

TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION
Commissioner's Meeting Agenda
9:30 a.m., November 21, 2024
4800 N. Lamar Boulevard, Room 140, Austin, Texas

The Texas Commission on Fire Protection (the Commission) may discuss and act on any of the following agenda items. The Commission may go into executive session on any agenda item listed below as authorized by the Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Chapter 551.

1. Call to order with an invocation¹ and pledge of allegiance.
2. Roll call for a quorum and excuse Commissioner absences, if any.
3. Approve Commission meeting minutes for the August 15, 2024 meeting.
4. Report from the Budget and Strategic Plan Ad Hoc Subcommittee.
5. Reports from fire service interest groups and agencies on matters relating to their specific organizational purposes, functions, activities, and objectives, including reports from TEEEX, the Texas Fire Chiefs Association, the Texas State Association of Firefighters, the State Firefighters' and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas, the Texas Fire Marshal's Association, the Texas Association of Fire Educators, the Texas A&M Forest Service, the National Fire Protection Association, Texas State Association of Fire and Emergency Districts, the Center for Public Safety Excellence, the State Fire Marshal's Office, the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation, and the Firefighter Cancer Support Network.
6. Report from Commission representative to the Homeland Security Council.
7. Discussion on future meeting dates.
8. Subjects for future Commission meeting agendas.
9. A report and possible action from the Health and Wellness Committee.
10. Matters referred to the Commission from the Curriculum and Testing Committee:
 - A. Report and possible action from the Curriculum and Testing Committee.
 - B. Discussion and possible action concerning updates to the Ropes Curriculum Manual.

¹ Any invocation that may be offered before the official start of the Commission meeting shall be a voluntary offering to and for the benefit of the Commission. The views or beliefs expressed by the invocation speaker have not been previously reviewed or approved by the Commission and do not necessarily represent the religious beliefs or views of the Commission in part or as a whole. No member of the community is required to attend or participate in the invocation. Such a decision will not impact their right to participate actively in the business of the Commission. Copies of the policy governing invocations and setting forth the procedure to have a volunteer deliver an invocation are available upon written request submitted to the Commission Clerk.

C. Discussion and possible action on the Ropes Skills Manual.

11. Matters referred to the Commission by the Firefighter Advisory Committee:

A. Discussion and possible action on the rule review 37 Texas Administrative Code (TAC), Chapter 403, Criminal Convictions and Eligibility for Certifications.

B. Discussion and possible action on proposed changes on the rule review of 37 TAC, Chapter 421, Standards for Certification.

12. Discussion on the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) “Responding to the Interface” (WUI) training for Texas firefighters.

13. Discussion and possible action on the proposed changes to 37 TAC, Chapter 449, Head of Fire Department.

14. Discussion and possible action on 37 TAC, Chapter 435, Fire Fighter Safety.

15. Proposed rule review for the following:

A. 37 TAC, Chapter 423, Fire Suppression.

B. 37 TAC, Chapter 425, Fire Service Instructors.

16. Report and possible action from the Ad Hoc Subcommittee regarding the selection and appointment of candidates for current vacancies on Health and Wellness, Curriculum and Testing, and Firefighter Advisory Subcommittees.

17. Discussion and possible action on public request concerning 37 TAC, Chapter 469, Technical Rescue.

18. Matters from the Agency Chief:

A. Update regarding agency duties and responsibilities.

B. Decision of the Agency Chief in contested cases and consent orders.

C. Status regarding division functions:

i. Training Approval & Testing – test administered, training approvals, record reviews, and online training audits.

ii. Certification & Professional Development – training applications, IFSAC seals issued, certifications issued, training facilities, curriculum development, library resource requests.

iii. Compliance – biennial inspections, compliance officers training, issues involving regulated entities.

- iv. Information Technology – public website design, FARM and FIDO improvements, CAPPs (Central Accounting Payroll/Personnel System), IT security policy, and service requests.
- 19. Personnel matters regarding the appointment, employment, compensation, evaluation, reassignment, and duties of the Agency Chief.
- 20. Adjourn meeting

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 1

1. Call to order with an invocation and pledge of allegiance.

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 2

2. Roll call for a quorum and excuse Commissioner absences, if any.

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 3 WITH RELEVANT ATTACHMENTS

3. Approve Commission meeting minutes for the August 15, 2024 meeting **(please see attached)**.

TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION

Presiding Officer J.P. Steelman called the August 15, 2024, meeting of the Texas Commission on Fire Protection to order at 9:00 a.m. at the North Lamar Boulevard Building, 4800 N. Lamar Boulevard, Austin, Texas.

Member Attendance:

Chris Cantu	David Coatney	Kelly Vandygriff	Michael Glynn
Paul Hamilton	Bob Morgan	Tim Smith	Amanda Friedeck
Rusty Wilson	Michael Johnson	J. P. Steelman	Sue DeVillez

*There were no absences.

Staff Attendance:

Mike Wisko	Frank King	Amanda Khan	Holden Wenger	Joyce Guinn
Rick Wallace	Grace Wilson	Bobby Stebbins	Piyush Manglani	Ashley Barnett

1. Call to order with an invocation and pledge of allegiance – The invocation was delivered by Chief Nathan Hine of the Snyder Fire Department, and the pledge of allegiance was led by Presiding Officer, J.P. Steelman.

2. Roll call for a quorum and excuse of commissioner absences, if any - The roll was called, and a quorum was present. No commissioners were absent.

3. Approve Commission meeting minutes of the May 16, 2024, meeting – A motion was made by Rusty Wilson and seconded by David Coatney to approve the minutes of the May 16, 2024, meeting. The motion carried.

4. Report from the Budget and Strategic Plan Ad Hoc Subcommittee – No report was given.

5. Reports from fire service interest groups and agencies on matters relating to their specific organizational purposes, functions, activities, and objectives, including reports from TEEEX, the Texas Fire Chiefs Association, the Texas State Association of Fire Fighters, the State Firefighters and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas, the Texas Fire Marshal's Association, the Texas Association of Fire Educators, the Texas A&M Forest Service, the National Fire Protection Association, Texas State Association of Fire and Emergency Districts, the Center for Public Safety Excellence, the State Fire Marshal's Office, and the National Fallen Fire Fighters Foundation. The initial report from the Firefighter Cancer Support Network will be added to the list – Reports were given by TEEEX, The Texas Fire Chiefs Association, the Texas A&M Forest Service, the State Firefighters and Fire Marshals' Association, the National Fire Service Association, Texas State Association of Fire and Emergency Districts, and the State Fire Marshal's Office.

6. Report from the Commission representative to the Homeland Security Council – No report was given.

7. Subjects for future commission meeting agendas – Michael Johnson requested a discussion on capturing firefighter suicide data.

8. Discussion on future meeting dates – the November 21, 2024, meeting at 10:00 a.m. was confirmed. To date, no other meetings have been scheduled.

9. Discussion and possible action on the vacant seat for the Assistant Presiding Officer for the Commission – A motion was made by Bob Morgan and seconded by David Coatney to nominate Michael Glynn as the Assistant Presiding Officer for the Commission. No other nominations were made. The motion carried.

10. Matters referred to the Commission from the Curriculum and Testing Committee:

A. Report from the Curriculum and Testing Committee – Agency Chief Mike Wisko gave updates on Hazmat and the Emergency Management Certification on behalf of the Curriculum and Testing Committee (C&T). Permission to form an ad hoc committee for the Emergency Management Certification that will be co-chaired by Louie Havens of the C&T Committee and Ken Bell of TDEM was requested from the Commission by the committee. A motion was made by Tim Smith and seconded by Chris Cantu to create the ad hoc committee and an online application process.

B. Discussion and possible action concerning updates to the Hazmat curriculum – Mike Wisko shared comments sent by Lynwood Dunseith, Program Director of Fire Protection for San Jacinto College. While considering the public comments received and the recommendations of the staff, a motion was made by Paul Hamilton and seconded by Rusty Wilson to approve the Hazmat curriculum updates.

11. Matters referred to the Commission by the Firefighter Advisory Committee:

A. Discussion and possible action regarding the 2023 Injury Report – Mike Wisko shared a public comment sent by Lynwood Dunseith regarding burn injuries and students who are injured. Rick Wallace addressed Mr. Dunseith's concerns and spoke about staff recommendations. While considering the public comments and staff recommendations, a motion was made by Sue DeVillez and seconded by Paul Hamilton to adopt the report with the following updates to the recommendations: to make all burn injuries mandatory regardless of whether worker's compensation is notified, make it mandatory that training facilities report all injuries that result in a loss of class time for students, recommend mandatory annual cancer screenings for all cancers, recommend that all cancer diagnosis are reported, and that departments are required to report suicides when the department is aware of the suicide. The motion carried.

B. Discussion and possible action regarding proposed 37 Texas Administrative Code (TAC), Chapter 469, Technical Rescue – DJ Walker presented the original language to 469.203 and explained the language should be included in the rule. A motion was made by David Coatney and seconded by Kelly Vandygriff to adopt the proposed 37 TAC, Chapter 469, Technical Rescue with changes to §469.203 to include the original language.

12. Discussion and possible action on the proposed 37 TAC, Chapter 449, Head of Department – A motion was made by Christopher Cantu and seconded by Tim Smith to adopt the proposed amendments to 37 TAC, Chapter 449, Head of the Department. The motion carried. A motion was made by Christopher Cantu and seconded by Tim Smith the send 37 TAC, Chapter 449, Head of Department, to amend his original motion to adopt to send the recommended amendments to §449.3 for publication to the Texas Register. The motion carried.

13. Proposed rule review of the following:

A. 37 TAC, Chapter 403, Criminal Convictions and Eligibility for the Certifications –

B. 37 TAC, Chapter 421, Standards for Certification –

A motion was made by Michael Glynn and seconded by Kelly Vandygriff to send the above-mentioned rule reviews to the Firefighter Advisory Committee for review. The motion carried.

14. Discussion and possible action regarding the recommendations from the Committee Member Selection Ad Hoc Committee regarding current vacancies on the Health and Wellness, Curriculum and Testing, and Firefighter Advisory Committees – A report was given by the Committee Member Selection Ad Hoc Committee on the selection process for the Health and Wellness Committee and the recommendations for the nominees for the committee were presented to the Commission. The committee recommended that the four vacant positions be filled with the top candidates based on the unanimous recommendations and that the list be kept as a working list for two years for any upcoming vacant positions to be filled. The committee also recommended opening the application process for the vacant Firefighter Advisory Committee (FFAC) positions and keeping the application process open for a month then moving to the C&T posting for vacant positions. A motion was made by Tim Smith and seconded by Paul Hamilton to accept the recommendations by appointing the top four recommended candidates (Ashley Watson, Brian O’Neil, Adam Story, and Del Albright) to the vacant seats and keeping the top 13 list for two years to fill future vacant seats, and to move to open the FFAC application process for 30 days and then the C&T application process afterward. The motion carried.

15. Matters from the Agency Chief:

A. Update regarding agency duties and responsibilities – Mike Wisko gave a brief report regarding the agency duties and responsibilities.

B. Decision of the Agency Chief in contested cases and consent orders – there was nothing to report.

C. Status regarding division functions: - Mike Wisko gave a brief report on the division functions for each division as listed below.

v. Training Approval & Testing - tests administered, training approvals, record reviews, and online training audits.

vi. Certification & Professional Development – training applications, IFSAC seals issued, certifications issued, training facilities, curriculum development, library resource requests.

vii. Compliance – biennial inspections, compliance officers training, issues involving regulated entities.

viii. Information Technology – public website design, FARM and FIDO improvements, CAPPS (Central Accounting Payroll/Personnel System), IT security policy, and service requests.

16. Personnel matters regarding the appointment, employment, compensation evaluation, reassignment, and duties of the Agency Chief – no executive session was called.

17. Recognition of Commissioner Wilson for his service to the Commission – Presiding Officer J.P. Steelman presented Rusty Wilson with a plaque and recognized his service to the Commission and the Texas Fire Service.

18. Adjourn Meeting – a motion was made by Rusty Wilson and seconded by David Coatney to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried.

X

J.P. Steelman
Presiding Officer

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 4 WITH RELEVANT ATTACHMENTS

4. Report from the Budget and Strategic Plan Ad Hoc Subcommittee **(please see attached)**.

**TEXAS COMMISSION ON
FIRE PROTECTION**

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

For The Year Ended August 31, 2024

**Mike Wisko
AGENCY CHIEF**

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TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION (411)
EXHIBIT I
COMBINED BALANCE SHEET/ STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS -
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
For the Year Ended August 31, 2024

	GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES GENERAL FUNDS (Exh A-1)	CAPITAL ASSETS ADJUSTMENTS
ASSETS		
Current Assets:		
Cash in State Treasury	\$ 0.00	\$
Legislative Appropriations	684,596.67	
Accounts Receivable		
Consumable Inventories		
Total Current Assets	684,596.67	0.00
Non-Current Assets:		
Capital Assets:		
Depreciable	\$	\$
Vehicles		603,559.53
Less Accumulated Depreciation		(57,191.16)
Furniture and Equipment		43,246.77
Less Accumulated Depreciation		(40,905.47)
Other Capital Assets		10,268.30
Less Accumulated Depreciation		(10,268.30)
Total Non-Current Assets	0.00	548,709.67
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 684,596.67	\$ 548,709.67
LIABILITIES		
Current Liabilities:		
Payables from :		
Accounts Payable	\$ 103,344.82	\$
Payroll Payable	450,904.03	
Unearned Revenue	0.00	
Payroll Deduction Liability	0.00	
Employees' Compensable Leave		
Total Current Liabilities	554,248.85	0.00
Non-Current Liabilities:		
Capital Lease Obligation		
Employees' Compensable Leave		
Total Non-Current Liabilities	0.00	0.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES	554,248.85	0.00

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LONG-TERM LIABILITIES ADJUSTMENTS	OTHER ADJUSTMENTS	STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS
\$	\$	\$
		0.00
		684,596.67
		0.00
		0.00
0.00	0.00	684,596.67
\$	\$	\$
		603,559.53
		(57,191.16)
		43,246.77
		(40,905.47)
		10,268.30
		(10,268.30)
0.00	0.00	548,709.67
\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,233,306.34
\$	\$	\$
		103,344.82
		450,904.03
		0.00
0.00		0.00
163,248.83		163,248.83
163,248.83	0.00	717,497.68
0.00		0.00
159,458.39		159,458.39
159,458.39	0.00	159,458.39
322,707.22	0.00	876,956.07

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TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION (411)
EXHIBIT I
COMBINED BALANCE SHEET/ STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS -
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
For the Year Ended August 31, 2024

	GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES GENERAL FUNDS (Exh A-1)	CAPITAL ASSETS ADJUSTMENTS
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Fund Financial Statements - Fund		
FUND BALANCES (DEFICITS):		
	\$	\$
NonSpendable Consumable Inventories		
Unassigned	<u>130,347.82</u>	<u>0.00</u>
TOTAL FUND BALANCES	<u>130,347.82</u>	<u>0.00</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES	\$ <u><u>684,596.67</u></u>	\$ <u><u>0.00</u></u>
Government-wide Statement - Net Assets		
Net Assets:		
Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt		548,709.67
Restricted for:		
Debt Retirement		
Employee Benefit		
Unrestricted		<u> </u>
Total Net Assets		\$ <u><u>548,709.67</u></u>

The accompanying notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

UNAUDITED

LONG-TERM LIABILITIES ADJUSTMENTS	OTHER ADJUSTMENTS	STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS
\$	\$	\$
		0.00
0.00	0.00	130,347.82
0.00	0.00	130,347.82
\$ 322,707.22	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,007,303.89
		548,709.67
		0.00
		0.00
(322,707.22)		(322,707.22)
\$ (322,707.22)	\$ 0.00	\$ 356,350.27
		\$ 1,233,306.34

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TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION (411)
EXHIBIT II
COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES & CHANGES IN FUND
BALANCES / STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
For the Year Ended August 31, 2024

	GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES GENERAL FUNDS (Exh A-2)	Capital Asset Adjustments
	\$	\$
REVENUES:		
Legislative Appropriations		
Original Appropriations	2,702,658.00	
Additional Appropriations	610,083.64	
Licenses and Permits	762,034.35	
Sales of Goods and Services	(384,675.00)	
Interest, Dividend Income	470.90	
Other Income	(56.49)	
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Revenues	3,690,515.40	0.00
EXPENDITURES:		
Salaries and Wages	2,221,100.39	
Payroll Related Costs	643,473.93	
Professional Fees & Services	22,053.96	
Travel	142,519.48	
Materials and Supplies	91,570.36	
Communication and Utilities	34,123.20	
Repairs and Maintenance	11,008.75	
Rentals and Leases	6,601.21	
Printing and Reproduction	0.00	
Public Assistance Payments	23,385.35	
Other Operating Expenditures	441,817.03	
Capital Outlay	603,559.53	(603,559.53)
Depreciation Expense	61,228.52	(61,228.52)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Expenditures	4,241,213.19	(542,331.01)
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	(550,697.79)	542,331.01
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES):		
Gain (Loss) on Sale of Capital Asset		(23,081.52)
Operating Transfers Out (Agy 608, Fd 8020)	(2,883.86)	
Legislative Transfers Out (Agy 364, Fd 0001)	0.00	
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(2,883.86)	(23,081.52)
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCES/NET ASSETS	(553,581.65)	519,249.49
FUND BALANCES - Beginning	685,382.24	

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Long-term Liabilities Adjustments	Other Adjustments	Statement of Activities
\$	\$	\$
		2,702,658.00
		610,083.64
		762,034.35
		(384,675.00)
		470.90
		(56.49)
0.00	0.00	3,690,515.40
71,547.44		2,292,647.83
		643,473.93
		22,053.96
		142,519.48
		91,570.36
		34,123.20
		11,008.75
		6,601.21
		0.00
		23,385.35
		441,817.03
		0.00
		61,228.52
71,547.44	0.00	3,770,429.62
(71,547.44)	0.00	(79,914.22)
		(23,081.52)
		(2,883.86)
		0.00
0.00	0.00	(25,965.38)
(71,547.44)	0.00	(105,879.60)
		685,382.24

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TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION (411)
EXHIBIT II
COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES & CHANGES IN FUND
BALANCES / STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
For the Year Ended August 31, 2024

	GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES GENERAL FUNDS (Exh A-2)	Capital Asset Adjustments
Lapsed Appropriations	<u>(1,452.77)</u>	<u></u>
FUND BALANCES - Ending	\$ 130,347.82	
Government-wide Statement - Net Assets		
Change in Net Assets		<u>519,249.49</u>
Net Assets Beginning		29,460.18
Adjustments to Beginning Net Assets		
Restatements		
Net Assets Beginning as Restated and Adjusted		<u>29,460.18</u>
Net Assets Ending		\$ <u>548,709.67</u>

The accompanying notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

UNAUDITED

Long-term Liabilities Adjustments	Other Adjustments	Statement of Activities
		(1,452.77)
		\$ 578,049.87
(71,547.44)	0.00	
(251,159.78)		(221,699.60)
		0.00
(251,159.78)	0.00	(221,699.60)
\$ (322,707.22)	\$ 0.00	\$ 356,350.27

UNAUDITED

TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION (411) NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. ENTITY

The Texas Commission on Fire Protection is an agency of the State of Texas and its financial records comply with state statutes and regulations. This includes compliance with the State Comptroller of Public Accounts' Reporting Requirements of State Agencies.

The Texas Commission on Fire Protection was created by the 72nd Legislature in Senate Bill 383 and operates under the authority of Texas Government Code, Chapter 419. The mission of the Texas Commission on Fire Protection is to help protect the lives and property of the citizens of Texas by developing and enforcing professional standards for the fire service.

Due to the significant changes related to Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 34, *Basic Financial Statements - and Management's Discussion and Analysis - for State and Local Governments*, the Comptroller of Public Accounts does not require the accompanying financial report to be in compliance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). The financial report will be considered for audit by the State Auditor as part of the State of Texas Comprehensive Annual Financial Report; therefore, an opinion has not been expressed on the financial statements and related information contained in this report.

Blended Component Units

No component units have been identified which should have been blended into an appropriate fund.

B. FUND STRUCTURE

The accompanying financial statements are presented on the basis of funds and account groups, each of which is considered a separate accounting entity.

GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES & GOVERNMENT-WIDE ADJUSTMENT FUND TYPES

General Revenue Fund

The general revenue fund (fund 0001) is used to account for all financial resources of the state except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

Capital Asset Adjustment Fund Type

Capital Asset Adjustment Fund Type will be used to convert governmental fund types' capital assets from modified accrual to full accrual.

Long-Term Liabilities Adjustment Fund Type

Long-Term Liabilities Adjustment Fund Type will be used to convert governmental fund types' debt from modified accrual to full accrual.

FIDUCIARY FUND TYPES

Agency Funds

Agency funds are used to account for assets the government holds on behalf of others in a purely custodial capacity. Agency funds involve only the receipt, temporary investment, and remittance of fiduciary resources to individuals, private organizations, or other governments.

TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION (411)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

C. BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The basis of accounting determines when revenues and expenditures or expenses are recognized in the accounts reported in the financial statements. The accounting and financial reporting treatment applied to a fund is determined by its measurement focus.

Governmental fund types that build the fund financial statements are accounted for using the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under the modified accrual, revenues are recognized in the period in which they become both measurable and available to finance operations of the fiscal year or liquidate liabilities existing at fiscal year end. The State of Texas considers receivables collected within sixty days after year-end to be available and recognizes them as revenues of the current year for Fund Financial Statements prepared on the modified basis of accrual. Expenditures and other uses of financial resources are recognized when the related liability is incurred.

Basis conversion adjustment fund types convert modified accrual basis to full accrual basis of accounting. The following activities are recognized in these fund types:

- * Capital assets
- * Accumulated depreciation
- * Unpaid employee compensable leave
- * The outstanding debt service principal on long-term liabilities
- * Capital leases
- * Long-term claims and judgements
- * Full accrual revenues and expenses
- * Pension amounts in governmental activities

Proprietary fund types and fiduciary fund types except agency funds are accounted for on the full accrual basis of accounting. Under the full accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recognized at the time liabilities are incurred.

D. BUDGETS AND BUDGETARY ACCOUNTING

The budget is prepared biennially and represents appropriations authorized by the legislature and approved by the Governor (the General Appropriations Act).

Unencumbered appropriations are generally subject to lapse 60 days after the end of the fiscal year for which they were appropriated.

E. ASSETS, LIABILITIES, AND FUND BALANCES/NET POSITION

ASSETS

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Short-term highly liquid investments with an original maturity of three months or less are considered cash equivalents.

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TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION (411) NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Restricted Assets

Restricted assets include monies or other resources restricted by legal or contractual requirements. These assets include proceeds of enterprise fund general obligation and revenue bonds and revenues set aside for statutory or contractual requirements.

Inventories & Prepaid Items

Inventories include both merchandise inventories on hand for sale and consumable inventories. Inventories are valued at cost, generally utilizing the last-in, first-out method. Inventories for governmental fund types use the purchase method of accounting. The consumption method of accounting is used to account for inventories that appear in the proprietary fund types and the government-wide statements. The cost of these items is expensed when the items are consumed.

Capital Assets

Assets that meet the reporting threshold and useful life are capitalized. The capitalization threshold and the estimated useful life vary depending on the asset type. These assets are capitalized at cost, if purchased, or at appraised fair value as of the date of acquisition. Purchase of assets by governmental funds are reported as expenditures. Depreciation is reported on all "exhaustible" assets. "Inexhaustible" assets such as works of art and historical treasures are not depreciated. Road and highway infrastructure is depreciated over the estimate of average useful life of a grouping of assets using the composite method. Other depreciable assets are depreciated over the estimated useful life of the asset using the straight-line method.

All capital assets acquired by proprietary funds or trust funds are reported at cost or estimated historical cost, if actual historical cost is not available. Donated capital assets are reported at acquisition value. Depreciation is charged to operations over the estimated useful life of each asset, using the straight-line method.

Other Receivables - Current and Noncurrent

The disaggregation of other receivables as reported in the financial statements is disclosed in Note 24.

LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable

Accounts Payable represents the liability for the value of assets or services received at the balance sheet date for which payment is pending.

Other Payables - Current and Noncurrent

The disaggregation of other receivables as reported in the financial statements is disclosed in Note 24.

Employees' Compensable Leave

Employees' Compensable Leave Balances represent the liability that became "due" upon the occurrence of relevant events such as resignations, retirements, and uses of leave balances by covered employees. Liabilities are reported separately as either current or noncurrent in the statement of net assets.

UNAUDITED

TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION (411) NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FUND BALANCES/NET POSITION

"Fund balance" is the difference between assets plus deferred outflows of resources and liabilities plus deferred inflows of resources on the governmental fund statements. "Net position" is the difference between assets plus deferred outflows of resources and liabilities plus deferred inflows of resources on the government-wide, proprietary and fiduciary fund statements.

The Board uses resources in the following order:

* When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available, use:

1. Restricted Resources
2. Unrestricted Resources (as they are needed)

*When only unrestricted resources are available for use in governmental funds, use:

1. Committed Resources
2. Assigned Resources
3. Unassigned Resources

Fund Balance Components

Fund balances for governmental funds are classified as either nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned or unassigned in the fund financial statements.

Nonspendable fund balance includes amounts not available to be spent because they are either:

Not in spendable form -OR- Legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.

Restricted fund balance includes those resources that have constraints placed on their use through external parties - such as creditors, grantors, contributors, laws or regulations of other governments - or by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

Committed fund balance can be used only for specific purposes pursuant to constraints imposed through legislation passed into law by a formal action of the Texas Legislature, the state's highest level decision making authority.

Assigned fund balance includes amount constrained by the state's intent to be used for specific purposes, but the constraints do not meet the requirements to be reported as restricted or committed. Intent is expressed by: The Texas Legislature -OR- A body (for example, a budget or finance committee) or official to which the governing body has delegated the authority to assign amounts to be used for specific purposes.

Unassigned fund balance is the residual classification for the general fund. This classification represents fund balance that was not assigned to other funds and was not restricted, committed or assigned to specific purposes within the general fund.

Net Investment in Capital Assets

Net investment in capital assets, consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation and reduced by outstanding balances for bond, notes and other debt that are attributed to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets.

Restricted Net Position

Restricted Net Position results when constraints placed on net resources use are either externally imposed by creditors, grantors, contributors, and the like, or imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

UNAUDITED

TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION (411)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Unrestricted Net Position

Unrestricted Net Position consists of net resources, which do not meet the definition of the two preceding categories. Unrestricted net position often has constraints on resources, which are imposed by management, but can be removed or modified.

