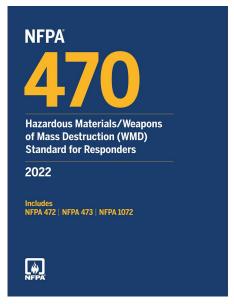


Washington State Fire Marshal's Office Quarterly Newsletter







2023 NFIRS Data Due February 5, 2024

All 2023 National Fire Incident Reporting System data is due February 5, 2024, for inclusion in the Fire in Washington Annual Report. Submissions should be emailed to NFIRS@wsp.wa.gov You can review the 2022 annual report at: Fire in Washington 2022.

For assistance with NFIRS, please go here.

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2023 By the Numbers

A Message From State Fire Marshal Chad Cross

Fire Prevention Division	Total
IFSAC Certificates Issued:	3,132
HazMat Students Trained:	1,762
Mobilization Trainings Delivered:	0
Responses to Mobilization:	28
Initial Inspections Conducted:	2,972
Re-inspections Conducted:	2,893
Fire and Life Safety Training	
Sessions for Facilities:	10
Fire and Life Safety Plan	
Reviews for Schools:	42
Plan Reviews for Contracted	
Projects:	22
Sprinkler Licenses Issued:	500
Certificates of Competency	
Issued:	1,250
Sprinkler Fitter Certificates	
Issued:	1,719
Fireworks Licenses Issued:	824
Sprinkler Demonstrations	
Conducted:	103
Sprinkler Trainings Delivered:	22

Fire Training Division	Students
Weekday Recruit Academy:	68
Fire Service Open Enrollment	
Courses:	82
Fire Service Department	
Training:	2,234
Regional Direct Delivery	
Training:	983
Regional Direct Delivery	
Recruit Academy:	85
National Fire Academy	
Training:	1082
Law Enforcement / Military /	
Other Training:	234



We hope the holidays were merry and bright for everyone, and 2024 is off to a great start. The State Fire Marshal's Office looks forward to another productive year working in partnership with our stakeholder groups. The 2024 Fire Training Academy open enrollment class schedule can be accessed at Fire Training Academy - WSP (wa.gov). For information about a Regional Direct Delivery Program academy or courses, please email howard.scartozziewsp.wa.gov.

The Inspections and Plan Review Sections is busy working with facilities and licensing agencies to ensure occupancies housing some of our state's most vulnerable populations are fire safe. The Education, Enforcement and Analytics section is winding up the fire sprinkler renewal process, and heading into fireworks licensing season.

The Firefighter Certification program continues to be accredited in 21 levels of professional qualifications, and the fire service is testing and certifying many fire service personnel across the state of Washington.

There were 28 authorized mobilizations during 2023. Staff continue to process payments to ensure fire agencies, personnel, and vendors are reimbursed as quickly as possible.

The Basic Firefighter Training Reimbursement Program is taking applications to help off-set the of cost of training at the local level. If your agency needs Hazardous Materials Training, please email hazardewsp.wa.gov or visit our website at Other Training - WSP (wa.gov) for more information.

Now is the time to ensure all 2023 National Fire Incident Reporting System data has been submitted to the SFMO for inclusion in the Fire in Washington Annual Report. Please submit your data to nfirs@wsp.wa.gov.

These are just a few of the highlights of what is taking place across your SFMO. Please feel free to reach out of any of our staff to ask questions or learn more about our programs and services.

NFPA Standard Update in Firefighter Certification Program

NFPA 470 is the new consolidated document that incorporates all the chapters of NFPA 472, Standards for Competence of Responders to Hazardous Materials/WMD Incidents, NFPA 473, Standard for Competencies for EMS Personnel Responding to Hazardous Materials/WMD Incidents, and NFPA 1072, Standard for Hazardous Materials/WMD Emergency Response Personnel Professional Qualifications.

Effective January 2, 2024, the Firefighter Certification Program will be updating its Hazardous Materials Awareness and Operations accreditation to the 2022 edition of NFPA 470, Hazardous Materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction for Responders. Certification in the Awareness and Operations levels of Hazardous Materials is a prerequisite for certification at the Firefighter 1 level.

