implements a role based security model to give users single point access for the NFIRS data entry, report dashboards and access to administrative applications. While the individual applications would maintain a similar look and feel they will be encapsulated into a single location within the portal.

- **Revision of the NFIRS Data Entry Applications.** This objective provides a true integration of the portal with the Incident Reporting application as the core with the addition of a new rules engine.

- **Enhanced User Interface.** The final objective adds the remaining functionality to complete the NFIRS application. GIS will be incorporated into the Incident Reporting application as well as administrative applications to support system users.



NFIRS Enhancements

Once complete, changes to the system will result in the following:

- Improved user experience through improvements to the user interface.
- Improved system performance.
- Overhaul of the USFA NFIRS 5.0 system software, applications and infrastructure.
- Addition of new or enhanced capabilities to USFA NFIRS 5.0 software.
- Brings NFIRS system software in line with Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) enterprise standards.



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NATIONAL FIRE INCIDENT REPORTING SYSTEM (NFIRS) ENHANCEMENTS PROJECT

Background:

The United States Fire Administration (USFA), through the National Fire Data Center, plays a significant role in collecting and distributing data concerning the causes of fires and consequences to fire departments and their communities. Stakeholders at the local, state and federal level have challenged USFA to enhance NFIRS to be of a greater value to the fire service by providing current, relevant and accessible data to make more effective decisions, plans and justifications for fire department operations and administration.

The current version of the NFIRS application was developed between 1996 and 2000. The system's code base is a decade old and badly in need of modernization. Additionally, because of limited resources for the initial project development and on-going system maintenance, adequate functionality was never developed and implemented in several key areas of the system.

Recent congressional resources for NFIRS enhancements have been provided as outlined in the USFA Reauthorization Act of 2008 and have led to an opportunity for USFA to make long needed upgrades to the NFIRS. These upgrades began in October of 2008 with the development of a web version of the NFIRS client Data Entry Tool.

A comprehensive requirements analysis of the NFIRS system gaps was conducted in 2009. As a result of stakeholder interviews and analysis of the data conducted during the requirements analysis, 126 specific wants and needs (identified problems) statements were gathered, resulting in the identification of 10 different Strategic Need areas requiring improvement. An analysis of alternatives was then conducted to identify the viable solutions that would meet the strategic needs identified in the requirements analysis. From this work, a blueprint was developed for how to build a modernized NFIRS that best meets the Strategic Needs identified by the project. The blueprint is separated into phases with the most critical enhancements prioritized to occur first.

Strategic Needs:

The comprehensive requirements analysis of the NFIRS system gaps resulted in the identification of the following 10 Strategic Need areas requiring improvement:

1. **Modernized System:** NFIRS requires modernization in order to align with modern software coding standards as well to adhere to the DHS/FEMA Enterprise Architecture (EA). The solution must be web-based and improve system performance, usability, efficiency, scalability, and security including audit and archival capabilities.
2. **Data warehousing and mining:** The As-Is NFIRS system does not facilitate a flexible and efficient way of retrieving data. The enhanced system must provide efficient and effective processes to get data out of the system. The system must support the up-to-date and timely data needs of data analysts, government agencies, non-government organizations, and the public. The system architecture must be scalable to handle increasing quantities of data, and be powerful and flexible to report on and export data in bulk.
3. **Data management and quality:** The system must have enhanced capabilities that allow fire department users and State Program Managers to manage their data files and improve the quality of data entered.
4. **Streamlined output reporting and analysis:** The system requires enhanced reporting capabilities to provide functionality offering robust reporting capabilities and analytical tools to make the most of the important data collected. Updated pre-defined reports, ad-hoc reporting capabilities, graphical representations of statistics, drill-down capabilities for details, Geographic Information Systems (GIS) queries and output are highly requested features.
5. **Timely incident reporting:** Improvements to the system usability and analytical tools within the system are required for encouraging users to report incident data more frequently.
6. **Usability:** The system requires improvements that provide intuitive ways to report incidents.

7. **Information sharing:** The system must be capable for facilitating information sharing with other entities' systems using interoperable and flexible data-exchange technologies that are beneficial to the users.
8. **Agility to respond to change:** The application must be able to evolve as user needs grow. The system must be agile so that it may respond to change by providing the capability to configure business rules, be easy to maintain, and be intuitive for users.
9. **Self service:** The system should support self-help services to reduce the need for USFA and State Program Managers involvement.
10. **Vendor support:** The system should support third party software vendors to validate their application data against NFIRS incident reporting standards. This will streamline the changing of standards with limited effect on the vendors.