F. INTERFUND TRANSACTIONS AND BALANCES

The agency has the following types of transactions among funds:

1) Transfers: Legally required transfers that are reported when incurred as "Transfers In" by the recipient fund and as "Transfers Out" by the disbursing fund.

2) Reimbursements: Reimbursements are repayments from funds responsible for expenditures or expenses to funds that made the actual payment. Reimbursements of expenditures made by one fund for another that are recorded as expenditures in the reimbursing fund and as a reduction of expenditures in the reimbursed fund.

3) Interfund receivables and payables: Interfund loans are reported as interfund receivables and payables. If repayment is due during the current year or soon thereafter it is classified as "Current", repayment for two (or more) years is classified as "Non-Current."

4) Interfund Sales and Purchases: Charges or collections for services rendered by one fund to another that are recorded as revenues of the recipient fund and expenditures or expenses of the disbursing fund. The composition of the agency's Interfund receivables and payables, if any, is presented in Note 12.

NOTE 2: CAPITAL ASSETS

A summary of changes in Capital Assets for the year ended August 31, 2024:

	Balance 9/1/23	Adjustments	Completed CIP	Inc Int'agy Trans
Governmental Activities:				
Depreciable Assets				
Furniture and Equipment	\$ 55,608.40	\$ 0.00	\$	\$
Vehicles				
Other Cap Assets	<u>366,676.34</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Total depreciable assets	422,284.74	0.00	0.00	0.00
Less Accum Deprec for:				
Furniture and Equip	(52,705.38)			
Vehicles				
Other Cap Assets	<u>(340,119.18)</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Total Accum Deprec	<u>(392,824.56)</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
 TOTAL	 \$ <u>29,460.18</u>	 \$ <u>0.00</u>	 \$ <u>0.00</u>	 \$ <u>0.00</u>

UNAUDITED

TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION (411)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

continued	Dec Int'agy Trans	Addition	Deletions	Balance 8/31/24
Governmental Activities:				
Depreciable Assets				
Furniture and				
Equipment	\$	\$ 0.00	\$ (12,361.63)	\$ 43,246.77
Vehicles		603,559.53		603,559.53
Other Cap Assets	0.00	0.00	(356,408.04)	10,268.30
Total depreciable assets	0.00	603,559.53	(368,769.67)	657,074.60
Less Accum Deprec for:				
Furniture and Equip		(561.72)	12,361.63	(40,905.47)
Vehicles		(57,191.16)		(57,191.16)
Other Cap Assets		(3,475.64)	333,326.52	(10,268.30)
Total Accum Deprec	0.00	(61,228.52)	345,688.15	(108,364.93)
TOTAL	\$ 0.00	\$ 542,331.01	\$ (23,081.52)	\$ 548,709.67

NOTE 3: DEPOSITS, INVESTMENTS & REPURCHASE AGREEMENTS

Not applicable

NOTE 4: SHORT TERM DEBT

Not applicable

NOTE 5: SUMMARY OF LONG-TERM LIABILITIES

Notes and Loans Payable:

The agency did not have any notes or loans payable as of August 31, 2024.

Changes In Long-Term Liabilities

During the year ended August 31, 2024, the following changes occurred in liabilities.

Governmental Activities:	Balance 9/01/23	Additions	Deductions	Balance 8/31/24	Amounts Due Within One Yr
Capital Leases	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Compensable Leave	251,159.78	204,715.70	(133,168.26)	322,707.22	163,248.83
TOTAL	\$ 251,159.78	\$ 204,715.70	\$ (133,168.26)	\$ 322,707.22	\$ 163,248.83

Employees' Compensable Leave

If a state employee had continuous employment with the state for at least six months, the state employee is entitled to be paid for all unused vacation time accrued in the event of the employee's resignation, dismissal or separation from state employment. Expenditures for accumulated annual leave balances are recognized in the period paid or taken in governmental fund types. For these fund types, the liability for unpaid benefits is recorded in the Statement of Net Position. Both an expense and liability for business-type activities are recorded in the proprietary funds as the benefits accrue to employees. No liability is recorded for non-vesting accumulating rights to receive

TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION (411)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

sick pay benefits. This obligation is usually paid from the same funding sources(s) from which the employee's salary or wage compensation was paid.

NOTE 6: BONDED INDEBTEDNESS

Not applicable

NOTE 7: DERIVATIVE INSTRUMENTS

Not applicable

NOTE 8: LEASES

Not applicable

NOTE 9: PENSION PLANS

Not applicable

NOTE 10: DEFERRED COMPENSATION

Not applicable

NOTE 11: POST EMPLOYMENT HEALTH CARE AND LIFE INSURANCE BENEFITS

Not applicable

NOTE 12: INTERFUND BALANCES/ACTIVITIES

Not applicable

NOTE 13: CONTINUANCE SUBJECT TO REVIEW

Under the Texas Sunset Act, the Agency will be abolished effective September 1, 2032, unless continued in existence by the State Legislature as provided by the Act. If abolished, the Agency may continue until September 1, 2033 to close out its operations. The Agency is currently under review by the Sunset Commission.

NOTE 14: ADJUSTMENTS TO FUND BALANCES/NET ASSETS

Not applicable

NOTE 15: CONTINGENCIES AND COMMITMENTS

Not applicable

NOTE 16: SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Not applicable

TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION (411)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 17: RISK MANAGEMENT

Not applicable

NOTE 18: MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS/MATERIAL CHANGES TO AFR

Not applicable

NOTE 19: THE FINANCIAL REPORTING ENTITY: RELATED ORGANIZATIONS

Not applicable

NOTE 20: STEWARDSHIP, COMPLIANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Not applicable

NOTE 21: N/A

NOTE 22: DONOR-RESTRICTED ENDOWMENTS

Not applicable

NOTE 23: EXTRAORDINARY AND SPECIAL ITEMS

Not applicable

NOTE 24: DISAGGREGATION OF RECEIVABLE AND PAYABLE BALANCES

Not applicable

NOTE 25: TERMINATION BENEFITS

Not applicable

NOTE 26: SEGMENT INFORMATION

Not applicable

NOTE 27: SERVICE CONCESSION AGREEMENTS

Not applicable

NOTE 28: DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES & DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES

Not applicable

NOTE 29: TROUBLED DEBT RESTRUCTURING

Not applicable

TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION (411)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 30: NON-EXCHANGE FINANCIAL GUARANTERS

Not applicable

NOTE 31: TAX ABATEMENTS

Not applicable

NOTE 32: FUND BALANCES

Not applicable

TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION (411)
EXHIBIT A-1
COMBINING BALANCE SHEET -
ALL GENERAL AND CONSOLIDATED FUNDS
For the Year Ended August 31, 2024

	FUND 0001 U/F (0001)	FUND 0001 U/F (9001)	TOTALS (EXHIBIT I) 2024
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Cash in State Treasury	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Legislative Appropriations	684,653.16	(56.49)	684,596.67
Accounts Receivable			0.00
Consumable Inventories			0.00
Total Current Assets	\$ 684,653.16	\$ (56.49)	\$ 684,596.67
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 684,653.16	\$ (56.49)	\$ 684,596.67
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities:			
Payables from :			
Accounts Payable	\$ 103,344.82	\$	\$ 103,344.82
Payroll Payable	450,904.03		450,904.03
Payroll Deduction Liability		0.00	0.00
Unearned Revenues	0.00		0.00
Total Current Liabilities	554,248.85	0.00	554,248.85
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$ 554,248.85	\$ 0.00	\$ 554,248.85
Fund Financial Statements - Fund			
FUND BALANCES (DEFICITS):			
NonSpendable - Consumable Inventory	\$	\$	\$ 0.00
Unassigned	130,404.31	(56.49)	130,347.82
TOTAL FUND BALANCES	130,404.31	(56.49)	130,347.82
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANC	\$ 684,653.16	\$ (56.49)	\$ 684,596.67

The accompanying notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this financial statement.

UNAUDITED

TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION (411)
EXHIBIT A-2
COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES & CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCES - GENERAL AND CONSOLIDATED FUNDS
For the Year Ended August 31, 2024

	GENERAL REVENUE FUND 0001 U/F (0001)	GENERAL REVENUE FUND 0001 U/F (0802)
REVENUES:		
Legislative Appropriations	\$ 2,702,658.00	\$
Additional Appropriations	610,083.64	
Licenses, Fees and Permits	736,236.04	25,798.31
Sales of Goods and Services	(384,675.00)	
Interest, Dividend & Other Income		470.90
Othehr Revenue	0.00	
Total Revenues	<u>3,664,302.68</u>	<u>26,269.21</u>
EXPENDITURES:		
Salaries and Wages	2,221,100.39	
Payroll Related Costs	643,473.93	
Professional Fees & Services	22,053.96	
Travel	142,519.48	
Materials and Supplies	91,570.36	
Communication and Utilities	34,123.20	
Repairs and Maintenance	11,008.75	
Rentals and Leases	6,601.21	
Printing and Reproduction		
Public Assistance Payments		23,385.35
Other Operating Expenditures	441,817.03	
Capital Outlay	603,559.53	
Total Expenditures	<u>4,217,827.84</u>	<u>23,385.35</u>
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	<u>(553,525.16)</u>	<u>2,883.86</u>
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES):		
Operating Transfers Out (Agy 608, Fd 8020)		(2,883.86)
Legislative Transfers Out (Agy 364, Fd 0001)		
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	<u>0.00</u>	<u>(2,883.86)</u>
EXCESS OF REVENUE & OTHER FINANCING SOURCES OVER EXPENDITURES & OTHER FINANCING USE	(553,525.16)	0.00
FUND BALANCES - Beginning	685,382.24	0.00
Lapsed Appropriations	(1,452.77)	
Restatements		
FUND BALANCES - Ending	<u>\$ 130,404.31</u>	<u>\$ 0.00</u>

The accompanying notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this financial statement.

UNAUDITED

GENERAL REVENUE FUND 0001 U/F (9001)	TOTALS EXHIBIT II 2024
\$	\$ 2,702,658.00
	610,083.64
0.00	762,034.35
	(384,675.00)
	470.90
(56.49)	(56.49)
(56.49)	3,690,515.40
	2,221,100.39
	643,473.93
	22,053.96
	142,519.48
	91,570.36
	34,123.20
	11,008.75
	6,601.21
	0.00
	23,385.35
	441,817.03
	603,559.53
0.00	4,241,213.19
(56.49)	(550,697.79)
	(2,883.86)
	0.00
0.00	(2,883.86)
(56.49)	(553,581.65)
0.00	685,382.24
	(1,452.77)
	0.00
\$ (56.49)	\$ 130,347.82

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 5

5. Reports from fire service interest groups and agencies on matters relating to their specific organizational purposes, functions, activities, and objectives, including reports from TEEEX, the Texas Fire Chiefs Association, the Texas State Association of Firefighters, the State Firefighters' and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas, the Texas Fire Marshal's Association, the Texas Association of Fire Educators, the Texas A&M Forest Service, the National Fire Protection Association, Texas State Association of Fire and Emergency Districts, the Center for Public Safety Excellence, the State Fire Marshal's Office, the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation, and the Firefighter Cancer Support Network.

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 6

6. Report from Commission representative to the Homeland Security Council.

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 7

7. Discussion on future meeting dates.

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 8

8. Subjects for future Commission meeting agendas.

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 9

9. A report and possible action from the Health and Wellness Committee.

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 10 WITH RELEVANT DOCUMENTS

10. Matters referred to the Commission from the Curriculum and Testing Committee:

A. Report and possible action from the Curriculum and Testing Committee.

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 10 WITH RELEVANT DOCUMENTS CONTINUED

10. Matters referred to the Commission from the Curriculum and Testing Committee:

B. Discussion and possible action concerning updates to the Ropes Curriculum Manual
(please see attached).

CERTIFICATION CURRICULUM MANUAL

CHAPTER SIXTEEN

ROPE RESCUE AWARENESS/OPERATIONS & TECHNICIAN

**NFPA 1006 2021 Edition
Effective October 1, 2024**



Texas Commission on Fire Protection
P.O. Box 2286 Austin, Texas 78768-2286 (512) 936-3838

OVERVIEW

Rope Rescue – Awareness Level & Operations Level

NOTE: As of October 1, 2024, only the TCFP Rope Rescue – Awareness Level & Operations Level certification is available. The TCFP Rope Rescue - Technician Level certification will be effective at a future date.

Certification Levels

NFPA 1006 includes three levels for Rope Rescue: Awareness Level, Operations Level and Technician Level. However, the TCFP Rope Rescue curriculum is separated into just two levels of certification: Rope Rescue - Awareness Level & Operations Level Certification and Rope Rescue - Technician Level Certification. Each of the two curricula may be taught separately and the applicable certification exam taken. Additionally, it is possible to teach a “combined” Rope Rescue - Awareness Level & Operations Level along with Rope Rescue - Technician Level. When teaching a combined course, one combined certification exam will be taken.

Rope Rescue - Awareness Level & Operations Level Certification

Many of the rescue disciplines within NFPA 1006 require Rope Rescue - Operations Level training as a prerequisite (e.g., Animal Rescue, Confined Space Rescue, Mine & Tunnel Rescue, Swiftwater Rescue). Therefore, TCFP has included Rope Rescue - Awareness Level and Rope Rescue - Operations Level in the same curriculum and certification. Rope Rescue - Awareness Level & Operations Level certification is a prerequisite for Rope Rescue - Technician Level certification.

Rope Rescue - Technician Level Certification

The requirements for Rope Rescue - Technician Level is a significant increase in terms of knowledge, skills, abilities and equipment requirements. It may be prohibitive and/or unnecessary for some organizations to provide this additional level of training. Also, as jurisdictions across the state survey their target hazards, it is common to identify that Rope Rescue - Technician Level capabilities are not needed. For these reasons the Rope Rescue - Technician Level is a separate curriculum and certification, allowing each organization to decide what rope rescue training level is best for the needs of their jurisdiction.

The Rope Rescue - Awareness Level & Operations Level Curriculum Manual

A candidate training to the Rope Rescue - Awareness Level & Operations Level is required to meet the Job Performance Requirements (JPRs) of Chapters 5 (5.1 Rope

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Rescue - Awareness Level and 5.2 Rope Rescue - Operations Level of National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1006, *Standard for Technical Rescue Personnel Professional Qualifications*, 2021 edition.

The following items are included in the Rope Rescue section of Chapter 16.101 of the curriculum manual:

- Course Instructor Information
- Reference List (textbooks and other recommended course materials)
- Course Outline (establishes the recommended hours for teaching this course)

This is a voluntary (non-mandatory) certification; therefore a formal “curriculum” is not provided. Please use chapters 5 of NFPA 1006 as a guide when creating your own course curriculum.

Performance skills are available in Chapter 16 of the Skills Manual.

All documents in this curriculum manual, and in the skills manual, are available free of charge to download, copy and distribute as necessary. The TCFP does not provide printed copies.

Definition of a Rope Rescuer – Awareness Level & Operations Level

An individual who has met the requirements of Chapter 5 (5.1 and 5.2) of (NFPA) 1006, *Standard for Technical Rescue Personnel Professional Qualifications* and has the knowledge, skills, and ability to perform at the Rope Rescue – Awareness & Operations Level. Rope Rescue - Awareness represents the capability of individuals to identify an incident as a rope rescue, ensure responders identify hazards and provide isolation procedures, call for appropriate resources, and assist higher trained responders with a rope rescue. Rope Rescue - Operations represents the capability of individuals to respond to technical rescue incidents and to identify hazards, use equipment, and apply limited techniques to support and participate in a technical rescue.

Definition of a Rope Rescuer - Technician Level

An individual who has met the requirements of Chapter 5.3 of (NFPA) 1006, *Standard for Technical Rescue Personnel Professional Qualifications* and has the knowledge, skills, and ability to perform at the Rope Rescue – Technician Level. Rope Rescue - Technician represents the capability of individuals to respond to rope rescue incidents and to identify hazards, use equipment, and apply advanced techniques to coordinate, perform, and supervise technical rope rescue incidents.

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COURSE INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor Qualifications

Rope Rescue courses must be taught by a person meeting the requirements described in Chapter 427§307 of the TCFP Standards Manual.

Supplemental Information

Instructors are expected to provide supplemental information if the main reference text does not cover all the knowledge requirements set forth in the NFPA standard.

Certification Testing

Testing for certification in the state of Texas will be based on the knowledge and skills requirements of National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1006, *Standard for Technical Rescue Personnel Professional Qualifications*, 2021 edition, Chapter 5.1 and 5.2. All training programs must strictly adhere to the NFPA standard.

All test questions and performance skills evaluations will be based on the NFPA Job Performance Requirements (JPRs), requisite knowledge objectives, and requisite skills objectives found in the NFPA standard. Additionally, questions and performance skill evaluations may include information found in, or derived from, the NFPA standard annex, particularly Annex A, which includes explanatory material that may further clarify JPRs. The following is an example from NFPA 1006, section 5.2.2:

NFPA Standard/Curriculum	Explanation
5.2.2 Maintain hazard-specific PPE, given clothing or equipment for the protection of the rescuers, inspection procedures, cleaning and sanitation supplies, maintenance logs or records, and such tools and resources as are indicated by the manufacturer's guidelines for assembly or disassembly of components during repair or maintenance, so that damage, defects, and wear are identified and reported or repaired, equipment functions as designed, and preventive maintenance has been performed and documented consistent with the manufacturer's recommendations.	NFPA JPR number 5.2.2

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<p>(A) Requisite Knowledge: Functions, construction, and operation of PPE; use of record-keeping systems of the AHJ; requirements and procedures for cleaning, sanitizing, and infectious disease control; use of provided assembly and disassembly tools; manufacturer and department recommendations; pre-use inspection procedures; and ways to determine operational readiness.</p>	<p>Requisite knowledge objectives for 5.2.2</p> <p>Written test questions and/or performance skills will be used to test these knowledge components on the state certification exam.</p>
<p>(B) Requisite Skills: The ability to identify wear and damage indicators for PPE; evaluate operational readiness of PPE; complete logs and records; use cleaning equipment, supplies, and reference materials; and select and use tools specific to the task.</p>	<p>Requisite skills objectives for 5.2.2</p> <p>Only performance skills will be used to test these objectives on the state certification exam.</p>
<p>A.5.2.2 Technical rescuers should limit their activities in this section to field-level maintenance only. Field-level maintenance generally describes those procedures performed on a given piece of equipment that does not require disassembly, repair, or component replacement except where provided for in manufacturers user instructions. Where it is recognized that many agencies perform their own maintenance and repair of equipment based on manufacturers' technical training, this capability is beyond that of the technical rescuer and not addressed within the scope of dais standard.</p>	<p>Annex A: Explanatory Material for JPR 5.2.2</p>

TCFP Standards Manual

It is critical that the Course Instructor review the chapters in the TCFP Standards Manual that apply to this curriculum. Of primary importance are the following chapters:

Chapter 421, *Standards for Certification* Chapter 427, *Training Facility Certification*
Chapter 435, *Fire Fighter Safety*
Chapter 437, *Fees*
Chapter 469, *Technical Rescue*

These chapters do not address every issue that could impact this curriculum; therefore, the Course Instructor is encouraged to become familiar with the TCFP Standards

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Manual.

Descriptions of Certification Levels

For additional information, see Chapter 467 of the Texas Commission on Fire Protection Standards Manual for Fire Protection Personnel.

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CHAPTER SIXTEEN

ROPE RESCUE – AWARENESS LEVEL & OPERATIONS LEVEL

CURRICULUM OUTLINE

SECTION	SUBJECT – Awareness Level	
16.101-5.1	Awareness Level	
16.101-5.1.1	Assist a team in operation of the haul line	
16.101-5.1.2	Size up a rope rescue incident	
16.101-5.1.3	Recognize incident hazards and initiate isolation procedures	
16.101-5.1.4	Recognize the need for technical rescue resources at an operations- or technician-level incident	
16.101-5.1.5	Support an operations- or technician- level incident	
AWARENESS - TOTAL RECOMMENDED HOURS*		8
SECTION	SUBJECT – Operations Level	
16.101-5.2	Operations Level	
16.101-5.2.1	Perform size up of a rescue incident	
16.101-5.2.2	Maintain hazard-specific PPE	
16.101-5.2.3	Maintain rescue equipment	
16.101-5.2.4	Demonstrate knots	
16.101-5.2.5	Construct a single-point anchor system	
16.101-5.2.6	Construct a multiple-point anchor system	
16.101-5.2.7	Conduct a system safety check	
16.101-5.2.8	Place edge protection	
16.101-5.2.9	Construct a system intended to provide belay within a single- or two-tensioned rope system	
16.101-5.2.10	Operate a system intended to provide belay within a single- or two-tensioned rope system during a lowering or raising operation	
16.101-5.2.11	Belay a falling load in a high-angle environment	
16.101-5.2.12	Construct a fixed rope system	
16.101-5.2.13	Construct a lowering system	
16.101-5.2.14	Direct a lowering operation in a high-angle environment	
16.101-5.2.15	Construct a simple rope mechanical system	
16.101-5.2.16	Direct a team in the operation of a simple rope mechanical advantage system in a high-angle rising operation	

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16.101-5.2.17	Construct a compound rope mechanical advantage system	
16.101-5.2.18	Direct the operation of a compound rope mechanical advantage system in a high-angle environment	
16.101-5.2.19	Negotiate an edge while attached to a rope rescue system during a high-angle lowering and raising operation	
16.101-5.2.20	Prepare for transfer of victims	
16.101-5.2.21	Direct a litter-lowering and litter-raising operation	
16.101-5.2.22	Operate as a litter tender in a low-angle lowering or raising operation	
16.101-5.2.23	Direct a litter-lowering or litter raising operation in a high-angle environment	
16.101-5.2.24	Terminate a technical rescue operation	
OPERATIONS - TOTAL RECOMMENDED HOURS*		32

*Actual hours required will depend on the number of students, the number of examiners, availability of equipment, and the student skill level.

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ROPE RESCUE
AWARENESS LEVEL AND OPERATIONS LEVEL
EQUIPMENT LIST

Personal Protective Equipment

- Boots – rope rescue
- Gloves – rope rescue
- Helmets – rope rescue

Communication Equipment

- Communication devices
- Community resource lists

Training Devices/Props/Simulators

- Carabiners, locking
- Descent control/ascending devices
- Fall protection/restraint equipment
- Flexible and rigid litter devices
- Harness, rescue
- Harness, victim
- Knot tying rope, cordage, and webbing
- Lanyards, climbing/fall arrest (100% tie off)
- Lanyards, work positioning
- Patient packaging materials
- Personnel accountability system
- Portable anchor device
- Pulleys (single and double)
- Raising/lowering/belay devices
- Rope — life safety
- Rope grab devices
- Spinal immobilization devices, short and long

TCFP- Recommended Additional Items

- Eye protection
- Edge protection
- Equipment bag / container

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ROPE RESCUE
AWARENESS LEVEL AND OPERATIONS LEVEL
SKILLS LIST

DISCIPLINE	OBJECTIVE	Skill #	SKILL NAME	NFPA 1006 #
Rope Rescue Awareness & Operations	Individual	1	Individual PPE Inspection and Knots	5.2.2, 5.2.3, 5.2.4
Rope Rescue Awareness & Operations	Individual	2	Individual High Angle Rope System	5.2.5, 5.2.7, 5.2.9, 5.2.10, 5.2.11, 5.2.13, 5.2.14, 5.2.15, 5.2.16, 5.2.17, 5.2.18
Rope Rescue Awareness & Operations	Individual	3	Individual Low Angle Rope System	5.2.6, 5.2.7, 5.2.21, 5.2.22
Rope Rescue Awareness & Operations	Team	4	Team High Angle System	5.1.1, 5.1.2, 5.1.3, 5.1.4, 5.1.5, 5.2.1, 5.2.4, 5.2.5, 5.2.7, 5.2.8, 5.2.9, 5.2.10, 5.2.12, 5.2.13, 5.2.14, 5.2.15, 5.2.16, 5.2.19, 5.2.23, 5.2.24
Rope Rescue Awareness & Operations	Team	5	Team Patient Packaging	5.1.5, 5.2.20

There are five total skills that may be drawn for skills testing. Skill numbers four and five are “Team Skills.” Skill numbers one, two, and three are “Individual Skills.” When drawing skills for TCFP designated skills testing, one of the two Team Skills will be randomly selected, and one of the three Individual Skills will be selected. This will ensure that a candidate will be evaluated in both the Awareness level and Operations level Job Performance Requirements (JPRs). Additionally, this will ensure that each candidate demonstrates competence as part of a team as well as demonstrating competence individually.

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REFERENCE LIST
ROPE RESCUE
AWARENESS & OPERATIONS LEVEL CURRICULUM

McCurley, L., & Vines, T. (2023). *Rope Rescue Principles and Practice* (5th ed.). Jones & Bartlett Learning.

NFPA 1006: Standard for Technical Rescue Personnel Professional Qualifications, (2021 ed.). Quincy, MA: National Fire Protection Association. NFPA Publications.

Standards Manual for Fire Protection Personnel. Austin, TX: Texas Commission on Fire Protection.

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CERTIFICATION CURRICULUM MANUAL

CHAPTER SIXTEEN

ROPE RESCUE

TECHNICIAN LEVEL

OVERVIEW

Rope Rescue – Technician Level

Certification Levels

NFPA 1006 includes three levels for Rope Rescue; Awareness Level, Operations Level and Technician Level. However, the TCFP Rope Rescue curriculum is separated into just two levels of certification: Rope Rescue - Awareness Level & Operations Level Certification and Rope Rescue - Technician Level Certification. Each of the two curricula may be taught separately and the applicable certification exam taken. Additionally, it is possible to teach a “combined” Rope Rescue - Awareness Level & Operations Level along with Rope Rescue - Technician Level. When teaching a combined course, one combined certification exam will be taken. .

Rope Rescue - Awareness Level & Operations Level Certification

Many of the rescue disciplines within NFPA 1006 require Rope Rescue - Operations Level training as a prerequisite (e.g. Animal Rescue, Confined Space Rescue, Mine & Tunnel Rescue, Swiftwater Rescue). Therefore, TCFP has included Rope Rescue - Awareness Level and Rope Rescue - Operations Level in the same curriculum and certification. The Rope Rescue - Awareness Level & Operations Level certification is a prerequisite for the Rope Rescue - Technician Level certification.

