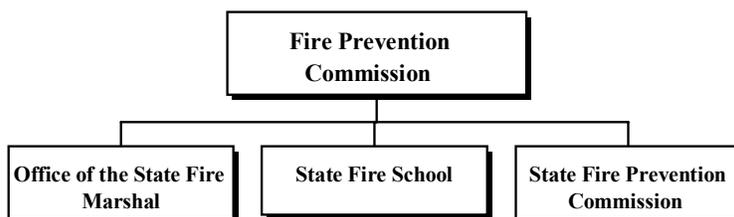
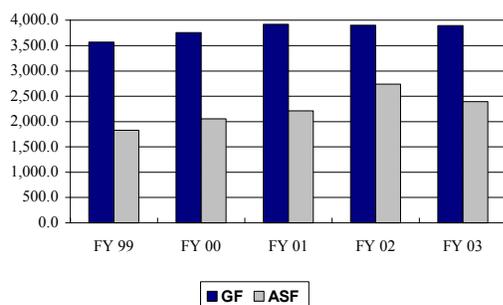


# FIRE PREVENTION COMMISSION

## 75-00-00



**Five-Year Appropriation History**



### FUNDING

	FY 2002 ACTUAL	FY 2003 BUDGET	FY 2004 GOV. REC.
GF	4,272.9	3,892.2	3,858.6
ASF	1,448.7	2,396.6	2,234.5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,721.6</b>	<b>6,288.8</b>	<b>6,093.1</b>

### POSITIONS

	FY 2002 ACTUAL	FY 2003 BUDGET	FY 2004 GOV. REC.
GF	41.8	41.8	40.8
ASF	28.2	28.2	28.2
NSF	--	--	--
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>70.0</b>	<b>70.0</b>	<b>69.0</b>

## FY 2004 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

### OPERATING BUDGET:

- ◆ Recommend enhancement of \$30.0 in EMT Training to support the costs associated with providing mandatory Emergency Medical Technician-Basic Training for fire and ambulance personnel.

### CAPITAL BUDGET:

- ◆ Recommend \$45.0 for volunteer fire company rescue tools. The companies that are scheduled to receive rescue tools in Fiscal Year 2004 are Christiana, Clayton, Dover, Milton, South Bowers and the joint Lewes-Rehoboth companies.
- ◆ Recommend \$150.0 for additional thermal imaging cameras.

## OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL

### 75-01-01

### MISSION

To provide the citizens of this state and all who visit, a fire safe environment, be it in the home, the workplace or wherever they pursue their varied lifestyles or interests.

### KEY OBJECTIVES

- To eliminate the loss of life and reduce injuries from the threat of fire by:
  - Suppressing arson;
  - Investigating all fire incidents to make an accurate determination of cause;
  - Providing thorough and complete supporting documentation of the investigative process;
  - Pursuing, apprehending and convicting those responsible for arson incidents;
  - Providing victim assistance in the aftermath of a fire; and
  - Disseminating findings to increase public awareness of fire and life safety issues.
- To maintain the highest levels of life safety in educational, health care, places of assembly, business, mercantile and institutional occupancies by:
  - Providing consistent, thorough and accurate compliance inspections and life safety surveys;
  - Attaining compliance with the State Fire Prevention Regulations through educational endeavors, carrying out inspection and survey programs which identify hazards to life safety and property conservation, and providing technical assistance to achieve corrective action; and
  - Responding to the needs and inquiries of the citizens of the state by taking action on their complaints and inquiries within 48 hours.

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- To provide timely and quality service in the Plan Review and Approval Program, the Fire Protection Systems Certification and Licensing Program, and the Quality Assurance Program for Fire Protection Systems by:
  - Providing complete, accurate and timely reviews of project submissions, with preliminary approvals sent out within 72 hours, and completion of the full review process within 15 days;
  - Providing assistance to clients for understanding the technical requirements of the State Fire Prevention Regulations required for their projects; and
  - Ensuring that required fire protection systems are tested, inspected or maintained.