The strategic needs will be addressed with the planned system enhancements. The solution chosen for updating NFIRS will modernize the system through new Architecture and new development, and entails re-writing NFIRS from the ground up. It will include commercial off the shelf (COTS) solutions for Data Warehousing, Business Intelligence/Reporting, GIS, and Business Rules Management. NFIRS will be re-written in accordance with modern coding and agency Enterprise Architecture standards.

In order to facilitate a modular approach to the NFIRS enhancement process, the work has been separated into the following five discrete phases.

1. **Data Entry Browser Interface.** This feature provides for a totally web based data entry tool eliminating the need to download and install client software on the user's computer. Use of approved 3rd party commercial software as an alternative is still permitted. *(Released July, 2010)*
2. **Data Warehouse & Mining.** This feature will provide flexible and efficient ways of retrieving and exporting data. *(planned release date: Summer, 2011)*
3. **New NFIRS Web Portal.** This objective continues the modernization of the USFA solution by adding a web based portal, and implements a role based security model to give users single point access for the NFIRS data entry, report dashboards and access to administrative applications. While the individual applications would maintain a similar look and feel they will be encapsulated into a single location within the portal.
4. **Revision of the NFIRS Data Entry Applications.** This objective provides a true integration of the portal with the Incident Reporting application as the core with the addition of a new rules engine.
5. **Enhanced User Interface.** The final objective adds the remaining functionality to complete the NFIRS application. GIS will be incorporated into the Incident Reporting application as well as administrative applications to support system users.

(Target dates for phases 3 through 5 will be identified as work progresses.)

Once complete, changes to the system will result in the following:

- Overhaul of the USFA NFIRS 5.0 system software, applications and infrastructure.
- Improved user experience through improvements to the user interface.
- Improved system performance.
- Addition of new or enhanced capabilities to USFA NFIRS 5.0 software.
- Brings NFIRS system software in line with Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) enterprise standards.

Planned upgrades to the NFIRS system will not include changes to the standard (NFIRS 5.0). The NFIRS modules, data elements and codes will remain unchanged until work is completed on the system upgrades. Once the upgrades are complete, planning for an upgrade to NFIRS 6.0 will begin.

Fire Service Integration for Fusion Centers

Fire Service Integration for Fusion Centers

May 2010

Topics

- State and Local Fusion Centers Overview
- DHS Office of Intelligence & Analysis Support for Fusion Centers
- Enhancing Information and Intelligence Sharing with Fire and Emergency Services
- Fire Service Integration for Fusion Centers
- Fire Service Information and Intelligence Requirements

U.S. Fire Administration 2

Significant developments in state and local information sharing since 2003:

U.S. Fire Administration 3

Fusion Center Baseline Capabilities

The *Baseline Capabilities* [September 2008] are an addendum to the U.S. Department of Justice's Global Justice Information Sharing Initiative's (Global) *Fusion Center Guidelines*

- Provides guidance to ensure that fusion centers are established and operated consistently across the country.
- Identifies the baseline capabilities for fusion centers and the operational standards necessary to achieve each of the capabilities
- Capabilities are divided into sections:
 - fusion process capabilities
 - management and administrative capabilities

U.S. Fire Administration 4

Fusion centers serve to safeguard the homeland and support national security efforts

What a Fusion Center IS

- Focused on Information Sharing:** Fusion centers compile, blend, analyze, and share information with traditional and new partners
- Collaborative:** Effort of two or more agencies to detect, prevent, apprehend and respond to criminal and terrorist activity
- Flexible:** Evolving quickly to an All Crimes and All Hazards approach throughout fusion centers

What a Fusion Center is NOT

- Focused Only on Terrorism:** Fusion centers have broader capabilities to assist in counter-terrorism as well All Crimes and All Hazards missions
- Owned by DHS:** Fusion centers are owned and operated by the States with support from DHS SLPO
- A Base for Domestic Spies:** We are committed to protecting the civil rights and civil liberties of Americans by "connecting the dots" within the authorities of the law

U.S. Fire Administration 5

Each fusion center receives information from a variety of sources that it "fuses" to create actionable intelligence:

U.S. Fire Administration 6

Working with many Federal partners, fusion centers create and disseminate various intelligence products which form the foundation of information sharing

- Daily**
 - Daily Intelligence Highlights
 - Daily Briefing Slides
 - Intelligence Notes
 - Cyber Security Monitor
- Weekly**
 - CINT Notes
 - State Threat Assessments
 - Domestic Extremist Digest
- Ad Hoc**
 - Homeland Intelligence Reports
 - Joint Homeland Security Assessments
 - Border Security Monitor
 - Homeland Security Intelligence Assessments



DHS, Office of Intelligence & Analysis, State and Local Program Office (SLPO) is the vital link between critical partners in the All Hazards preparedness mission of DHS