Rope Rescue - Technician Level Certification

The requirements for Rope Rescue - Technician Level is a significant increase in terms of knowledge, skills, abilities and equipment requirements. It may be prohibitive and/or unnecessary for some organizations to provide this additional level of training. Also, as jurisdictions across the state survey their target hazards, it is common to identify that Rope Rescue - Technician Level capabilities are not needed. For these reasons the Rope Rescue - Technician Level is a separate curriculum and certification, allowing each organization to decide what rope rescue training level is best for the needs of their jurisdiction.

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The Rope Rescue - Technician Level Curriculum Manual

A candidate training to the Rope Rescue - Technician Level is required to meet the Job Performance Requirements (JPRs) of Chapters 5 (5.1, 5.2, and 5.3) Rope Rescue - Technician Level of National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1006, *Standard for Technical Rescue Personnel Professional Qualifications*, 2021 edition.

The following items are included in the Rope Rescue section of Chapter 16.102 of the curriculum manual:

- Course Instructor Information
- Reference List (textbooks and other recommended course materials)
- Course Outline (establishes the recommended hours for teaching this course)

This is a voluntary (non-mandatory) certification; therefore a formal “curriculum” is not provided. Please use chapters 5 of NFPA 1006 as a guide when creating your own course curriculum

Performance skills are available in Chapter 16 of the Skills Manual.

All documents in this curriculum manual, and in the skills manual, are available free of charge to download, copy and distribute as necessary. The TCFP does not provide printed copies.

Definition of a Rope Rescuer – Awareness Level & Operations Level

An individual who has met the requirements of Chapter 5 (5.1 and 5.2) of (NFPA) 1006, *Standard for Technical Rescue Personnel Professional Qualifications* and has the knowledge, skills, and ability to perform at the Rope Rescue – Awareness & Operations Level. Rope Rescue - Awareness represents the capability of individuals to identify an incident as a rope rescue, ensure responders identify hazards and provide isolation procedures, call for appropriate resources, and assist higher trained responders with a rope rescue. Rope Rescue - Operations represents the capability of individuals to respond to technical rescue incidents and to identify hazards, use equipment, and apply limited techniques to support and participate in a technical rescue.

Definition of a Rope Rescuer - Technician Level

An individual who has met the requirements of Chapter 5.3 of (NFPA) 1006, *Standard for Technical Rescue Personnel Professional Qualifications* and has the knowledge, skills, and ability to perform at the Rope Rescue – Technician Level. Rope Rescue - Technician represents the capability of individuals to respond to rope rescue incidents and to identify hazards, use equipment, and apply advanced techniques to coordinate, perform, and supervise technical rope rescue incidents.

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COURSE INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor Qualifications

Rope Rescue courses must be taught by a person meeting the requirements described in Chapter 427§307 of the TCFP Standards Manual.

Supplemental Information

Instructors are expected to provide supplemental information if the main reference text does not cover all the knowledge requirements set forth in the NFPA standard.

Certification Testing

Testing for certification in the state of Texas will be based on the knowledge and skills requirements of National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1006, *Standard for Technical Rescue Personnel Professional Qualifications*, 2021 edition, Chapter 5 (5.1, 5.2., and 5.3). All training programs must strictly adhere to the NFPA standard.

All test questions and performance skills evaluations will be based on the NFPA Job Performance Requirements (JPRs), requisite knowledge objectives, and requisite skills objectives found in the NFPA standard. Additionally, questions and performance skill evaluations may include information found in, or derived from, the NFPA standard annex, particularly Annex A, which includes explanatory material that may further clarify JPRs. The following is an example from NFPA 1006, section 5.2.2:

NFPA Standard/Curriculum	Explanation
5.2.2 Maintain hazard-specific PPE, given clothing or equipment for the protection of the rescuers, inspection procedures, cleaning and sanitation supplies, maintenance logs or records, and such tools and resources as are indicated by the manufacturer's guidelines for assembly or disassembly of components during repair or maintenance, so that damage, defects, and wear are identified and reported or repaired, equipment functions as designed, and preventive maintenance has been performed and documented consistent with the manufacturer's recommendations.	NFPA JPR number 5.2.2
(A) Requisite Knowledge: Functions, construction, and operation of PPE; use of record-keeping systems of the AHJ; requirements and procedures for cleaning, sanitizing, and infectious disease control; use of provided assembly and disassembly tools; manufacturer and department recommendations; pre-use inspection procedures; and ways to determine operational readiness.	Requisite knowledge objectives for 5.2.2 Written test questions and/or performance skills will be used to test these knowledge components on the state certification

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	exam.
(B) Requisite Skills: The ability to identify wear and damage indicators for PPE; evaluate operational readiness of PPE; complete logs and records; use cleaning equipment, supplies, and reference materials; and select and use tools specific to the task.	Requisite skills objectives for 5.2.2 Only performance skills will be used to test these objectives on the state certification exam.
A.5.2.2 Technical rescuers should limit their activities in this section to field-level maintenance only. Field-level maintenance generally describes those procedures performed on a given piece of equipment that does not require disassembly, repair, or component replacement except where provided for in manufacturers user instructions. Where it is recognized that many agencies perform their own maintenance and repair of equipment based on manufacturers' technical training, this capability is beyond that of the technical rescuer and not addressed within the scope of this standard.	Annex A: Explanatory Material for JPR 5.2.2

TCFP Standards Manual

It is critical that the Course Instructor review the chapters in the TCFP Standards Manual that apply to this curriculum. Of primary importance are the following chapters:

Chapter 421, *Standards for Certification* Chapter 427, *Training Facility Certification*
Chapter 435, *Fire Fighter Safety*
Chapter 437, *Fees*
Chapter 469, *Technical Rescue*

These chapters do not address every issue that could impact this curriculum; therefore, the Course Instructor is encouraged to become familiar with the TCFP Standards Manual.

Descriptions of Certification Levels

For additional information, see Chapter 467 of the Texas Commission on Fire Protection Standards Manual for Fire Protection Personnel.

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**ROPE RESCUE
TECHNICIAN LEVEL
CURRICULUM OUTLINE**

SECTION	SUBJECT – TECHNICIAN LEVEL	RECOMMENDED HOURS
16.102-5.3	Technician Level	
16.102-5.3.1	Direct a team in the operation of a rope rescue system to remove a victim stranded on or clinging to a natural or manmade feature in a high-angle environment	4
16.102-5.3.2	Direct a team in the operation of a rope rescue system to remove a victim suspended from rope or webbing in a high-angle environment	4
16.102-5.3.3	While suspended from a rope rescue system	3
16.102-5.3.4	Perform the activities of a litter tender in a high-angle lowering or raising operation	6
16.102-5.3.5	Participate as a member of a team in the construction of a rope rescue system intended to move a suspended rescue load along a horizontal path to avoid an obstacle	8
16.102-5.3.6	Direct a team in the operation of a rope system to move a suspended rescue load along a horizontal path	2
16.102-5.3.7	Climb and traverse natural features or man-made structures that require the use of climbing aids	2
16.102-5.3.8	Interact with a person at height who is in an emotional or psychological crisis given an environment consistent with the mission of the agency	2
16.102-5.3.9	Ascend a fixed rope in a high- angle environment	3
16.102-5.3.10	Descend a fixed rope in a high- angle environment	3
16.102-5.3.11	Demonstrate the ability to escape from a jammed or malfunctioning device during a fixed-rope descent in a high angle environment	3
	TOTAL RECOMMENDED HOURS*	40

*Actual hours required will depend on the number of students, the number of examiners, availability of equipment, and the student skill level.

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ROPE RESCUE AWARENESS LEVEL AND OPERATIONS LEVEL EQUIPMENT LIST

Personal Protective Equipment

- Boots – rope rescue
- Gloves – rope rescue
- Helmets – rope rescue

Communication Equipment

- Communication devices
- Community resource lists

Training Devices/Props/Simulators

- Carabiners, locking
- Descent control/ascending devices
- Fall protection/restraint equipment
- Flexible and rigid litter devices
- Harness, rescue
- Harness, victim
- Knot tying rope, cordage, and webbing
- Lanyards, climbing/fall arrest (100% tie off)
- Lanyards, work positioning
- Patient packaging materials
- Personnel accountability system
- Portable anchor device
- Pulleys (single and double)
- Raising/lowering/belay devices
- Rope — life safety
- Rope grab devices
- Spinal immobilization devices, short and long

TCFP- Recommended Additional Items

- Eye protection
- Edge protection
- Equipment bag / container

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**ROPE RESCUE
TECHNICIAN LEVEL
SKILLS LIST**

DISCIPLINE	OBJECTIVE	Skill #	SKILL NAME	NFPA 1006 #
Rope Rescue Technician Level	Individual	1	Fixed Rope Descent/Ascent	5.3.9, 5.3.10, 5.3.11
Rope Rescue Technician Level	Individual	2	Climbing Aids	5.3.7
Rope Rescue Technician Level	Team	3	Team Based Pick-off	5.3.1, 5.3.2, 5.3.3, 5.3.8
Rope Rescue Technician Level	Team	4	Horizontal Rope System	5.3.4, 5.3.5, 5.3.6

There are four total skills that may be drawn for skills testing. Skill numbers three and four are “Team Skills”. Skill numbers one, and two are “Individual Skills”. When drawing skills for testing, one of the two Team Skills will be randomly selected, and one of the two Individual Skills will be selected. This will ensure that a candidate will be evaluated in multiple Technician Level Job Performance Requirements (JPRs). Additionally, this will ensure that each candidate demonstrates competence as part of a team as well as demonstrating competence individually.

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REFERENCE LIST
ROPE RESCUE
TECHNICIAN LEVEL CURRICULUM

McCurley, L., & Vines, T. (2023). *Rope Rescue Principles and Practice* (5th ed.). Jones & Bartlett Learning.

NFPA 1006: Standard for Technical Rescue Personnel Professional Qualifications, (2021 ed.). Quincy, MA: National Fire Protection Association. NFPA Publications.

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AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 10 WITH RELEVANT DOCUMENTS CONTINUED

10. Matters referred to the Commission from the Curriculum and Testing Committee:

C. Discussion and possible action on the Ropes Skills Manual **(please see attached)**.

SKILLS MANUAL

CHAPTER SIXTEEN

ROPE RESCUE AWARENESS/OPERATIONS & TECHNICIAN

NFPA 1006, 2021 Edition

Effective October 1, 2024



Texas Commission on Fire Protection
P.O. Box 2286 Austin, Texas 78768-2286 (512) 936-3838

ROPE RESCUE
AWARENESS LEVEL AND OPERATIONS LEVEL
SKILLS LIST

DISCIPLINE	OBJECTIVE	Skill #	SKILL NAME	NFPA 1006 #
Rope Rescue Awareness & Operations	Individual	1	Individual PPE Inspection and Knots	5.2.2, 5.2.3, 5.2.4
Rope Rescue Awareness & Operations	Individual	2	Individual High Angle Rope System	5.2.5, 5.2.7, 5.2.9, 5.2.10, 5.2.11, 5.2.13, 5.2.14, 5.2.15, 5.2.16, 5.2.17, 5.2.18
Rope Rescue Awareness & Operations	Individual	3	Individual Low Angle Rope System	5.2.6, 5.2.7, 5.2.21, 5.2.22
Rope Rescue Awareness & Operations	Team	4	Team High Angle System	5.1.1, 5.1.2, 5.1.3, 5.1.4, 5.1.5, 5.2.1, 5.2.4, 5.2.5, 5.2.7, 5.2.8, 5.2.9, 5.2.10, 5.2.12, 5.2.13, 5.2.14, 5.2.15, 5.2.16, 5.2.19, 5.2.23, 5.2.24
Rope Rescue Awareness & Operations	Team	5	Team Patient Packaging	5.1.5, 5.2.20

There are five total skills that may be drawn for skills testing. Skill numbers four and five are “Team Skills.” Skill numbers one, two, and three are “Individual Skills.” When drawing skills for TCFP designated skills testing, one of the two Team Skills will be randomly selected, and one of the three Individual Skills will be selected. This will ensure that a candidate will be evaluated in both the Awareness level and Operations level Job Performance Requirements (JPRs). Additionally, this will ensure that each candidate demonstrates competence as part of a team as well as demonstrating competence individually.

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INSTRUCTIONS

ROPE RESCUE - AWARENESS & OPERATIONS

PERFORMANCE SKILLS

Format

There are five total skills in the Rope Rescue - Awareness Level & Operations Level Certification Skills Manual. These five skills are broken into two sections:

- 1) **Individual Skills** – Those skills intended to measure the candidate’s ability to perform Rope Rescue skills by themselves, without assistance.
 - a) **Skill 1** – PPE Inspection and Knots
 - b) **Skill 2** – Build/Operate a High Angle System
 - c) **Skill 3** – Build /Operate a Low Angle System
- 2) **Team Skills** – Those skills intended to measure the candidate’s ability to function within a team and perform Rope Rescue actions consistent with the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and NFPA 1006 requirements. Both of the Team Skills have evaluation criteria for Job Performance Requirements (JPRs) from both the Awareness Level and Operations Level sections of NFPA 1006.
 - a) **Skill 4** – Team High Angle System
 - b) **Skill 5** – Team Patient Packaging

The Commission will select one Individual Skill and one Team Skill for each designated skill testing session. By selecting one skill from each category, this ensures JPRs from both Awareness and Operations sections of NFPA 1006 will be evaluated while at the same time it ensures the individual candidate is evaluated for their ability to perform skills both individually and as part of a team.

Scoring Method

The scoring method is Satisfactory (S) or Unsatisfactory (U) for each step of the skill, and a Pass or Fail for the overall skill sheet. In order to successfully pass a skill, the candidate must receive satisfactory scores in all the steps of the skill.

Any unsatisfactory or individual skill failure shall require the Examiner to explain the reason for the failure in written form in the comments section of the skill sheet.

Preparation and Equipment

Individual Skills – should only be performed by the individual candidate being evaluated. Some of these skills require “assistants” but the assistants should only perform tasks at

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the direction of the candidate being evaluated. Candidates that have not been tested for that specific skill shall not be used as an “assistant.”

Team Skills – require multiple candidates and all candidates are evaluated at the same time. The skills sheet for each skill will identify how many candidates are allowed to test at the same time.

The equipment required for each skill is listed at the bottom of each skill sheet. The specific brand, model, and quantity will be driven by the AHJ and their specific technical preferences. For consistency, all students participating in a given testing session should be provided the same equipment (brand, model, and quantity).

Specific Performance Skill Information

Skill 1 – PPE Inspection and Knots

This skill evaluates the individual candidate’s ability to maintain and inspect PPE, and also evaluates the candidate’s ability to tie required knots. The candidate will perform this skill by themselves without assistance. The specific knots selected will be chosen by the AHJ and should be consistent for all candidates testing.

Skill 2 – Build/Operate a High Angle System and Skill 3 – Build/Operate a Low Angle System

These skills evaluate the candidate’s ability to individually build lowering and raising systems for the Low and High angle environments. This should be done in a flat terrain (e.g., apparatus bay, parking lot, wooded area).

Skill 4 – Team High Angle System

This skill is a team event and a location should be selected that allows the team to lower and raise a rescuer or a litter in vertical terrain (e.g. training tower, cliff, top of building). The team will all be evaluated at the same time.

Skill 5 – Patient Packaging

This skill should be performed by a team. The team will all be evaluated at the same time. A patient packaging device consistent with the AHJ requirements should be used and any specific packaging criteria required by the AHJ or the manufacturer should be used.

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ROPE RESCUE AWARENESS & OPERATIONS

EQUIPMENT LIST

Personal Protective Equipment

- Boots – rope rescue
- Gloves – rope rescue
- Helmets – rope rescue

Communication Equipment

- Communication devices
- Community resource lists

Training Devices/Props/Simulators

- Carabiners, locking
- Descent control/ascending devices
- Fall protection/restraint equipment
- Flexible and rigid litter devices
- Harness, rescue
- Harness, victim
- Knot tying rope, cordage, and webbing
- Lanyards, climbing/fall arrest (100% tie off)
- Lanyards, work positioning
- Patient packaging materials
- Personnel accountability system
- Portable anchor device
- Pulleys (single and double)
- Raising/lowering/belay devices
- Rope — life safety
- Rope grab devices
- Spinal immobilization devices, short and long

TCFP- Recommended Additional Items

- Eye protection
- Edge protection
- Equipment bag / container

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TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION
Rope Rescue – Awareness & Operations
Performance Standards Evaluation

Individual PPE Inspection & Knots – Skill 1
Written Project and Oral Presentation

NFPA 1006, 2021 Edition

Section 16.101

5.2.2, 5.2.3, 5.2.4

OBJECTIVE

Maintain hazard-specific PPE, given clothing or equipment for the protection of the rescuers, inspection procedures, cleaning and sanitation supplies, maintenance logs or records, and such tools and resources as are indicated by the manufacturer's guidelines for assembly or disassembly of components during repair or maintenance, so that damage, defects, and wear are identified and reported or repaired, equipment functions as designed, and preventive maintenance has been performed and documented consistent with the manufacturer's recommendations. (5.2.2)

Maintain rescue equipment, given maintenance logs and records, tools, and resources as indicated by the manufacturer's guidelines, inspection procedures, equipment replacement protocol, and organizational standard operating procedure, so that the operational status of equipment is verified and documented, all components are checked for operation, deficiencies are repaired or reported as indicated by standard operating procedure, and items subject to replacement protocol are correctly disposed of and changed.(5.2.3)

Demonstrate knots, bends, and hitches, given ropes, webbing, and a list of knots used by the agency, so that the knots are dressed, recognizable, and backed up as required. (5.2.4)

INSTRUCTIONS - procedures for achieving the objective

Given a specific piece of rope rescue equipment you will be directed to verbalize the steps necessary to inspect and maintain the item per the manufacturer's guidelines and AHJ SOP. Once the inspection is completed, you will then be required to tie the following knots: end-of-line loop, midline loop, gripping rope, secure rope around desired object, joining ropes or webbing ends together.

You will begin on my instruction to start. The skill will end when you state to me that you have completed all of the identified steps. Do you understand these instructions?

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TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION
Rope Rescue – Awareness & Operations
Performance Standards Evaluation

EXAMINER NOTE:

The candidate should be provided with a single piece of rope rescue equipment (e.g., carabiner, rope, pulley, webbing, harness) for inspection. The examiner will pick one knot, consistent with AHJ SOP, per category (end-of-line loop, midline loop, gripping rope, secure rope around desired object, joining ropes or webbing ends together) for the candidate to tie.

The trainee will not be allowed to review the performance steps at the time of the testing.

PREPARATION & EQUIPMENT

Provide the following items to the candidate(s) for this skill:

- A single piece of rope or rope rescue equipment for inspection
- Knot tying rope, cordage, and webbing should be provided to tie the identified knots.

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TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION
Rope Rescue – Awareness & Operations
Performance Standards Evaluation

Individual PPE Inspection & Knots – Skill 1

Candidate: _____ Notes: _____

Dept: _____

School: _____

Examiner(s) _____ / _____

Rope Rescue – Awareness & Operations				
Skill 1				
NFPA 1006, 2021 edition: 5.2.2, 5.2.3, 5.2.4				
	<u>TEST</u>		<u>RETEST</u>	
The candidate:	S	U	S	U
a) Performed inspection of PPE or rope for damage wear and operational readiness.				
b) Verbalized replacement protocol and retirement criteria for equipment including disposal according to AHJ SOP and manufacturer requirements.				
c) Verbalized completion of logs and records.				
d) Verbalized when to clean equipment and what supplies/tools to use.				
e) Performed skill in a safe and proficient manner.				
The candidate tied the following knots/bends/hitches:	S	U	S	U
f) End-of-line loop				
g) Midline loop				
h) Gripping rope				
i) Secured rope around a desired object				
j) Joined rope or webbing ends together				

S = Satisfactorily completed/performed

U = Unsatisfactorily performed/failed to meet objective or grading step

All steps of the skill objective are mandatory and must be scored as “Satisfactory” to pass the skill.

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TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION
Rope Rescue – Awareness & Operations
Performance Standards Evaluation

Examiner/Candidate Comments:

Certifying Examiner

Date

Re-Test Certifying Examiner

Date

Overall Skill Sheet Score	
Pass <input type="checkbox"/>	Fail <input type="checkbox"/>
Overall Skill Sheet Re-Test Score	
Pass <input type="checkbox"/>	Fail <input type="checkbox"/>

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TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION
Rope Rescue – Awareness & Operations
Performance Standards Evaluation

Individual High-Angle Rope System – Skill 2

NFPA 1006, 2021 Edition

Section 16.101

5.2.5, 5.2.7, 5.2.9, 5.2.10, 5.2.11, 5.2.13, 5.2.14, 5.2.15, 5.2.16, 5.2.17, 5.2.18

OBJECTIVE

Construct a single-point anchor system, given life safety rope and other auxiliary rope rescue equipment, so that the chosen anchor system fits the incident needs, meets or exceeds the expected load, and does not interfere with rescue operations, an efficient anchor point is chosen, the need for redundant anchor points is assessed and used as required, the anchor system is inspected and loaded prior to being placed into service, and the integrity of the system is maintained throughout the operation. (5.2.5)

Conduct a system safety check, given rope rescue system and rescue personnel, so that a physical/visual check of the system is made to ensure proper rigging, a load test is performed prior to life-loading the system, and verbal confirmation of these actions is announced and acknowledged before life-loading the rope rescue system. (5.2.7)

Construct a system intended to provide belay within a single- or two-tensioned rope system, given life safety rope, anchor systems, PPE, and rope rescue equipment, so that the system is capable of arresting a fall, a fall will not result in system failure, the system is not loaded unless actuated, actuation of the system will not injure or otherwise incapacitate the belay operator, the belay operator is not rigged into the equipment components of the system, and the system is suitable to the site and is connected to an anchor system and the load. (5.2.9)

Operate a system intended to provide belay within a single- or two-tensioned rope system during a lowering or raising operation, given an operating lowering or raising mechanical advantage system, a specified minimum travel distance for the load, a system, and a load, so that the potential fall factor is minimized, the belay is not actuated during normal lowering and raising operations, the belay system is prepared for actuation at all times during the operation, the belay operator is attentive at all times during the operation, the load's position is continually monitored, and the belay operator moves rope through the belay device as designed. (5.2.10)

Belay a falling load in a high-angle environment, given a belay and a failed line creating a dropped load, so that the belay line is not taut until the load is falling, the belay device is actuated when the load falls, the fall is arrested in a manner that minimizes the force transmitted to the load, the belay operator utilizes the belay device as designed, and the belay operator is not injured or otherwise incapacitated during actuation of the belay system. (5.2.11)

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TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION
Rope Rescue – Awareness & Operations
Performance Standards Evaluation

Construct a lowering system, given an anchor system, life safety rope(s), descent control device, and auxiliary rope rescue equipment, so that the system can accommodate the load, is efficient, is capable of controlling the descent, is capable of holding the load in place or lowering with minimal effort over the required distance, and is connected to an anchor system and the load. (5.2.13)

Direct a lowering operation in a high-angle environment, given rescue personnel, an established lowering system, a specified minimum travel distance for the load, and a load to be moved, so that the movement is controlled, the load can be held in place when needed, operating methods do not stress the system to the point of failure, rope commands are used to direct the operation, and potential problems are identified, communicated, and managed. (5.2.14)

Construct a simple rope mechanical advantage system, given life safety rope, carabiners, pulleys, rope grab devices, and auxiliary rope rescue equipment, so that the system constructed can accommodate the load, is efficient, and is connected to an anchor system and the load. (5.2.15)

Direct a team in the operation of a simple rope mechanical advantage system in a high-angle raising operation, given rescue personnel, an established rope rescue system incorporating a simple rope mechanical advantage system, a specified minimum travel distance for the load, a load to be moved, and an anchor system, so that the movement is controlled, a reset is accomplished, the load can be held in place when needed, operating methods do not stress the system to the point of failure, commands are used to direct the operation, and potential problems are identified, communicated, and managed. (5.2.16)

Construct a compound rope mechanical advantage system, given a load, an anchor system, life safety rope, carabiners, pulleys, rope grab devices, and rope rescue equipment, so that the system constructed accommodates the load and reduces the force required to lift the load, operational interference is factored and minimized, the system is efficient, a system safety check is completed, and the system is connected to an anchor system and the load. (5.2.17)

Direct the operation of a compound rope mechanical advantage system in a high-angle environment, given a rope rescue system incorporating a compound rope mechanical advantage system and a load to be moved, and a specified minimum travel distance for the load, so that a system safety check is performed; a reset is accomplished, and the movement is controlled; the load can be held in place when needed; operating methods do not stress the system to the point of failure; operational commands are clearly communicated; and potential problems are identified, communicated, and managed. (5.2.18)

INSTRUCTIONS - procedures for achieving the objective

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Rope Rescue – Awareness & Operations
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You will be directed to build a lowering system to be used in the high angle environment. Once the system is built, I will inspect the rigging. Then you, with two assistants, will demonstrate the operation of the lowering system. I will then direct you to build either a Simple or Compound raising system for use in the high angle environment. Once the system is built, I will inspect the rigging. Then you, with two assistants, will demonstrate the operation of the raising system. During one of the operations there will be a simulated belay activation and you will need to arrest the simulated falling load.

You will begin on my instruction to start. The skill will end when you state to me that you have completed all of the identified steps. Do you understand these instructions?

EXAMINER NOTE:

This skill is intended to be performed in flat terrain (e.g., apparatus bay, parking lot, wooded area). Only the candidate being evaluated can build the system. The Examiner should direct the candidate to build either a simple or a complex haul system. Assistants should only perform tasks at the direction of the candidate being evaluated. Either the Examiner or an assistant can be used as the “load” for the skill. The person acting as a “load” must be wearing a harness.

The candidate will not be allowed to review the performance steps at the time of testing.