## BACKGROUND AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The State Fire Marshal's Office operates under the direction of the State Fire Prevention Commission, which reports directly to the Governor. The office serves as the lead statewide investigative and law enforcement agency charged with investigating fire incidents and suppressing arson. The State Fire Prevention Regulations, as promulgated by the State Fire Prevention Commission, are the basis for the life safety inspections and property conservation surveys carried out by the State Fire Marshal's Office. Such inspections and surveys impact nearly all of the occupancies and buildings frequented by the public. Single family dwellings are exempt from the provisions of the State Fire Prevention Regulations.

The State Fire Marshal's Office provides regulatory control in the areas of explosives, fireworks, amusement rides, places of assembly, health care facility certification and a variety of hazards such as flammable liquids and LP-gases.

The Technical Services Division of the Fire Marshal's Office provides a plan review and approval process for all new construction, alterations, and renovations of all buildings. Such an approval is required to be in place prior to counties issuing a building permit. Certification and licensing fire alarm system vendors and contractors provides a mechanism to ensure a level of quality control in the design, installation and operation of required fire protection systems.

In recent fiscal years, the following initiatives have been successfully completed or are in progress:

- With the signing of the Smoke Detector Law in Fiscal Year 1994, an on-going education campaign has been implemented to ensure that all residential

occupancies have the basic minimum detectors to enhance survival levels in the event of a fire.

- On March 27, 2002, Governor Minner signed House Bill 216 creating the Fire Detection Fund which provides for the installation of hard-wired smoke detectors with battery back-up to owner-occupied residential dwellings within the State of Delaware for those homes that are not protected by a working smoke detector. Priority will be given to homes with handicapped children, homes with handicapped adults, homes with infirm residents and homes with residents 62 years of age and older. Alliances have been formed with the fire departments, churches, civic organizations and the Department of Health and Social Services to identify homes in need of hard-wired smoke detectors.
- Continued the initiative to provide smoke detectors to families who are either in need, or are not aware of the benefits of having operational detectors in their homes. With assistance from local fire departments in the Wake-up Delaware Campaign, over 10,000 detectors were provided to needy citizens of Delaware.
- The Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Program, established as a full-time program in Fiscal Year 1998 with the State Fire Marshal's Office, provides services to children, adolescents and their families, for juveniles who play with matches, lighters, or cause fires, often as a result of behavioral problems or curiosity. Since Fiscal Year 1999, the backlog of cases has been reduced from 45 to 9, a reduction of approximately 80 percent.
- The Quality Assurance Program for Fire Protection Systems has reduced the number of major deficiencies being reported with fire alarm and fire suppressions systems from 444 in Fiscal Year 2001 to 326 for the same reporting period in Fiscal Year 2002, a 74 percent increase of efficiency.
- Implementation of the Major Incident Response Team (M.I.R.T) for all fatal fire incidents in the state, using experienced investigators who apply a consistent and thorough approach to the investigation.
- Replacement of the Fire/Arson Investigation Unit, which provides needed equipment and support at fatal fire scenes and major fire incidents.

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- Gas Chromatograph-Multi Spectrometer laboratory instruments were placed in service in the State Forensic Laboratory with the cooperation of the Chief Medical Examiner. This initiative will permit the analysis of fire scene debris for all fire investigation and law enforcement agencies throughout Delaware, providing a vital link in the successful prosecution of criminal fires.
- Life safety inspections for all facilities of the Department of Correction and all schools were completed.

