



**ANNUAL REPORT  
JULY 2010 - JUNE 2011**



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT**

**COMMISSION ON FIRE PREVENTION AND CONTROL**

**PETER S. CAROZZA, JR., Chairman  
Kevin J. Kowalski, Vice Chairman  
Jeffrey J. Morrissette, State Fire Administrator**

*Established - 1975 Statutory authority - Conn. Gen. Statutes. Sec. 7-323*

*Central Office - Connecticut Fire Academy, 34 Perimeter Road*

*Windsor Locks, CT 06096*

*Average number of full-time employees – 16 (General Fund)*

*Recurring operating expenses - \$2,401,424*

***Organization structure - Office of State Fire Administration, Training Division and Certification Unit***

The Commission proudly presents the following summary of activities for Fiscal Year 2011.

**Agency Mission**

***To prevent or mitigate the effects of fire and disasters, either natural or man-made, on the citizens of the State of Connecticut. This objective shall be accomplished through the development and delivery of state-of-the-art educational programs designed to meet nationally recognized standards, certification of individuals to such standards and maintenance of up-to-date resources for use by fire service personnel, public educators and other first responders.***

**Statutory Authority**

Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §§ 7-323(j) - 7-323(s) the Commission is charged with and has primary responsibility for training, public fire and life safety education and professional competency certification for members of Connecticut's fire service.

The Commission on Fire Prevention and Control (CFPC) serves as the focal point for fire service training, public fire and life-safety education and professional competency testing and certification. The Commission's operating units are comprised of the Office of State Fire Administration, Connecticut Fire Academy and Certification Unit. Appointed members of the Commission represent the statewide fire service organizations and serve under the leadership of Chairman Peter Carozza, Jr. The agency is overseen by State Fire Administrator Jeffrey J. Morrissette.

During the 2011 Legislative Session the General Assembly and Governor passed legislation to consolidate the Commission's operations under a newly created Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP). The Commission will become a Division under the new Department and will transition from a policy board to an advisory board to the Commissioner of DESPP.

### OFFICE OF STATE FIRE ADMINISTRATION

The Office of State Fire Administration provides overall coordination, management and support of division activities and facilities. Administration of grant programs including the Supplemental and Entry Level Training Reimbursement grants to local fire departments continued through the year however funding was eliminated for FY12 and 13.

The Office provides consulting services to communities regarding fire department administration, Juvenile Firesetter Intervention and Volunteer Recruitment and Retention. In addition, oversight of the Statewide Fire Rescue Disaster Response Plan continues as a priority with staff serving as Fire Service Liaison's in the State Emergency Operations Center. Version 2.1 of the State Fire Plan was adopted. Support to the Connecticut Statewide Honor Guard continues to ensure the honoring of Connecticut's fallen firefighters. Coordination and collaboration with the independent Regional Fire Schools is ongoing. Land was procured for Regional Fire Schools in Beacon Falls and Willimantic; completion of upgrades to the New Haven Regional Fire School and groundbreaking for expansion of the Harford County Regional Fire School at the Connecticut Fire Academy were all highlights. Information dissemination to fire service constituents continued primarily through the CFPC Listserv with over 4,000 messages transmitted during the year.

### Training Division

The Training Division under the direction of Adam Piskura, Director of Training delivers a diverse range of training and education programs ranging from the comprehensive 14-week resident Recruit Firefighter Training program to Fire Officer and technical specialty level courses with collegiate transfer credits. Courses are available for delivery throughout the state or at the Connecticut Fire Academy in Windsor Locks.

During FY11 350 training programs were delivered reaching 7,899 students resulting in 178,898 contact hours. Special seminars and specialized technical training including

Rescue Week 2010 and the Annual June Fire School provided training to over 800 students. A significant accomplishment was the handoff of curriculum to locals of the HazMat Awareness/Operations/WMD course based upon the NFPA 472-2008 Standard. Several improvements were made to our youth program which has seen great support from both parents and fire departments statewide. Continued popular was delivery of the Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT) to assist municipalities identify future firefighters with the capability of career and lifelong success. A total of 1,738 candidates were registered with 1367 testing. An overall passing rate of 74% was achieved. Charter Oak State College approved 13 CFA programs for collegiate transfer credit adding value to our students. Collaboration with the Military Department and Department of Public Health in the opening of the New England Disaster Training Center at Camp Hartell in Windsor Locks will provide improved training opportunities for all emergency responders. Finally the CFA Bookstore had \$392,586 in sales with a total of 12,421 items sold.

### Certification Unit

The Certification Unit administers professional competency testing and certification of fire service personnel. The Unit is internationally accredited by both the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC) and the National Board on Fire Service (NBFSPQ) Professional Qualifications adding value to fire service personnel achieving certification. A total of 6,318 psycho-motor evaluations and cognitive examinations were administered during FY11 with an overall passing rate of 83% for cognitive examinations. Promotional and entry-level examinations continue to be offered to fire departments and municipalities statewide. Following a thorough site-visit and evaluation, the Unit was reaccredited for an additional five years by IFSAC. A newly implemented improvement now allows Student's to look-up examination results on-line via the Division's website.