

State of Illinois  
Pat Quinn, Governor

Office of the State Fire Marshal  
David B. Foreman, State Fire Marshal

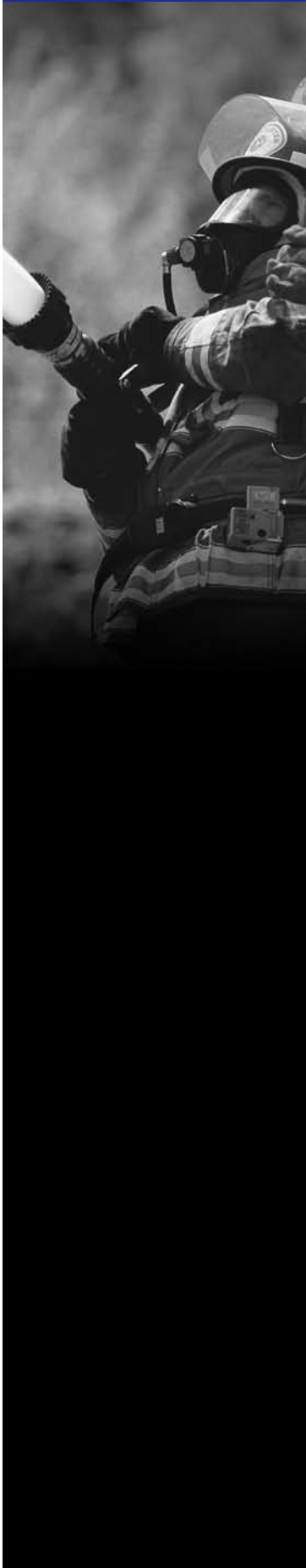


# 2008 Annual Report



**“Partnering With the Fire Service to Protect Illinois”**

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**GOVERNOR PAT QUINN  
and the  
96<sup>th</sup> General Assembly**

February 26, 2009

In keeping with our mission to “improve safety by increasing public awareness about fire hazards, public safety codes and fire prevention while also enhancing firefighting and emergency response capabilities to local communities”, the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) has responded to the challenge.

As you read this report you will see that we have had a very successful year at OSFM.

For the past three years we have been working on an Information Technology initiative we call Phoenix. Its purpose is to stabilize and standardize the agency network. As part of this initiative, several goals were reached in 2008 including: an internet communication system for the Illinois fire departments being established which enables direct communication with OSFM through email, we have also given the fire departments the ability to update their contact information and personnel rosters as well as complete requests for examinations and certifications online, and inspectors can now complete inspection reports on-site and upload information to the Agency’s mainframe. All of these enhancements improve productivity among office and field staff by reducing paper submissions.

We continue to focus on the expansion of many programs. Among them are:

- The Fire Equipment Exchange Program, which in 2008 had more than 500 items listed for donation, including trucks, SCBA, thermal imaging cameras and numerous other pieces of equipment;
- \$1.9 million dollars was given to fire departments to purchase apparatus via the 0% Fire Truck Revolving Loan Program and;
- \$1 million dollars was granted to various fire departments for the purchase of small equipment via the Small Equipment Grant Fund.

My dedicated staff works diligently in their efforts toward fulfilling all of our initiatives; Life Safety inspections have increased, we are meeting our federal and state mandates and serving the public in the state of Illinois.

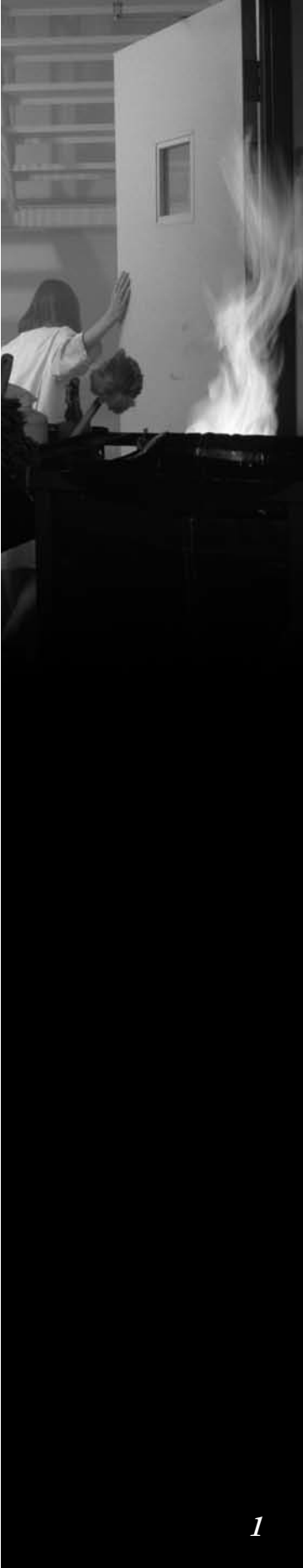
These accomplishments and others at OSFM would not have been possible without the support and commitment of the Governor's office and the members of the General Assembly. On behalf of the citizens of Illinois, I would like to thank you and commend your efforts.