DHS has deployed intelligence officers to fusion centers across the country

Coordinate

- Understand information requirements and ensure data is delivered to and from SLFCs
- Reach back to DHS for resources such as clearances, IT resources, restricted databases, and finished intelligence
- Establish analyst-to-analyst contacts among fusion centers and with Federal analysts



Analyze

- Support development of State / local finished intelligence products

Disseminate

- Write Homeland Intelligence Reports (HIRs) / provide suspicious activity reports
- Post SLFC products to HSIN-SLIC COI and HSDN

Advise

- Provide state and local situational awareness to DHS leadership
- Provide intelligence support, including briefings, to Governors, HSAs, and other State & local partners

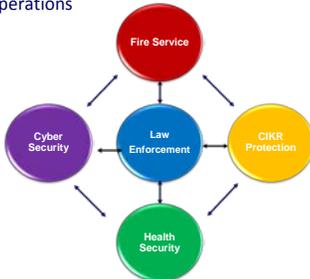
Support for the Integration of First Responders into Fusion Centers

“While continuing our support for state and local law enforcement operations within fusion centers, I&A also supports the integration of the fire and emergency services, public health and healthcare communities, critical infrastructure and key resource protection efforts, and cyber security into the fusion centers.

These initiatives are focusing on developing the necessary frameworks, identifying information and intelligence requirements, developing information sharing mechanisms, and providing technical assistance and training to support the fusion centers in their efforts to effectively develop meaningful relationships with these important stakeholders.”

Acting Under Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis Bart R. Johnson Speech at National Homeland Defense Foundation Symposium 9 November 2009

The SLPO supports the integration of traditional and new partners into fusion center information and intelligence sharing operations



QUESTIONS?

Progress toward enhanced information and intelligence sharing with the fire and emergency services:

- Emergency Management and Response – Information Sharing and Analysis Center (EMR-ISAC)
- Fire Service Intelligence Enterprise (FSIE)
- Fire Service Integration for Fusion Centers Appendix to the Baseline Capabilities for State and Major Urban Area Fusion Centers



Emergency Management and Response – Information Sharing and Analysis Center (EMR-ISAC)



EMR-ISAC Goals

- Promote awareness of the threats to and vulnerabilities of ESS critical infrastructures.
- Encourage ESS prevention, protection, and resilience actions for all disasters.
- Enhance the survivability, continuity, and “response-ability” in all-hazards environments.

EMR-ISAC Products:

- CIP (FOUO) Notices
- CIP INFOGRAMs
- CIP Bulletins
- CIP Video.
- CIP Process Job Aid
- Homeland Security Advisory System Guide



Fire Service Intelligence Enterprise

The Fire Service Intelligence Enterprise (FSIE) is a DHS collaborative initiative that seeks to:

“Institutionalize the integration of the fire service into federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial information and intelligence sharing networks—including State and Major Urban Area Fusion Centers—to enhance preparedness and operations of fire service organizations across the country, while supporting the prevention, protection, response, and recovery efforts of all homeland security partners.”



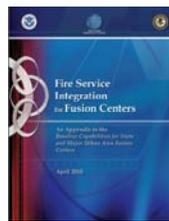
Organized support through the FSIE:

- **Framework:** Develop overarching documents that present the framework for the initiative and produce outreach materials for emergency service and community stakeholders.
- **Requirements:** Define emergency service information and intelligence requirements and contributions
- **Mechanisms:** Develop tools and protocols that enable SLTT emergency service organizations to provide and receive appropriate information and intelligence.
- **Technical Assistance:** Develop products and services to foster emergency service integration into fusion centers and participation in information sharing processes and networks.
- **Training:** Develop training for emergency service personnel on how to identify and report terrorism indicators and warnings, and how to fully contribute to the fusion process.



Fire Service Integration for Fusion Centers

- DRAFT – Appendix to the Baseline Capabilities for State and Major Urban Area Fusion Centers
- Identifies how fusion centers can effectively integrate the fire service into their existing analysis and information / intelligence sharing processes
- Provides federal, state, and local fire service organizations with an overview of the mutual operational value in working with their fusion center, and different options for establishing relationships



Definitions for Fire Service Information and Intelligence Sharing

- **Fire Service:** Fire and emergency operations, emergency medical service operations, rescue operations, hazardous materials operations, fire prevention / protection, fire investigation, incident management, and responder safety.
- **Intelligence:** All-crime / all-hazard information that has been gathered and vetted through the intelligence cycle in order to generate products that can be used to guide Fire Service decisions at the strategic, operational, and tactical levels.
- **Information:** Raw data provided by and/or to the Fire Service to, support situational awareness, enhance responder safety, and/or support the production of finished intelligence products before, during, and after an incident.



