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State Fire Academy Hosts 32nd Annual Training Event

Almost 400 firefighters and 100 junior firefighters from around South Carolina are expected to attend the 32nd Annual Southeastern Fire School March 8-9, 2014, at the South Carolina Fire Academy.

The weekend fire school, which is the largest training event conducted by the Fire Academy each year, will feature 14 training courses. Fifteen fire and emergency equipment vendors will also display fire trucks, tools and equipment.

“We have a great weekend of training planned for the firefighters, both paid and volunteer, as well as industrial fire brigade personnel,” Fire Marshal Shane Ray said. “We have excellent demonstrations and programs for company officers, chief officers, and fire marshals as well. This training event is also a great opportunity for firefighters to network with each other. Although several classes are full, we still have some openings. I encourage any firefighter wanting more training to attend our weekend fire school.”

Fire Academy staff, part-time adjunct instructors and special instructors from around the country will provide training courses. Courses being taught during the two-day event include: Municipal Approach to Aircraft Rescue Firefighting (ARFF); Strategies and Tactics of Auto Extrication; High Line Rope Operations; Modern Fire Ground Operations; Surviving the Mayday; Overcoming Fire Ground Implications; Flashover Recognition, Survival and Firefighter Rescue; Time to Expand on HAZMAT Reference Materials; Search and Rescue Under Adverse Conditions; Effective HAZMAT Scene Management; Honoring “The Charleston Nine” – A Study of Change; Vacation Fire Camp; The Asheville Fire Department Line of Duty Death Case Study of Capt. Jeff Bowen; and Community Risk Reduction Concepts for Volunteer Fire Departments.

“Each year new and different training courses are offered,” Ray said. “Students will experience hands-on training by using many of our special live fire training props,

including our burn buildings, flammable liquids and gas burn props, the five-story smoke tower, and the 737 aircraft prop.”

The South Carolina Fire Academy, located in Columbia, is one of the premier fire-training academies in the United States. The Fire Academy provides emergency services training to the municipal fire service, both paid and volunteers, airport crash rescue departments, industrial fire brigades and emergency teams from around the state and the world. The Fire Academy is accredited by the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC).

The Fire Academy, the Fire Marshal’s office, and the South Carolina Emergency Response Task Force make up the Division of Fire and Life Safety, which is a division of the South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation.

For more information and to register, visit the S.C. Fire Academy website at:

www.scfa.state.sc.us