I would respectfully ask that you accept this submission of the Annual Report for the Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal for the year 2008.

Respectfully,



David B. Foreman  
Illinois State Fire Marshal



The mission of the Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal, Division of Arson Investigation, is to provide fire investigation and law enforcement services to the fire service and federal, state and local law enforcement agencies throughout the State of Illinois through complete and thorough investigations, evidence collection and professional expert testimony in court proceedings.

The Division is responsible for investigating suspicious fires and explosions and providing fire and explosion origin and cause investigations when requested by the fire service and law enforcement agencies throughout the State. Nationally, arson (and suspected arson) is the primary cause of property damage due to fire in the United States, and the second leading cause of fire deaths. To combat this serious problem, certified investigators respond to assist fire departments, law enforcement agencies, communities, and State and federal agencies twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week via a 24-hour, toll free Arson Hotline number (800) 252-2947. When the requesting agency calls the hotline, they are immediately connected with an arson duty investigator who has authority to dispatch an Arson Investigator anywhere in the State, anytime day or night.

Arson Investigators are sworn Peace Officers authorized to conduct fire and/or explosion origin and cause investigations, interview witnesses and/or suspects, conduct follow-up investigations, execute search warrants and arrest warrants, collect evidence, make arrests, and testify in court.

Also available are six canine teams consisting of a certified Arson Investigator and a certified ignitable liquid detecting canine. Canines can detect minute traces of ignitable liquids often used in fires and can lead investigators to a specific location where physical samples can be secured, analyzed, and confirmed by special laboratories.

Arson Investigators and canine teams investigate over a thousand fires each year. Together with federal, state, county, and local law enforcement agencies, many arsonists are arrested annually. Their service to the State is invaluable, especially in the rural areas where fire departments do not have certified fire and/or arson investigators.

The Division's Arson Investigators attend many hours of continuing education classes and seminars each year to increase their knowledge and expertise of fire investigation and law enforcement training.

## ***2008 Highlights***

- The Division of Arson Investigation consists of twenty-one personnel; including the Division Director, Northern Regional Administrator, two Administrative Assistants and front line field staff consisting of seventeen certified arson investigators.
- There were 1,457 investigations conducted by Division investigators during 2008, a decrease of 5.2 percent from 2007. There were 1,331 structure fires (91.3%), 85 vehicles (5.8%) and 41 (2.8%) other fires investigated.
- Investigations conducted in 2008 resulted in the total of 119 arrests; 91 adult and 28 juvenile suspects, while clearing 96 cases for the year. This resulted in a 17.6 percent increase of arrests made in 2007.

# ARSON INVESTIGATION

- Inquiries regarding juvenile firesetters are referred to the Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Hotline number is (800) 446-1589. The Division of Arson Investigation had five personnel trained and certified as Juvenile FireSetter Intervention Specialists in 2008.
- Many significant changes were made in the State's arson investigation program during the past year. These included quicker responses to requests for assistance by local fire and law enforcement agencies; overall the response time was three hours or less 84 percent of the time. The Division conducted numerous Fire Investigation Origin and Cause Awareness presentations for local fire and law enforcement agencies which outlined what to look for at fire scenes to assist investigators with valuable information for the investigation and evidence preservation.
- Arson Investigators continue to receive professional development training that will enhance their knowledge and skills in new trends, technology, and investigative techniques. Advanced investigation classes were hosted by OSFM and attended by Division investigators and other investigators from Illinois and throughout the nation.
- The Division's web site continues to expand to provide valuable information to other agencies and to the general public.
- The Certified Fire/Arson Investigator Recertification criteria was adopted and implemented in July 2007, and the Division continues to assist with inquiries and assistance relating to the recertification criteria.
- The Division continues to work with interns and Ride-Along participants to provide a hands-on working knowledge of the Division and its function and role in the investigation of arsons throughout Illinois.
- The Division staff implemented the Starcom21 radio communications system in 2008, which has greatly enhanced communications capabilities within the State.