PREPARATION & EQUIPMENT

Provide the following items to the candidate(s) for this skill station. Specific brand and model of equipment will be determined by the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ)

- 10 Carabiners
- 3-4 Ropes
- 4 Pieces of webbing or other anchoring material
- 2 Raising/lowering/belay devices
- 3 Rope grab devices
- 4 Single pulleys
- 2 Double pulleys
- Other items as identified by the AHJ that are specific to their methods and techniques

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TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION
Rope Rescue – Awareness & Operations
Performance Standards Evaluation

Individual High-Angle Rope System – Skill 2

Candidate: _____ Notes: _____

Dept: _____

School: _____

Examiner(s) _____ / _____

Rope Rescue – Awareness & Operations				
Skill 2				
NFPA 1006, 2021 edition: 5.2.5, 5.2.7, 5.2.9, 5.2.10, 5.2.11, 5.2.13, 5.2.14, 5.2.15, 5.2.16, 5.2.17, 5.2.18				
	<u>TEST</u>		<u>RETEST</u>	
The Candidate:	S	U	S	U
a) Donned and used the appropriate harnesses and PPE.				
b) Evaluated surroundings for potential hazards, selected proper systems, and applied rigging principles.				
c) Determined expected loads.				
d) Evaluated all anchors for required strength, location, surface contour, and meeting AHJ criteria.				
e) Constructed the lowering system properly and met AHJ criteria.				
f) Constructed and anchored the hauling mechanical advantage system (either Simple or Compound system) properly.				
g) Managed the load appropriately as it moved over terrain.				
h) Conducted operation of both systems (lower and raise) using operational commands and ensured system efficiency while directing personnel.				
i) Attached belay (or second tensioned rope) properly, tended effectively, and arrested simulated falling load.				

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j) Communicated clearly that a falling load was arrested.				
k) Performed safety checks, evaluated the system and components for compromised integrity and identified any safety concerns.				
l) Ensured all knots were adequate and met AHJ criteria.				
m) Performed skill in a safe and proficient manner.				

S = Satisfactorily completed/performed

U = Unsatisfactorily performed/failed to meet objective or grading step

All steps of the skill objective are mandatory and must be scored as “Satisfactory” to pass the skill.

Examiner/Candidate Comments:

<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <div style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; width: 80%;"></div> <div style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; width: 15%; text-align: center;">Date</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 80%;">Certifying Examiner</div> <div style="width: 15%; text-align: center;">Date</div> </div>	<div style="background-color: #d3d3d3; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;">Overall Skill Sheet Score</div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-bottom: 5px;"> Pass <input type="checkbox"/> Fail <input type="checkbox"/> </div> <div style="background-color: #d3d3d3; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;">Overall Skill Sheet Re-Test Score</div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> Pass <input type="checkbox"/> Fail <input type="checkbox"/> </div>
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TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION
Rope Rescue – Awareness & Operations
Performance Standards Evaluation

Individual Low-Angle Rope System – Skill 3

NFPA 1006, 2021 Edition

Section 16.101

5.2.6, 5.2.7, 5.2.21, 5.2.22

OBJECTIVE

Construct a multiple-point anchor system, given life safety rope and other auxiliary rope rescue equipment, so that the chosen anchor system fits the incident needs, the system strength meets or exceeds the expected load and does not interfere with rescue operations, equipment is visually inspected prior to being put in service, the most appropriate anchor points are chosen, the anchor system is system safety checked prior to being placed into service, the integrity of the system is maintained throughout the operation, and the force will be distributed — proportionally or disproportionately — between more than one anchor point. (5.2.6)

Conduct a system safety check, given a rope rescue system and rescue personnel, so that a physical/visual check of the system is made to ensure proper rigging, a load test is performed prior to life-loading the system, and verbal confirmation of these actions is announced and acknowledged before life-loading the rope rescue system. (5.2.7)

Direct a litter-lowering and litter-raising operation in a low-angle environment, given rescue personnel, litter tender(s), an established lowering/mechanical advantage system, a specified minimum travel distance for the load and a victim packaged in a litter to be moved, so that the litter is attached to the lowering/raising and belay systems, movement is controlled; litter tender(s) are used to manage the litter during the lower and raise, the litter can be held in place when needed; operating methods do not stress the system to the point of failure; rope commands are used to direct the operation; and potential problems are identified, communicated, and managed. (5.2.14)

Operate as a litter tender in a low-angle lowering or raising operation, given a rope rescue system, a specified minimum travel distance for the litter tender, life safety harnesses, litters, bridles, and specialized equipment necessary for the environment, so that risks to victims and rescuers are minimized; the means of attachment to the rope rescue system is secure; and the terrain is negotiated while minimizing risks to equipment or persons. (5.2.22)

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Rope Rescue – Awareness & Operations

Performance Standards Evaluation

INSTRUCTIONS - procedures for achieving the objective

You will be directed to build a lowering system to be used in the low angle environment. The system shall be anchored to a multi-point anchor. Once the system is built, I will inspect the rigging. Then you with two assistants will demonstrate the operation of the lowering system. I will then direct you to build a raising system for use in the high angle environment. Once the system is built, I will inspect the rigging. Then you with two assistants will demonstrate the operation of the raising system. After you have demonstrated the operation of the systems You will be asked to describe the duties of a litter tender in the low angle environment.

You will begin on my instruction to start. The skill will end when you state to me that you have completed all the identified steps. Do you understand the instructions?

EXAMINER NOTE:

This skill is intended to be performed in flat terrain (e.g. apparatus bay, parking lot, wooded area). Only the candidate being evaluated can build the system. Assistance should only perform tasks at the direction of the candidate being evaluated. Either the Examiner or an assistant can be used as the “load” for the skill. The person acting as a “load” must be wearing a harness.

The candidate will not be allowed to review the performance steps at the time of testing.

PREPARATION & EQUIPMENT

Provide the following items to the candidate(s) for this skill station. Specific brand and model of equipment will be determined by the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ)

- 6 Carabiners
- 2 Ropes
- 2 Pieces of webbing or other anchoring material
- 2 Raising/lowering/belay devices
- 2 Rope grab devices
- 2 Single pulleys
- 1 Double pulleys
- Other items as identified by the AHJ that are specific to their methods and techniques

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TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION
Rope Rescue – Awareness & Operations
Performance Standards Evaluation

Individual Low-Angle Rope System – Skill 3

Candidate: _____ Notes: _____

Dept: _____

School: _____

Examiner(s) _____ / _____

Rope Rescue – Awareness & Operations				
Skill 3				
NFPA 1006, 2021 edition: 5.2.6, 5.2.7, 5.2.21, 5.2.22				
	<u>TEST</u>		<u>RETEST</u>	
The Candidate:	S	U	S	U
a) Donned and used the appropriate harnesses and PPE.				
b) Evaluated surroundings for potential hazards, selected proper systems, and applied rigging principles.				
c) Selected proper anchor points and ensured multi-point anchor construction was adequate and met AHJ criteria.				
d) Determined expected loads.				
e) Constructed the lowering system properly and met AHJ criteria.				
f) Constructed and anchored the hauling mechanical advantage system properly.				
g) Attached load properly to the rope system allowing it to maneuver across terrain and/or managed a litter while suspended from rope.				
h) Conducted operation of both systems using operational commands and ensured system efficiency while directing personnel.				
i) Performed safety checks, evaluated the system and components for compromised integrity and identified any safety concerns.				
j) Ensured all knots were adequate and met AHJ criteria.				

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Performance Standards Evaluation

k) Ensured low-angle litter tender duties were described and met AHJ criteria.				
l) Performed skill in a safe and proficient manner.				

S = Satisfactorily completed/performed

U = Unsatisfactorily performed/failed to meet objective or grading step

All steps of the skill objective are mandatory and must be scored as “Satisfactory” to pass the skill.

Examiner/Candidate Comments:

Certifying Examiner

Date

Re-Test Certifying Examiner

Date

Overall Skill Sheet Score	
Pass <input type="checkbox"/>	Fail <input type="checkbox"/>
Overall Skill Sheet Re-Test Score	
Pass <input type="checkbox"/>	Fail <input type="checkbox"/>

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TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION
Rope Rescue – Awareness & Operations
Performance Standards Evaluation

Team High-Angle Rope System – Skill 4

NFPA 1006, 2021 Edition

Section 16.101

5.1.1, 5.1.2, 5.1.3, 5.1.4, 5.1.5, 5.2.1, 5.2.4, 5.2.5, 5.2.7, 5.2.8, 5.2.9, 5.2.10, 5.2.12, 5.2.13, 5.2.14, 5.2.15, 5.2.16, 5.2.19, 5.2.23, 5.2.24

OBJECTIVE

Assist a team in operation of the haul line of a rope mechanical advantage system raising operation, given rescue personnel, an established rope rescue system, a load to be moved, and an anchor system, so that the movement is controlled; a reset is accomplished; the load can be held in place when needed; commands are followed in direction of the operation; and potential problems are identified, communicated, and managed. (5.1.1)

Size up a rope rescue incident, given background information and applicable reference materials, so that the scope of the rescue is determined, the number of victims is identified, the last reported location of all the victims is established, witnesses and reporting parties are identified and interviewed, resource needs are assessed, primary search parameters are identified, and information required to develop an initial incident action plan is obtained. (5.1.2)

Recognize incident hazards and initiate isolation procedures, given scene control barriers, personal protective equipment (PPE), requisite equipment, and available specialized resources, so that all hazards are identified; resource application fits the operational requirements; hazard isolation is considered; risks to rescuers, bystanders, and victims are minimized; and rescue time constraints are taken into account. (5.1.3)

Recognize the need for technical rescue resources at an operations- or technician-level incident, given AHJ guidelines, so that the need for additional resources is identified, the response system is initiated, the scene is secured and rendered safe until additional resources arrive, and awareness-level personnel are incorporated into the operational plan. (5.1.4)

Support an operations- or technician-level incident, given an incident, an assignment, an incident action plan, and resources from the tool kit, so that the assignment is carried out, progress is reported to command, environmental concerns are managed, personnel rehabilitation is facilitated, and the incident action plan is supported. (5.1.5)

Perform size up of a rescue incident, given background information and applicable reference materials, so that the type of rescue is determined, the number of victims is identified, the last reported location of all victims is established, witnesses and reporting parties are identified and interviewed, resource needs are assessed, search parameters

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are identified, and information required to develop an incident action plan is obtained.
(5.2.1)

Demonstrate knots, bends, and hitches, given ropes, webbing, and a list of knots used by the agency, so that the knots are dressed, recognizable, and backed up as required.
(5.2.4)

Construct a single-point anchor system, given life safety rope and other auxiliary rope rescue equipment, so that the chosen anchor system fits the incident needs, meets or exceeds the expected load, and does not interfere with rescue operations, an efficient anchor point is chosen, the need for redundant anchor points is assessed and used as required, the anchor system is inspected and loaded prior to being placed into service, and the integrity of the system is maintained throughout the operation. (5.2.5)

Conduct a system safety check, given a rope rescue system and rescue personnel, so that a physical/visual check of the system is made to ensure proper rigging, a load test is performed prior to life-loading the system, and verbal confirmation of these actions is announced and acknowledged before life-loading the rope rescue system. (5.2.7)

Place edge protection, given life safety rope or webbing traversing a sharp or abrasive edge, edge protection, and other auxiliary rope rescue equipment, so that the rope or webbing is protected from abrasion or cutting, the rescuer is safe from falling while placing the edge protection, the edge protection is secure, and the rope or webbing is securely placed on the edge protection. (5.2.8)

Construct a system intended to provide belay within a single- or two-tensioned rope system, given life safety rope, anchor systems, PPE, and rope rescue equipment, so that the system is capable of arresting a fall, a fall will not result in system failure, the system is not loaded unless actuated, actuation of the system will not injure or otherwise incapacitate the belay operator, the belay operator is not rigged into the equipment components of the system, and the system is suitable to the site and is connected to an anchor system and the load. (5.2.9)

Operate a system intended to provide belay within a single- or two-tensioned rope system during a lowering or raising operation, given an operating lowering or raising mechanical advantage system, a specified minimum travel distance for the load, a system, and a load, so that the potential fall factor is minimized, the belay is not actuated during normal lowering and raising operations, the belay system is prepared for actuation at all times during the operation, the belay operator is attentive at all times during the operation, the load's position is continually monitored, and the belay operator moves rope through the belay device as designed. (5.2.10)

Construct a fixed rope system, given an anchor system, a life safety rope, and rope rescue equipment, so that the system constructed can accommodate the load, is efficient, and is connected to an anchor system and the load, and a system safety check is performed and the results meet the incident requirements for descending or ascending operations.
(5.2.12)

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Construct a lowering system, given an anchor system, life safety rope(s), descent control device, and auxiliary rope rescue equipment, so that the system can accommodate the load, is efficient, is capable of controlling the descent, is capable of holding the load in place or lowering with minimal effort over the required distance, and is connected to an anchor system and the load. (5.2.13)

Direct a lowering operation in a high-angle environment, given rescue personnel, an established lowering system, a specified minimum travel distance for the load, and a load to be moved, so that the movement is controlled, the load can be held in place when needed, operating methods do not stress the system to the point of failure, rope commands are used to direct the operation, and potential problems are identified, communicated, and managed. (5.2.14)

Construct a simple rope mechanical advantage system, given life safety rope, carabiners, pulleys, rope grab devices, and auxiliary rope rescue equipment, so that the system constructed can accommodate the load, is efficient, and is connected to an anchor system and the load. (5.2.15)

Direct a team in the operation of a simple rope mechanical advantage system in a high-angle raising operation, given rescue personnel, an established rope rescue system incorporating a simple rope mechanical advantage system, a specified minimum travel distance for the load, a load to be moved, and an anchor system, so that the movement is controlled, a reset is accomplished, the load can be held in place when needed, operating methods do not stress the system to the point of failure, commands are used to direct the operation, and potential problems are identified, communicated, and managed. (5.2.16)

Negotiate an edge while attached to a rope rescue system during a high-angle lowering and raising operation, given a rope rescue system, a specified minimum travel distance for the rescuer, life safety harnesses, an edge to negotiate during the lower and raise, and specialized equipment necessary for the environment, so that risk to the rescuer is minimized; the means of attachment to the rope rescue system is secure; and all projections and edges are negotiated while minimizing risks to the rescuer or equipment. (5.2.19)

Direct a litter-lowering or litter-raising operation in a high-angle environment, given rescue personnel, an established lowering/mechanical advantage system, a specified minimum travel distance for the load, a victim packaged in a litter to be moved, and a means for negotiating edges and projections along the travel path, so that the litter is attached to the lowering/raising and belay systems, an edge is negotiated during a lower and raise; tag lines are used to manage the litter during the lower and raise; the litter can be held in place when needed; operating methods do not stress the system to the point of failure; rope commands are used to direct the operation; and potential problems are identified, communicated, and managed. (5.2.23)

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TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION

Rope Rescue – Awareness & Operations

Performance Standards Evaluation

Terminate a technical rescue operation, given an incident scenario, assigned resources, and site safety data, so that rescuer risk and site safety are managed, scene security is maintained and custody transferred to a responsible party, personnel and resources are returned to a state of readiness, record keeping and documentation occur, and post event analysis is conducted. (5.2.24)

INSTRUCTIONS - procedures for achieving the objective

Given the high angle terrain provided you will build a two-rope lowering and raising system to lower and raise either a litter or a rescuer. You will perform both a raise and a lower. One of you (selected by me) will be the team leader and will direct the operation. The others will perform tasks as directed by the team leader. All of you will be graded as part of this skill.

You will begin on my instruction to start. The skill will end when you state to me that you have completed all the identified steps. Do you understand the instructions?

EXAMINER NOTE:

Skill should be performed by a group not to exceed five candidates. Additional roles can be filled with “assistant(s)” and the trainees should be provided a training site with vertical terrain of at least 20-feet (e.g., training tower, cliff, top of building). One student should be selected as the team leader to lead the operation. The Examiner should randomly choose either a litter or a rescuer to be raised and lowered.

The trainee will not be allowed to review the performance steps at the time of testing.

PREPARATION & EQUIPMENT

Provide the following items to the candidate(s) for this skill station. Specific brand and model of equipment will be determined by the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ)

- 10 Carabiners
- 4 Ropes
- 4 pieces of webbing or other anchoring material
- 2 Raising/lowering/belay devices
- 3 Rope grab devices
- 4 Single pulleys
- 2 Double pulleys
- Harnesses as needed for fall protection
- Rescue litter (if doing a litter operation)
- Patient packaging materials
- Other items as identified by the AHJ that are specific to their methods and techniques

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TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION
Rope Rescue – Awareness & Operations
Performance Standards Evaluation

Team High-Angle Rope System – Skill 4

Candidate: _____ Notes: _____

Dept: _____

School: _____

Examiner(s) _____ / _____

Rope Rescue – Awareness & Operations				
Skill 4				
NFPA 1006, 2021 edition: 5.1.1, 5.1.2, 5.1.3, 5.1.4, 5.1.5, 5.2.1, 5.2.4, 5.2.5, 5.2.7, 5.2.8, 5.2.9, 5.2.10, 5.2.12, 5.2.13, 5.2.14, 5.2.15, 5.2.16, 5.2.19, 5.2.23, 5.2.24				
	<u>TEST</u>		<u>RETEST</u>	
The Candidate:	S	U	S	U
a) Performed a size up and identified hazards using technical rescue reference materials, gathered information, interviewed people on site and relayed any pertinent information.				
b) Verbalized that this is a rope rescue requiring operations level responders, identified incident hazards, and placed control barriers.				
c) Implemented operational protocols after identifying incident hazards, placed control barriers, worked within the incident management system following the incident action plan, and reported task status to their supervisor.				
d) Donned and used the appropriate harnesses and PPE.				
e) Evaluated surroundings for potential hazards, selected proper systems, and applied rigging principles.				
f) Determined expected loads.				
g) Evaluated all anchors for required strength, location, surface contour, and meeting AHJ criteria.				
h) Ensured two ropes supported the load by either a main/belay or a two tensioned rope system with				

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Rope Rescue – Awareness & Operations
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the system status relayed as needed.				
i) Attached belay (or second tensioned rope) properly and tended effectively.				
j) Constructed the lowering system properly and met AHJ criteria.				
k) Constructed and anchored the hauling mechanical advantage system (either Simple or Compound system) properly.				
l) Conducted operation of both systems (lowering and raising) using operational commands and ensured system efficiency while directing personnel.				
m) Used edge protection, secured the rope(s) and edge protection in place, and protected the rescuers working near the edge.				
n) Ensured the litter or rescuer transitioned the edge safely while attached to ropes/harnesses, maneuvered across projections, and evaluated the edge for hazards.				
o) Performed safety checks, evaluated the system and components for compromised integrity and identified any safety concerns.				
p) Ensured all knots were adequate and met AHJ criteria.				
q) Terminated scenario and accounted for all personnel according to AHJ criteria for personnel tracking and data collection.				
r) Performed skill in a safe and proficient manner.				

S = Satisfactorily completed/performed

U = Unsatisfactorily performed/failed to meet objective or grading step

All steps of the skill objective are mandatory and must be scored as “Satisfactory” to pass the skill.

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TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION
Rope Rescue – Awareness & Operations
Performance Standards Evaluation

Examiner/Candidate Comments:

Certifying Examiner

Date

Re-Test Certifying Examiner

Date

Overall Skill Sheet Score	
Pass <input type="checkbox"/>	Fail <input type="checkbox"/>
Overall Skill Sheet Re-Test Score	
Pass <input type="checkbox"/>	Fail <input type="checkbox"/>

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TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION
Rope Rescue – Awareness & Operations
Performance Standards Evaluation

Team Patient Packaging – Skill 5

NFPA 1006, 2021 Edition

Section 16.101

5.1.5, 5.2.20

OBJECTIVE

Support an operations- or technician-level incident, given an incident, an assignment, an incident action plan, and resources from the tool kit, so that the assignment is carried out, progress is reported to command, environmental concerns are managed, personnel rehabilitation is facilitated, and the incident action plan is supported. (5.1.5)

Prepare for transfer of victims, given diagnostic and packaging equipment and an actual or simulated EMS agency, so that rescuers and victims are protected from hazards, victim injuries or illnesses are managed, and victims are delivered to the EMS provider with information regarding the history of the rescue activity and victim conditions. (5.2.20)

INSTRUCTIONS - procedures for achieving the objective

Wearing the appropriate PPE, the team will package a patient into a litter according to AHJ SOP and manufacturer recommendations. One person will be selected as the team leader.

You will begin on my instruction to start. The skill will end when you state to me that you have completed all of the identified steps. Do you understand these instructions?

EXAMINER NOTE:

Skill should be performed by a group of 3-5 candidates. One candidate should be selected as the team leader to lead the operation. A litter used by the AHJ and a person (not being evaluated) or a training dummy that is at least 5-foot 6-inches tall should be provided. Consistent height of patient or dummy needs to be maintained to allow for consistent lashing methods.

The candidate will not be allowed to review the performance steps at the time of testing.

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TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION
Rope Rescue – Awareness & Operations
Performance Standards Evaluation

PREPARATION & EQUIPMENT

Provide the following items to the candidate(s) for this skill station. Specific brand and model of equipment will be determined by the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ):

- Litter
- Patient packaging materials
- Other items as identified by the AHJ that are specific to their methods and techniques

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TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION
Rope Rescue – Awareness & Operations
Performance Standards Evaluation

Team Patient Packaging – Skill 5

Candidate: _____ Notes: _____

Dept: _____

School: _____

Examiner(s) _____ / _____

Rope Rescue – Awareness & Operations				
Skill 5				
NFPA 1006, 2021 edition: 5.1.5, 5.2.20				
	<u>TEST</u>		<u>RETEST</u>	
The Candidate:	S	U	S	U
a) Identified who the team leader/supervisor was and functioned within the Incident Management System.				
b) Applied operational protocols.				
c) Selected an appropriate litter.				
d) Secured patient properly into the litter according to AHJ criteria and manufacturer recommendations.				
e) Provided treatment methods appropriate for the situation and gave patient transfer reports in verbal or written format.				
f) Performed skill in a safe and proficient manner.				

S = Satisfactorily completed/performed

U = Unsatisfactorily performed/failed to meet objective or grading step

All steps of the skill objective are mandatory and must be scored as “Satisfactory” to pass the skill.

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TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION
Rope Rescue – Awareness & Operations
Performance Standards Evaluation

Examiner/Candidate Comments:

Certifying Examiner

Date

Re-Test Certifying Examiner

Date

Overall Skill Sheet Score	
Pass <input type="checkbox"/>	Fail <input type="checkbox"/>
Overall Skill Sheet Re-Test Score	
Pass <input type="checkbox"/>	Fail <input type="checkbox"/>

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AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 11 WITH RELEVANT DOCUMENTS

11. Matters referred to the Commission by the Firefighter Advisory Committee:

A. Discussion and possible action on the rule review 37 Texas Administrative Code (TAC), Chapter 403, Criminal Convictions and Eligibility for Certifications **(please see attached)**.

TITLE 37 PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONS

PART 13 TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION

CHAPTER 403 CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS AND ELIGIBILITY FOR CERTIFICATION

§403.1 Purpose

(a) The purpose of this chapter is to establish policy, procedures and criteria on the eligibility of persons with a criminal conviction for a certificate or renewal of a certificate issued by the Texas Commission on Fire Protection (the commission) and to establish procedures for suspension, probation, revocation, or denial of a certificate held or applied for by persons with a criminal conviction pursuant to Chapter 53, Texas Occupations Code.

(b) The duties and responsibilities of persons who hold certifications issued by the commission each involve matters that directly relate to public safety, specifically to the reduction of loss of life and property from fire. Thus, conduct involving the injury to a person or the destruction of property by fire, relates directly to the fitness of the individual to be fire protection personnel. Fire protection personnel often have access to areas not generally open to the public. The public relies on the honesty, trustworthiness, and reliability of persons certified by the commission. Thus, crimes involving moral turpitude, including, but not limited to, fraud and dishonesty, are directly relevant. In addition, the ability of such persons to function unimpaired by alcohol or the illegal use of drugs, in dangerous or potentially dangerous circumstances, including, but not limited to, the operation of emergency vehicles is paramount in light of the duty to protect the health and safety of the public.

§403.3 Scope

(a) The policy and procedures established in this chapter apply to a person who holds or applies for any certificate issued under the commission's regulatory authority contained in Government Code, Chapter 419.

(b) When a person is convicted of a crime of a sexual nature, the conviction of which would require the individual to be registered as a sex offender under Chapter 62 of the Code of Criminal Procedure; or

(c) When a person is convicted of a crime that is an offense under Title 7 of the Texas Penal Code, or a similar offense under the laws of the United States of America, another state, or another jurisdiction, the person's conduct directly relates to the competency and reliability of the person to assume and discharge the responsibilities of fire protection personnel. Such conduct includes, but is not limited to, intentional or knowing conduct, without a legal privilege, which causes or is intended to cause a fire or explosion with the intent to injure or kill any person or animal or to destroy or damage any property. The commission may:

(1) deny a person the opportunity to be examined for a certificate;

(2) deny the application for a certificate;

(3) grant the application for a new certificate with the condition that a probated suspension be placed on the newly granted certificate;

(4) refuse to renew a certificate;

(5) suspend, revoke, or probate the suspension or revocation of an existing certificate; or

(6) limit the terms or practice of a certificate holder to areas prescribed by the commission.

(d) When a person's criminal conviction of a felony or misdemeanor directly relates to the duties and responsibilities of the holder of a certificate issued by the commission, the commission may:

(1) deny a person the opportunity to be examined for a certificate;

(2) deny the application for a certificate;

(3) grant the application for a new certificate with the condition that a probated suspension be placed on the newly granted certificate;

(4) refuse to renew a certificate;

(5) suspend, revoke, or probate the suspension or revocation of an existing certificate; or

(6) limit the terms or practice of a certificate holder to areas prescribed by the commission.

§403.5 Access to Criminal History Record Information

(a) Criminal history record. The commission is entitled to obtain criminal history record information maintained by the Department of Public Safety, or another law enforcement agency to investigate the eligibility of a person applying to the commission for or holding a certificate.

(b) Confidentiality of information. All information received under this section is confidential and may not be released to any person outside the agency except in the following instances:

(1) a court order;

(2) with written consent of the person being investigated;

(3) in a criminal proceeding; or

(4) in a hearing conducted under the authority of the commission.

(c) Early review. A regulated entity that employs a person regulated by the commission, a person seeking to apply for a beginning position with a regulated entity, a volunteer fire department, or an individual participating in the commission certification program may seek the early review under this chapter of the person's present fitness to be certified. Prior to completing the requirements for certification, the individual may request such a review in writing by following the required procedure. A decision by the commission based on an early review does not bind the commission if there is a change in circumstances. The following pertains to early reviews:

(1) The commission will complete its review and notify the requestor in writing concerning potential eligibility or ineligibility within 90 days following receipt of all required and necessary information for the review.

(2) A notification by the commission regarding the results of an early review is not a guarantee of certification, admission to any training program, or employment with a local government.

(3) A fee assessed by the commission for conducting an early review will be in an amount sufficient to cover the cost of conducting the review process, as provided in §437.19 of this title (relating to Early Review Fees).

(4) An early review request will be considered incomplete until the requestor submits all required and necessary information. Early review requests that remain incomplete for 90 days following receipt of the initial request will expire. If the request expires and an early review is still desired, a new request and fee must be submitted.

