Firefighter and Fire Safety Inspector
Training Committee Report
October 18th, 2009
Chair: Phil McLean
Co-Chair: Chief Jim Steele
Staff Liaison: Doug Orahood, Fire Coordinator

The committee is hearing from those individuals who, for a multitude of reasons, did not renew their fire certification in a timely fashion. The committee members are hearing these appeals in both written and oral communication. Exemption for continuing education can be and has been granted for medical hardship and military obligations. Phil McLean and Regional Coordinator Jim Calco traveled Columbiana County to answer questions on the renewal process and continuing education requirements for firefighters. The meeting was well received and everyone seem to have the answers to their questions.

The committee met with the Ohio Fire Alliance on October 6th, 2009 to discuss the 1403 Live Fire Training program and to explain the future concepts of this training for fire instructors. The Ohio Fire Alliance overwhelmingly approved this program.

The workgroup is finalizing the Hazard Recognition Inspector course with discussion still ongoing on several issues including certification vs. credentialing.

The Ohio Society of Fire Service Instructor completed the first pilot of the Volunteer Firefighter course and is looking at doing 2 additional pilots in different regions of Ohio.

The division is still meeting with the State Fire Marshal office and the Ohio Board of Regents regarding the process and the cooperation of the three state agencies on establishing a higher educational path for Ohio firefighters.

The fire committee, along with the Director of the Ohio Department of Public Safety's support, has recommended that the division move forward with applying for ProBoard accreditation.

The committee received a presentation 16 Life Safety Initiatives from Richard Best and Steve Kimple, Advocates of the Everyone Goes Home Program from the National Fallen Firefighter Foundation; the group has requested that the division become the home for this very important program for firefighters. The committee has started a workgroup to blend the initiatives into the fire training courses.

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