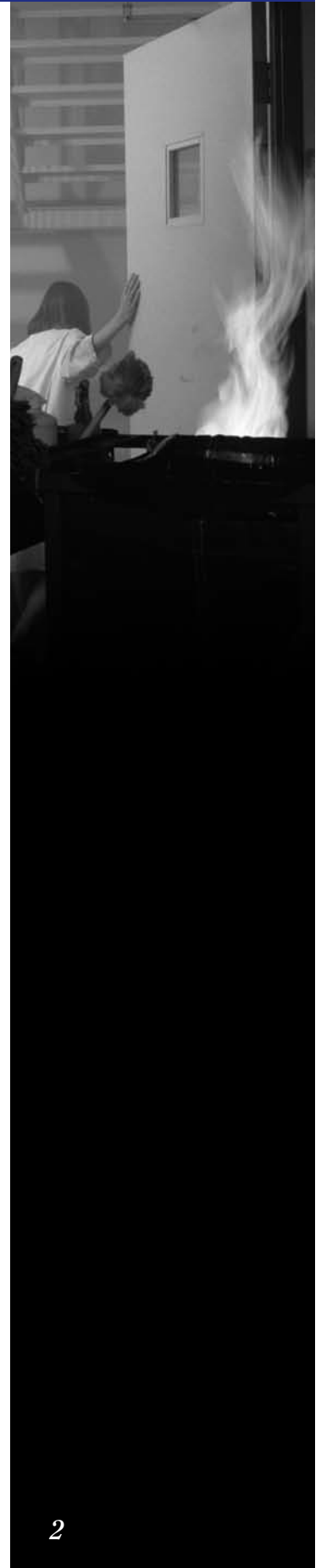
## ***2008 Canines***

In 2008, there were 372 canine assisted cases, which represented approximately 25 percent of the cases initiated by Division investigators in 2008. These canines are specifically trained to detect minute traces of accelerants that may be used in arson fires. There are currently six OSFM certified accelerant detecting canines located in Illinois.

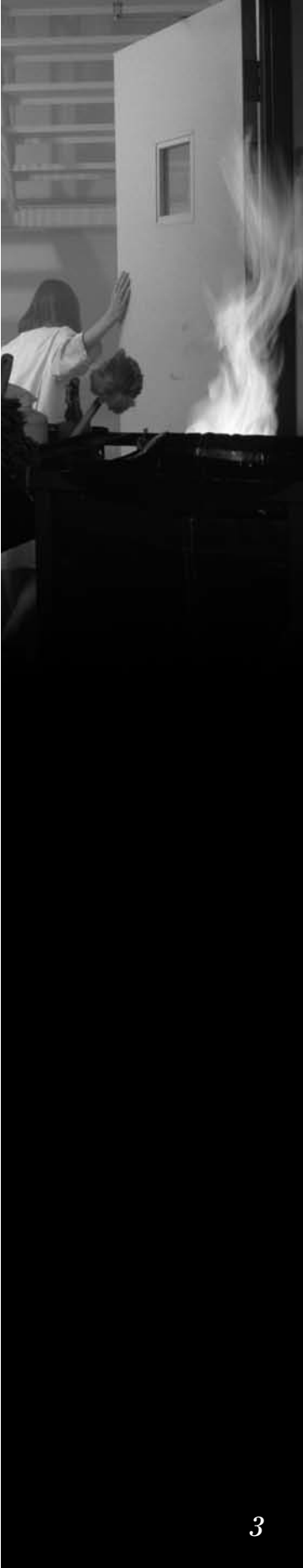
Throughout the year, the canine teams promoted arson awareness and education through numerous presentations in a variety of public forums including the Illinois State Fair, schools, and in demonstrations before civic groups, reaching an approximate audience of 13,000 attendees.

## ***2008 Incidents***

During 2008, the Division investigated 1,457 cases. Of those cases, 403 cases were determined to be incendiary, 265 were determined accidental, 570 cases were listed as undetermined or still under investigation, and five as having a natural cause. The remaining 214 cases were provided as technical assistance only and a cause and origin investigation was not provided.







Investigations conducted in 2008 resulted in the arrest of 119 suspects.

The Agency works closely with local, state, and federal fire and law enforcement agencies, and the courts, in dealing with the arson problem.

Fire Departments in Illinois responded to 51,370 reported fire incidents in 2007. (USFA NFIRS Data, 1/09)

There was an estimated 1.3 billion dollars in property damage in Illinois in 2007. (USFA NFIRS Data, 1/09)

### ***Arson Fact Sheet***

(Source: Fire Loss in the United States during 2007 NFPA, 8/08)

