



South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation

**Division of Fire and Life Safety**

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**For Immediate Release**

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## **State Fire Academy Hosts 34th Annual Training Event**

More than 250 firefighters and 100 junior firefighters from across South Carolina are expected to attend the 34th Annual Southeastern Fire School March 19-20, 2016, 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 10 training courses. Junior firefighters will also have an opportunity to learn about the Academy and compete in fun and friendly competitions. Fourteen fire and emergency equipment vendors will be on-hand to 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," State Fire Marshal Robert Polk said. "We have excellent demonstrations and programs for company officers, chief officers, and fire marshals. This training event is also a great opportunity for firefighters to network with each other and with vendors. Although a few 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 will provide training courses. Courses being taught during the two-day event include:

- Municipal Approach to Aircraft Rescue Firefighting (ARFF)
- The New Fire Officer – "It's more than just a badge"
- Cellular Tower Rescue
- Origin and Cause for First-in Firefighter
- School Bus Extrication
- Working Fire Operations for Firefighters and Incident Commanders (with live-fire)
- FLAG (Flammable Liquids and Gases)
- IFC Performing Commercial Fire Plan Reviews
- Vehicle Rescue Forensics Evaluation Process
- LACK (Leadership, Accountability, Culture, and Knowledge)

"Each year new and different training courses are offered," Polk 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) and National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications (Pro Board) for multiple NFPA firefighter levels.

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.

Members of the media are encouraged to attend training events taking place at the Academy from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. each day.

For more information and to register, visit the S.C. Fire Academy website at: [www.scfa.state.sc.us](http://www.scfa.state.sc.us)