



Nikki R. Haley
Governor

Holly G. Pisarik
Director

South Carolina
Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation



110 Centerview Drive
Post Office Box 11329
Columbia, SC 29211-1329
(803) 896-4390
FAX: (803) 896-4393
www.llronline.com

For Immediate Release

March 7, 2013

**Contact: Fire Marshal Shane Ray
803.896.9800**

State Fire Academy Hosts 31st Annual Training Event

Almost 400 firefighters from around South Carolina are expected to attend the 31st Annual Southeastern Fire School March 9-10, 2013 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 12 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 Academy Superintendent Russ Friar said. "We have excellent demonstrations and programs for company officers, chief officers, and fire marshals as well."

In addition, South Carolina State Fire Marshal Shane Ray will be in attendance.

"The weekend event is a great opportunity for our firefighters to meet Chief Ray and network with each other," Friar said. "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: Kill the Flashover Project; Municipal Approach to Aircraft Rescue Firefighting (ARFF); Defensive Fire Operation; Ventilation, Entry, Isolation and Search; Advanced Mechanical Advantage Class; Air Monitoring – Breathe Safely; 1 Person/ 1 Truck: Strategies and Tactics for Low Staffing Residential Fire Response; Know Before You Go; Surviving the Mayday (For Couples!); A Fresh Look at Fighting Wildland/Urban Interface Fires; Chief, OSHA's in the Lobby; and Bridging the Gap with the International Fire Code.

"Each year new and different training courses are offered," Friar 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 mockup props."

The South Carolina Fire Academy, located in Columbia, is one of the premier fire-training academies in the United States today. 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, please visit the S.C. Fire Academy website at: www.scfa.state.sc.us/PDF/SouthEasternFireSchool2013.pdf.