- U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated 1,557,500 fires in 2007, a decrease of 5.2% from the year before.
- 530,500 fires occurred in structures, an increase of 1.2%.
- 414,000 fires or 78% of all structure fires occurred in residential properties.
- 258,000 fires occurred in vehicles, a decrease of 7.2% from the year before.
- 769,000 fires occurred in outside properties, a decrease of 8.5%.
- 3,430 civilian fire deaths occurred in 2007, an increase of 5.7%.
- About 84% of all fire deaths occurred in the home.
- Nationwide, there was a civilian fire death every 153 minutes and a civilian fire injury every 30 minutes in 2007.
- An estimated 32,500 intentionally set structure fires occurred in 2007, an increase of 4.8% from a year ago.
- These intentionally set structure fires resulted in an estimated 295 civilian deaths, a decrease of 3.3%.
- Intentionally set structure fires also resulted in \$733,000,000 in property loss, a decrease of 2.9%.
- Also in 2007, there were an estimated 20,500 intentionally set vehicle fires, no change from a year ago, and caused \$145,000,000 in property damage, an increase of 8.2% from a year ago.

# BOILER AND PRESSURE VESSEL SAFETY

## *2008 Highlights*

- Performed 45,980 boiler and pressure vessel inspections
- Wrote 1,867 violations for corrective action
- Conducted 31 audits and joint reviews for Owner-User Organization and “R” Stamp Holders
- Issued 301 Illinois Certificates of Competency to Inspectors
- Issued 235 permits to Authorized Repair Organizations
- Collected \$3.8 million in Boiler and Pressure Vessel Fees
- Conducted 537 hours of technical training for Boiler Safety Specialists

Boilers are used to heat schools, hospitals, nursing homes and other public and private buildings. All are inspected to prevent accidents caused by explosions. Pressure vessels are routinely inspected in manufacturing facilities, chemical plants, and at other vital locations which fuel the Illinois economy. Inspections identify hazards and provide an opportunity for repair and measures to ensure public safety.

The Division of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Safety regulates the construction, installation, repair, use, and operation of boilers and pressure vessels as mandated by the Illinois Boiler Safety Act. The division’s main responsibility is conducting in-service inspections of pressure equipment. Currently, there are 98,241 active boilers and pressure vessels in this program which require inspections at different intervals. Professional safety inspections are performed on boilers and pressure vessels in schools, churches, hospitals, nursing homes, office buildings, places of public assembly, retail, apartment buildings, manufacturing facilities, utility plants, refineries, chemical plants, and any other type of location in Illinois where pressure equipment is utilized.

## *Boiler and Pressure Vessel Repairer Act*

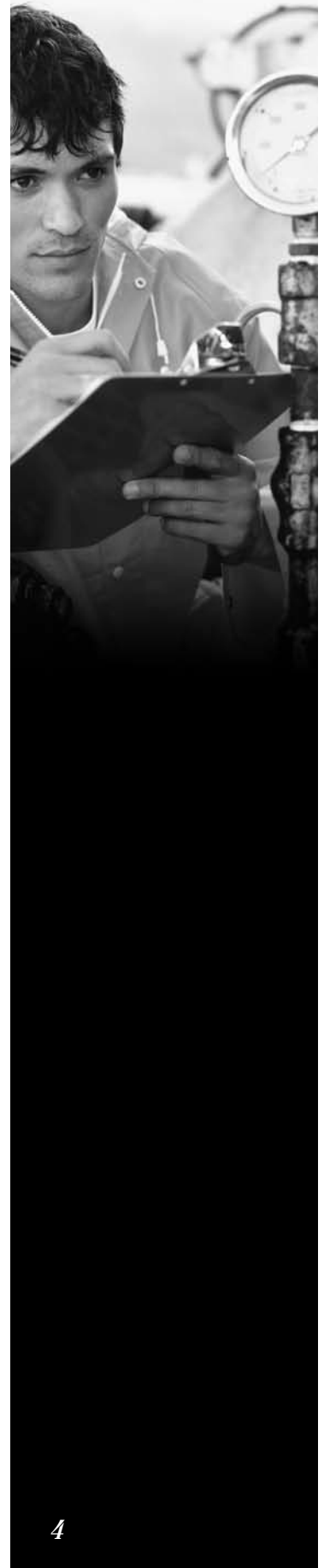
Another area of responsibility is the administration of the Illinois Boiler and Pressure Vessel Repairer Act. There are a total of 155 companies authorized under this Act to perform repairs and alterations to pressure equipment. These companies are required to be audited every three years under this program. The Division conducted 31 audits during 2008 to ensure licensed repair companies were complying with rules and regulations as prescribed by the Repairer Act.