### FUNDING

	FY 2002 ACTUAL	FY 2003 BUDGET	FY 2004 GOV. REC.
GF	1,841.8	1,789.0	1,785.6
ASF	1,439.5	2,275.1	2,113.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,281.3</b>	<b>4,064.1</b>	<b>3,898.6</b>

### POSITIONS

	FY 2002 ACTUAL	FY 2003 BUDGET	FY 2004 GOV. REC.
GF	22.8	22.8	22.8
ASF	28.2	28.2	28.2
NSF	--	--	--
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>51.0</b>	<b>51.0</b>	<b>51.0</b>

### ACTIVITIES

- Regulate safety in the storage, sale and use of any explosive, combustible or other dangerous article in solid, liquid or gas form.
- Ensure that the installation and maintenance of equipment intended for fire control, detection and extinguishment meets specifications.
- Determine the means and adequacy of exits, in case of fires, from buildings and all other places in which numbers of persons work, live or congregate from time to time for any purpose.
- Assist the chief officer of any fire department upon request.
- Assist all required occupancies and the owners thereof, in meeting compliance with the Smoke Detector Law.
- Assist municipal Assistant State Fire Marshals, as identified in the Delaware Code, in support of fire investigations and technical questions relative to the State Fire Prevention Regulations.
- Assist any local government that does not have a Fire Marshal or fire authority address code and regulatory problems stemming from local conditions and concerns.
- Enforce the State Fire Prevention Regulations.
- Analyze the need for additions or amendments to the State Fire Prevention Regulations. Prepare such information and recommend the appropriate action to the State Fire Prevention Commission.

- Conduct the Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Program.
- Conduct plan reviews and approval for all buildings and structures undergoing construction, alterations or renovations to ensure compliance with nationally recognized standards and practices relating to fire safety and property conservation.
- Enhance the level of public awareness regarding fire prevention and life safety by providing displays and informational materials at public events such as the Delaware State Fair.
- Administer the Amusement Ride Safety Act, 16 Del. C. c. 64.
- Report, analyze and disseminate fire incident statistical data from the 61 fire departments in the state.
- Assist various segments of business and industry to ensure buildings are fire safe.
- Identify specific target occupancies for inspections and surveys that have a fire incident history or special requirements with respect to life safety and property conservation.
- Actively participate as a committee member of the Governor's Drought Advisory Board.
- Actively participate as a committee member of the Delaware Emergency Management Weapons of Mass Destruction and Bioterrorism Committee.

### PERFORMANCE MEASURES

	FY 2002 Actual	FY 2003 Budget	FY 2004 Gov. Rec.
% fires cleared by arrest or determination of cause	93	95	95
% fires cleared by arrest*	25	30	30
% violations corrected within specified time parameters	85	90	90
% preliminary plan review approvals issued within 72 hours	56	75	75
% Fire Marshal response to citizen inquiry within 48 hours	100	100	100
% schools receiving Life Safety Inspections	100	100	100
% requests for fire investigations resulting in Deputy Fire Marshall response within 15 minutes	100	100	100

\*National average is below 20%.

# FIRE PREVENTION COMMISSION

## 75-00-00

### STATE FIRE SCHOOL

#### 75-02-01

#### MISSION

The mission of the State Fire School is mandated by 16 Del. C. §§ 6613 to 6618 and instructs the Delaware State Fire School to:

- Provide firefighters with needed professional instruction and training at a minimum cost to them and their employers;
- Develop new methods and practices of firefighting;
- Provide facilities for testing firefighting equipment;
- Disseminate information relative to fires, techniques of firefighting, and other related subjects to all interested agencies and individuals throughout the state; and
- Undertake any project and engage in any activity which, in the opinion of the State Fire Prevention Commission, will serve to improve public safety.

On July 1, 1972, the State Fire Prevention Commission was also given the mandate under 16 Del. C. §§ 6708 to 6714 to regulate the ambulance service in Delaware. The commission assigned the State Fire School the duties of inspecting and licensing ambulances and training and certifying ambulance personnel.

#### KEY OBJECTIVES

- Provide firefighters, ambulance and rescue personnel with necessary professional instruction and training.
- Certify and re-certify Delaware Emergency Medical Technicians.
- License ambulances.
- Provide agency, institutional and industrial personnel and the general public with necessary professional instruction and training.
- Disseminate information relative to fires, techniques of firefighting and other related subjects to all agencies and individuals throughout the state.
- Develop new methods and practices of firefighting.
- Provide facilities for testing firefighting equipment.
- Provide fire and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) personnel with the necessary training to combat weapons of mass destruction and terrorism.