Fire Service Role in Information Sharing Missions

- **Fire service role in an all-crimes information sharing mission:** During the normal course of operations, fire service personnel interface with numerous people, residences, and commercial spaces. When provided with training on terrorist indicators and warnings, and the protocols for reporting observed suspicious materials and behaviors, fire service personnel could provide fusion centers with information on observed criminal acts and/or terrorism precursors – information that may otherwise go unreported which could help fusion centers “connect the dots.”
- **Fire service role in an all-hazards information sharing mission:** As first responders to all emergency incidents, fire service personnel are cognizant of the various types of threats facing their communities, existing critical infrastructure vulnerabilities within their communities, and the potential consequences that the various threats represent. The fire service perspective adds a critical dimension to all-hazard risk assessments, preparedness activities, and mitigation operations.



Fire Service Information Sharing Role in Homeland Security Missions

- **Prevention:** Provide personnel with protocols for the identification and reporting of threats that may lead to accidental or terrorist incidents. Identify personnel that can serve as an information and analytical resource for the production of intelligence to prevent terrorist and accidental incidents.
- **Protection:** Participate in multi-disciplinary identification and reporting of critical infrastructure vulnerabilities and the potential consequences of threats exploiting those vulnerabilities.
- **Response:** Contribute to, receive, and share information and intelligence to support effective response operations.
- **Recovery:** Contribute to, receive, and share information and intelligence to support continuity of government and critical infrastructure operations.
- **Responder Safety:** Contribute to and receive information and intelligence on terrorism techniques, target hazards, and natural disaster trends, to enhance situational awareness and proactive measures for protecting the health and safety of all emergency responders.



Fire Service Role in State and Local Fusion Centers

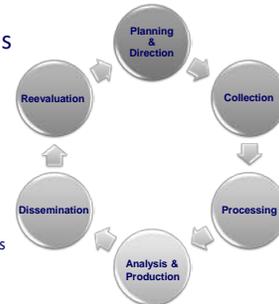
- **Fire service as a consumer:** Information and intelligence generated by the fusion center and disseminated to fire service constituents can help guide their preparedness activities (planning, training, staging, etc.) as well as enhance responder safety during response and recovery operations.
- **Fire service as a collaborator:** The training and experience that fire service personnel possess by the nature of their profession make them an excellent subject matter expert (SME) resource for contributing to the production of intelligence on criminal, terrorism, accidental, and natural disaster incidents.
- **Fire service as a contributor:** Information provided to the fusion center by the fire service personnel, through reporting of suspicious materials and behaviors, can support the ability to identify precursor activities.



Fusion Center Process Capabilities

Intelligence Cycle

The incorporation of the fire service perspective into all of the fusion center’s process capabilities enhances the collective homeland security effort, while supporting the prevention, protection, response, and recovery efforts of all homeland security partners.



Examples of fire service participation in fusion process capabilities:

- Site-specific and topical risk assessments
- Development of information and intelligence requirements for preparedness, response, and recovery operations
- Suspicious activity reporting
- Alert, warning, and notification messages
- Situational awareness reporting
- Coordination with emergency management [NIMS and ICS]
- Information gathering and reporting strategy
- Validation of information gathered
- Analysis of information and production of intelligence products
- Identification of indicators and warnings
- Information / intelligence dissemination plans
- Fusion center process evaluations



Fusion Center Management and Administrative Capabilities

- Management/Governance
- Information Privacy Protections
- Security
- Personnel and Training
- Information Technology / Communications Infrastructure, Systems, Equipment, Facility, and Physical Infrastructure
- Funding



Examples of fire service participation in management and administrative capabilities:

- Participation in fusion center governance / advisory body
- Identification of risks in the fusion center's geographic jurisdiction
- Identification of state, local, and tribal stakeholders and their roles and responsibilities for the fusion center
- Development and implementation of the fusion center privacy policies
- Establishment and communication of criteria for the types of information that fire service constituents can submit to the center
- Identification of the appropriate fire service members to include in the dissemination of Secret-level, Law Enforcement Sensitive (LES), and For Official Use Only (FOUO) information
- Development and delivery of training on the intelligence process, the fusion center mission, privacy policies, security protocols, etc.
- Development and execution of communications plans
- Development and execution of continuity of operations plan



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Types of Fire Service – Fusion Center Relationships

- Intelligence analysts embedded within fusion centers, to provide a consistent fire service analytical perspective to the fusion process.
- Ad hoc fire service (as well as fire, rescue, hazardous materials, fire investigation, responder safety, and/or building/construction code) subject-matter experts (SMEs), to provide analytical support to fusion centers.
- Fusion/Terrorism/Intelligence Liaison Officers (FLOs/TLOs/ILOs), to provide information directly to the fusion center and to facilitate vital information sharing between fire departments and fusion centers.