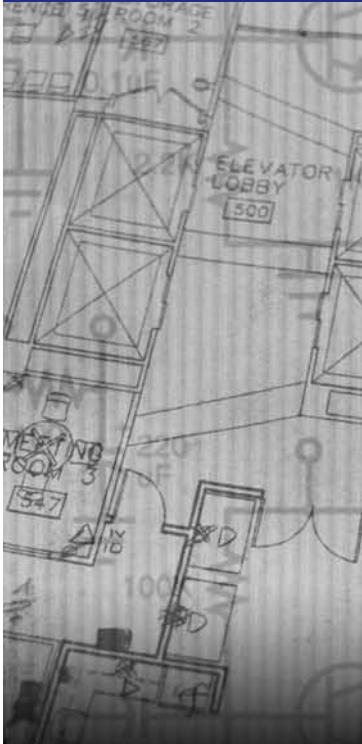
## *Boiler Fees*

During 2008, the Division had receipts of \$3.8 million for inspections, certificates and auditing fees.

## *2008 Inspections*

This joint government/industry inspection program is an effective partnership. During 2008, a total of 45,980 inspections were conducted. OSFM Boiler Safety Specialists performed 24,425 inspections while insurance company inspectors performed 21,555 inspections. Inspectors reported 1,867 violations, which required corrective action.





The Technical Services Division of the Office of the State Fire Marshal serves to support other operating divisions within the Agency (primarily the Divisions of Petroleum and Chemical Safety and Fire Prevention) as well as the fire service and general public with technical and engineering expertise in the form of plan and application review for regulated occupancies and installations. Technical Services also provides expert advice in the Agency's rulemaking processes for a variety of subjects including: underground and aboveground tank storage regulation, LP-gas regulation, service station operation, Life Safety Code application, and myriad other fire prevention and petroleum and chemical safety related issues.

This Division is managed by an Illinois registered professional fire protection engineer (P.E.) and staffed by a variety of personnel including engineers, engineering technicians and fire protection specialists. Personnel in this Division conduct plan reviews, assist with interpretations of applicable codes, assist operating divisions with instruction of field personnel at training sessions, perform special functions for the Agency including representation on state and national code committees and task forces as well as making presentations to the public and the regulated community relative to technical issues. The work of the Technical Services Division is conducted from both the Chicago and Springfield office locations.

### *Specific work includes:*

- 1) Review of plans and applications submitted for installation or modification of:
  - Underground Storage Tanks
  - Aboveground Storage Tanks
  - Self-Service and Unattended Self-Service Stations
  - LP-Gas Tanks
- 2) Review of architectural and engineering drawings of new construction, renovations and additions for compliance with state codes. This includes submittals relative to:
  - Life Safety Code compliance
  - Fire Alarm System installation or modification
  - Fire Sprinkler/Suppression System installation or modification
- 3) Analysis of Fire Safety Evaluation Systems (FSES) and performance-based designs (PBD) both of which offer owners objective methods for proving equivalent life safety in nonconforming structures.
- 4) Analysis of submitted "Fire Plans" for Illinois' correctional facilities.
- 5) Preparation and delivery of training programs and materials for the Agency's field inspection workforce to familiarize them with applicable codes and changing technologies in an effort to ensure consistency in code enforcement across the state.
- 6) Preparation and delivery of training programs for local fire service personnel relative to public school fire safety inspections as mandated by State statute.
- 7) Assisting operating divisions with the development of administrative rules, information reports and/or web page content to clarify technical and code requirements. This includes development of technical content for "Frequently Asked Questions" documents posted on the Agency's website.



# TECHNICAL SERVICES

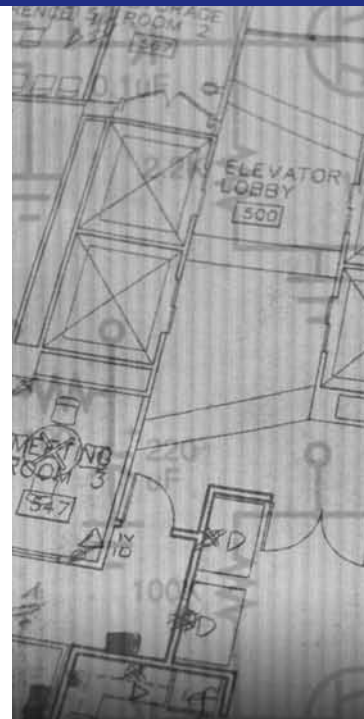
- 8) Representing the Agency on state and national task forces and code development committees relative to fire prevention and petroleum and chemical safety issues. This includes representation on National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and International Code Council (ICC) committees.
- 9) Providing expert testimony at appeal hearings and court cases.

## *Statistics*

During calendar year 2008, Technical Services performed the following work:

- 2396 Underground Storage Tank Plan and Application Reviews.
- 643 Aboveground Flammable Liquid Storage Tank Plan and Application Reviews.
- 79 LP-Gas Tank Plan and Application Reviews.
- 68 Service Station Plan and Application Reviews.
- 203 Building Construction, Fire Suppression and Alarm System Plans.
- 78 Training Hours Provided to Other Divisions of the OSFM.
- 60 Local Fire Service Personnel Trained on Public School Inspection Procedures.