§403.7 Criminal Convictions Guidelines

(a) The following crimes are considered to relate directly to the ability, capacity, and fitness required to perform the duties and discharge the responsibilities of persons certified by the commission:

(1) offenses under the Government Code, Chapter 419, relating to the Texas Commission on Fire Protection;

(2) offenses under the Texas Transportation Code Title 6 Roadways, which are punishable by fines greater than \$200, or imprisonment, or both fine and imprisonment;

(3) offenses under the Health and Safety Code, Chapter 481, concerning controlled substances;

(4) offenses under the Health and Safety Code, Chapter 483, concerning dangerous drugs;

(5) offenses under the following titles of the Texas Penal Code:

(A) Title 5--offenses against the person;

(B) Title 6--offenses against the family;

(C) Title 7--offenses against property;

(D) Title 8--offenses against public administration;

(E) Title 9--offenses against public order and decency;

(F) Title 10--offenses against public health, safety and morals;

(G) Title 11--offenses involving organized crime; and

(H) Title 4--inchoate offenses Chapter 15 preparatory offenses to any of the offenses in this section;

(6) the offenses listed in this subsection are not inclusive, in that the commission may consider other particular crimes in special cases in order to promote the intent of the statutes administered by the commission.

(b) In all cases the commission shall consider:

(1) the nature and seriousness of the crime;

(2) the relationship of the crime to the purposes for requiring the certificate issued by the commission;

(3) the extent to which the certificate might offer an opportunity to engage in further criminal activity of the same type as that in which the person previously had been involved;

(4) the relationship of the crime to the ability, capacity, or fitness required to perform the duties and discharge the responsibilities of the certificate holder;

(5) the level and nature of supervision of the person by others; and

(6) the level and nature of access to public, commercial, and residential properties, including access after regular business hours and access to areas not open to the general public.

§403.9 Mitigating Factors

(a) In addition to the factors that must be considered under §403.7 of this title (relating to Criminal Convictions Guidelines), in determining the present fitness of a person who has been convicted of a crime, the commission shall consider the following evidence:

(1) the extent and nature of the person's past criminal activity;

(2) the age of the person at the time of the commission of the crime;

(3) the amount of time that has elapsed since the person's last criminal activity;

(4) the conduct and work activity of the person prior to and following the criminal activity;

(5) evidence of the person's rehabilitation or rehabilitative effort while incarcerated or following release; and

(6) other evidence of the person's present fitness, including letters of recommendation from:

(A) prosecution, law enforcement, and correctional officers who prosecuted, arrested, or had custodial responsibility for the person;

(B) the sheriff or chief of police in the community where the person resides; and

(C) any other persons in contact with the convicted person.

(b) It shall be the responsibility of the applicant to the extent possible to secure and provide to the commission as required the recommendations of prosecution, law enforcement, and correctional authorities as required by statute and these rules upon request by the commission staff. The applicant shall upon request also furnish:

(1) a copy of the indictment, information or complaint;

(2) a copy of the judgement(s) or order(s) of the court adjudicating guilt, granting probation, community supervision, deferred adjudication, or discharge from probation or community supervision;

(3) a record of steady employment in the form of a letter from current or former employers;

(4) a record that the applicant has supported his or her dependents in the form of a letter from a person in the applicant's community with personal knowledge of the circumstances;

(5) evidence that the applicant has paid all outstanding court costs, supervision fees, fines, and restitution as may have been ordered in all criminal cases in which he or she has been convicted, in the form of copies of official records, documents, or a letter from the person's probation or parole officer where applicable concerning his or her current status; and

(6) a copy of the police or offense report(s).

§403.11 Procedures for Suspension, Revocation, or Denial of a Certificate to Persons with Criminal Backgrounds

- (a) If the commission proposes to suspend, revoke, limit, or deny a certificate based on the criteria in this chapter, the commission shall notify the individual per Government Code, Chapter 2001. The notice of intended action shall specify the facts or conduct alleged to warrant the intended action.
- (b) If the proposed action is to limit, suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew a current certificate, or deny an application for a new certificate, a written notice of intended action shall comply with the preliminary notice requirements of Government Code §2001.054(c). The individual may request, in writing, an informal conference with the commission staff in order to show compliance with all requirements of law for the retention of the certificate, pursuant to Government Code §2001.054(c). A written request for an informal staff conference must be submitted to the division director no later than 15 days after the date of the notice of intended action. If the informal staff conference does not result in an agreed consent order, a formal hearing shall be conducted in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, Government Code, Chapter 2001.
- (c) If the individual does not request an informal staff conference or a formal hearing in writing within the time specified in this section, the individual is deemed to have waived the opportunity for a hearing, and the proposed action will be taken.
- (d) If the commission limits, suspends, revokes, or denies a certificate under this chapter, a written notice shall be provided to the person that includes:
 - (1) the reasons for the decision;
 - (2) that the person may appeal the decision to the commission in accordance with §401.63 of this title (relating to Final Decision and Orders) within 30 days from the date the decision is final and appealable;
 - (3) that the person, after exhausting administrative appeals, may file an action in a district court of Travis County, Texas, for judicial review of the evidence presented to the commission and its decision; and that such petition must be filed with the court no later than 30 days after the commission action is final and appealable.

§403.15 Report of Convictions by an Individual or a Department

- (a) A certificate holder must report to the commission, any conviction, other than a minor traffic offense (Class C misdemeanor) under the laws of this state, another state, the United States, or a foreign country, within 14 days of the conviction date.
- (b) A regulated entity or local government entity shall report to the commission, any conviction of a certificate holder other than a minor traffic offense (class C misdemeanor) under the laws of this state, another state, the United States, or foreign country, that it has knowledge of, within 14 days of the conviction date.
- (c) A certificate holder is subject to suspension, revocation, or denial of any or all certifications for violation of the requirements of subsection (a) of this section. Each day may be considered a separate offense.
- (d) A regulated entity or government entity regulated by the commission violating subsection (b) of this section may be subject to administrative penalties of up to \$500. Each day may be considered a separate offense.
- (e) Notification may be made by mail, e-mail or in-person to the Texas Commission on Fire Protection

(TCFP) Austin office. TCFP Form #014 shall be used.

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 11 WITH RELEVANT DOCUMENTS CONTINUED

11. Matters referred to the Commission by the Firefighter Advisory Committee:

B. Discussion and possible action on proposed changes on the rule review of 37 TAC, Chapter 421, Standards for Certification **(please see attached)**.

TITLE 37 PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONS

PART 13 TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION

CHAPTER 421 STANDARDS FOR CERTIFICATION

§421.1 Procedures for Meetings

The Commission may maintain advisory committees and ad hoc committees to assist with rulemaking, curriculum development, and the performance of the Commission's duties. Rules related to these committees are outlined in the 37 Texas Administrative Code (TAC), Chapter 463, Advisory Committees, Practices and Procedures.

§421.3 Minimum Standards Set by the Commission

(a) General statement. It shall be clearly understood that the specified minimum standards described in this section are designated as a minimum program. Employing entities are encouraged to exceed the minimum program wherever possible. Continuous in-service training beyond the minimum standards for fire protection personnel is strongly recommended. Nothing in these regulations shall limit or be construed as limiting the powers of the Civil Service Commission, or the employing entity, to enact rules and regulations that [which] establish a higher standard of training than the minimum specified, or which provide [provides] for the termination of the services of unsatisfactory employees during or upon completion of the prescribed probationary period.

(b) Functional position descriptions.

(1) Structural Fire Protection personnel. The following general position description for structural fire protection personnel serves as a guide for anyone interested in understanding the qualifications, competencies, and tasks required of the fire fighter operating in the State of Texas. It is ultimately the responsibility of an employer to define specific job descriptions within each jurisdiction.

(A) Qualifications. Successfully complete a Commission-approved [commission approved] course; achieve a passing score on written and performance certification examinations; must be at least 18 years of age; generally, the knowledge and skills required show the need for a high school education or equivalent; ability to communicate verbally, via telephone and radio equipment; ability to lift, carry, drag, and balance weight equivalent to the average human weight; ability to interpret in English, written and oral instructions; ability to work effectively in high stress situations; ability to work effectively in an environment with loud noises and flashing lights; ability to function through an entire work shift; ability to calculate weight and volume ratios; ability to read and understand English language manuals including chemical, medical and technical terms, and road maps; ability to accurately discern street signs and address numbers; ability to document in English, all relevant information in prescribed format in light of legal ramifications of such; ability to converse in English with coworkers and other emergency response personnel. Good manual dexterity with the ability to perform all tasks related to the protection of life and property; ability to bend, stoop, and crawl on uneven surfaces; ability to withstand varied environmental conditions such as extreme heat, cold, and moisture; and ability to work in low or no light, confined spaces, elevated heights, and other dangerous environments.

(B) Competency. A basic fire fighter must demonstrate competency in handling emergencies utilizing equipment and skills in accordance with the objectives in Chapter 1 of the Commission's [commission's] Certification Curriculum Manual.

(2) Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting personnel. The following general position description for aircraft rescue fire fighting personnel serves as a guide for anyone interested in understanding the qualifications, competencies, and tasks required of aircraft rescue fire fighting personnel operating in the State of Texas. It is ultimately the responsibility of an employer to define specific job descriptions within each jurisdiction.

(A) Qualifications. In addition to the qualifications for basic structural fire protection personnel: familiarity with geographic and physical components of an airport; ability to use and understand communication equipment, terminology, and procedures utilized by airports; ability and knowledge in the application of fire suppression agents; and ability to effectively perform fire suppression and rescue operations.

(B) Competency. Basic fire fighting and rescue personnel must demonstrate competency in handling emergencies utilizing equipment and skills in accordance with the objectives in Chapter 2 of the Commission's [commission's] Certification Curriculum Manual.

(3) Marine Fire Protection personnel. The following general position description for marine fire protection personnel serves as a guide for anyone interested in understanding the qualifications, competencies, and tasks required of the marine fire fighter operating in the State of Texas. It is ultimately the responsibility of an employer to define specific job descriptions within each jurisdiction.

(A) Qualifications. In addition to the qualifications for basic structural fire protection personnel: familiarity with geographic and physical components of a navigable waterway; ability to use and understand communication equipment, terminology, and procedures used by the maritime industry; and knowledge in the operation of fire fighting vessels.

(B) Competency. A marine fire fighter must demonstrate competency in handling emergencies utilizing equipment and skills in accordance with the objectives in Chapter 3 of the Commission's [commission's] Certification Curriculum Manual.

(4) Fire Inspection personnel. The following general position description for fire inspection personnel serves as a guide for anyone interested in understanding the qualifications, competencies, and tasks required of the fire inspector operating in the State of Texas. It is ultimately the responsibility of an employer to define specific job descriptions within each jurisdiction.

(A) Qualifications. Successfully complete a Commission-approved [commission approved] course; achieve a passing score on certification examinations; must be at least 18 years of age; generally, the knowledge and skills required to show the need for a high school education or equivalent; ability to communicate verbally, via telephone and radio equipment; ability to lift, carry, and balance weight equivalent to weight of common tools and equipment necessary for conducting an inspection; ability to interpret written and oral instructions; ability to work effectively with the public; ability to work effectively in an environment with potentially loud noises; ability to function through an entire work shift; ability to calculate area, weight and volume ratios; ability to read and understand English language manuals including chemical, construction and technical terms, building plans and road maps; ability to accurately discern street signs and address numbers; ability to document, in writing, all relevant information in a prescribed format in light of legal ramifications of such; ability to converse in English with coworkers and other personnel. Demonstrate knowledge of characteristics and behavior of fire, and fire prevention principles. Good manual dexterity with the ability to perform all tasks related to the inspection of structures and property; ability to bend, stoop, and crawl on uneven surfaces; ability to climb ladders; ability to withstand varied environmental conditions such as extreme heat, cold, and moisture; and the ability to work in low light, confined spaces, elevated heights, and other dangerous environments.

(B) Competency. A fire inspector must demonstrate competency in conducting inspections utilizing equipment and skills in accordance with the objectives in Chapter 4 of the Commission's [commission's] Certification Curriculum Manual.

(5) Fire Investigator personnel. The following general position description for fire investigator personnel serves as a guide for anyone interested in understanding the qualifications, competencies, and tasks required of the fire investigator operating in the State of Texas. It is ultimately the responsibility of an employer to define specific job descriptions within each jurisdiction.

(A) Qualifications. Successfully complete a Commission-approved [commission approved] course; achieve a passing score on certification examinations; be at least 18 years of age; generally, the knowledge and skills required to show the need for a high school education or equivalent; ability to communicate verbally, via telephone and radio equipment; ability to lift, carry, and balance weight equivalent to weight of common tools and equipment necessary for conducting an investigation; ability to interpret written and oral instructions; ability to work effectively with the public; ability to work effectively in a hazardous environment; ability to function through an entire work shift; ability to calculate area, weight and volume ratios; ability to read and understand English language manuals including chemical, legal and technical terms, building plans and road maps; ability to accurately discern street signs and address numbers; ability to document, in writing, all relevant information in a prescribed format in light of legal ramifications of such; ability to converse in English with coworkers and other personnel. Good manual dexterity with the ability to perform all tasks related to fire investigation; ability to bend, stoop, and walk on uneven surfaces; ability to climb ladders; ability to withstand varied environmental conditions such as extreme heat, cold, and moisture; and the ability to work in low light, confined spaces, elevated heights, and other potentially dangerous environments.

(B) Competency. A fire investigator or arson investigator must demonstrate competency in determining fire cause and origin utilizing equipment and skills in accordance with the objectives in Chapter 5 of the Commission's [commission's] Certification Curriculum Manual.

(6) Hazardous Materials Technician personnel. The following general position description for hazardous materials personnel serves as a guide for anyone interested in understanding the qualifications, competencies, and tasks required of the hazardous materials technician operating in the State of Texas. It is ultimately the responsibility of an employer to define specific job descriptions within each jurisdiction.

(A) Qualifications. In addition to the qualifications for basic structural fire protection personnel: complete a Commission-approved [commission approved] course; achieving a passing score on the certification examination; the ability to analyze a hazardous materials incident, plan a response, implement the planned response, evaluate the progress of the planned response, and terminate the incident.

(B) Competency. A hazardous materials technician must demonstrate competency in handling emergencies resulting from releases or potential releases of hazardous materials, using specialized chemical protective clothing and control equipment in accordance with the objectives in Chapter 6 of the Commission's [commission's] Certification Curriculum Manual.

(7) Hazardous Materials Incident Commander personnel. The following general position description for Hazardous Materials Incident Commander serves as a guide for anyone interested in understanding the qualifications, competencies, and tasks required of the Hazardous Materials Incident Commander operating in the State of Texas. It is ultimately the responsibility of an employer to define specific job descriptions within each jurisdiction.

(A) Qualifications. In addition to the qualifications for awareness and operations level personnel, the Hazardous Materials Incident Commander is an individual who has met all the job performance requirements of a Hazardous Materials Incident Commander as defined in Chapter 8 of NFPA 472, Competence of Responders to Hazardous Materials Incidents/Weapons of Mass Destruction. The individual should demonstrate knowledge of [in] the policies, plans, and procedures regarding hazardous materials response as adopted by the local jurisdiction; and all components of the incident command system and their proper utilization.

(B) Competency. In addition to the competencies of awareness and operations level personnel, a Hazardous Materials Incident Commander must demonstrate competency in such areas as: analyzing an incident via the collection of information and an estimation of potential outcomes; planning appropriate response operations; implementing a planned response; evaluating the progress of a planned response and revising as necessary; terminating an incident; conducting a post-incident critique; and reporting and documenting an incident in a manner consistent with local, state, and federal requirements.

(8) Driver/Operator-Pumper personnel. The following general position description for driver/operator-pumper [driver/operatorpumper] personnel serves as a guide for anyone interested in understanding the qualifications, competencies, and tasks required of the driver/operator-pumper of a fire department pumper operating in the State of Texas. It is ultimately the responsibility of an employer to define specific job descriptions within each jurisdiction.

(A) Qualifications. In addition to the qualifications for basic structural fire protection personnel: the ability to perform specified routine test, inspection, and maintenance functions; ability to perform practical driving exercises; ascertain the expected fire flow; ability to position a fire department pumper to operate at a fire hydrant; ability to produce effective streams; and supply sprinkler and standpipe systems.

(B) Competency. A driver/operator-pumper must demonstrate competency in operating a fire department pumper in accordance with the objectives in Chapter 7 of the Commission's [commission's] Certification Curriculum Manual.

(9) Fire Officer I personnel. The following general position description for Fire Officer I personnel serves as a guide for anyone interested in understanding the qualifications, competencies, and tasks required of the Fire Officer I operating in the State of Texas. It is ultimately the responsibility of an employer to define specific job descriptions within each jurisdiction.

(A) Qualifications. In addition to the qualifications for basic structural fire protection and Fire Instructor I personnel: the ability to supervise personnel, and assign tasks at emergency operations; the ability to direct personnel during training activities; the ability to recommend action for member-related problems; the ability to coordinate assigned tasks and projects, and deal with inquiries and concerns from members of the community; the ability to implement policies; the ability to perform routine administrative functions, perform preliminary fire investigation, secure an incident scene and preserve evidence; the ability to develop pre-incident [preincident] plans, supervise emergency operations, and develop and implement action plans; the ability to deploy assigned resources to ensure a safe work environment for personnel, conduct initial accident investigation, and document an incident.

(B) Competency. A Fire Officer I must demonstrate competency in handling emergencies and supervising personnel utilizing skills in accordance with the objectives in Chapter 9 of the Commission [commission's] Certification Curriculum Manual.

(10) Fire Officer II personnel. The following general position description for Fire Officer II personnel serves as a guide for anyone interested in understanding the qualifications, competencies, and tasks required of the

Fire Officer II operating in the State of Texas. It is ultimately the responsibility of an employer to define specific job descriptions within each jurisdiction.

(A) Qualifications. In addition to the qualifications for Fire Officer I and Fire Instructor I personnel: the ability to motivate members for maximum job performance; the ability to evaluate job performance; the ability to deliver life safety and fire prevention education programs; the ability to prepare budget requests, news releases, and policy changes; the ability to conduct pre-incident planning, fire inspections, and fire investigations; the ability to supervise multi-unit emergency operations, identify unsafe work environments or behaviors, review injury, accident, and exposure reports.

(B) Competency. A Fire Officer II must demonstrate competency in supervising personnel and coordinating multi-unit emergency operations utilizing skills in accordance with the objectives in Chapter 9 of the Commission's [commission's] Certification Curriculum Manual.

(11) Fire Officer III personnel. The following general position description for Fire Officer III personnel serves as a guide for anyone interested in understanding the qualifications, competencies, and tasks required of the Fire Officer III operating in the State of Texas. It is ultimately the responsibility of an employer to define specific job descriptions within each jurisdiction.

(A) Qualifications. A Fire Officer III is a midlevel supervisor who performs both supervisory and first-line managerial functions. In addition to the qualifications and competency for Fire Officer II, the Fire Officer III is an individual who has met all the job performance requirements of Fire Officer III as defined in Chapter 6

of NFPA 1021, Standard for Fire Officer Professional Qualifications. Typical duties of an individual at the Fire Officer III level include: establishing procedures for hiring, assignment, and professional development of personnel; developing public service/partnership and programs; preparing budgets and budget management systems; planning for organizational resource management; evaluating inspection and public safety programs and plans; managing multi-agency plans and operations; serving as Incident Commander at expanding emergency incidents for all hazard types; and developing and managing a departmental safety program.

(B) Competency. A Fire Officer III must demonstrate competency in doing research; analyzing data and using evaluative techniques; developing proposals; developing, preparing, and implementing various procedures and programs within an organization; managing personnel resources; preparing and managing budgets; utilizing techniques to encourage personnel participation and development; and working in top-level positions within the incident command system.

(12) Fire Officer IV personnel. The following general position description for Fire Officer IV personnel serves as a guide for anyone interested in understanding the qualifications, competencies, and tasks required of the Fire Officer IV operating in the State of Texas. It is ultimately the responsibility of an employer to define specific job descriptions within each jurisdiction.

(A) Qualifications. A Fire Officer IV is an upper-level [upper level] supervisor who performs both supervisory and managerial functions. In addition to the qualifications and competency of [for] Fire Officer III, the Fire Officer IV is an individual who has met all the job performance requirements of Fire Officer IV as defined in Chapter 7 of NFPA 1021, Standard for Fire Officer Professional Qualifications. Typical duties of an individual at the Fire Officer IV level include: administering job performance requirements; evaluating and making improvements to department operations; developing long-range plans and fiscal projections; developing plans for major disasters; serving as Incident Commander at major incidents for all hazard types; and administering comprehensive risk management programs.

(B) Competency. A Fire Officer IV must demonstrate competency in appraising and evaluating departmental programs to ensure adherence to current laws and best practices; developing medium and long-range plans for organizations; and assuming a top-level leadership role in both the organization and community.

(13) Fire Service Instructor I personnel. The following general position description for Fire Service Instructor I personnel serves as a guide for anyone interested in understanding the qualifications, competencies, and tasks required of the Fire Service Instructor I operating in the State of Texas. It is ultimately the responsibility of an employer to define specific job descriptions within each jurisdiction.

(A) Qualifications. In addition to successfully completing a commission-approved [commission approved] course and achieving a passing score on the certification examination: must have the ability to deliver instructions effectively from a

prepared lesson plan; the ability to use instructional aids and evaluation instruments; the ability to adapt to lesson plans to the unique requirements of both student and the jurisdictional authority; the ability to organize the learning environment to its maximum potential; the ability to meet the record-keeping requirements of the jurisdictional authority.

(B) Competency. A Fire Service Instructor I must demonstrate competency in delivering instruction in an environment organized for efficient learning while meeting the record-keeping needs of the authority having jurisdiction, utilizing skills in accordance with the objectives in Chapter 8 of the Commission's [commission's] Certification Curriculum Manual.

(14) Fire Service Instructor II personnel. The following general position description for Fire Service Instructor II personnel serves as a guide for anyone interested in understanding the qualifications, competencies, and tasks required of the Fire Service Instructor II operating in the State of Texas. It is ultimately the responsibility of an employer to define specific job descriptions within each jurisdiction.

(A) Qualifications. In addition to successfully completing a Commission-approved [commission approved] course, achieving a passing score on the certification examination, and meeting the qualifications for Fire Service Instructor I: the ability to develop individual lesson plans for a specific topic, including learning objectives, instructional aids, and evaluation instruments; the ability to schedule training sessions based on the overall training plan of the jurisdictional authority; the ability to supervise and coordinate the activities of other instructors.

(B) Competency. A Fire Service Instructor II must demonstrate competency in developing individual lesson plans; scheduling training sessions; and supervising other instructors, utilizing skills in accordance with the objectives in Chapter 8 of the Commission [commission's] Certification Curriculum Manual.

(15) Fire Service Instructor III personnel. The following general position description for Fire Service Instructor III personnel serves as a guide for anyone interested in understanding the qualifications, competencies, and tasks required of the Fire Service Instructor III operating in the State of Texas. It is ultimately the responsibility of an employer to define specific job descriptions within each jurisdiction.

(A) Qualifications. In addition to successfully completing a Commission-approved [commission approved] course, achieving a passing score on the certification examination, and meeting the qualifications for Fire Service Instructor II: the ability to develop comprehensive training curricula and programs for use by single or multiple organizations; the ability to conduct organizational needs analysis; and the ability to develop training goals and implementation strategies.

(B) Competency. A Fire Service Instructor III must demonstrate competency in developing comprehensive training curricula and programs; conducting organizational needs analysis; and developing training goals and implementation strategies, utilizing skills in accordance with the objectives in Chapter 8 of the Commission's [commission's] Certification Curriculum Manual.

(16) Incident Safety Officer personnel. The following general position description for Incident Safety Officer personnel serves as a guide for anyone interested in understanding the qualifications, competencies, and tasks required of the Incident Safety Officer operating in the State of Texas. It is ultimately the responsibility of an employer to define specific job descriptions within each jurisdiction.

(A) Qualifications. An Incident Safety Officer is an individual who has met the requirements of Fire Officer Level I specified in NFPA 1021, Standard for Fire Officer Professional Qualifications and Chapter 6 of NFPA 1521, Standard for Fire Department Safety Officer, and has the knowledge, skill, and abilities to manage incident scene safety. Typical Incident Safety Officer duties include risk and resource evaluation; hazard identification and communication; action plan reviews; safety briefings; accident investigation; post-incident [post incident] analysis; and participation in safety committee activities.

(B) Competency. An Incident Safety Officer must demonstrate competency in the management of incident scene safety through a working knowledge of the various emergency operations as prescribed by the local jurisdiction; an understanding of building construction; fire science and fire behavior; managing an organization's personnel accountability system; and incident scene rehabilitation methodology.

(17) Basic Wildland Fire Protection personnel. The following general position description for Basic Wildland Fire Protection personnel serves as a guide for anyone interested in understanding the qualifications, competencies, and tasks required of the Basic Wildland Fire Fighter operating in the State of Texas. It is ultimately the responsibility of an employer to define specific job descriptions within each jurisdiction.

(A) Qualifications. A Basic Wildland Fire Fighter is an individual who has met the requirements of Chapter 5 of NFPA 1051, Standard for Wildland Fire Fighter Professional qualifications, and should demonstrate knowledge in: wildland fire behavior; fireline safety and use; limitations of personal protective equipment; fire shelter use; fire suppression tactics and techniques in wildland settings; and have an understanding of the fire fighter's role within the local incident management system.

(B) Competency. A Basic Wildland Fire Fighter must demonstrate competency in such areas as: maintaining personal protective equipment and assigned fire suppression tools and equipment; the ability to quickly prepare for a response when notified; recognizing hazards and unsafe situations in a wildland fire; securing a fire line; mopping up a fire area; and patrolling a fire area [so as] to ensure fire control.

(18) Intermediate Wildland Fire Protection personnel. The following general position description for Intermediate Wildland Fire Protection personnel serves as a guide for anyone interested in understanding the qualifications, competencies, and tasks required of the Intermediate Wildland Fire Fighter operating in the State of Texas. It is ultimately the responsibility of an employer to define specific job descriptions within each jurisdiction.

(A) Qualifications. In addition to the qualifications and competency for the Basic Wildland Fire Fighter, the Intermediate Wildland Fire Fighter is an individual who has met the requirements of Chapter 6 of NFPA 1051, Standard for Wildland Fire Fighter Professional qualifications, and should demonstrate knowledge in: basic map reading; use of a locating device such as a compass; radio procedures as adopted by the local jurisdiction; and record keeping.

