UTAH OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL

UTAH FIRE AND LIFE

MARCH 2010

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- **Changes to the NFPA 1035 Standard for Professional Qualifications**
- **UFLSEA leadership elected.**
- **Scholarships for training available**

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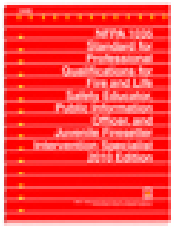
Changes in NFPA 1035

The National Fire Protection Association produces many fire-related standards including NFPA 1035 which is a guide for those involved in the "outreach" side of fire fighting. The 2010 Edition has been released with some progressive changes.

The most obvious change is the title. "Standard for Professional Qualifications for Fire and Life Safety Educator, Public Information Officer, and Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Specialist" The 2005 edition was "Standard for Professional Qualifications for Public Fire and Life Safety Educator."

This reflects two major changes. The first is the removal of "public" throughout the document as it relates to "public fire."



2010 Edition of NFPA 1035 is now available in view only PDF or booklet formats.

The second is the separation of the duties into three distinct professions rather than several specific areas where an Educator may perform. Though one person may be all three for a department, they may be strictly divided with a different person addressing each area.

It's like the separation of firefighter, EMT, and hazardous material technician. You may have all certifications or only one.

In the proposals, there is clarification that the "life safety" part of the title is intended to reflect all manner of injury prevention a fire service educator may provide including emergency preparedness.

A skill maintenance requirement, to be determined by the AHJ, has

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Quick Facts about NFPA 1035 Changes

- The 2010 Edition of the NFPA 1035 Standards is available
- The title is "Standard for Professional Qualifications for Fire and Life Safety Educator, Public Information Officer, and Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Specialist"
- Public Fire and Life Safety is now Fire and Life Safety

1035 Changes, cont.

Continuing education and skill maintenance is given more importance in this edition of NFPA 1035.

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been added to the administration portion as 1.2.3. with suggestions in A.1.2.3. Suggestions for skill maintenance includes "attending workshops and seminars, undergoing competency testing, participating in recurring proficiency evolutions, and/or accessing professional publications… Nationally recognized certification is one means of demonstrating proficiency in current practices."

References and resources were updated; new resources were added and those deemed outdated were removed.

The *2009 Fall Revision Cycle Report on Proposals* produced by the National Fire Protection Association, *NFPA 1035, Standard for Professional Qualifications for Public Fire and Life Safety Educator*, 2005 edition and *NFPA 1035, Standard for Professional Qualifications for Fire and Life Safety Educator, Public Information Officer, and Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Specialist*, 2010 edition were the sources for these articles.

Public Information Officer

The General requirements for Chapter 8 – Public Information Officer was rewritten though the general concepts are the same.

One major addition is the use of PIO tools including the Incident Information Worksheet, Media Advisory and News Release. Samples of these were included in the annex.

The *General Requisite Knowledge* and *General Requisite Skills* were expanded. The PIO is both an internal and external spokesperson, not limited to emergency functions, and is proactive in spreading the department's messages.

There are two new *Principal Responsibilities* in D.4.2. of the PIO sample job description reflect this change.

In *D.4.4 Minimum Qualifications*, qualification (3) *Education* a preference for a fire science or related degree was removed along with formal training in public information or media work.

Public Information Officer Overview

- PIO duties were clarified and expanded to be:
  - External and internal
  - The main spokesperson for the department
  - Emergency and non-emergency response
  - Proactively share department messages
- Fire Science background is no longer preferred

Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Specialists

The term child was removed in the Juvenile Firesetter Interventionist sections and generally replaced with juvenile. It was felt this better reflected the age range of juvenile firesetters.

In *Chapter 10 – Juvenile Firesetter Interventionist II,* one of the duties now includes the need to collect data. The committee felt this was an essential component of evaluation.

For Specialist I, the *D.5.2 Principal Responsibilities* are to 1) respond when they learn of a possible juvenile involved in firesetting activities, 2) schedule and conduct intakes/interviews, 3) refer as appropriate, 4) provide education based on interview results, and 5) maintain records and collect data as assigned.

Changes to FJIS puts more emphasis on helping juveniles and their family.