In the last quarter of 2023, Awareness and Operations skill sheets were reviewed and updated, and the written test bank for the sixth edition of IFSTA's Hazardous Materials for First Responders was validated by a panel of subject matter experts. The State Fire Marshal's Office (SFMO) anticipates that materials for the Hazardous Materials Technician level will be updated to NFPA 470 by June of 2024.

NFPA 1010, the new consolidated standard for Firefighter, Apparatus Driver/Operator, Airport Firefighter, and Marine Firefighting for Land-Based Firefighters is in the final stages of development and will likely be approved by the NFPA Standards Council in the second half of 2024. Firefighter 1 and 2, Airport Firefighter, Marine, and all the Driver/Operator standards will remain intact as individual chapters within NFPA 1010. Once NFPA 1010 is approved by the Standards Council, the SFMO will have two years to update all testing materials to comply with that standard.

For more information about the Firefighter Certification Program, contact our staff at (360) 596–3945, or by emailing <u>ifsacquestions@wsp.wa.gov</u>.

For more information about the NFPA's document consolidation project, visit their website at https://www.nfpa.org/For-Professionals/Codes-and-Standards/Standards-Development.





FTA Recruit Class 2023-03 Graduation

The Washington State Fire Training Academy (FTA) had the honor of awarding 14 firefighters their certificate of graduation from the Washington State Fire Training Academy's Recruit Academy. Recruit Academy Class 2023–03 graduated on November 3, 2023. The Recruit Academy is a demanding 12-week program that provides comprehensive training in all aspects of firefighting skills. Recruits participated in approximately 100 hours of live-fire training, with a total of 496 hours of training within the Academy. The Recruit Academy prepares, trains, and certifies the students on Firefighter I, Hazardous Materials Awareness, Hazardous Materials Operations, and Firefighter II. Each recruit received a certificate of completion from the Fire Training Academy. We wish them the utmost success in their firefighting careers.

Company Officer

South Whidbey Fire & EMS: Robert Husom

Recruits

Burlington Fire Department:

Darby BreretonWomack
Trent Green

Clallam County Fire District #3:

Tanner Cupps Jacob Stanley

East Olympia Fire District #6:

Mikhal Snovel

Kittitas County Fire District #7:

Christopher Cobain Kyler Federwisch Grant Victor

Moses Lake Fire Department:

Justin Dominguez

Olympia Fire Department:

Zaiden Hernandez Stephen "Taylor" Imber Austin Jones Michael Manzano Arturo Rael

Port of Portland Airport Fire & Rescue:

John Zogas

South Thurston Fire & EMS:

Mackenzie Hargadon

Southeast Thurston Fire Authority:

Edgar Salazar

Feasibility Study Underway

The SFMO was funded for a feasibility study to enhance our programs and services through technology improvements. In September 2023, a contract was executed with Integrated Solution Group (ISG) to carry out the study. ISG will develop a strategic business plan, a technology plan with roadmap, and legislative and budgetary requests. This study engages employees and stakeholder groups in analyzing the current business processes and identifying future needs including information technology infrastructure and applications.

A deep dive into every program administered by the SFMO is underway. Our office seeks to be forward facing and customer centered with all our programs and services. This includes training, licensing, certifications, All-Risk Mobilization, fire and life safety inspections, and more. Stakeholder meetings will begin this month.

If you have any questions, please contact Assistant State Fire Marshal Melissa Gannie at melissa.gannie@wsp.wa.gov.

Personnel Updates







Christine Antonelli

On November 1, 2023, Christine Antonelli joined the Fire Training Academy as a Secretary Senior. Christine brings over 25 years of administrative experience, having worked in various administrative industries and roles. Christine attended the University of California, Santa Cruz obtaining a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology. Christine is a local North Bend resident, and we are excited to have her join our team.