(B) Competency. An Intermediate Wildland Fire Fighter must demonstrate competency in such areas as: the ability to lead a team of fire fighters in the performance of assigned tasks while maintaining the safety of personnel; implementing appropriate fireline construction methods and other techniques for the protection of exposed property; operation of water delivery equipment; securing an area of suspected fire origin and associated evidence; and serving as a lookout in a wildland fire.

(19) Plans Examiner personnel. The following general position description for Plans Examiner personnel serves as a guide for anyone interested in understanding the qualifications, competencies, and tasks required of the Plans Examiner operating in the State of Texas.

(A) Qualifications. A Plans Examiner is an individual who has met the requirements of Plans Examiner specified in NFPA 1030 (1031) Chapter 8, Standard for Professional Qualifications for Fire Prevention Program Positions.

(B) Competency. A Plans Examiner analyzes building construction, hazardous processes, and architectural drawings or plans to ensure compliance with building and fire codes. This individual is also charged with reviewing plans for new construction as well as modifications to existing structures to ensure that applicable fire and life safety codes are followed.

(20) Fire and Life Safety Educator I personnel. The following general position description for Fire and Life Safety Educator I personnel serves as a guide for anyone interested in understanding the qualifications, competencies, and tasks required of the Fire and Life Safety Educator I, operating in the State of Texas.

(A) Qualifications. A Fire and Life Safety Educator I is an individual who has met the requirements of Fire and Life Safety Educator I specified in NFPA 1030 (1035) Chapter 9, Standard for Professional Qualifications for Fire Prevention Program Positions.

(B) Competency. A Fire and Life Safety Educator I must demonstrate competency in the ability to coordinate and deliver existing educational programs and information designed to reduce risks within the community.

(21) Fire and Life Safety Educator II personnel. The following general position description for Fire and Life Safety Educator II personnel serves as a guide for anyone interested in understanding the qualifications, competencies, and tasks required of the Fire and Life Safety Educator II operating in the State of Texas.

(A) Qualifications. A Fire and Life Safety Educator II is an individual who has met the requirements of Fire and Life Safety Educator II specified in NFPA 1030 (1035) Chapter 10, Standard for Professional Qualifications for Fire Prevention Program Positions.

(B) Competency. A Fire and Life Safety Educator II must demonstrate competency in the ability to prepare educational programs and information to meet identified needs to reduce risks within the community.

(22) Fire Marshal personnel. The following general position description for Fire Marshal personnel serves as a guide for anyone interested in understanding the qualifications, competencies, and tasks required of the Fire Marshal operating in the State of Texas.

(A) Qualifications. A Fire Marshal is an individual who has met the requirements of Fire Marshal specified in NFPA 1030 (1037) Chapter 4 & 5, Standard for Professional Qualifications for Fire Prevention Program Positions.

(B) Competency. A person designated to provide delivery, management, or administration of fire-protection- and life-safety-related codes and standards, investigations, community risk reduction, education, or prevention services for local, county, state, provincial, federal, tribal, or private sector jurisdictions as adopted or determined by that entity.

§421.5 Definitions

The following words and terms, when used in the Standards Manual, shall have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

- (1) Admission to employment—An entry-level [entry level] full-time employee of a local government entity in one of the categories of fire protection personnel.
- (2) Appointment--The designation or assignment of a person to a discipline regulated by the Commission [commission]. The types of appointments are:
 - (A) Permanent [permanent] appointment--the designation or assignment of certified fire protection personnel or certified part-time [part time] fire protection employees to a particular discipline (See Texas Government Code, Chapter 419, §419.032); and
 - (B) Probationary [probationary] or temporary appointment--the designation or assignment of an individual to a particular discipline, except for head of a fire department, for which the individual has passed the Commission's [commission's] certification and has met the medical requirement of §423.1(c) of this title (relating to Minimum Standards for Structure Fire Protection Personnel), if applicable, but has not yet been certified. (See Texas Government Code, Chapter, §419.032.)
- (3) Approved training--Any training used for a higher level of certification must be approved by the Commission [commission] and assigned to either the A-List or the B-List. The training submission must be in a manner specified by the commission and contain all information requested by the Commission [commission]. The Commission [commission] will not grant credit twice for the same subject content or course. Inclusion on the A-List or B-List does not preclude the course approval process as stated elsewhere in the Standards Manual.
- (4) Assigned/work--A fire protection personnel or a part-time fire protection employee shall be considered "assigned/working" in a position, any time the individual is receiving compensation and performing the duties that are regulated by the Commission [commission] and has been permanently appointed, as defined in this section, to the particular discipline.
- (5) [Assistant fire chief--The officer occupying the first position subordinate to the head of a fire department.]
- (5) Auxiliary fire fighter--A volunteer fire fighter.
- (6) Benefits--Benefits shall include, but are not limited to, inclusion in group insurance plans (such as health, life, and disability) or pension plans, stipends, free water usage, and reimbursed travel expenses (such as meals, mileage, and lodging).
- (7) Chief Training Officer--The individual, by whatever title he or she may be called, who coordinates the activities of a certified training facility.

- (8) Class hour--Defined as not less than 50 minutes of instruction, also defined as a contact hour; a standard for certification of fire protection personnel.
- (9) Code--The official legislation creating the Commission [commission].
- (10) College credits--Credits earned for studies satisfactorily completed at an institution of higher education accredited by an agency recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education and including National Fire Academy (NFA) open learning program colleges, or courses recommended for college credit by the American Council on Education (ACE) or delivered through the National Emergency Training Center (both EMI and NFA) programs. A course of study satisfactorily completed and identified on an official transcript from a college or in the ACE National Guide that is primarily related to Fire Service, Emergency Medicine, Emergency Management, or Public Administration is defined as applicable for Fire Science college credit, and is acceptable for higher levels of certification. A criminal justice course related to fire and or arson investigation that is satisfactorily completed and identified on an official transcript from a college or in the ACE National Guide may be used to qualify for Master Arson Investigator certification.
- (11) Commission--Texas Commission on Fire Protection.
- (12) Commission-recognized training--A curriculum or training program which carries written approval from the Commission [commission], or credit hours that appear on an official transcript from an accredited college or university, or any fire service training received from a nationally recognized source, i.e., the National Fire Academy.
- (13) Compensation--Compensation is to include wages, salaries, and "per call" payments (for attending drills, meetings, or answering emergencies).
- (14) Expired--Any certification that has not been renewed on or before the end of the certification period.
- (15) Federal fire fighter--A person as defined in Texas Government Code, Chapter 419, §419.084(h).
- (16) Fire chief--The head of a fire department.
- (17) Fire department--A department of a local government that is staffed by one or more fire protection personnel or part-time fire protection employees.
- (18) Fire protection personnel--Any person who is a permanent full-time employee of a fire department or governmental entity and who is appointed duties in one of the following categories/disciplines: fire suppression, fire inspection, fire and arson investigation, marine fire fighting, aircraft rescue fire fighting, fire training, fire education, fire administration and others employed in related positions necessarily or customarily appertaining thereto.
- (19) Fire Code Inspection--Also called Fire Safety Inspection as referenced in Texas Government Code, Chapter 419, §419.909. An inspection performed for the purpose of determining and enforcing compliance with an adopted fire code.
- (20) Fire suppression duties--Engaging in the controlling or extinguishment of a fire of any type or performing activities that [which] are required for and directly related to the control and extinguishment of fires or standing by on the employer's premises or apparatus or nearby in a state of readiness to perform these duties.

- (21) Full-time--An officer or employee is considered full-time if the employee works an average of 40 hours a week or averages 40 hours per week or more during a work cycle in a calendar year. For the purposes of this definition paid leave will be considered time worked.
- (22) Government entity--The local authority having jurisdiction as employer of full-time fire protection personnel in a state agency, incorporated city, village, town or county, education institution or political subdivision.
- (23) High school--A school accredited as a high school by the Texas Education Agency or equivalent accreditation agency from another jurisdiction.
- (24) Immediately dangerous to life or health (IDLH)--An atmosphere that poses an immediate threat to life, would cause irreversible adverse health effects, or would impair an individual's ability to escape from a dangerous atmosphere.
- (25) Incipient stage fire--A fire which is in the initial or beginning stage and which can be controlled or extinguished by portable fire extinguishers, Class II standpipe or small hose systems without the need for protective clothing or breathing apparatus.
- (26) Instructor:
- (A) Lead Instructor--Oversees the presentation of an entire course and assures that course objectives are met in accordance with the applicable curriculum or course material. The lead instructor should have sufficient experience in presenting all units of the course so as to be capable of last-minute substitution for other instructors.
- (B) Instructor (also Unit Instructor for wildland courses) --Responsible for the successful presentation of one or more areas of instruction within a course, and should be experienced in the lesson content they are presenting.
- (C) Guest Instructor--An individual who may or may not hold Instructor certification but whose special knowledge, skill, and expertise in a particular subject area may enhance the effectiveness of the training in a course. Guest instructors shall teach under the endorsement of the lead instructor.
- (28) Interior structural fire fighting--The physical activity of fire suppression, rescue or both, inside of buildings or enclosed structures, enclosed areas, and IDLH situations that [which] are involved in a fire situation beyond the incipient stage. (See 29 CFR §1910.155.)
- (29) Military active duty (or active duty)--Current full-time military service in the armed forces of the United States, or full-time military service as a member of the Texas military forces or a similar service of another state.
- (30) Military service member--A person who is on active duty.
- (31) Military spouse--A person who is married to a military service member.
- (32) Military veteran--A person who has served on active duty and who was discharged or released from active duty.
- (33) Municipality--Any incorporated city, village, or town of this state and any county or political subdivision or district in this state. Municipal pertains to a municipality as defined in this section.

- (34) National Fire Academy semester credit hours--The number of hours credited for attendance of National Fire Academy courses is determined as recommended in the most recent edition of the "National Guide to Educational Credit for Training Programs," American Council on Education (ACE).
- (35) National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)--An organization established to provide and advocate consensus codes and standards, research, training, and education for fire protection.
- (36) National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG)--An operational group designed to establish, implement, maintain, and communicate policy, standards, guidelines, and qualifications for wildland fire program management among participating agencies.
- (37) Non-self-serving affidavit--A sworn document executed by someone other than the individual seeking certification.
- (38) Participating volunteer fire fighter--An individual who voluntarily seeks certification and regulation by the Commission [commission] under the Texas Government Code, Chapter 419, Subchapter D.
- (39) Participating volunteer fire service organization--A fire department that voluntarily seeks regulation by the Commission [commission] under the Texas Government Code, Chapter 419, Subchapter D.
- (40) Part-time fire protection employee--An individual who is appointed as a part-time fire protection employee and who receives compensation, including benefits and reimbursement for expenses. A part-time fire protection employee is not full-time as defined in this section.
- (41) Personal alert safety system (PASS)--Devices that are certified as being compliant with NFPA 1982 and that automatically activates an alarm signal (which can also be manually activated) to alert and assist others in locating a fire fighter or emergency services person who is in danger.
- (42) Political subdivision--A political subdivision of the State of Texas that includes, but is not limited to the following:
- (43) (A) city;
 - (B) county;
 - (C) school district;
 - (D) junior college district;
 - (E) levee improvement district;
 - (F) drainage district;
 - (G) irrigation district;
 - (H) water improvement district;
 - (I) water control and improvement district;
 - (J) water control and preservation district;

- (K) freshwater supply district;
 - (L) navigation district;
 - (M) conservation and reclamation district;
 - (N) soil conservation district;
 - (O) communication district;
 - (P) public health district;
 - (Q) river authority;
 - (R) municipal utility district;
 - (S) transit authority;
 - (T) hospital district;
 - (U) emergency services district;
 - (V) rural fire prevention district; and
 - (W) any other governmental entity that:
 - (i) embraces a geographical area with a defined boundary;
 - (ii) exists for the purpose of discharging functions of the government; and
 - (iii) possesses authority for subordinate self-government through officers selected by it.
- (43) Pre-fire Planning--Also called a Pre-fire Survey. A walk-through performed by fire fighters for the purpose of gaining familiarity with a building, its contents, and its occupancy.
- (44) Reciprocity for IFSAC seals and TEEX Pro Board certificates--Valid documentation of accreditation from the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress and the National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications issued by the Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service used for commission certification may only be used for obtaining an initial certification.
- (45) Recognition of training--A document issued by the Commission [commission] stating that an individual has completed the training requirements of a specific phase level of the Basic Fire Suppression Curriculum.
- (46) School--Any school, college, university, academy, or local training program that [which] offers fire service training and included within its meaning the combination of course curriculum, instructors, and facilities.
- (47) Structural fire protection personnel--Any person who is a permanent full-time employee of a government entity who engages in fire fighting activities involving structures and may perform other emergency activities typically associated with fire fighting activities such as rescue, emergency medical response, confined space rescue, hazardous materials response, and wildland fire fighting.

- (48) Trainee--An individual who is participating in a Commission-approved [commission approved] training program.
- (49) Volunteer fire protection personnel--Any person who has met the requirements for membership in a volunteer fire service organization, who is assigned duties in one of the following categories: fire suppression, fire inspection, fire and arson investigation, marine fire fighting, aircraft rescue fire fighting, fire training, fire education, fire administration and others in related positions necessarily or customarily appertaining thereto.
- (50) Volunteer fire service organization--A volunteer fire department or organization not under mandatory regulation by the Commission [commission].
- (51) Years of experience--For purposes of higher levels of certification or fire service instructor certification:
- (A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B) of this paragraph, years of experience is defined as full years of full-time, part-time, or volunteer fire service while holding:
- (i) a commission certification as a full-time, or part-time employee of a government entity, a member in a volunteer fire service organization, and/or an employee of a regulated non-governmental fire department; or
- (ii) a State Firefighters' [Firemen's] and Fire Marshals' Association advanced fire fighter certification and have successfully completed, as a minimum, the requirements for an Emergency Care Attendant (ECA) as specified by the Department of State Health Services (DSHS), or its successor agency, or its equivalent; or
- (iii) an equivalent certification as a full-time fire protection personnel of a governmental entity from another jurisdiction, including the military, or while a member in a volunteer fire service organization from another jurisdiction, and have, as a minimum, the requirements for an ECA as specified by the DSHS, or its successor agency, or its equivalent; or
- (iv) for fire service instructor eligibility only, a State Firefighters' [Firemen's] and Fire Marshals' Association Level II Instructor Certification, received prior to June 1, 2008, or Instructor I received on or after June 1, 2008 or an equivalent instructor certification from the DSHS or the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement.
- Documentation of at least three years of experience as a volunteer in the fire service shall be in the form of a non-self-serving [non self-serving] sworn affidavit.
- (B) For fire service personnel certified as required in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph on or before October 31, 1998, years of experience includes the time from the date of employment or membership to date of certification not to exceed one year.

§421.9 Designation of Fire Protection Duties

- (a) An individual who performs one or more fire protection duties, listed in the Texas Government Code, §419.021(3)(C), for a fire department of local government entity shall be designated to only one of the following categories:
- (1) fire protection personnel;
- (2) a part-time fire protection employee; or
- (3) a volunteer fire fighter or other auxiliary fire fighter.

- (b) A fire department regulated by the Commission may not designate the same person under more than one category under this section. The designation shall be made on the records of the department and the designation shall be made available for inspection by the Commission or sent to the Commission on request.
- (c) A fire department regulated by the Commission shall report the appointment of fire protection personnel to a regulated discipline via the Commission's online management program, or the appropriate form if available. Fire protection personnel who are assigned to a regulated discipline as part of their regularly assigned duties shall be appointed to that discipline with the Commission. No individual may be appointed to a discipline without approval by the Commission. The Commission shall not approve an initial appointment to a regulated discipline until it has reviewed and approved a person's fingerprint-based criminal history record. Termination of fire protection personnel or part-time fire protection employees shall be reported to the Commission via the Commission's online management program, or the appropriate form if available within 14 calendar days of the action. In the case of termination, the employing entity shall report an individual's last known home address to the Commission. A Removal from Appointment form may be submitted without the employee's signature.
- (d) A fire department may not in a calendar year compensate, reimburse, or provide benefits to a person the department has designated as a volunteer or other auxiliary fire fighter in an amount that is equal to or more than what a person receives working 2,080 hours at the federal minimum wage.
- (e) A person certified as fire protection personnel in one fire department may be employed and designated as a part-time fire protection employee in another fire department without additional certification as a part-time fire protection employee.

§421.11 Requirement To Be Certified Within One Year

- (a) Except for subsection (c) and (d) of this section, fire protection personnel or part-time fire protection employees of a fire department who are appointed duties identified as fire protection personnel duties must be certified by the Commission [commission] in the discipline(s) to which they are assigned within one year of their appointment to the duties or within two years of successfully passing the applicable commission examination, whichever is less. The Commission [commission] shall not approve an initial certification for a regulated discipline until it has reviewed and approved a person's fingerprint-based criminal history record. An individual who accepts appointment(s) in violation of this section shall be removed from the appointment(s) and will be subject to administrative penalties. A department or local government that appoints an individual in violation of this section will also be subject to administrative penalties.
- (b) An individual who has been removed from appointment to duties identified as fire protection personnel duties for violation of this section must petition the Commission [commission] in writing for permission to be reappointed to the duties from which they were removed. The petition will be considered only if the individual has obtained all appropriate certification(s) applicable to the duties to which the individual seeks reappointment.
- (c) A military spouse may be appointed to fire protection personnel duties with a regulated fire department without being required to obtain the applicable certification, provided the military spouse submits the following to the Commission [commission] prior to appointment and has received confirmation of approval from the Commission [commission]:
- (1) notification to the Commission [commission] of intent to perform regulated fire protection duties;
 - (2) documentation of equivalent certification from another jurisdiction;

(3) a fingerprint-based criminal history record using the Commission-approved [commission approved] system;

(4) proof of residency in Texas; and

(5) a copy of the individual's military identification card.

(d) A military spouse appointed to fire protection duties under this section may engage in those duties only for the period in which the military service member to whom the spouse is married is stationed at a military installation in Texas, but not to exceed three years from the date the military spouse receives approval from the Commission [commission] to engage in those duties.

§421.13 Individual Certificate Holders

(a) Employment is not mandatory for certification. An individual may hold or renew any certificate issued by the Commission [commission] for which they maintain their qualifications.

(b) An individual certificate holder must notify the Commission [commission] of a change of his or her home address within 14 calendar days of a change of address.

§421.15 Extension of Training Period

A fire department may apply to the Commission [commission] for an extension of the one-year training period, identified in §419.032(c) of the Government Code, for a time period not exceeding two years from the date of original appointment as follows:

(1) the request for extension shall be placed on the Fire Fighter Advisory Committee's (FFAC's) agenda to be heard at its next regular or special called meeting after submission of the request;

(2) after review by the FFAC, the application along with the FFAC's recommendations will be sent to the Commission [commission] to be heard at its next regular meeting. If the request for extension is approved by the Commission [commission], the extension shall become effective immediately; and

(3) the one-year extension of training time, if granted, shall run from the date of forfeiture and removal or, at the latest, from one year after the original date training began, whichever occurs first.

§421.17 Requirement to Maintain Certification

(a) All full-time or part-time employees of a fire department or local government assigned duties identified as fire protection personnel duties must maintain certification by the Commission [commission] in the discipline(s) to which they are assigned for the duration of their assignment.

(b) In order to maintain the certification required by this section, the certificate(s) of the employees must be renewed annually by complying with §437.5 of this title (relating to Renewal Fees) and Chapter 441 of this title (relating to Continuing Education) of the Commission [commission] standards manual.

(c) Except for subsection (d) of this section, or upon determination by the Executive Director when special circumstances are presented, an individual whose certificate has been expired for greater than one year but no longer than five years, may renew their certification once they comply with the CE requirements for the period of time their certification was inactive, as outlines in 37 TAC, Chapter 441, Continuing Education, and they pay all applicable certification renewal fees for the period of time that their certification

was inactive, as required in 37 TAC, Chapter 437, Fees. Individuals whose certification has been expired longer than five years, may not renew the certificate previously held. To obtain a new certification, an individual must meet the requirements in Chapter 439 of this title (relating to Examinations for Certification).

(d) A military service member whose certificate has been expired for three years or longer may not renew the certificate previously held. To obtain a new certification, the person must meet the requirements in Chapter 439 of this title. In order to qualify for this provision, the individual must have been a military service member at the time the certificate expired and continued in that status for the duration of the three years [three-year period].

(e) The Commission [commission] will provide proof of current certification to individuals whose certification has been renewed.

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 12

12. Discussion on the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) “Responding to the Interface” (WUI) training for Texas firefighters.

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 13 WITH RELEVANT DOCUMENTS

13. Discussion and possible action on the proposed changes to 37 TAC, Chapter 449, Head of Fire Department **(please see attached)**.

CHAPTER 449

HEAD OF A FIRE DEPARTMENT

SUBCHAPTER A

MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR HEAD OF A SUPPRESSION FIRE DEPARTMENT

§449.1. Minimum Standards for the Head of a Suppression Fire Department.

(a) An individual who becomes employed and is appointed as the head of a suppression fire department must be certified by the Commission [commission] as Head of a Suppression Fire Department, within one year of appointment. The requirements in this subchapter also apply to an individual who is appointed on an interim basis to head of a suppression fire department.

(b) Prior to being appointed as the head of a suppression fire department, an individual must:

(1) hold a Texas Commission on Fire Protection certification as fire protection personnel in any discipline that has a Commission-approved [commission approved] curriculum that requires structural fire protection personnel certification. The individual must have five years of experience in a full-time fire suppression position or ten years in a part-time fire suppression position at the time of appointment, or attain the required years of experience within one year of the appointment; or

(2) provide documentation of accreditation from the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress that is deemed equivalent to the Commission's [commission's] approved basic fire suppression curriculum, and provide documentation in the form of a sworn non-self-serving affidavit of five years of experience in a full-time fire suppression position in a jurisdiction other than Texas; or

(3) provide documentation in the form of a sworn non-self-serving affidavit of ten years of experience as an employee of a local governmental entity in a full-time structural fire protection personnel position in a jurisdiction other than Texas; or

(4) provide documentation in the form of a sworn non-self-serving affidavit of ten years of experience as an active volunteer fire fighter in one or more volunteer fire departments. The ten years of volunteer service must include documentation of attendance at 40% of the drills for each year and attendance of at least 25% of a department's emergencies in a calendar year while a member of a volunteer fire department or departments with ten or more active members that conducts a minimum of 48 hours of drills in a calendar year.

(c) Holding the Head of a Fire Suppression Fire Department certification does not qualify an individual for any other certification. An individual who seeks certification in another discipline must meet the requirements for that discipline.

(d) Nothing contained in this chapter shall be construed to supersede Chapter 143, Local Government Code, in regard to appointment of a head of a suppression fire department.

(e) Individuals certified as the Head of a Suppression Fire Department must meet the continuing education requirement as provided for in Chapter 441 of this title (relating to Continuing Education).

(f) An individual certified as Head of a Suppression Fire Department under this subchapter may engage in fire fighting activities only as the head of a suppression fire department. These activities include incident command, direction of fire fighting activities or other emergency activities typically associated with fire fighting duties, i.e. rescue, confined space and hazardous materials response.

***Source Note:** The provisions of this §449.1 adopted to be effective February 26, 2015, 40 TexReg 831; amended to be effective November 18, 2018, 43 TexReg 7557*

§449.3. Minimum Standards for Head of a Suppression Fire Department Certification.

Applicants for Head of a Suppression Fire Department Certification must complete the following requirements:

- (1) must be appointed as head of a fire department; and
- (2) complete the Standards Review Assignment for Head of a Fire Department identified in the applicable chapter of the Certification Curriculum Manual; and
- (3) meet with a Texas Commission on Fire Protection Compliance Section representative for review and approval of the Standards Review Assignment; and
- (4) attend at least one Texas Commission on Fire Protection regularly scheduled [commission] meeting, [or] one regularly scheduled standing committee meeting (Firefighter Advisory Curriculum and Testing, or Health and Wellness), or a scheduled regional meeting [fire fighter advisory committee meeting] in the first year of appointment; and
- (5) document completion of the National Incident Management System courses 100, 200, 300, 400, 700, and 800.

***Source Note:** The provisions of this §449.3 adopted to be effective February 26, 2015, 40 TexReg 831; amended to be effective November 18, 2018, 43 TexReg 7557*

CHAPTER 449

HEAD OF A FIRE DEPARTMENT

SUBCHAPTER B

MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR HEAD OF A PREVENTION ONLY FIRE DEPARTMENT

§449.201. Minimum Standards for the Head of a Prevention Only Fire Department.

(a) An individual who becomes employed and is assigned as the head of a prevention only fire department must be certified by the Commission [commission] as Head of a Prevention Only Fire Department, within one year of appointment. The requirements in this subchapter also apply to an individual who is appointed on an interim basis to head of a prevention only fire department.

(b) Prior to being appointed as the head of a prevention only fire department, an individual must:

- (1) hold a Texas Commission on Fire Protection certification as a fire inspector, fire investigator, or arson investigator. The individual must have five years of experience in a full-time fire prevention position or ten years in a part-time fire prevention position at the time of appointment, or attain the required years of experience within one year of the appointment; or
- (2) possess valid documentation of accreditation from the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress that is deemed equivalent to the Commission's [commission's] approved basic arson investigator, fire investigator, or fire inspector curriculum and provide documentation in the form of a sworn non-self-serving affidavit of five years of experience in a full-time fire prevention position in a jurisdiction other than Texas; or
- (3) provide documentation in the form of a sworn non-self-serving affidavit of ten years of experience as an employee of a local governmental entity in a full-time fire inspector, fire investigator, or arson investigator position in a jurisdiction other than Texas; or
- (4) provide documentation in the form of a sworn non-self-serving affidavit of ten years of experience as a certified fire investigator, fire inspector, or arson investigator as a part-time fire prevention employee; or
- (5) provide documentation in the form of a sworn non-self-serving affidavit of ten years of fire prevention experience as an active volunteer fire inspector, fire investigator, or arson investigator.

(c) Holding the Head of a Prevention Only Fire Department certification does not qualify an individual for any other certification. An individual who seeks certification in another discipline must meet the requirements for that discipline.

(d) Nothing contained in this chapter shall be construed to supersede Chapter 143, Local Government Code, in regard to appointment of a head of a prevention only fire department.

(e) Individuals certified as the Head of a Prevention Only Fire Department must meet the continuing education requirement as provided for in Chapter 441 of this title (relating to Continuing Education).

