



Firefighters Employment, Standards, and Training Council Meeting
 October 28, 2025
 Conference Call

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT:

| NAME | REPRESENTING | TERM ENDING |
|---|--------------------------------------|---|
| Brad Bischoff Bradenton Fire Department | FL Professional FF Assoc. | Jan. 31, 2027 (1 st term) |
| Aaron Colburn Reedy Creek Emergency Svs. | FL Professional FF Assoc. | Jan. 31, 2027 (1 st term) |
| Darrel Donatto Town of Palm Beach | Florida League of Cities | Jan. 31, 2027 (1 st term) |
| Shawn Hanson Greater Naples Fire Rescue | Florida Fire Marshals Association | Oct. 31, 2026 (2 nd term) |
| Dara Hennessey City of Cocoa Fire Rescue | State Fire Marshal | June 30, 2026 (1 st term) |
| Jeremy Joseph Florida Forest Service | Florida Forest Service/DOA | Jan. 31, 2027 (1 st term) |
| Patrick Kennedy West Palm Beach County F/R | Florida Association of Counties | June 30, 2026 (1 st term) |
| Dr. David Lee Sylvester Comprehensive | State Fire Marshal | June 30, 2026 (2 nd term) |
| Terry Parris Panama City Beach | State Fire Marshal | Jan. 1, 2027 (1 st term) |
| Kevin Reed Hillsborough C.C | State Fire Marshal | Oct. 31, 2026 (2 nd term) |
| Michael Woodward City of Oviedo Fire Dept. | FL Fire Chiefs' Association | June 30, 2026 (1 st term) |

ABSENT:

| | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|---|
| Carlos Aviles St. Augustine Fire | FL Fire Chiefs' Association | June 30, 2026 (2 nd term) |
| Byron Bennett North Bay Fire Control Dist. | State Fire Marshal | June 30, 2026 (1 st term) |
| Thomas DiBernardo Florida Department of Health | Bureau of EMS | Jan. 31, 2027 (1 st term) |
| -Jim Millican Lealman Fire District | Florida Association Sp. Districts | Oct. 31, 2026 (2 nd term) |

The Firefighters Employment, Standards and Training Council meeting was called to order.

On a motion duly made, the minutes from the Firefighters Employment, Standards and Training Council held on July 14, 2025, were approved.

Motion carried.

REPORT FROM DIVISION: *given by John Gatlin, Assistant Director*

- Firefighter OSHA Rule 69A-62
 - Held workshops
 - Working through draft language
 - Hopeful to have rule hearing by end of year
 - More information will be provided at the Florida Fire Conference in January
- Legislative
 - Receiving continued support
 - Submitting additional LBR's (Legislative Budget Requests) to further the ongoing enhancements at the Florida State Fire College
- Out of State/DOD Firefighters
 - We have been getting positive feedback on the new streamlined process
 - Performance Objectives have been adjusted

REPORT FROM THE BUREAU: *given by Bruce Gillingham, Bureau Chief*

- Out of State/DOD
 - Currently 27 students enrolled in the Nov. class, testing on 11/14
 - 6 will be testing during Regionals (originals and retests)
 - Current Pending Applications – 74
 - 195 working through the process (verifying training)
- FireTRAQ
 - Working through the new system. Transition is in full swing. FCDICE is now in a “Read Only” status. Unable to run current reports at this early stage. As of last report run,
 - 2, 184 Firefighter II issued
 - 4, 971 certifications other than Firefighter II
 - Fixes in new system are ongoing
- Safety Section
 - 58 Decon Grants in the works for a total amount of \$986,574
- 2025 Florida Fallen Firefighter Memorial
 - 9 Firefighters will be placed on the wall for 2025. All 9 are cancer related.
 - Memorial being held Nov. 21, 2025
- Volunteer Firefighter Assistance Grant
 - 51 recipients in total of \$2,983,562 (including recurring)
- Grow As You Go Program

- 2025-226 36 enrolled
- 2024-2025 100 enrolled
- To date, 25 have completed the program
- Upcoming Training
 - USAR
 - Medical Specialist
 - Technical Search Specialist
 - North Central Florida Fire Conference
 - January 2026
 - March – Volunteer Weekend
 - May – Instructor Conference
 - September – Lithium Ion
- FSFC Campus Updates/Construction
 - Marion County Fire Rescue Station #11-property being cleared
 - New Asphalt in front circle of campus
 - New concrete at front entrance
 - Roofing-ongoing
 - Auditorium – progressing, going out for permitting
 - Cafeteria – ongoing
 - Courtyard – being surveyed
- Rule
 - LFTI Draft complete, in Legal
 - Should be going to Rule Hearing soon

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Request from Chairman Donatto for investigative reports done by the Division of State Fire Marshal to be published.

Multiple Council members support this request.

AUDIENCE:

Chief Aaron Rhodes, in support the request also supports the release of SFM reports.

NEXT MEETING: Florida Fire Conference, January, Orlando

ADJOURN.

Audio file available upon request