Possibly most indicative of the work of the Technical Services Division was the handling of telephone, e-mail and written inquiries from occupancy owners, local enforcement agencies, contractors, architects, and engineers relative to applicable rules, interpretation of codes, and explanation of OSFM policies and procedures. In 2008 the Division handled over 11,600 inquiries.



## PERSONNEL STANDARDS AND EDUCATION

The Division of Personnel Standards and Education (PS&E) is responsible for standardization and enhancement in the levels of education and training for firefighters and professionals in Illinois with the highest priorities placed on safety and career advancement. It operates under the mandate of the Illinois Fire Protection Training Act [50ILCS 740/1 et. seq.] which provides for the promotion of standards to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public.

During 2008, the Division processed 9006 certifications, 13,404 requests for examinations and administered approximately 12,397 examinations to Illinois firefighters in forty-one levels of certification throughout the state.

The Division also administers the grant program for reimbursement to fire departments and districts for the costs related to firefighter training. At the request of the Illinois Fire Services, the Division places emphasis on distributing funds to enhance basic and essential fire service training for all fire department personnel. During 2008, \$1,000,000 was allocated for distribution; 3,051 claims were processed for a total of 200,337 hours of training.

In response to requests from the Fire Service, the Division developed and implemented new Water Technician Rescue certifications in 2008 – Dive Technician; Ice Technician; Ice Dive Technician and Swiftwater Technician. The Division is also currently updating many certification program areas to comply with current National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standards and new federal mandates through Homeland Security.

The Division is continuing to assist the Illinois Fire Chief's Education Foundation and the Illinois Society of Fire Service Instructors by providing training seminars around the State for chief officers, instructors and training officers. The seminars are a cooperative effort to address current topics on training and safety, to provide basic mandates, and information for these individuals to do their jobs effectively.

As mandated, and by request of the Illinois Fire Services, the Division strives to provide and promote the most consistent and uniform standards for training and certification. This development is enhanced by the expertise provided through various ad hoc committees comprised of the most experienced and knowledgeable professionals in their field. A variety of committees counsel OSFM on training programs and procedures, course development and implementation, and other matters relating to the Illinois Fire Protection Training Act, with the duties and areas as designated. These committees and subcommittees represent the Illinois Fire Service ensuring standardization, compliance and dedication to the professionalism of firefighting. These committees develop, establish, and evaluate curriculum and standards for the certification programs.

# PETROLEUM AND CHEMICAL SAFETY

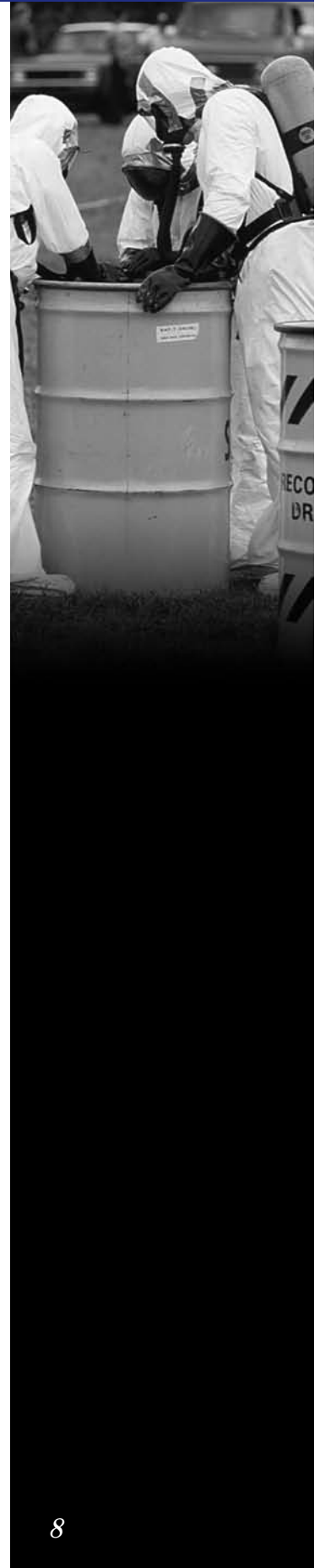
The Division of Petroleum and Chemical Safety (DPCS) regulates underground storage tanks (USTs) containing petroleum and hazardous substances to protect public health and safety. The Division works under a comprehensive program combining new and existing federal and state rules and legislation to handle tank management, emergency response and financial responsibility requirements. The mission of the DPCS is...*to protect against threats to human safety and contamination of the environment that can occur by the underground storage of petroleum products and other hazardous substances through prevention, education and enforcement.*