***Source Note:** The provisions of this §449.201 adopted to be effective February 26, 2015, 40 TexReg 831; amended to be effective November 18, 2018, 43 TexReg 7558*

§449.203. Minimum Standards for Head of a Prevention Only Fire Department Certification.

Applicants for Head of a Prevention Only Fire Department Certification must complete the following requirements:

- (1) must be appointed as head of a prevention only fire department; and
- (2) complete the Standards Review Assignment for Head of a Fire Department identified in the applicable chapter of the Certification Curriculum Manual; and
- (3) meet with a Texas Commission on Fire Protection Compliance Section representative for review and approval of the Standards Review Assignment; and
- (4) attend at least one Texas Commission on Fire Protection regularly scheduled [commission] meeting, [or] one regularly scheduled standing committee meeting (Firefighter Advisory Curriculum and Testing, or Health and Wellness), or a scheduled regional meeting [fire fighter advisory committee meeting] in the first year of appointment; and
- (5) documentation of completion of National Incident Management System 100, 200, 300, 400, 700 and 800.

***Source Note:** The provisions of this §449.203 adopted to be effective February 26, 2015, 40 TexReg 831; amended to be effective November 18, 2018, 43 TexReg 7558*

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 14 WITH RELEVANT DOCUMENTS

14. Discussion and possible action on 37 TAC, Chapter 435, Fire Fighter Safety **(please see attached)**.



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Introduction

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) in 2019 supported a consolidation plan for the emergency response & responder Safety (ERRS) standards. According to the NFPA this consolidation will occur within five groups over several revision years. All of which will most likely pose a challenge to this agency, commissioners, and committees.

The objective of this document is to elicit the many accomplished minds of the fire service in Texas to work through any identified challenges as a team to ensure the best overall solution.

Executive Summary

NFPA 1970, 2025 Edition's effective date was September 18, 2024, combining four previous ERRS standards. The Texas Commission on Fire Protection (TCFP) has regulatory authority over three of those standards. Those standards within TCFP's authority include Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting, Open-Circuit Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) for Emergency Services, and Standard on Personal Alert Safety Systems (PASS).

This document is intended to provide information on current government and administrative codes, contrasts to the changes to the NFPA ERRS consolidation project, and touch on some of the most significant changes that will most likely affect the fire service either budgetarily or through required training in new technology.

This document is not a comprehensive review of NFPA 1970, 2025 edition but rather an extensive review to identify potential challenges for the commission and the fire service at large that may need attention.

Current Texas Government and Administrative Code associated with NFPA 1970, 2025 edition (digest version relevant to this standard)

Texas Government Code (TGC)

Sec. 419.040. PROTECTIVE CLOTHING.

The protective clothing shall be suitable for the task that the individual is expected to perform and must comply with the minimum standards of the National Fire Protection Association or its successor.

Sec. 419.041. SELF-CONTAINED BREATHING APPARATUS.

All self-contained breathing apparatus shall comply with the minimum standards of the National Fire Protection Association or its successor.



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Sec. 419.042. PERSONAL ALERT SAFETY SYSTEMS.

The personal alert safety system must comply with minimum standards of the National Fire Protection Association or its successor.

Sec. 419.043. APPLICABLE NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION STANDARD.

The National Fire Protection Association standard applicable to protective clothing, self-contained breathing apparatus, or personal alert safety systems is the standard in effect when a fire-fighting agency contracts to purchase the item. The agency may continue to use an item that was in use or contracted for before a change in a standard unless the commission determines that the continued use constitutes an undue risk to the wearer, in which case the commission shall order the use be discontinued and shall set an appropriate date for compliance with the revised standard.

Texas Administrative Code (TGC)

RULE §435.1-Protective Clothing

ensure that all protective clothing complies with the minimum standards of the National Fire Protection Association suitable for the tasks the individual is expected to perform. The National Fire Protection Association standard applicable to protective clothing is the standard in effect at the time the entity contracts for new, repaired, or used protective clothing

RULE §435.3-Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus

provide and maintain a complete self-contained breathing apparatus that complies with the minimum standards of the National Fire Protection Association identified in NFPA 1981, Standard on Open-Circuit Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus for Fire Fighters or its successor for each on-duty fire protection person who engages in operations where IDLH atmospheres may be encountered, where the atmosphere is unknown or would be exposed to hazardous atmospheres from fire or other emergencies, or where the potential for such exposure exists. the National Fire Protection Association standard applicable to a self-contained breathing apparatus is the standard in effect at the time the entity contracts for new, rebuilt, repaired, or used self-contained breathing apparatus.

RULE §435.9-Personal Alert Safety System (PASS)

provide and maintain a PASS device complying with the minimum standards of the National Fire Protection Association identified in NFPA 1982, Standard on Personal Alert Safety Systems (PASS) for Fire Fighters or its successor for each on-duty fire protection person who engages in operations where IDLH atmospheres may be encountered, or where the atmosphere is unknown, or where hazardous conditions from fire or other emergencies exist, or where the potential for such exposure



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exists. ensure that all PASS devices used by fire protection personnel comply with the minimum standards of the National Fire Protection Association identified in NFPA 1982, Standard on Personal Alert Safety Systems (PASS) for Fire Fighters. The National Fire Protection Association standard applicable to a PASS device is the standard in effect at the time the entity contracts for new, rebuilt, repaired, or used PASS devices.

RULE §435.7-Implementation of Mandatory NFPA Standards

Allow implementation of TCFP mandated NFPA standards at the Commissioner's discretion up to 365 days from the effective date of the new NFPA standard.

NFPA 1970, 2025 Edition

Effective date September 18, 2024

NFPA 1970, 2025 Edition includes:

- NFPA 1971 (2018) – Standard on Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting
- NFPA 1975 (2019) – Standard on Emergency Services Work Apparel
- NFPA 1981 (2019) – Standard on Open-Circuit Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) for Emergency Services
- NFPA 1982 (2018) – Standard on Personal Alert Safety Systems (PASS)

They are organized within NFPA 1970 as follows:

- Chapters 1 to 4 Administration, References, Definitions, & Certifications
- Chapters 5 to 9 apply to previous NFPA 1971
- Chapters 10 to 14 apply to previous NFPA 1975
- Chapters 15 to 19 apply to previous NFPA 1981
- Chapters 20 to 24 apply to previous NFPA 1982

Notable Changes Within each Chapter

Chapters 1-4

Ch. 1-General administration

Ch. 2- References

Ch. 3-Definitions

Ch. 4 General



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Chapters 5-9 (1971)

- Discusses wear for overhaul operations NFPA 1951
- Does not specify PPE requirements for nonstructural fire responses
- The certification organization shall not permit any manufacturer to continue to label any products that are certified as compliant with the 2018 edition of NFPA 1971 on the effective date of the 2025 edition of NFPA 1970, plus **12 months**.
- Manufactures allowed to label "THIS [type of protective element] UPON CERTIFICATION HAS A PFAS (TOTAL FLUORINE) CONCENTRATION OF NO MORE THAN 100 PPM".
- Hoods must be particulate blocking
- Improved removal of contaminants and performance properties
- Minimum TPP still 35

Chapters 10 to 14 apply to NFPA 1975 *****NOT UNDER TCFP AUTHORITY*****

Standard on Emergency Services Work Apparel

Chapters 15 to 19 apply to NFPA 1981

Standard on Open-Circuit Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) for Emergency Services

- The certification organization shall not permit any manufacturer to continue to label any products that are certified as compliant with the 2019 edition of NFPA 1981 on the effective date of the 2025 edition of NFPA 1970, plus **18 months**.
- Improved intrinsic safety ratings.
- Improved integration with accessory electronic devices (portable radios etc.)
- Allow for better and easier cleaning of SCBA
- End-of-Service-Time Indicator (EOSTI) and Heads-Up-Display (HUD) remaining volume indications are now based on cylinder pressure.

(NFPA 1981, 2019 edition The EOSTI alarm shall activate at 35 percent, ± 2 percent of full cylinder pressure.)

Table 17.2.6 EOSTI Activation Based on SCBA Rated Service Pressure

	2216 psig SCBA	3000 psig SCBA	4500 psig SCBA	5500 psig SCBA	6000 psig SCBA
EOSTI Activation	34% $\pm 2\%$ rated service pressure	33% $\pm 2\%$ rated service pressure	31% $\pm 2\%$ rated service pressure	29% $\pm 2\%$ rated service pressure	28% $\pm 2\%$ rated service pressure



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(NFPA 1981, 2019 Edition HUD visual information signals for breathing air cylinder content shall display at 100 percent, 75 percent, 50 percent, and 35 percent)

Table 17.3.8.5 HUD Indication of Remaining Rated Cylinder Volume Based on SCBA Rated Service Pressure

		2216 psig SCBA	3000 psig SCBA	4500 psig SCBA	5500 psig SCBA	6000 psig SCBA
HUD Visual Alert Signals and Visual Information Displays	100% remaining volume indication	100% +0/-5% rated service pressure	100% +0/-5% rated service pressure	100% +0/-5% rated service pressure	100% +0/-5% rated service pressure	100% +0/-5% rated service pressure
	75% remaining volume indication	74% ±5% rated service pressure	73% ±5% rated service pressure	70% ±5% rated service pressure	67% ±5% rated service pressure	66% ±5% rated service pressure
	50% remaining volume indication	49% ±5% rated service pressure	48% ±5% rated service pressure	45% ±5% rated service pressure	42% ±5% rated service pressure	41% ±5% rated service pressure
	35% remaining volume indication	34% ±2% rated service pressure	33% ±2% rated service pressure	31% ±2% rated service pressure	29% ±2% rated service pressure	28% ±2% rated service pressure

Chapters 20 to 24 apply to NFPA 1982

Standard on Personal Alert Safety Systems (PASS)

- Further solidifies the universal PASS tone

End of Document.

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 15 WITH RELEVANT DOCUMENTS

15. Proposed rule review for the following:

A. 37 TAC, Chapter 423, Fire Suppression **(please see attached)**.

TITLE 37 PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONS

PART 13 TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION

CHAPTER 423 FIRE SUPPRESSION

**SUBCHAPTER A MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR STRUCTURE FIRE PROTECTION
PERSONNEL CERTIFICATION**

§423.1 Minimum Standards for Structure Fire Protection Personnel

- (a) Fire protection personnel who are appointed to structure fire protection duties must be certified by the commission within one year from the date of their appointment.
- (b) Prior to being appointed to structure fire protection duties, personnel must:
- (1) complete a commission approved basic structure fire protection program; and
 - (2) successfully pass the commission examination as required by §423.3 of this title (relating to Minimum Standards for Basic Structure Fire Protection Personnel Certification); and
 - (3) successfully complete a commission recognized emergency medical training program. The commission recognizes the following emergency medical training:
 - (A) Department of State Health Services Emergency Medical Service Personnel certification training;
 - (B) an American Red Cross Emergency Response course, including the optional lessons and enrichment sections;
 - (C) an American Safety and Health Institute First Responder course;
 - (D) National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians certification; or
 - (E) medical training deemed equivalent by the commission.
- (c) Personnel holding any level of structure fire protection personnel certification must comply with the continuing education requirements specified in Chapter 441 of this title (relating to Continuing Education).

§423.3 Minimum Standards for Basic Structure Fire Protection Personnel Certification

In order to be certified as Basic Structure Fire Protection Personnel, an individual must:

- (1) possess valid documentation from the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress or the National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications issued by the Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service using the 2008 or later edition of the NFPA standard applicable to this discipline and meeting the requirements specified in §439.1 of this title (relating to Requirements--General) as:
 - (A) Fire Fighter I, Fire Fighter II, Hazardous Materials Awareness Level Personnel; and
 - (B) Hazardous Materials Operations Level Responders including the Mission-Specific Competencies for Personal Protective Equipment and Product Control under the current edition; or

(C) NFPA 472 Hazardous Materials Operations prior to the 2008 edition; and

(D) meet the medical requirements outlined in §423.1 of this title (relating to Minimum Standards for Structure Fire Protection Personnel); or

(2) complete a commission-approved basic structure fire protection program, meet the medical requirements outlined in §423.1 of this title (relating to Minimum Standards for Structure Fire Protection Personnel), and successfully pass the commission examination(s) as specified in Chapter 439 of this title (relating to Examinations for Certification). An approved basic structure fire suppression program shall consist of one or any combination of the following:

(A) completion of a commission-approved Basic Fire Suppression Curriculum, as specified in the commission's Certification Curriculum Manual; or

(B) completion of an out-of-state, and/or military training program deemed equivalent to the commission-approved Basic Fire Suppression Curriculum; or

(C) documentation of the receipt of a Fire Fighter II certificate, an advanced certificate, or confirmation of training from the State Firefighters' and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas that is deemed equivalent to a commission-approved Basic Fire Suppression Curriculum.

§423.5 Minimum Standards for Intermediate Structure Fire Protection Personnel Certification

(a) Applicants for Intermediate Structure Fire Protection Personnel certification must complete the following requirements:

(1) hold, as a prerequisite, a Basic Structure Fire Protection Personnel certification as defined in §423.3 of this title (relating to Minimum Standards for Basic Structure Fire Protection Personnel Certification); and

(2) acquire a minimum of four years of fire protection experience and complete the training listed in one of the following options:

(A) Option 1--Successfully complete six semester hours of fire science or fire technology from an approved Fire Protection Degree Program and submit documentation as required by the commission that the courses comply with subsections (b) and (c) of this section; or

(B) Option 2--Completion of coursework from either the A-List or the B-List courses. Acceptable combinations of courses are as follows: two A-List courses; or eight B-List courses; or one A-List course and four B-List courses. (See the exception outlined in subsection (c) of this section); or

(C) Option 3--Completion of coursework from either the A-List or the B-List courses in combination with college courses in fire science or fire protection. Acceptable combinations of courses are three semester hours meeting the requirements of Option 1, with either one A-List course or four B-List courses (See the exception outlined in subsection (c) of this section).

(b) Non-traditional credit awarded at the college level, such as credit for experience or credit by examination obtained from attending any school in the commission's Certification Curriculum Manual or for experience in fire service, may not be counted toward this level of certification.

(c) The training required in this section must be in addition to any training used to qualify for any lower level of Structure Fire Protection Personnel certification. Repeating a course or a course of similar content cannot be used towards this level of certification.

§423.7 Minimum Standards for Advanced Structure Fire Protection Personnel Certification

(a) Applicants for Advanced Structure Fire Protection Personnel certification must complete the following requirements:

(1) hold as a prerequisite an Intermediate Structure Fire Protection Personnel certification as defined in §423.5 of this title (relating to Minimum Standards for Intermediate Structure Fire Protection Personnel Certification); and

(2) acquire a minimum of eight years of fire protection experience and complete the training listed in one of the following options:

(A) Option 1--Successfully complete six semester hours of fire science or fire technology from an approved Fire Protection Degree Program and submit documentation as required by the commission that the courses comply with subsections (b) and (c) of this section; or

(B) Option 2--Completion of coursework from either the A-List or the B-List courses. Acceptable combinations of courses are as follows: two A-List courses; or eight B-List courses; or one A-List course and four B-List courses. (See the exception outlined in subsection (c) of this section); or

(C) Option 3--Completion of coursework from either the A-List or the B-List courses in combination with college courses in fire science or fire protection. Acceptable combinations of courses are three semester hours meeting the requirements of Option 1 with either one A-List course or four B-List courses (See the exception outlined in subsection (c) of this section).

(b) Non-traditional credit awarded at the college level, such as credit for experience or credit by examination obtained from attending any school in the commission's Certification Curriculum Manual or for experience in the fire service, may not be counted toward this level of certification.

(c) The training required in this section must be in addition to any training used to qualify for any lower level of Structure Fire Protection Personnel certification. Repeating a course or a course of similar content cannot be used towards this level of certification.

§423.9 Minimum Standards for Master Structure Fire Protection Personnel Certification

(a) Applicants for Master Structure Fire Protection Personnel certification must complete the following requirements:

(1) hold as a prerequisite an Advanced Structure Fire Protection Personnel certification as defined in §423.7 of this title (relating to Minimum Standards for Advanced Structure Fire Protection Personnel Certification); and

(2) acquire a minimum of twelve years of fire protection experience, and 60 college semester hours or an associate degree, which includes at least 18 college semester hours in fire science subjects.

(b) College level courses from both the upper and lower division may be used to satisfy the education requirement for Master Structure Fire Protection Personnel Certification.

§423.11 Higher Levels of Certification

(a) An individual may receive higher levels of certification in structure fire protection while being assigned to another discipline, provided all requirements for the higher level or levels of certification are met.

(b) Repetitive training cannot be used toward higher levels of certification.

§423.13 International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC) Seal

(a) Individuals completing a commission-approved basic structure fire protection program, meeting any other NFPA requirement, and passing the applicable commission examination(s) may be granted IFSAC seal(s) for Hazardous Materials Awareness Level Personnel, Hazardous Materials Operations Level Responders (including the Mission-Specific Competencies for Personal Protective Equipment and Product Control), Fire Fighter I, and/or Fire Fighter II by making application to the commission for the IFSAC seal(s) and paying applicable fees, provided they meet the following provisions:

(1) To receive the IFSAC Hazardous Materials Awareness Level Personnel seal, the individual must:

(A) complete the Hazardous Materials Awareness section of a commission-approved course; and

(B) pass the Hazardous Materials Awareness section of a commission examination.

(2) To receive the IFSAC Hazardous Materials Operations Level Responders seal (including the Mission-Specific Competencies for Personal Protective Equipment and Product Control) the individual must:

(A) complete the Hazardous Materials Operation section of a commission-approved course; and

(B) document possession of an IFSAC Hazardous Materials Awareness Level Personnel seal; and

(C) pass the Hazardous Materials Operations section of a commission examination.

(3) To receive the IFSAC Fire Fighter I seal, the individual must:

(A) complete a commission-approved Fire Fighter I course; and

(B) provide medical documentation as outlined in subsection (b) of this section; and

(C) document possession of an IFSAC Hazardous Materials Awareness Level Personnel seal; and

(D) document possession of an IFSAC Hazardous Materials Operations Level Responders seal; and

(E) pass the Fire Fighter I section of a commission examination.

(4) To receive the IFSAC Fire Fighter II seal, the individual must:

(A) complete a commission-approved Fire Fighter II course; and

(B) document possession of an IFSAC Fire Fighter I seal; and

(C) pass the Fire Fighter II section of a commission examination.

(b) In order to qualify for a Fire Fighter I seal, the individual must document successful completion of an emergency medical training course or program that includes those subject areas required by NFPA 1001.

(c) In order to qualify for an IFSAC seal an individual must submit the application for the seal prior to the expiration of the examination. **SUBCHAPTER B MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR AIRCRAFT RESCUE FIRE FIGHTING PERSONNEL**

§423.201 Minimum Standards for Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting Personnel

- (a) Aircraft rescue fire fighting personnel are employees of a local governmental entity who are appointed to aircraft rescue fire fighting duties. These duties may include fighting aircraft fires at airports, standing by for potential crash landings, and performing aircraft rescue and fire fighting duties.
- (b) Personnel appointed to aircraft rescue fire fighting duties must be certified by the commission within one year from the date of their appointment.
- (c) Prior to being appointed to aircraft rescue fire fighting duties, all personnel must:
 - (1) successfully complete a commission approved basic structure fire protection program and pass the commission's examination; and
 - (2) successfully complete a commission approved basic aircraft rescue fire fighting program and pass the commission's examination.
- (d) "Stand by" means the act of responding to a designated position in the movement area on the airfield at which initial response fire and rescue units will await the arrival of an aircraft experiencing an announced emergency.
- (e) "Movement area" is comprised of all runways, taxiways, and other areas of the airport which are used for taxiing or hover taxiing, take-off, and landing of aircraft, exclusive of loading ramps and aircraft parking areas.
- (f) Personnel holding any level of aircraft rescue fire fighting personnel certification shall be required to comply with the continuing education specified in Chapter 441 of this title (relating to Continuing Education).
- (g) Aircraft rescue fire fighting personnel that perform structure fire protection duties must be certified, as a minimum, as basic structure fire protection personnel.

§423.203 Minimum Standards for Basic Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting Personnel Certification

In order to be certified as Basic Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting Personnel, an individual must:

- (1) hold a Basic Structure Fire Protection Personnel certification; and
- (2) possess valid documentation as an Airport Fire Fighter from either:
 - (A) the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress; or
 - (B) the National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications issued by the Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service using the 2010 or later edition of the NFPA standard applicable to this discipline and meeting the requirements specified in §439.1 of this title (relating to Requirements-General); or
- (3) complete a commission approved aircraft rescue fire fighting program and successfully pass the commission examination as specified in Chapter 439 of this title (relating to Examinations for Certification). An approved aircraft rescue fire fighting program shall consist of one of the following:
 - (A) a commission approved Basic Aircraft Rescue Fire Suppression Curriculum as specified in the commission's Certification Curriculum Manual; or

(B) an out-of-state, and/or military training program that has been submitted to the commission for evaluation and found to be equivalent to or exceeds the commission approved Basic Aircraft Rescue Fire Suppression Curriculum.

§423.205 Minimum Standards for Intermediate Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting Personnel Certification

(a) Applicants for Intermediate Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting Personnel certification must complete the following requirements:

(1) hold as a prerequisite a Basic Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting Personnel certification as defined in §423.203 of this title (relating to Minimum Standards for Basic Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting Personnel Certification); and

(2) acquire a minimum of four years of fire protection experience and complete the training listed in one of the following options:

(A) Option 1--Successfully complete six semester hours of fire science or fire technology from an approved Fire Protection Degree Program and submit documentation as required by the commission that the courses comply with subsections (b) and (c) of this section; or

(B) Option 2--Completion of coursework from either the A-List or the B-List courses. Acceptable combinations of courses are as follows: two A-List courses; or eight B-List courses; or one A-List course and four B-List courses. (See the exception outlined in subsection (c) of this section); or

(C) Option 3--Completion of coursework from either the A-List or the B-List courses in combination with college courses in fire science or fire protection. Acceptable combinations of courses are three semester hours meeting the requirements of Option 1 with either one A-List course or four B-List courses (See the exception outlined in subsection (c) of this section).

(b) Non-traditional credit awarded at the college level, such as credit for experience or credit by examination obtained from attending any school in the commission's Certification Curriculum Manual or for experience in the fire service, may not be counted toward this level of certification.

(c) The training required in this section must be in addition to any training used to qualify for any lower level of Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting certification. Repeating a course or a course of similar content cannot be used towards this level of certification.

§423.207 Minimum Standards for Advanced Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting Personnel Certification

(a) Applicants for Advanced Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting Personnel certification must complete the following requirements:

(1) hold as a prerequisite an Intermediate Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting Personnel certification as defined in §423.205 of this title (relating to Minimum Standards for Intermediate Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting Personnel Certification); and

(2) acquire a minimum of eight years of fire protection experience and complete the training listed in one of the following options:

(A) Option 1--Successfully complete six semester hours of fire science or fire technology from an approved Fire Protection Degree Program and submit documentation as required by the commission that the courses comply with subsections (b) and (c) of this section; or

(B) Option 2--Completion of coursework from either the A-List or the B-List courses. Acceptable combinations of courses are as follows: two A-List courses; or eight B-List courses; or one A-List course and four B-List courses. (See the exception outlined in subsection (c) of this section); or

(C) Option 3--Completion of coursework from either the A-List or the B-List courses in combination with college courses in fire science or fire protection. Acceptable combinations of courses are three semester hours meeting the requirements of Option 1 with either one A-List course or four B-List courses (See the exception outlined in subsection (c) of this section).

(b) Non-traditional credit awarded at the college level, such as credit for experience or credit by examination obtained from attending any school in the commission's Certification Curriculum Manual or for experience in the fire service, may not be counted toward this level of certification.

(c) The training required in this section must be in addition to any training used to qualify for any lower level of Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting Personnel certification. Repeating a course or a course of similar content cannot be used towards this level of certification.

§423.209 Minimum Standards for Master Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting Personnel Certification

(a) Applicants for Master Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting Personnel certification must complete the following requirements:

(1) hold, as a prerequisite, an Advanced Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting Personnel certification as defined in §423.207 of this title (relating to Minimum Standards for Advanced Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting Personnel Certification); and

(2) acquire a minimum of twelve years of fire protection experience, and 60 college semester hours or an associate's degree, which includes at least 18 college semester hours in fire science subjects.

(b) College level courses from both the upper and lower division may be used to satisfy the education requirement for Master Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting Personnel Certification.

§423.211 International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC) Seal

Individuals completing a commission approved basic aircraft rescue fire fighting program, documenting an IFSAC seal for Fire Fighter II, and passing the applicable commission examination may be granted an IFSAC seal as an Airport Fire Fighter by making application to the commission for the IFSAC seal and paying applicable fees. In order to qualify for an IFSAC seal, an individual must submit the application for the seal prior to the expiration of the examination. **SUBCHAPTER C MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR MARINE FIRE PROTECTION PERSONNEL**

§423.301 Minimum Standards for Marine Fire Protection Personnel

(a) Marine fire protection personnel are employees of a local governmental entity who work aboard a fire boat with a minimum pumping capacity of 2,000 gallons per minute, and fight fires that occur on or adjacent to a waterway, waterfront, channel, or turning basin.

(b) Fire protection personnel appointed to marine fire protection duties must be certified by the commission within one year from the date of their appointment.

(c) Prior to being appointed to marine fire protection duties, all personnel must:

- (1) successfully complete a commission approved basic structure fire protection program and pass the commission's examination; and
- (2) successfully complete a commission approved basic marine fire protection program and pass the commission's examination.
- (d) Personnel holding any level of Marine Fire Protection Personnel certification shall be required to comply with the continuing education specified in Chapter 441 of this title (relating to Continuing Education).

§423.303 Minimum Standards for Basic Marine Fire Protection Personnel Certification

In order to be certified as Basic Marine Fire Protection Personnel an individual must:

- (1) hold a Basic Structure Fire Protection Personnel certification; and
- (2) complete a commission approved marine fire protection program and successfully pass the commission examination as specified in Chapter 439 of this title (relating to Examinations for Certification). An approved marine fire protection program shall consist of one of the following:
 - (A) the commission approved Basic Marine Fire Protection Curriculum as specified in Chapter 3 of the commission's Certification Curriculum Manual; or
 - (B) An out-of-state, and/or military training program that has been submitted to the commission for evaluation and found to be equivalent to or exceed the commission approved Basic Marine Fire Protection Curriculum.