For Specialist II, the *D.6.2 Principal Responsibilities* are to 1) manage the program through administration, planning and development, education and implementation, and evaluation, 2) supervise JFIS I and other assigned personnel , 3) coordinate and evaluate training and personnel, 4) define target audience and program goals, 5) establish and maintain interagency networks, 6) develop, oversee delivery and evaluate the program, 7) promote an awareness campaign about the program, and 8) create a data collection system to maintain and secure records of program components and firesetter case files.

JFIS Overview

- Data collection and record maintenance is considered critical
- Principal Responsibilities were updated and clarified
- Referral includes any source for appropriate services
- Specialist II has a responsibility to promote the program

Several Organizational Resources were added to Annex B.1 and some technical changes were made.

Education Association Leadership

By unanimous vote the following people are the leaders of the Utah Fire and Life Safety Education Association.

Chair—Ursula Bullen, Orderville

1st Vice Chair—Doug Bitton, Layton

2nd Vice Chair—Heather Hofer, Goshen

Secretary—Mike Allen, Tremonton

The Association has also been accepted as a member of Utah Safe Kids with Theresa van Biljon as the liaison.

Regional Representatives (appointed):

North — Shane Maughan

Wasatch — Don Slick

Central —James Dean

East—Brett Lane

South—Josh Thayn

Definitions Added and Changed

Definitions provide guidance and clarification for program design, management and implementation.

Definitions were added for Incident Information worksheet, Media Advisory, News Release, and Family. Definitions for Fire Science, Assessment, Intake, Interview, Interagency Network, Intervention, JFIS I, and JFIS II were changed. These changes were made to provide greater clarity and reflect current job duties and our changing society.

The change in the definition of Fire Science was taken from *NFPA 921, Guide for Fire and Explosion Investigations*, 2008 edition because they felt it was a more accurate definition of the requisite knowledge. It now reads, "The body of knowledge concerning the study of fire and related subjects (such as combustion, flame, products of combustion, heat release, heat transfer, fire and explosion chemistry, fire and explosion dynamics, thermodynamics, kinetics, fluid mechanics, fire safety) and their interaction with people, structures, and the environment.[921:2008]"

3.3.9 Family Dynamics was updated to include legal guardian(s) in family dynamics and a definition for family that reflects today's family. "The composition of individuals that either live with and/or care for the juvenile firesetter. Examples of family members are: parents, legal guardians, relatives, and other caregivers." [1035:2010]

3.3.13 Intake was changed to delete the collection of a comprehensive background to initial information regarding the background.

3.3.13.2 Interview is now "The process of gathering and/or disseminating information." [1035:2010] Further clarification in A.3.3.13 suggests the interview is to identify the type of firesetting and related behaviors and the needs of the juvenile and family.

3.3.15 Intervention is now "A formal process for firesetting behavior that includes intake, interview, education, referral, and evaluation." [1035:2010]

A small but powerful change is in *3.3.18 Juvenile Firesetter intervention Specialist (JFIS) I* allows for referral to any needed or appropriate service, not just counseling.

Definitions Defined

- The definition of Fire Science was changed to a more investigative viewpoint
- Updates were made to JFIS definitions
- The definition of family was added

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Our mission is to identify, develop, and promote ways and means of protecting life and property from fire-related perils through direct action and coordination of Utah Fire Services.

***Utah Fire and Life* is an electronic newsletter dedicated to sharing information, resources, and news with the fire and life safety educators in Utah and our friends across the country.**

The first electronic edition was published October 2008 as the *Utah Public Fire Educator*. Past editions can be downloaded at no cost at http://publicsafety.utah.gov/firemarshal/newsletter.html

The Utah Office of the State Fire Marshal provides this newsletter through their outreach efforts. Any comments and questions may be directed to Monica Colby at the contact information to the left.

Training Opportunities

Fire and Life Safety Educator Conference of the Rockies

Estes Park, Colorado

April 21-23, 2010

$200 registration before March 21, 2010—$275 after. Pay for two registrations and get one free.

PARADE Region VIII is offering full and partial scholarships to attend this conference. The application follows.

Deadline March 19, 2010

Prevention Convention - Great Basin/Northern Rockies Fire Workshop

Wild land Urban Interface.

Radisson Hotel Salt Lake City, Utah April 12—16, 2010

www.utahfireinfo.gov

NFPA World Safety Conference and Expo

Las Vegas, Nevada June 7-9, 2010 (more info)

Scholarships for Fire and Life Safety Educators are due March 19, 2010

Register for the entire conference, pre-conference, single days or Expo only. Expo only pass is free if you pre-register.