## ***2008 Highlights***

- Reviewed and processed 449 Eligibility and Deductibility applications.
- There were 3,264 initial facility audits performed.
- Division personnel managed more than 16,620 phone inquiries.
- The Division processed 3,330 Freedom of Information Act requests.
- Under the supervision of the DPCS, the Chicago Fire Department and Environmental Department conducted 353 permitted underground storage tank inspections and responded to ten emergencies. The Chicago Environmental Department issued 298 permits for tank installations, removals, upgrades/repairs, relines, and abandonments-in-place. Chicago also responded to 43 field investigations and conducted 274 initial certification audits.

## ***Experiences***

At the end of calendar year 2008, the Division maintained registration on a total of 22,138 active petroleum and hazardous substance tanks. The Division also maintains more than 39,600 facility files regarding USTs in Illinois. During the year, DPCS conducted 7,809 UST inspections. These inspections include permitted activity, multiple certification audit, and re-inspection of Notice of Violation (NOV) issues. The Division conducted 631 field investigations, issued 2,044 NOVs and responded to 29 emergency responses, while personnel processed 15,011 multiple forms. As the result of the Timely Compliance Opportunity program initiated in 2001, the Division Red Tagged more than 646 tanks in 2008. The Red Tags were applied to USTs that did not meet the legal requirements. Red Tagging prohibits the deposit of product into the UST until all deficiencies are corrected. Approximately May of 2006, the Division acquired inspection responsibilities for self-service (SS) and unattended self-service (USS) facilities. The Division inspected 3,162 facilities and issued 1,231 NOVs.





### **0% FIRE TRUCK REVOLVING LOAN PROGRAM**

This program provides interest-free loans, up to 20 years and \$250,000 to Illinois fire departments, fire protection districts or township fire departments for the purchase of fire trucks. In 2008, the OSFM was authorized to distribute a total of \$10 million for the Fire Truck Revolving Loan Program.

### **0% AMBULANCE REVOLVING LOAN PROGRAM**

The Ambulance Revolving Loan Program was created in 2008. This program provides interest-free loans, up to 10 years and \$100,000 to Illinois fire departments, fire protection districts, township fire departments or non-profit ambulance services for the purchase of ambulances. In 2008, the OSFM was authorized to distribute a total of \$4 million for the Ambulance Revolving Loan Program.

### **SMALL EQUIPMENT GRANT PROGRAM**

This program provided grants for the purchase of small equipment by a fire department, fire protection district or township fire department. In 2008, the OSFM was authorized to distribute a total of \$1 million for the Small Equipment Grant Program. Grants up to \$26,000 were awarded to 54 fire departments in the State of Illinois.

## **FIRE EQUIPMENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM**

This program began in October, 2003, to help connect surplus fire equipment with Illinois fire departments in need. Since its inception, over 200 departments have listed equipment on the Exchange and more than 10,000 pieces of equipment have been donated to more than 150 departments. During 2008, the Fire Equipment Exchange Program listed more than 500 items for donation to fire departments throughout the State on the OSFM website. These items included: five fire trucks, one ambulance, an equipment van, 63 self contained breathing apparatus, six thermal imaging cameras and numerous other pieces of fire equipment.