§423.305 Minimum Standards for Intermediate Marine Fire Protection Personnel Certification

- (a) Applicants for Intermediate Marine Fire Protection Personnel certification must complete the following requirements:
 - (1) hold, as a prerequisite, a Basic Marine Fire Protection Personnel certification as defined in §423.303 of this title (relating to Minimum Standards for Basic Marine Fire Protection Personnel Certification); and
 - (2) acquire a minimum of four years of fire protection experience and complete the training listed in one of the following options:
 - (A) Option 1--Successfully complete six semester hours of fire science or fire technology from an approved Fire Protection Degree Program and submit documentation as required by the commission that the courses comply with subsections (b) and (c) of this section; or
 - (B) Option 2--Completion of coursework from either the A-List or the B-List courses. Acceptable combinations of courses are as follows: two A-List courses; or eight B-List courses; or one A-List course and four B-List courses. (See the exception outlined in subsection (c) of this section); or
 - (C) Option 3--Completion of coursework from either the A-List or the B-List courses in combination with college courses in fire science or fire protection. Acceptable combinations of courses are three semester hours meeting the requirements of Option 1 with either one A-List course or four B-List courses. (See the exception outlined in subsection (c) of this section).
- (b) Non-traditional credit awarded at the college level, such as credit for experience or credit by examination obtained from attending any school in the commission's Certification Curriculum Manual or for experience

in fire service, may not be counted towards this level of certification.

(c) The training required in this section must be in addition to any training used to qualify for any lower level of Marine Fire Protection Personnel certification. Repeating a course, or a course of similar content, cannot be used towards this level of certification.

§423.307 Minimum Standards for Advanced Marine Fire Protection Personnel Certification

(a) Applicants for Advanced Marine Fire Protection Personnel certification must complete the following requirements:

(1) hold as a prerequisite an Intermediate Marine Fire Protection Personnel certification as defined in §423.305 of this title (relating to Minimum Standards for Intermediate Marine Fire Protection Personnel Certification); and

(2) acquire a minimum of eight years of fire protection experience and complete the training listed in one of the following options:

(A) Option 1--Successfully complete six semester hours of fire science or fire technology from an approved Fire Protection Degree Program and submit documentation as required by the commission that the courses comply with subsections (b) and (c) of this section; or

(B) Option 2--Completion of coursework from either the A-List or the B-List courses. Acceptable combinations of courses are as follows: two A-List courses; or eight B-List courses; or one A-List course and four B-List courses. (See the exception outlined in subsection (c) of this section); or

(C) Option 3--Completion of coursework from either the A-List or the B-List courses in combination with college courses in fire science or fire protection. Acceptable combinations of courses are three semester hours meeting the requirements of Option 1 with either one A-List course or four B-List courses (See the exception outlined in subsection (c) of this section).

(b) Non-traditional credit awarded at the college level, such as credit for experience or credit by examination obtained from attending any school in the commission's Certification Curriculum Manual or for experience in the fire service, may not be counted towards this level of certification.

(c) The training required in this section must be in addition to any training used to qualify for any lower level of Marine Fire Protection Personnel certification. Repeating a course or a course of similar content cannot be used towards this level of certification.

§423.309 Minimum Standards for Master Marine Fire Protection Personnel Certification

(a) Applicants for Master Marine Fire Protection Personnel certification must complete the following requirements:

(1) hold, as a prerequisite, an Advanced Marine Fire Protection Personnel certification as defined in §423.307 of this title (relating to Minimum Standards for Advanced Marine Fire Protection Personnel Certification); and

(2) acquire a minimum of twelve years of fire protection experience, 60 college semester hours or an associate's degree, which includes at least 18 college semester hours in fire science subjects.

(b) College level courses from both the upper and lower division may be used to satisfy the education

requirement for Master Marine Fire Protection Personnel Certification.

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 15 WITH RELEVANT DOCUMENTS CONTINUED

15. Proposed rule review for the following:

B. 37 TAC, Chapter 425, Fire Service Instructors **(please see attached)**.

TITLE 37 PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONS

PART 13 TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION

CHAPTER 425 FIRE SERVICE INSTRUCTORS

§425.1 Minimum Standards for Fire Service Instructor Certification

- (a) Training programs that are intended to satisfy the requirements for fire service instructor certification must meet the curriculum and competencies based upon NFPA 1041, Standard for Fire and Emergency Services Instructor Professional Qualifications or the most recent edition of. All applicants for certification must meet the examination requirements of this section.
- (b) Prior to being appointed to fire service instructor duties, all personnel must complete a commission approved fire service instructor program and successfully pass the commission examination pertaining to that curriculum.
- (c) Personnel who receive probationary or temporary appointment to fire service instructor duties must be certified by the commission within one year from the date of appointment to such position.
- (d) An out-of-state, military, or federal instructor training program may be accepted by the commission as meeting the training requirements for certification as a fire service instructor if the training has been submitted to the commission for evaluation and found to be equivalent to or to exceed the commission approved instructor course for that particular level of fire service instructor certification.
- (e) An individual who holds a bachelor's degree or higher in education from a regionally accredited educational institution or a teaching certificate issued by the State Board for Educator Certification or an associate degree with twelve semester hours of education instructional courses is considered to have training equivalent to the commission's curriculum requirements for Instructor I, II and III training.
- (f) Personnel holding any level of fire service instructor certification must comply with the continuing education requirements specified in §441.21 of this title (relating to Continuing Education for Fire Service Instructor).

§425.3 Minimum Standards for Fire Service Instructor I Certification

In order to be certified as a Fire Service Instructor I an individual must:

- (1) have a minimum of three years of experience as defined in §421.5 of this title (relating to Definitions) in fire protection in one or more or any combination of the following:
- (A) a paid, volunteer, or regulated non-governmental fire department; or
- (B) a department of a state agency, education institution or political subdivision providing fire protection training and related responsibilities; and
- (2) possess valid documentation as a Fire Instructor I, II or III from either:
- (A) the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC); or
- (B) the National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications issued by the Texas A&M Engineering

Extension Service using the 2007 or later edition of the NFPA standard applicable to this discipline and meeting the requirements as specified in §439.1 of this title (relating to Requirements--General); or

(3) have completed the appropriate curriculum for Fire Service Instructor I contained in Chapter 8 of the commission's Certification Curriculum Manual, or meet the equivalence as specified in §425.1 of this title (relating to Minimum Standards for Fire Service Instructor Certification); and

(4) successfully pass the applicable commission examination as specified in Chapter 439 of this title (relating to Examinations for Certification).

§425.5 Minimum Standards for Fire Service Instructor II Certification

In order to be certified as a Fire Service Instructor II, an individual must:

(1) hold as a prerequisite a Fire Instructor I certification as defined in §425.3 of this title (relating to Minimum Standards for Fire Service Instructor I Certification); and

(2) have a minimum of three years of experience as defined in §421.5 of this title (relating to Definitions) in fire protection in one or more or any combination of the following:

(A) a paid, volunteer, or regulated non-governmental fire department; or

(B) a department of a state agency, education institution or political subdivision providing fire protection training and related responsibilities; and

(3) possess valid documentation as a Fire Instructor I, II or III from either:

(A) the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC); or

(B) the National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications issued by the Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service using the 2007 or later edition of the NFPA standard applicable to this discipline and meeting the requirements as specified in §439.1 of this title (relating to Requirements--General); or

(4) have completed the appropriate curriculum for Fire Service Instructor II contained in Chapter 8 of the commission's Certification Curriculum Manual, or meet the equivalence as specified in §425.1 of this title (relating to Minimum Standards for Fire Service Instructor Certification); and

(5) successfully pass the applicable commission examination as specified in Chapter 439 of this title (relating to Examinations for Certification).

§425.7 Minimum Standards for Fire Service Instructor III Certification

In order to be certified as a Fire Service Instructor III an individual must:

(1) hold as a prerequisite, a Fire Instructor II Certification as defined in §425.5 of this title (relating to Minimum Standards for Fire Service Instructor II Certification); and

(2) have a minimum of three years of experience as defined in §421.5 of this title (relating to Definitions) in fire protection in one or more or any combination of the following:

(A) a paid, volunteer, or regulated non-governmental fire department; or

(B) a department of a state agency, education institution or political subdivision providing fire protection training and related responsibilities; and

(3) possess valid documentation of accreditation from the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC) as a Fire Instructor III; or

(4) have completed the appropriate curriculum for Fire Service Instructor III contained in Chapter 8 of the commission's Certification Curriculum Manual, or meet the equivalence as specified in §425.1 of this title (relating to Minimum Standards for Fire Service Instructor Certification); and

(5) successfully pass the applicable commission examination as specified in Chapter 439 of this title (relating to Examinations for Certification); and either

(A) hold as a prerequisite an advanced structural fire protection personnel certification, an advanced aircraft fire protection personnel certification, advanced marine fire protection personnel certification, advanced inspector certification, advanced fire investigator, or advanced arson investigator certification; or

(B) have 60 college hours from a regionally accredited educational institution; or

(C) hold an associate's degree from a regionally accredited educational institution.

§425.9 Minimum Standards for Master Fire Service Instructor III Certification

In order to be certified as a Master Fire Service Instructor III the individual must:

(1) hold as a prerequisite a Fire Service Instructor III certification; and

(2) be a member of a paid, volunteer, or regulated non-governmental fire department; or a department of a state agency, education institution or political subdivision providing fire protection training and related responsibilities; and

(3) hold as a prerequisite a master structural fire protection personnel certification, a master aircraft rescue fire fighting personnel certification, master marine fire protection personnel certification, master inspector certification, master fire investigator certification, or master arson investigator certification; or

(4) hold a bachelor's degree or higher in education from a regionally accredited educational institution or a teaching certificate issued by the Texas State Board of Education.

§425.11 International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC) Seal

(a) Individuals completing a commission approved Fire Service Instructor I training program and passing the applicable state examination may be granted an IFSAC seal for Instructor I by making application to the commission and paying the applicable fee.

(b) Individuals holding an IFSAC Instructor I seal, completing a commission approved Fire Service Instructor II training program, and passing the applicable state examination may be granted an IFSAC seal for Instructor II by making application to the commission and paying the applicable fee.

(c) Individuals holding an IFSAC Instructor II seal, completing a commission approved Fire Service Instructor III training program, and passing the applicable state examination may be granted an IFSAC seal for Instructor III by making application to the commission and paying the applicable fee.

(d) In order to qualify for an IFSAC seal, an individual must submit the application for the seal prior to the expiration of the examination.

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 16

16. Report and possible action from the Ad Hoc Subcommittee regarding the selection and appointment of candidates for current vacancies on Health and Wellness, Curriculum and Testing, and Firefighter Advisory Subcommittees.

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 17 WITH RELEVANT DOCUMENTS

17. Discussion and possible action on public request concerning 37 TAC, Chapter 469, Technical Rescue **(please see attached)**.

CHAPTER 469

TECHNICAL RESCUE

SUBCHAPTER A

MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR ROPE RESCUE AWARENESS AND OPERATIONS

§469.1. Rope Rescue Awareness Level/Operations Level Certification.

- (a) A Rope Rescue Awareness Level/Operations Level Rescuer is an individual who has met the requirements of Chapters 5.1 and 5.2 of NFPA 1006, Standard for Technical Rescue Personnel Professional Qualifications and has the knowledge, skills, and ability to perform Rope Rescue at the Awareness Level/Operations Level.
- (b) All individuals holding a Rope Rescue Awareness Level/Operations Level certification shall be required to comply with the continuing education requirements in Chapter 441 of this title (relating to Continuing Education).
- (c) Special temporary provision. Individuals are eligible to take the Commission examination for Rope Rescue Awareness Level/Operations Level by:
 - (1) holding as a minimum, Structural Fire Protection Personnel, Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting Personnel, or Marine Fire Protection Personnel through the Commission; and
 - (2) providing documentation acceptable to the Commission, in the form of an affidavit from the individual's Head of Department or Chief Training Officer, that the individual has met the department's requirements to perform as a Rope Rescuer and has demonstrated proficiency as a Rope Rescuer at the Rope Rescue Awareness Level/Operations Level.
- (d) All applications for testing during the special temporary provision period must be received no earlier than October 1, 2024, and no later than October 1, 2025.
- (e) This special temporary provision will expire on November 1, 2025.

§469.3. Minimum Standards for Rope Rescue Awareness Level/Operations Level Certification.

To be certified to the Rope Rescue Awareness Level/Operations Level, an individual must:

- (1) hold certification as Structural Fire Protection Personnel, Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting Personnel, or Marine Fire Protection Personnel; and
- (2) [complete a Commission-approved Rope Rescue Awareness Level/Operations Level program and successfully pass the Commission examination as specified in Chapter 439 of this title (relating to Examinations for Certification). An approved Rope Rescue Awareness Level/Operations Level program must consist of one of the following:]

[(A) completion of an in-state Rope Rescue Awareness Level/Operations Level program meeting the requirements of the applicable NFPA standard and conducted by a Commission-certified training provider that was submitted and approved through the Commission's training prior approval system; or]

[(B) completion of an out-of-state educational institution of higher education, and/or military training program that has been submitted to the Commission for evaluation and found to meet the requirements of the applicable NFPA standard.]

(2) possess valid documentation for Rope Rescue Awareness Level/Operations Level from the:

- (A) the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC); or
- (B) complete a Commission-approved Rope Rescue Awareness Level/Operations Level program and successfully pass the Commission examination as specified in Chapter 439 of this title (relating to Examinations for Certification). An approved Rope Rescue Awareness Level/Operations Level program must consist of one of the following:
 - (A) (C) completion of an in-state Rope Rescue Awareness Level/Operations Level program meeting the requirements of the applicable NFPA standard and conducted by a Commission-certified training provider that was submitted and approved through the Commission's training prior approval system; or
 - (c) (D) completion of an out-of-state educational institution of higher education, and/or military training program that has been submitted to the Commission for evaluation and found to meet the requirements of the applicable NFPA standard.

§469.5. Examination Requirement.

Examination requirements in Chapter 439 of this title (relating to Examinations for Certification) must be met to receive Rope Rescue Awareness Level/Operations Level certification.

CHAPTER 469

TECHNICAL RESCUE

SUBCHAPTER B

MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR ROPE RESCUE TECHNICIAN

§469.201. Rope Rescue Technician Level

- (a) A Rope Rescue Technician Level Rescuer is an individual who has met the requirements of chapter 5.3 of NFPA 1006, Standard for Technical Rescue Personnel Professional Qualifications, and has the knowledge, skills, and ability to perform Rope Rescue at the Technician Level.
- (b) All individuals holding a Rope Rescue Technician Level certification shall be required to comply with the continuing education requirements in Chapter 441 of this title (relating to Continuing Education).
- (c) Special temporary provision. Individuals are eligible to take the Commission examinations for the Rope Rescue Technician Level by:
 - (1) holding as a minimum, Structural Fire Protection Personnel, Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting Personnel, or Marine Fire Protection Personnel through the Commission; and
 - (2) providing documentation acceptable to the Commission, in the form of an affidavit from the individual's Head of Department or Chief Training Officer, that the individual has met the department's requirements to perform as a Rope Rescuer and has demonstrated proficiency as a Rope Rescuer at the Rope Rescue Technician Level.
- (d) All applications for testing during the special temporary provision period must be received no earlier than October 1, 2024, and no later than October 1, 2025.
- (e) This special temporary provision will expire on November 1, 2025.

§469.203. Minimum Standards for Rope Rescue Technician Level Certification

To be certified at the Rope Rescue Technician Level, an individual must:

- (1) Option 1--_hold certification as Structural Fire Protection Personnel, Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting Personnel, or Marine Fire Protection Personnel; and
 - (A) hold a Rope Rescue Awareness Level/Operations Level certification through the Commission or International Fire Service Accreditation (IFSAC); and
 - (B) complete a Commission-approved Rope Rescue Technician Level program and successfully pass the Commission examination for Rope Rescue Technician as specified in Chapter 439 of this title (relating to Examinations for Certification). An approved Rope Rescue Technician Level program must consist of one of the following:
 - (ii) completion of an in-state Rope Rescue Technician Level program meeting the

requirements of the applicable NFPA standard and conducted by a Commission-certified training provider that was submitted and approved through the Commission's training prior approval system; or

(ii) successful completion of an out-of-state educational institution of higher education, and/or military training program that has been submitted to the Commission for evaluation and found to meet the requirements of the applicable NFPA standard.

(2) Option 2--_hold certification as Structural Fire Protection Personnel, Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting Personnel, or Marine Fire Protection Personnel; and

(A) complete a Commission-approved Rope Rescue Awareness Level/Operations Level program. An approved Rope Rescue Awareness Level/Operations Level program must consist of one of the following:

(i) completion of an in-state Rope Rescue Awareness Level/Operations Level program meeting the requirements of the applicable NFPA standard and conducted by a Commission-certified training provider that was submitted and approved through the Commission's training prior approval system; or

(ii) successful completion of an out-of-state educational institution of higher education, and/or military training program that has been submitted to the Commission for evaluation and found to meet the requirements of the applicable NFPA standard; and

(B) complete a Commission-approved Rope Rescue Technician Level program. An approved Rope Rescue Technician Level program must consist of one of the following:

(i) completion of an in-state Rope Rescue Technician Level program meeting the requirements of the applicable NFPA standard and conducted by a Commission-certified training provider that was submitted and approved through the Commission's training prior approval system; or

(ii) completion of an out-of-state educational institution of higher education, and/or military training program that has been submitted to the Commission for evaluation and found to meet the requirements of the applicable NFPA standard; and

(C) successfully pass the Commission examinations for the Rope Rescue Technician Level as specified in Chapter 439 of this title (relating to Examinations for Certification) or

(ii) Possess the International Fire Service Accreditation (IFSAC) seal for Rescue Technician.

§469.205. Examination Requirement.

Examination requirements in Chapter 439 of this title (relating to Examinations for Certification) must be met to receive Rope Rescue Technician Level certification.

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 18 WITH RELEVANT DOCUMENTS

18. Matters from the Agency Chief:

A. Update regarding agency duties and responsibilities.

B. Decision of the Agency Chief in contested cases and consent orders.

C. Status regarding division functions:

i. Training Approval & Testing – test administered, training approvals, record reviews, and online training audits.

ii. Certification & Professional Development – training applications, IFSAC seals issued, certifications issued, training facilities, curriculum development, library resource requests.

iii. Compliance – biennial inspections, compliance officers training, issues involving regulated entities.

iv. Information Technology – public website design, FARM and FIDO improvements, CAPPs (Central Accounting Payroll/Personnel System), IT security policy, and service requests.

Commission Quarterly Report

Training Approval and Testing Section

- **Test Administration, Training Approvals, Record Reviews, and Training Audits Statistics – 4th Quarter, FY 2024**
 - **Test Administration** – 7191 exams were administered during this quarter with a pass rate of 87.43%. ***YTD***29,294/86.38%
 - **Training Approvals** – Total of 1274 training approvals were submitted with start dates during this quarter in the commission's Training Facility Management System.
 - **Record Reviews** – One hundred fifty-seven (157) record reviews for equivalency were conducted (58 SFFMA (57 Structure/1 Inspector)/99 out of state, education, expired test scores, expired certifications, and Wildland). Fifty-one (51) out of state, education and Wildland reviews were approved, seven (7) were denied and two (2) are pending for additional information. Two hundred thirty-four (234 – includes expired certifications and expired test scores) Qual numbers were issued in the Training Facility Management System.
 - **Training and Skill Testing Audits** – Thirty-one (31) online training audits were conducted during the 4th quarter. Seven (7) had no deficiencies noted. Two (2) were invalidated due to violations. Twenty-two (22) had minor deficiencies such as no syllabus attached, no Instructor contact, no course schedule, no textbook information, or no skills examiners. All issues were resolved in one or two days.
 - **Online Testing Centers Added:**
 - Ho2 Systems LLC - Frisco
 - Trinity Valley Community College - Terrell

Activities for the Next Quarter:

- Proceed with onboarding at least 4 additional testing centers.
- Conduct temporary provision testing for the new Technical Rescue certifications.
- Work with IT to develop Batch Applications and Group Mastery Reports for Training Facilities to make scheduling students for online testing easier. **We are currently in the Beta testing stage.**

****Written and Online Exams between June 1st – August 31st**

Online Exams: 4955 (Pass Rate 85.65%)

Written Exams: 1583 (Pass Rate 89.3%)

****Number of Fire Marshal exams during the temporary provision ending 8/30/24**

1411 (first attempts)

1342 (passed - 95.2%)

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
<u>Certification/Renewal:</u>				
Professional Development Training Applications	2173	2193	2716	1359
<u>Issued:</u> IFSAC Seals	1860	1855	2271	2203
TCFP Certifications	4699	4356	5090	5593
Criminal History	591	663	1114	868
Medical documents:	746	774	884	966
Confirmation of Commissions (Peace Officer)	74	30	26	42
Service time applications	89	51	85	62
<u>Renewals:</u> Department Personnel	36676	63	10	6
Certified Training Facilities	25	236	39	4
Individual Certified Holders	15502	204	108	72
Registered Seals: IFSAC	366	462	394	404
TEEX Proboard	193	129	206	201
Total number of Training Facilities	468	470	475	482

Quarterly Report – Curriculum Development

4th Quarter Meeting Dates:

6/13 ARFF Ad-Hoc Committee meeting

Reviewed Skills Manual 1010 updates

Question review

Standards update

6/17 – 6/18 Curriculum & Testing Committee meeting

Met with TDEM about potential certification

7/23 ARFF Ad-Hoc Committee meeting

Reviewed Curriculum Manual

Question review

8/1 – 8/2 Curriculum & Testing Committee meeting

Reviewed Rope Rescue questions

8/6 – 8/7 Investigator Ad-Hoc Committee meeting

Reviewed Curriculum Manual 921 updates

Question review

Standards update

8/28 – 8/29 Fire Marshal Ad-Hoc Committee meeting

Standard updates
Question review

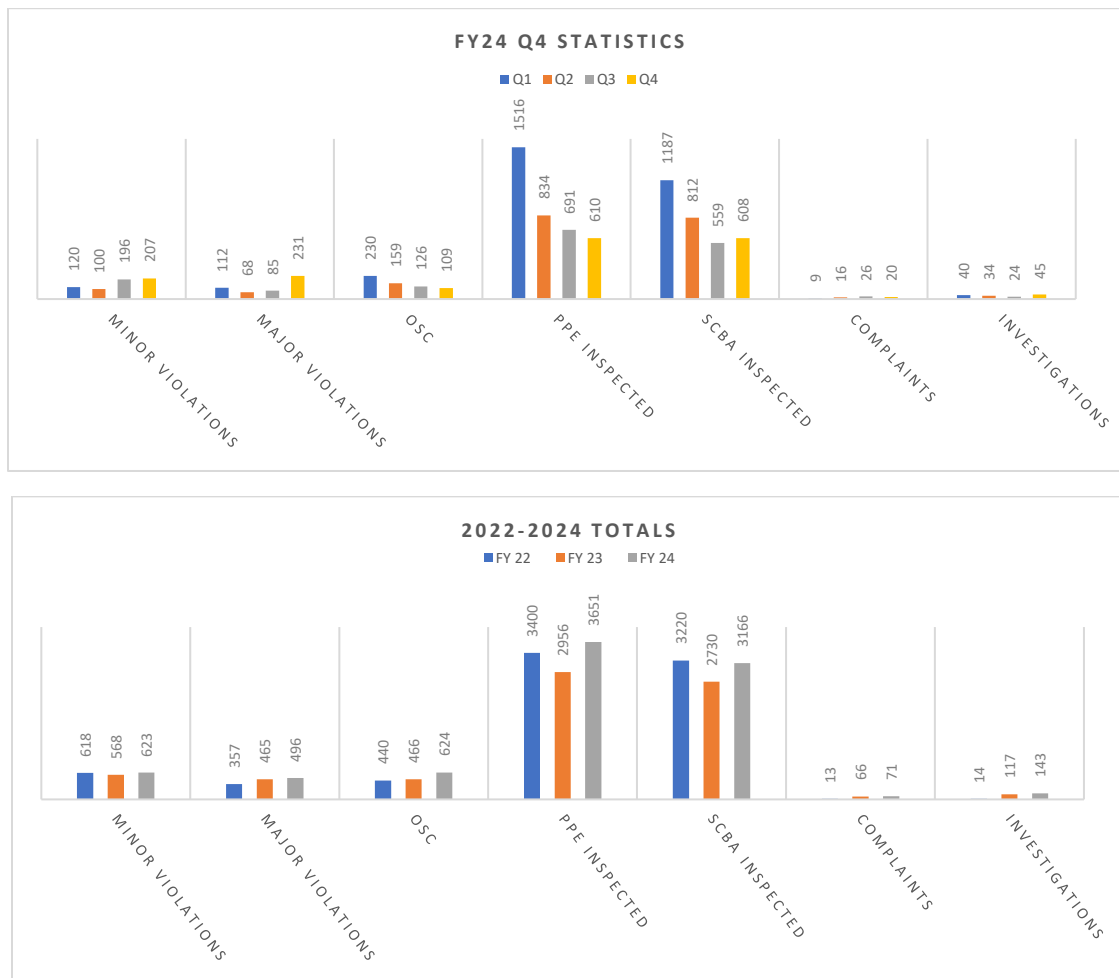
Test Development and Test Bank Maintenance

Updates/ Maintenance test to bank --- Ongoing all discipline
Feedback questions – Reviewed, Edited, or Archived – Ongoing all discipline
Question validation/ Reference updates – Ongoing all discipline

Commission Quarterly Report

Compliance/Investigation Division

Compliance Inspection Activity statistics:



Worked with testing to establish more on-line testing centers.

Quarterly training in Austin

Initiated injury reduction initiatives

Establish enhanced joint response effort with State Fire Marshal's Office on LODD's and critical injuries.

Staffed TIFMAS EOC at TFS for five weeks

2 Regional Meetings

Attended Senior Management Program Training

Attended Fire Rescue International Dallas

Inspection files forwarded to compliance chief for further action: 4

IT Division report for 4th quarter:

- TCFP Websites and Web Applications Uptime 99%
- Strictly 20 started to capture IT-related pain points
- Provisioned laptop for TIFMAS
- Databases
 - Indexes optimized.
 - Sizes shrunk for exam and testing.
- Exam
 - Prepped Online Exams to accommodate Ropes.
 - Prepped WEM to accommodate Ropes.
- FARM & FIDO
 - Readied for renewal.
 - Updated eligibility module.
- Public Website
 - Updated committee opening application—added new committee types.
- Addressed 366 Service Requests (Tickets)

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 19

19. Personnel matters regarding the appointment, employment, compensation, evaluation, reassignment, and duties of the Agency Chief.

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 20

20. Adjourn meeting.