Courtney Chambers

On November 2, 2023, Courtney Chambers joined the SFMO as an Administrative Assistant 4. She has lived in Washington State all of her life. She previously worked for Washington State DSHS. Courtney is currently working on her Master's Degree in Human Resources Management and will graduate this coming July. She enjoys cooking, reading, and spending time with family. We are pleased to welcome Courtney to our team.



Looking Back - Greg "Gibby" Gibson Home Fire Safety Act







After a devastating fire that took the life of their son Greg on January 8, 2016, Bonnie and Gerry Gibson created the nonprofit Gibby Home Fire Prevention organization.

http://www.gibbyhomefireprevention.org/impact.html. With the help of the Gibsons, SB5284 passed and was put into law on July 1, 2019.

Through SB5284, Revised Code of Washington, RCW 43.44.110, Smoke Detection Devices in Dwelling Units – Penalties, was amended. This RCW provides clarity on expectations for landlord and tenants when it comes to installing and maintaining smoke alarms in rental properties. RCW 43.44.110 states that landlords are required to provide working smoke alarms in rental units. https://app.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=43.44.110.

In 2022, Washington State fire agencies reported 81 deaths with 68% of those fatalities occurring in places where smoke alarms were not present or were unknown to be present.

The Washington State Fire Marshal's Office would like to remind agencies to ensure that landlords follow the following requirements of RCW 43.44.110:

- · Installation of smoke detection devices in the sleeping rooms and hallways of the rental unit shall be the responsibility of the landlord.
- · At the time of a vacancy, the landlord shall ensure that the smoke alarm devices are operational prior to the re-occupancy of the unit.
- · Maintenance of smoke alarms, including the replacement of batteries, shall be the responsibility of the tenant, who shall maintain the devices as specified by the manufacturer.

Also, local jurisdictions may enforce and assess the following penalties:

- · Non-compliance shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$200.
- · If a fire occurs and results in damage injury or death to the tenant or their household, and no working smoke alarm is present, the landlord is subject to a \$5,000 fine.

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Looking Back - Greg "Gibby" Gibson Home Fire Safety Act (cont'd)

Any fines collected, except for the administrative costs collected for enforcing the fine, go into the Smoke Detection Device Awareness Account per RCW 443.44.115 which is in the custody of the Washington State Treasurer. https://app.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=43.44.115.

Any expenditures from the account may be used only for the purposes of raising public awareness of owners and tenants' duties pertaining to all smoke alarm devices.

Expenditures may be authorized from the account through the director of fire protection or the director of fire protection's authorized deputy.

Ensuring every home has a working smoke alarm can safe lives by providing early notification to the occupants. Like Bonnie and Gerry Gibson, the SFMO encourages fire agencies to educate their community members on the importance of installing and maintaining smoke alarm systems

2024 Community Risk Reduction (CRR)











Community Risk Reduction Week 2024 starts on Dr. Martin Luther King Day, a National Day of Service, which is January 15, 2024, running through January 21, 2024.

The State Fire Marshal's Office (SFMO) encourages Washington State fire agencies to adopt CRR as a process within their organization. The goal of CRR Week is to promote awareness of Community Risk Reduction within the fire service by having a week where fire service members implement CRR and demonstrate its importance to the public and other fire service organizations.

CRR Week is focused on addressing Advocacy, one of the six Vision20/20 National Strategies, which focuses on helping to develop tools and information that can be used when advocating for resources to devote to fire prevention.

Each day of CRR Week, the SFMO will publish messages about the five E's of CRR (Education, Engineering, Enforcement, Economic Incentives, and Emergency Response) through Twitter. The SFMO will send out daily reminders regarding each aspect of the five E's, explaining in-depth how each of them, individually, can justify the need for a CRR program in any organization. Also, there will be a media release that is anticipated to include a proclamation from Governor Jay Inslee declaring January 15–21, 2024, as CRR Week.

CRR Week is also a great opportunity to help raise awareness among members of your organization about the value of CRR in making your community safer, which also contributes to fire fighter safety.