#### BACKGROUND AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In order to more effectively manage the State Fire School's training and education program, services for specific target

audiences have been identified: (1) program services for firefighters and fire officers; (2) program services for ambulance and rescue personnel; and (3) program services for state agencies, institutions, industrial personnel and the general public.

Since its inception in 1964, the State Fire School has been sensitive to the need for quality training and education in fire prevention. As the demand for programs and services increases, so does the need to select and qualify additional instructional personnel.

Strong emphasis is placed on improving the instructor development program for part-time personnel. Instructor candidates are trained in instructional methodology and then trained to teach specific subject areas. Active instructors are cross-trained in high priority subject areas to help the school meet its program service demands as well as improve the individual's professional ability. All instructors are required to attend improvement seminars as scheduled by the Fire School in order to maintain their certification.

Continued emphasis is placed on planning and evaluation. Existing courses of instruction are reviewed and revised to ensure their content is current and consistent with new concepts and techniques.

In addition to conducting the normally scheduled activities and meetings, and honoring special requests for programs and services, progress continues to be made towards improving program quality. Emphasis is placed on improving program management and cost analysis to improve cost effectiveness.

#### FUNDING

	FY 2002 ACTUAL	FY 2003 BUDGET	FY 2004 GOV. REC.
GF	2,227.5	1,869.8	1,844.8
ASF	9.4	100.0	100.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,236.9</b>	<b>1,969.8</b>	<b>1,944.8</b>

#### POSITIONS

	FY 2002 ACTUAL	FY 2003 BUDGET	FY 2004 GOV. REC.
GF	18.0	18.0	17.0
ASF	--	--	--
NSF	--	--	--
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>18.0</b>	<b>18.0</b>	<b>17.0</b>

#### ACTIVITIES

##### Continuing Projects

Major projects previously planned or instituted which will continue in Fiscal Year 2004:

- Continue the training, testing, and certification of fire service personnel under the National Professional

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Qualification System, which includes Firefighter I and II, Fire Officer I, Instructor I and II, Wildland Firefighter I and Fire Inspector.

- Continue the National Registry Emergency Medical Technician Basic Course of 140 hours.
- Continue the mandatory 24-hour refresher/recertification program for NREMT-B.
- Continue the testing program for Fire Alarm and Fire Protection Systems Installers as required by the State Fire Code.
- Deliver modules to the Fire Company Management Course for the administrative and operational officers as a series of stand-alone seminars.
- Continue the design, development and presentation of continuing education programs for fire department officers, firefighters and emergency care providers; fire safety education programs for the general public; continuing education programs for part-time instructional staff; and continuing education programs for agency, industrial and institutional personnel.
- Provide required annual cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and semi-automatic external defibrillator certification and recertification for all State Emergency Medical Technicians.
- Maintain the State Fire School's professional staff in a state of readiness to respond to, and serve effectively on, the State Emergency Response Team (SERT), as well as the Delaware Emergency Operations Plan (DEOP) and the state's Radiological Emergency Plan (REP).
- Deliver a menu of fire safety topics for Fire School tours for pre-school through high school.
- Continue the development, production and presentation of the Memorial Service Programs for the Delaware Volunteer Firemen's Association Annual Conference.
- Continue to participate with the Associates of Arts, Emergency Services Management Degree with Delaware Technical and Community College.

## New Projects

Major projects or programs to be initiated or implemented during Fiscal Year 2003 and continued in Fiscal Year 2004 include:

- Develop new continuing education program for Emergency Medical Technicians.
- Provide continuing education training for public educators and fire service to facilitate the implementation of House Bill 57, which mandates Fire Safety Education in grades K-6.
- Implement a new student record keeping computer system.
- Continue and expand terrorism training.
- Continue upgrade of drillground training facilities.

