

COUNTY FIRE PREVENTION ASSOCIATION MEETINGS DIVISION UPDATES – September 2010

- Please be advised that Division of Fire Safety staff have been notified that a new Division Director is expected to be appointed shortly after Labor Day. I am sure all of you will join me in thanking Director Petrillo for his dedication and hard work and wish him the very best in the years to come.
- On August 12, 2010, DCA Commissioner Grifa announced that the Residential Sprinkler Proposal will not be adopted at this time. The proposal would have required the installation of fire sprinklers in new one-and two-family residences starting January 1, 2012.
- Fall 2010 Courses for Fire Officials, Fire Inspectors, Fire Instructors and Firefighters will be available online on or before September 3 at www.state.nj.us/dca/dfs. The registration period will be from September 7th – 19th and there will be a limit of two courses per registrant. After September 20th there will be up to a limit of four courses. Please be advised that the 2010 course registration is through the internet only.
- This year's NFPA Fire Prevention Week campaign, October 3rd-9th, "Smoke Alarms: A Sound You Can Live With!", provides an ideal opportunity to educate the public about smoke alarm recommendations, and can serve as a powerful tool for motivating people to install smoke alarms, as needed, and to make sure they're working and tested properly.
- 2010 – 2011 FIRE PREVENTION POSTER CONTEST sponsored jointly by the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs Division of Fire Safety and the New Jersey State Fire Prevention and Protection Association GRAND PRIZES: SEVEN PERSONAL COMPUTER SYSTEMS "Smoke Alarms - A sound you can live with." Additional information and applications may be found on the Division website at www.state.nj.us/dca/dfs.
- The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced the opening of the FY 2010 Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grants application period. The SAFER Grants are administered by the DHS FEMA Grant Programs Directorate. The goal of the SAFER Grants is to enhance local fire departments' abilities to comply with staffing, response, and operational standards established by the NFPA and OSHA. The SAFER application period opened August 17th. DHS will accept applications through September 17th at 5:00 pm. For the full announcement, including links for details, go to <http://www.firegrantshelp.com/official-announcements/867420-2010-Staffing-for-Adequate-Fire-and-Emergency-Response-SAFER-Grants-application-period-opens/>.
- The IAAI New Jersey Chapter is offering two One-Day Training Programs, Preparing Expert Reports, presented by David J. Icove, CFEI. The first program is on Monday, September 13th at Middlesex County Fire Academy and the second program is on Tuesday, September 14th at the Passaic County Public Safety Academy. For details and registration information, go to http://njiaai.org/chapter_news%20&%20announcements.htm.

- On August 19th, the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) United States Fire Administration (USFA) issued a special report examining the characteristics of fires in vacant residential buildings. The report, *Vacant Residential Building Fires*, was developed by USFA's National Fire Data Center and is further Relay No. 2010-17 Page 3 evidence of FEMA's commitment to sharing information with fire departments and first responders around the country to help them keep their communities safe. For the full announcement and a link to the report go to:
<http://www.usa02.degreearchusa.com/t.pl/000000A/http/www.usfa.dhs.gov/media/press/2010releases/081910.shtm>.
- On January 11th of this year P.L. 2009, c. 178 was signed into law. This statute supplements and amends Title 18A. Specifically, it establishes requirements for all schools to address school security through the delivery of training to staff and the development of policies and procedures. In addition, the legislation amends the requirement for two fire drills per month to one fire drill and one school security drill per month. To comply with this statute the Division of Fire Safety is proposing an amendment to the State Fire Prevention Code. This amendment, which was endorsed by the Fire Code Advisory Council and the New Jersey Fire Safety Commission, reduces the number of fire drills that a school must conduct to one per month. We do not anticipate this rule amendment to be proposed and adopted by the start of the school year. Therefore, to meet the intent of the statute and the proposed amendment we are strongly recommending that all LEA's immediately accept one fire drill per month. Once the proposal is adopted the appropriate replacement pages for the Fire Code will be provided in the following Code update. If you have any questions, please contact the Bureau of Fire Code Enforcement at 609-633-6132.
- There are two ICC National Certification Examination and FEE66 Fire Inspector I Based on 2006 International Codes testing for **new inspectors** scheduled. Tests will be held at the County of Middlesex Fire Academy, 1001 Fire Academy Drive, Sayreville, NJ, 08872, Site Code 5185. The exam date is September 11, 2010, 8:00 a.m. and the deadline to register is August 13, 2010. The second test will be held at the Ocean County Fire Academy, 200 Volunteer Way, Waretown, NJ, 08758, Site Code 5186. The exam date is December 11, 2010, 8:00 a.m. and the deadline to register is November 12, 2010. The cost of the exam is \$180. The information bulletin may be obtained from ICC at www.iccsafe.org/exams or call 1-888-422-7233, ext. 5524. This information is also posted on the DFS Website at www.state.nj.us/dca/dfs.