For more information regarding CRR Week, go to: https://crrweek.org/

FTA and WSU Partnership - The Future of Advanced Certification at the FTA





In 2021, Fire Training Academy (FTA) and Washington State University (WSU) Global Campus staff embarked on a new journey to take the delivery of curriculum of advanced certifications at the FTA to the next level. The partnership between the two agencies has developed into a deep relationship in the few short years of collaboration. Today, Fire Instructor I and Fire Instructor II are both delivered in a hybrid model. Students complete all their daily reading assignments and projects through the online learning management system (LMS) called CANVAS. Once the online portion is completed, students are required to visit the FTA for their IFSAC written and practical hands-on test. Fire Instructor I is designed as a two-week course and Fire Instructor II is designed as a three-week course. Within the next 12 months, we plan to launch Fire Officer I and Fire Officer II. Within the next 24 months, we plan to be offering Fire Officer III as an advanced class.

The efforts made while teaming with WSU Global Campus has sparked conversations of awarding college credits for courses taken through the FTA and WSU. These credits will be retained through WSU and their School of Environment Fire Science program. This would link through their national ACE requirements for awarding college credits for course completion. This initiative is still in its infancy stage, but it is progressing steadily by WSU staff members.

Another partnership effort is the newly constructed weather station located at the FTA. WSU students and staff members selected the FTA as a primary location for one of several weather stations that they have throughout the state. The data collected from the weather station on the campus will allow for real time data to be analyzed by students at WSU and then utilized for projects and research. The data collected from the weather station is also accessible for FTA staff members to view during inclement weather periods. These joint efforts are just the beginning of what we hope is a bright and bountiful future for both the FTA and for WSU.

Links for 2024 Course Announcements for the FTA and WSU advanced classes can be found at the following links:

Fire Instructor 1: https://www.wsp.wa.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/2024-Fire-Instructor-l-Online-Open-Enrollment-Announcement.pdf

Fire Instructor 2: https://www.wsp.wa.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/2024-Fire-Instructor-II-Open-Enrollment-Announcement.pdf



The feedback period on the Draft Data Framework has started. USFA and FSRI launched a 30-day national engagement period for NERIS's Draft Data Framework. The review period is December 18, 2023, and concluding on January 19, 2024.

During this vital engagement period, your valuable input is needed on the data schemas, which is foundational to the development of NERIS.

About the Draft Core NERIS Data Framework and Schemas:

- 1. Fire Department Specification: Designed to characterize the capabilities and staffing of fire departments and communities they protect.
- 2. **Computer Aided Dispatch**: Designed to capture timing and location data as well as initial incident type designations.
- 3. **Incident Data**: Designed to ensure comprehensive and accurate capture of incident-specific details, enabling effective response and analysis.

To access the Draft Data Framework click here.

Who Should Participate?

Your perspective is crucial. We are reaching out to:

- emergency response professionals and administrators.
- software developers and data scientists in emergency response.
- public safety and emergency management officials.
- · representatives from relevant government agencies, and
- interested members of the public.

Your Input is Invaluable

Your feedback will play a crucial role in refining and enhancing <u>NERIS</u>. Comments may be considered in the final NERIS Framework. For accessibility requests or any further assistance, please contact NERIS with questions at <u>NERIS@ul.org</u>.



Energy Symposium

In August of 2022, an Energy Workgroup was formed. This workgroup includes members from fire, law enforcement, environmental (Ecology), tow and recovery, aviation, and many other local responders. Information was gained from FDNY, back in September 2022, and Spokane Fire Department's Town Hall in November of 2022. Starting in 2023, training was provided involving electric vehicles, (EV), Energy Storage System, (ESS), and energy (transformers, sub-stations, power lines, etc.) emergencies.

Members include:

State Fire Marshal's Office

Dept. of Ecology

Dept. of Commerce

Washington Emergency Management

West Pierce Fire and Rescue

Towing and Recovery Association of Washington (TRAW)

Washington Fire Chief's

ATF-Spokane

Others

Working in partnership with Washington State Emergency Response Commission, Washington State Military Department's Emergency Management Division, and the Washington State Department of Ecology, and others, an Energy Symposium/Westside Hazmat Workshop has been scheduled for February 22-24, 2024, at the South Puget Sound Community College.