- Provide satellite teleconferencing capability at all Delaware State Fire School facilities in three years to increase local educational opportunities.
- Increase fire and industrial specialty seminars.
- Reduce the amount of hydrocarbon smokes that leaves the perimeter by 50 percent.
- Partner with Dupont Company to provide national certification for their specialty training division programs.
- Develop a new Vehicle Rescue program.
- Implement a new Fire Officer II training program.

## PERFORMANCE MEASURES

	FY 2002 Actual	FY 2003 Budget	FY 2004 Gov. Rec.
# programs	939	900	900
# students - fire/rescue	7,920	7,000	7,000
# students - Emergency Care	3,316	5,000	4,000
# students - industry	1,672	2,300	2,000
# students - Haz. Mat. Tech Program	464	500	500
# students - Fire Safety	59,352	30,000	40,000
# fire safety programs	246	250	250

- Approximately 350 new firefighters are trained each year with an average of 98 percent finishing basic training.
- There are approximately 130 new ambulance attendants trained annually and 1,000 are re-certified.

# FIRE PREVENTION COMMISSION

## 75-00-00

### STATE FIRE PREVENTION COMMISSION 75-03-01

#### MISSION

The mission of the State Fire Prevention Commission is mandated by 16 Del. C. c. 66 as follows:

- The commission shall have the power to promulgate, amend and repeal regulations for the safeguarding of life and property from hazards of fire and explosion.
- The commission shall appoint the State Fire Marshal and the Fire School Director. The commission shall have complete jurisdiction and management over the State Fire School.
- The commission shall have power to authorize new fire companies or substations, resolve boundary and other disputes, and prohibit cessation of necessary fire protection services.
- Ensure a high level of public safety for the safeguarding of life and property from the hazards of fire and explosion.
- Oversee statewide basic life support ambulance service.

#### KEY OBJECTIVES

- Promulgate, amend and repeal the State Fire Prevention Regulations, State Fire Service Standards, and State Ambulance Service Regulations.
- Provide a direct liaison between state government and the statewide volunteer fire service.
- Inspect and license Basic Life Support and Advanced Life Support ambulances.
- Certify ambulance attendants and emergency medical technicians.

#### BACKGROUND AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The State Fire Prevention Commission consists of seven members who serve without compensation and are responsible for developing the fire policy information base. The State Fire Marshal reviews the Delaware State Fire Prevention Regulations on an annual basis and reports findings and any recommended changes to the Fire Commission. The regulations are reviewed and updated every three years. Effective July 1, 1995, Live Fire Training Regulations and Burn Regulations were adopted by the commission, becoming a part of the regulations. Effective July 30, 1997, the State Ambulance Service Regulations were adopted by the commission.

#### FUNDING

	FY 2002 ACTUAL	FY 2003 BUDGET	FY 2004 GOV. REC.
GF	204.1	233.4	228.2
ASF	--	21.5	21.5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>204.1</b>	<b>254.9</b>	<b>249.7</b>

#### POSITIONS

	FY 2002 ACTUAL	FY 2003 BUDGET	FY 2004 GOV. REC.
GF	1.0	1.0	1.0
ASF	--	--	--
NSF	--	--	--
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>1.0</b>

#### ACTIVITIES

- Provide the vital link between the fire service and the executive branch of government.
- Provide a technically competent code-making body.
- Administer funding for a statewide fire safety education program.
- Administer funding for extraordinary expenses incurred by fire companies in the state.
- Implement statewide Fire Safety Strategy and Policy.

#### PERFORMANCE MEASURES

	FY 2002 Actual	FY 2003 Budget	FY 2004 Gov. Rec.
# meetings - monthly, special	18	18	18
# hearings - public, appeal, grievance	14	12	12
# commission committee meetings	13	8	8
# commission special interest functions	11	9	9
# fire service related functions	21	10	10
# emergency service functions	19	9	9
# special meetings	14	9	9
# conferences attended	9	12	12