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Example of fire service suspicious activity reporting:

Information Gathering and Reporting Example
The Haymarket Bomb Plot; London, UK 2007

- Two car bombs discovered and disabled before they could be detonated; both were found to contain petrol cans, gas canisters and a quantity of nails, with a mobile phone-based trigger.
- First car with a device was left near the Tiger Tiger nightclub in Haymarket.
 - Reported to the police by an ambulance crew attending a minor incident at the nightclub when they noticed suspicious fumes.
 - "We did just what any ambulance crew would have done – we noticed something we thought was odd and we acted on it. I am just glad that we managed to do that before it was too late."
- Car containing the second device was ticketed for illegal parking, and an hour after that, transported to the car pound at Park Lane.
 - Staff noticed a strong smell of petrol, and reported the vehicle to police when they heard about the first device.



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Emergency Services Sector Information and Intelligence Requirements

- **WHAT** information/intelligence you as an emergency responder need
 - Types of threats
 - General vulnerabilities
 - Potential consequences of vulnerabilities being exploited
 - Likely target hazards
- **WHY** [so-what] you need that information / intelligence
 - How it helps to inform preparedness
 - How it helps to execute safe response / recovery operations
 - How it helps to create contingency plans to mitigate the impact on continuity of emergency services operations



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Emergency Services Sector Requirements Workshop Findings: General Themes

- Lack of understanding of the role of the emergency services and the Intelligence Community (IC) in the collection, analysis and reporting of information and intelligence
- Emergency services personnel do not always have the information or intelligence they need to support their mission and operations
- Inability of emergency services field personnel to articulate their intelligence needs: "We don't know what we don't know"
- Concern that intelligence analyst don't understand the role of emergency services, their need for information and intelligence, and how they could contribute to information and intelligence reporting and analysis process



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Sample of General Requirements

- Prevention**
 - Potential targets
 - Threat assessments
 - Identification and characteristics of hazardous materials at target site
 - Precursor events – security breaches, thefts
- Protection**
 - Target vulnerabilities and consequence if exploited
 - Profile for terrorist group, attack methodology, capabilities, recent activities, surveillance techniques
 - ED, RDD construction techniques, materials, methods
 - Mutual aid agreements
 - Pre-incident planning



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Sample Cont.

Response

- Identification of terrorist/adversary group, attack methodology, capabilities, recent activities
- Current status of terrorist/adversary group– neutralized, active, unknown
- Security measures in place for responders
- Status of law-enforcement – activities, capacity
- Identification and characteristics of hazardous materials impacted by event
- Hazard detection – meters, symptoms
- Current meteorological data
- Structural integrity of site
- Status of support resources
- Credentials
- Evidence preservation



Sample Cont.

Recovery

- Current status of terrorist/adversary group– neutralized, active, unknown
- Dispersement projections (Plume models)
- Mass decontamination capability
- Health care capacity
- Projected meteorological data
- Mutual aid agreements
- Damage assessment
- Cascading effects
- Credentials
- Plans – COOP and COG



Information / Intelligence Requirement Categories for Emergency Services

- Incidents
 - Chemical
 - Biological
 - Radiological
 - Nuclear
 - Explosive
 - Natural Disaster
- CIKR Sectors
- Special Events
- Major Crimes



For More Information

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Critical Infrastructure Protection Program
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USFA's Wildland Urban Interface Initiatives

USFA's Wildland Urban Interface Initiatives

Phyllis Krietz
Fire Program Specialist

June, 2010



Wildland Urban Interface (WUI):

- Approximately one out of every three housing units in US is located in WUI
- Wildfire risk present in 38 states
- High wildfire risk in Southeastern US – building codes and other loss mitigation tools designed to protect populated areas are deficient given the high wildfire risk
 - Source: Institute of Business and Home Safety
- Wildfires continue to threaten communities and cost the nation millions of dollars every year.



Initiatives

- Ready, Set, Go! Program
- Fire-Adapted Communities



Background

- The Quadrennial Fire Review – A Look into the Future of Flame, January 2009
 - Strategic assessment of fire agency policies and programs designed to anticipate future needs; review joint efforts of 5 federal natural resource management agencies and their state, local and tribal partners in the wildland fire community.
- Public Law 110-376 U.S. Fire Administration Reauthorization Act of 2008
 - Section 6(d) Rural and Wildland –Urban Interface Assistance



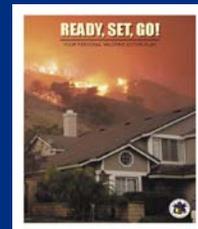
Ready, Set, Go!