We expect upwards of 200 responders to attend this event.

Several of the planned presentations include:

- ·Arizona Energy Storage Systems/Battery Storage System emergencies including Surprise Alternative Power System explosion Captain Hunter Clare, Peoria Fire Department (AZ)
- ·Grid Resilience Elizabeth King (Washington State Department of Commerce)
- ·Tools of the Trade Captain Chris Greene, Seattle Fire Department (Retired)

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Energy Symposium (cont'd)

- Decontamination and Respiratory Personal Protective Equipment C. Todd Smith, United States Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms
- ·Ecology Battery Recycling Stewardship Program Megan Warfield, Department of Ecology
- ·Cradle to Grave: Post Fire Lithium-Ion Battery Cleanup and Disposal Sean Thompson PhD., and Mark Furnish, Washington State Department of Ecology
- ·Others

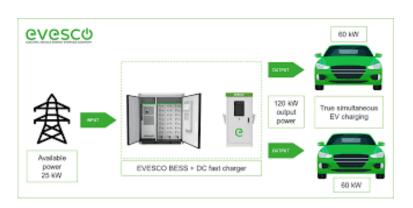
This symposium is tailored after similar symposiums held by FDNY in September 2022, Spokane Fire Department's Lithium-Ion BatteryTown Hall in November 2022, Pasco's Energy Symposium in the Spring of 2023 and other functions.

This symposium has expanded to represent:

- ·Fire
- ·Law Enforcement
- ·Environmental
- ·Building and fire codes
- ·Fire investigation
- ·Airline concerns
- ·Rechargeable vehicles on the WA-DOT Ferry system
- ·Towing and Recovery
- ·Washington State Department of Commerce
- ·Washington Fire Chiefs

To register, click this link:

WA EMD (learningstream.com)





Firefighter Certification Program Adding Pro Board Accreditation in 2024

The State Fire Marshals Office's (SFMO) Firefighter Certification Program will be adding National Professional Qualifications Board (Pro Board®) accreditation in 2024. The SFMO anticipates submitting its Pro Board application early this month as well as hosting an Accreditation Site Team from Pro Board in June 2024. Upon receiving Pro Board accreditation, Washington will be the 30th state organization to be dual-accredited. The United States Department of Defense and seven Canadian provinces also hold dual accreditation. The SFMO is also currently accredited on 21 levels through the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC).

Though both IFSAC and Pro Board are compliant with NFPA 1000, which is the Standard for Fire Service Professional Qualifications Accreditation and Certification Systems, IFSAC places significant emphasis on test items and how the entirety of a specific standard is tested. Pro Board places emphasis on robust policies and procedures, and how they are implemented. Dual accreditation ensures that each requirement of NFPA 1000 has received exhaustive scrutiny by the accrediting bodies and provides assurance to fire chiefs that their firefighters are certified through a reliable process that has withstood a thorough and detailed review. Dual accreditation is considered the "gold standard."

Washington's fire service will also benefit from dual-accreditation by ensuring that the SFMO's principal stakeholders have direct input on certification policies and new levels of accreditation, while ensuring the integrity and rigor of objective firefighter certification testing in Washington. Individual firefighters will benefit from the increased portability of their certifications, should they need to relocate to another state.

Frequently Asked Questions

What will change about certification testing?

There will be no visible change to how firefighter certification tests are registered or conducted in the field. Adding another accreditation is a second validation of the SFMO's certification program, not a change in its process. Nothing will change in how firefighters register for tests, take tests, or receive their results.

Will candidates have to take a second test to get a Pro Board seal?

No. Successful candidates will be issued the same certificate as always. After Pro Board accreditation, certificates will have two seals, one from Pro Board and one from IFSAC. Seals will be registered in both the Pro Board and IFSAC databases.