- **READY** – teaches public to prepare in advance of a wildland fire:
 - Create defensible space
 - Retrofit homes to mitigate the effects of embers
 - Firewise and other similar programs
- **SET** - teaches residents situational awareness, how to monitor, and to be ready to implement a family disaster plan
- **GO** - teaches early and safe evacuation



Ready, Set, Go! Program Status

- Pilot Communities:
- Prescott, AZ
 - L'Anse, MI
 - Columbus, MT
 - Barnegat, NJ
 - Towamsing, PA
 - Pigeon Forge, TN
 - Huntsville, TX
 - Sandy City, UT



Fire-Adapted Community Process:

- Effort combines tools to aid WUI fire issues:
 - Strong multi-jurisdictional collaborative partnerships before a fire start
 - Proactive approach that concentrates on pre-fire strategy and actions to reduce risks and costs rather than relying on suppression activities
- Goals – to reduce
 - Risk from wildland fire in at-risk communities in the WUI
 - Damage due to wildland fire
 - Fire suppression and structure protection costs without compromising firefighter or citizen safety



Elements

- Residents possess knowledge, skills, and willingness to properly prepare their home before a wildfire threatens, prepared to evacuate, and safely evacuate when necessary
- Local Fire suppression forces have needed skills, equipment and capacity
- Residents and local fire agencies have met and understand local fire suppression capability and related responsible expectations



Programs & Tools

- Prevention and education outreach programs:
- Firewise
 - Community Wildfire Protection Plans
 - Living with Fire
 - Taking Responsibilities
 - Ready, Set, Go!



Partnerships

- All local, state and federal government agencies and non-government organizations with stake in protecting community wildfire:
 - National Association of State Foresters
 - National Fire Protection Association
 - International Association of Fire Chiefs
 - IBHS
 - USDA Forest Service
 - Department Of Interior
 - U.S. Fire Administration
 - Many others



Partnerships - Local

- Rotary Clubs
- Home Owners Association
- Conservation Groups
- Schools
- Church Groups



To Become a FAC

- Create defensible space – Firewise, Taking Responsibility, Living with Fire, Fire Safety Councils or similar programs
- Perform pre-fire mitigation through fuel treatments creating fuels buffer, halo around community, create safety zones inside community at risk
- Successful FAC depends on strong collaborative partnerships between local, state and federal authorities – extends to a wide variety of community groups.
- Support regulations to guide development, building materials and location, landscape to mitigate fire danger



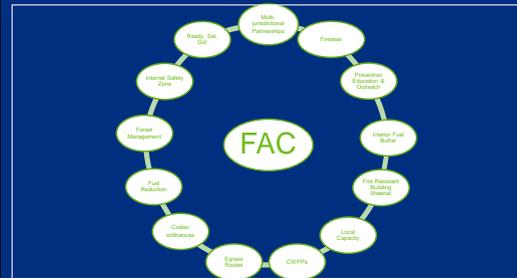
Implementation of the FAC strategy

- Will include:
 - Changing public expectations
 - Building a sense of shared responsibility
 - Increasing knowledge and commitment

A fire-adapted community is one that can survive a wildfire with little or no additional protection resources and little or no damage.



FAC Tools



Outcomes

- Development of an implementation guide for Ready, Set, Go! for fire departments
- A comprehensive guide for structural firefighters to assist communities to become fire adapted.



Questions ??



National Strategies for Fire Loss Prevention


BRIDGING THE GAP FROM
YESTERDAY INTO TOMORROW

National Strategies for Fire Loss Prevention

Jim Crawford
 Deputy Chief/Fire Marshal Retired
 Vancouver WA
 Vision 20/20 Project Manager

PARADE Meeting
 June 26, 2010


BRIDGING THE GAP FROM
YESTERDAY INTO TOMORROW

The Impetus

- Previous national plans for fire protection have had a great deal in common.
 - President Truman's 1947 Report on Fire Prevention
 - America Burning, first completed in 1973
 - Wingspread
 - Solutions 2000
- All had a common theme for increasing efforts in fire prevention as a key component to the fire safety problem in the United States.
- Still, fire safety efforts continue to be under-funded and under-staffed in almost all fire departments. This approach results in more fires, loss of life and property damage than may normally occur under a different approach of "prevention first."
 - Global Studies Tri-Data/CDC (www.sysplan.com/tridata)


BRIDGING THE GAP FROM
YESTERDAY INTO TOMORROW

Objectives

- Provide a forum for sustained, collaborative planning to reduce fire loss in the United States
- Involve agencies and organizations with expertise and commitment to fire loss reduction
- Focus on **actions** that are needed to bridge the gap between recommended solutions and the current status of fire prevention activity
- Communicate recommendations and actions clearly with all levels of the fire prevention community
- Build on the success and momentum of existing efforts
- Monitoring mechanism will provide regular reports on the progress of the strategic initiatives that arise out of Vision 20/20.