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Firefighter Certification Program Adding Pro Board Accreditation in 2024 (cont'd)

Will candidates have to take a test based on a different textbook to get a Pro Board seal?

No. Candidates will take the same test as always. There is no second test or second practical.

Will test administration personnel have to undergo additional training?

No. Nothing changes about how certification tests are conducted.

I already have a state certificate with an IFSAC seal; can I get a Pro Board seal for that certificate? No. NFPA 1000 only allows certificates to be issued for successful completion of a testing process. Pro Board seals cannot be grandfathered or backdated. The same is true for IFSAC seals.

I have a Pro Board-accredited certificate issued by another agency in Washington. Does anything happen to that certificate?

No, there is no impact on existing certificates; they remain valid.

How much will this cost firefighters and/or fire departments?

There is no cost to the firefighter or fire department for the additional seal.

For additional information about the Firefighter Certification Program, please email <u>FirefighterTesting@wsp.wa.gov</u> or call (360) 596–3945.



Mason County Regional Direct Delivery Firefighter Recruit Training Academy Graduates 24 Firefighters

On December 19, 2023, twenty-four firefighters representing eight regional fire departments received certificates of completion from the North Mason Regional Direct Delivery Firefighter Recruit Training Academy.

North Mason Regional Fire Authority hosted the Academy alongside the Washington Fire Training Academy's Regional Direct Delivery Program (RDD).

The RDD program delivers a standard 240-hour training curriculum that meets national standards, on nights and weekends to accommodate the schedule of firefighter recruits in rural areas. Upon graduation, all students have met the standards of the National Fire Protection Association 1001. In addition, they participated in IFSAC Testing to become certified to the level of Firefighter I, Hazardous Materials Awareness and Hazardous Materials First Responder Operations Level.

This is the fifth RDD Recruit Academy completed in 2023, graduating a total of 85 Volunteer Firefighters.

Recruits

Central Mason Fire & EMS

Sierra Bridges Laila Hanson Toby Heggie

Hoodsport Fire & EMS

Gage Long Daniela McKeel Joseph McKeel Holden Sylvan

Mason County Fire District #3

Nathan Mills

Mason County Fire District #16

William Blakey Aaron Navarrete

Mason County Fire District #17

James Eder

North Mason Regional Fire Authority

Maxwell Anderson
Logan Brunson
Jacob Gatlin
Jake Kusman
Kellen Leavell
Caden North
Liam Sullivan

South Kitsap Fire & EMS

Christopher Frost
Skyler Langston
Noelle LeRolland
Cassandra McClelland

State Fire Marshal's Office Contacts

FIRE PROTECTION BUREAU

State Fire Marshal Chad Cross
Chad.Cross@wsp.wa.gov
(360) 596-3902

FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION

Assistant State Fire Marshal Melissa Gannie Melissa.Gannie Melissa

Education, Enforcement, and Analytics

Chief Deputy State Fire Marshal Esther Hernandez <u>Esther.Hernandez@wsp.wa.gov</u> (360) 596–3913

Inspections

Chief Deputy State Fire Marshal Dylan Montgomery <u>Dylan.Montgomery@wsp.wa.gov</u> (360) 596–3906

Plan Review

Chief Deputy State Fire Marshal (Vacant) (360) 596–3911

Professional Development and Response

Chief Deputy State Fire Marshal Bill Slosson William.Slosson@wsp.wa.gov (360) 596–3928

FIRE TRAINING DIVISION

Assistant State Fire Marshal Kelly Merz <u>Kelly.Merz@wsp.wa.gov</u> (425) 453–3000 Ext. 109

Assistant Division Commander Katie Rasmussen <u>Katie.Rasmussen@wsp.wa.gov</u> (425) 453–3000 Ext. 110

Regional Direct Delivery

Chief Deputy State Fire Marshal Howard Scartozzi <u>Howard.Scartozzi@wsp.wa.gov</u> (425) 401–7732

Instruction

Chief Deputy State Fire Marshal Chris Brown <u>Chris.Brown@wsp.wa.gov</u> (425) 428–1810