BRIDGING THE GAP FROM
YESTERDAY INTO TOMORROW

History

- Ad Hoc Group with vested interest in prevention met at NFPA Orlando 2006
- Institution of Fire Engineers (US Branch) agreed to be lead agency to apply for start up funding to develop a strategic planning process.
- AFG funding was granted.
- Vision 20/20 strategic planning process began in August of 2007.


BRIDGING THE GAP FROM
YESTERDAY INTO TOMORROW

Organization

An Executive Working Committee provides management

Project Manager: *Jim Crawford*
Vancouver Fire Department, Retired
IFE Treasurer: *Bill Kehoe*
Staff Coordinator: *Peg Carson*
Carson Associates, Inc.
Communications Manager: *Ed Comeau*
writer-tech.com


BRIDGING THE GAP FROM
YESTERDAY INTO TOMORROW

Organization

A Steering Committee Provides Guidance

Meri-K Appy, <i>Home Safety Council</i> Johnny Brewington, <i>International Association of Black Professional Fire Fighters</i> Jeff Cash, <i>National Volunteer Fire Council</i> John Dean, <i>National Association of State Fire Marshals</i> Sean DeCrane, <i>International Association of Fire Fighters</i> Shane Diekmann, <i>Centers for Disease Control</i> Bruce Johnson, <i>International Code Council</i> Gary Keith, <i>National Fire Protection Association</i> Michael Love Daniel Madrzykowski, <i>National Institute of Standards and Technology</i>	Ben May Patricia Mieszala, <i>NFPA Education Section</i> Ozzie Mirkhah Alan Peirdue, <i>International Association of Fire Chiefs</i> Wayne Powell Steven Sawyer, <i>International Fire Marshals Association</i> Ronald Siamnicki, <i>National Fallen Firefighters Foundation</i> Phil Schaenman Richard Taylor Jim Tidwell Paul Valentine, <i>International Fire Service Training Association</i> Sara Yerkes, <i>International Code Council</i>
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BRIDGING THE GAP FROM
YESTERDAY INTO TOMORROW

Initial Process

We Started With an Environmental Scan of:

1. Data from NFPA and USFA that defines fire loss by number of fires, death, injury, and dollar loss
2. Legacy Document: Recommendations compiled in domains of Engineering, Enforcement, Infrastructure, Education, and Evaluation from 1913 to 2002
3. Promising practices
4. Futures predictions


BRIDGING THE GAP FROM
YESTERDAY INTO TOMORROW

Identify Gaps

Web Forum

- Conducted simultaneously in 13 locations
- Involved over 500 grass-roots practitioners
- Determined top priorities for immediate action
- Contributed action steps

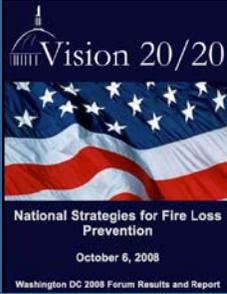

BRIDGING THE GAP FROM
YESTERDAY INTO TOMORROW

The National Forum

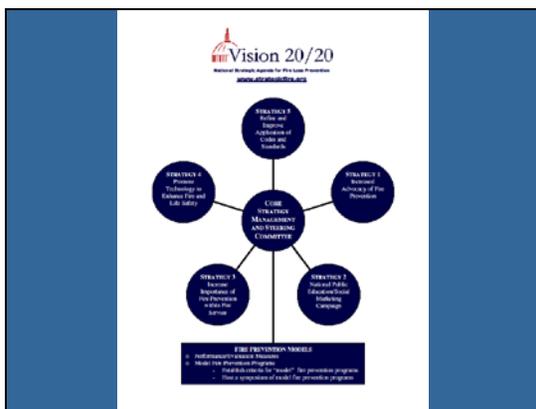
- March 31 – April 1 2008 in Washington DC
- 150 representatives of national organizations and agencies
- Additional 20 representatives of grass-roots efforts in the US (special guests from England, and Australia)
- Tasks:
 - Validate the 5 top priorities for reducing fire loss
 - Define action steps for achieving each
 - To the extent possible identify responsible parties and measures


BRIDGING THE GAP FROM
YESTERDAY INTO TOMORROW

The Report



National Strategies for Fire Loss Prevention
 October 6, 2008
 Washington DC 2008 Forum Results and Report




BRIDGING THE GAP FROM
YESTERDAY INTO TOMORROW

Strategy 1: Increase Advocacy for Fire Prevention

- Document and communicate the magnitude of the nation's fire problem and the benefit of prevention activities to decision makers
- Improve and support data collection systems
- Develop a current national fire prevention research agenda
- Advocate for increased focus and leadership of the US Fire Administration
- Develop a clearinghouse for prevention activities, resources, and best practices
- Increase awareness of the economic impact of fire loss

Facilitating Individuals/Organizations: Alan Perdue, IAFC Fire and Life Safety Section


BRIDGING THE GAP FROM
YESTERDAY INTO TOMORROW

Strategy 1: Increase Advocacy for Fire Prevention

- Current Status/Activity
 - Developing National Tool Kit
 - To be unveiled at Model Prevention Program Symposium in June, 2010
 - Task Group continuing work


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Strategy 2: Conduct a National Fire Safety Education/Marketing Campaign

- Establish a strong, comprehensive, broad-based integrated marketing communication campaign
- National unifying theme (only you can prevent.....)
- Develop and implement a national campaign to install working smoke alarms in high-risk homes
- Advocate for fire prevention programs that focus on voluntary home inspections
- Enhance and develop strategic relations for fire prevention involving nontraditional partners

Facilitating Individuals/Organizations: Jim Crawford, Meri-K. Appy, Home Safety Council, Dr. Mick Ballesteros, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Paul Schwartzman, John Strand, AED


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Strategy 2: Conduct a National Fire Safety Education/Marketing Campaign

- Current Status/Activity
 - Initial grant proposal was denied
 - Some funding available through Vision 20/20
 - Task Group Meeting in conjunction with Firehouse Expo 2010 in July in Baltimore


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Strategy 3: Raise the Importance of Fire Prevention in the Fire Service

- Embed the value of fire prevention within the fire service
- Enhance recruitment, training and education practices in fire departments
- Recognize and reward successful fire prevention activities internally and externally

Facilitating Individuals/Organizations: Bill Kehoe, Institution of Fire Engineers, US Branch


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Strategy 3: Raise the Importance of Fire Prevention in the Fire Service

- Current Status/Activity
 - Conducted a national survey
 - Coordinate with National Fallen Firefighters #14 – Prioritize Public Education as a Critical Fire and Life Safety Program (Grant received)
 - Washington State Fire Marshals Pilot Project modeled after UK and Australia programs


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Strategy 4: Promote Technology to Enhance Fire and Life Safety

- Actively explore ways to identify and utilize the latest technology to push the education and code message
- Develop complete strategies for introducing new fire and burn prevention technologies to consumers

Facilitating Individuals/Organizations: Dan Madrzykowski, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Building and Fire Research Laboratory

Vision 20/20 BRIDGING THE GAP FROM YESTERDAY INTO TOMORROW

Strategy 4: Promote Technology to Enhance Fire and Life Safety

- Current Status/Activity
 - NIST conducted symposium on kitchen suppression systems – report pending
 - NIST/Vision 20/20 conducted second symposium on technologies that would *prevention* kitchen stovetop fires
 - Research needed to remove barriers for new technology
 - Report Distribution www.strategicfire.org

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Strategy 5: Refine and Improve the Application of Codes and Standards that Enhance Public and Firefighter Safety and Reserve Community Assets

- Develop a collaborative environment
- Increase required training in building and fire codes at all levels and ranks within the fire service
- Promote fire codes within sustainable structures and “green buildings”
- Establish accountability for the adoption and enforcement of fire and building codes

Individuals/Organizations: Sean DeCrane, International Association of Fire Fighters

Vision 20/20 BRIDGING THE GAP FROM YESTERDAY INTO TOMORROW

Strategy 5: Refine and Improve the Application of Codes and Standards that Enhance Public and Firefighter Safety and Reserve Community Assets

- Current Status/Activity
 - Task Group meeting conducted in Phoenix, AZ in February 2010
 - Recommend formation of a national Code Advocacy Advisory Council
 - Filter point
 - Focus advocacy
 - Serve as “mentor” (e.g. SCORE model)

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Additional Activities

- Refinement of Model Performance Measures for fire prevention programs
- Refine criteria for what constitutes a model prevention program
- Pursue establishment of a “clearinghouse” for model prevention programs (redundancy)
- Conduct National Model Prevention Program Symposium in Baltimore, June 28 and 29, 2010

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Summary

- Vision 20/20 is a platform for collaborative efforts
- Vision 20/20 is an ad-hoc coordinating body
- Long term – seeking structure that will continue strategic planning and collaboration where possible.

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Questions?

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