# ANNUAL BUDGET REPORT

	FY06	FY07	FY08	FY09
<b>Receipts</b>				<i>thru 1/13/09</i>
Fire Marshal Tax	19,502.9	20,313.2	20,952.20	5.2
Boiler Fees / FP fund	2,297.5	1,938.4	2,741.6	1,264.70
Boiler Fees / GR Fund	1,526.8	1,254.0	1,859.7	794.9
FF License Plates	367.4	386.5	418.3	233.1
Tank Fees / FP Fund	553.9	381.9	725.9	291.7
Elevators		296.0	883.0	305.7
Federal Grants	291.5	292.9	258.8	398.9
Sprinkler Licenses	51.1	196.7	126.0	130.6
Fire Equip Distributors	88.0	74.3	107.1	37.5
Tank Fees / UST fund	79.5	57.6	68.3	26.3
Exams	26.7	28.0	39.6	17.2
Pyrotech	61.1	22.1	25.0	5.7
FOIA	31.0	22.0	30.1	9
Fuel Haulers	16.2	17.2	15.4	1.1
Racetracks	10.0	10.0	10.0	0.0
Fines FP Fund	3.0	7.2	28.4	63.7
Misc	0.0	6.6	4.2	1.3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>24,906.6</b>	<b>25,304.6</b>	<b>28,293.6</b>	<b>3,586.6</b>
	<b>FY06 EXP</b>	<b>07 EXP</b>	<b>08 EXP</b>	<b>FY08</b>
<b>Expenditures - OSFM Operations</b>				<i>Approp</i>
Salaries	7,604.6	8,361.9	9,066.6	9,888.7
Employee Benefits	2,891.0	3,253.2	3,928.5	4,742.8
Contractual Services	1,006.4	1,121.6	1,097.9	1,300.9
EDP	490.4	1,108.6	1,221.9	1,358.0
Shared Services		612.3	618.6	627.9
Operation of Automotive	304.1	347.9	368.9	369.0
Telecommunications	243.4	229.0	216.5	245.5
Travel	136.8	108.3	141.8	154.7
Equipment	838.0	97.7	206.0	933.8
Commodities	72.8	86.3	89.4	99.0
Printing	47.7	41.9	35.8	69.4
Refunds	6.6	6.9	14.0	14.0
<b>Expenditures - OSFM Programs</b>				
Elevator Safety Program	147.7	201.4	663.3	1,000.0
Federal Grants	187.0	186.0	257.7	257.7
Fire Prevention Awareness	55.6	74.0	79.9	80.0
Fire Prevention Training	59.5	56.2	68.9	69.0
Arson Education	38.4	37.3	39.7	42.0
Risk Watch & Rememb When	97.4	35.4	33.7	40.0
New Fire Chief Training	26.4	32.0	44.0	44.0
Hearing Officers	4.6	21.6	100.0	100.0
Fire Fighter Memorial	4.2	16.1	95.9	185.0
Life Safety	15.0	15.7	20.0	20.0
Haz Mat Emergency	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.0
<b>Expenditures - Grants to Outside Entities</b>				
Chicago FD Training Reimb	1,875.9	1,932.0	1,950.3	1,950.3
Local FD Training Reimb	750.0	1,000.0	1,000.0	1,000.0
Small Equipment Grants		993.6	1,000.0	1,000.0
NITE Grants (Equip & Training)	66.0	713.9	590.7	714.2
Chicago UST Program	550.0	550.0	550.0	550.0
U of I Fire Service Institute	500.0	500.0	500.0	500.0
ILEAS/MABAS Grant		125.0	125.0	125.0
Arson Fine Pass-Thru	0.0	0.0	3.0	25.0
New Fire Districts	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>18,019.4</b>	<b>21,865.8</b>	<b>24,128.0</b>	<b>27,511.9</b>







The Office of the State Fire Marshal continues to ensure the Division has the capability to ensure our terrorism and disaster preparedness is consistent with current trends in emergency management and that an efficient operation is available to local government.

## ***OSFM Emergency Operations***

OSFM staff is dedicated to ensure Agency Homeland Security and response to the public and fire service are enabled to the best of our responsibility and capabilities.

**Homeland Security Briefings** – OSFM staff continue to participate in the monthly Homeland Security Briefings held in the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC).

**OSFM Emergency Operations Plan** – the Agency EOP is reviewed and updated on an annual basis to ensure it meets present needs.

**Homeland Security Notifications** – OSFM staff are in constant communication with intelligence organizations such as the Statewide Terrorism Information Center (STIC), the FBI, the US Attorney’s Office, Department of Homeland Security and the Illinois Terrorism Task Force. OSFM will notify the fire service of homeland security information from those agencies as appropriate.

**EMnet** – OSFM was able to attain a grant from the Illinois Terrorism Task Force to provide a satellite communications system to every fire department/district within the State. This assists to ensure the fire service has the capability to receive messages and deployment instructions when normal telephone (wireline) and cellular (wireless) service is unavailable. This multi-year phased implementation includes, at no cost to local government, the hardware, software and five years of monthly fees. The system will permit OSFM, the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) and the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS) to communicate to the fire service on matters related to large scale deployments and intelligence pertinent to the fire service. The installation is planned in multi phases and will continue in 2009.

**Agency Training** – All field staff and identified central office staff are trained in the National Incident Management System (NIMS) to ensure compliance to the federal NIMS standard.

## **Emergency Response**

- **Radio Systems** – the Agency utilizes numerous systems in order to communicate with other emergency responders. In 2008, the Agency added STARCOM 21 (a Statewide trunked radio system) radios to all Arson and Homeland Security Division personnel.
- **State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC)** – OSFM has staff dedicated to work, at a moment’s notice, in the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC). OSFM Duty Officers are required to be available 24/7/365 and capable of responding to the SEOC within one hour when activated.
- **Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS)** – staff continues to attend MABAS Executive Board meetings and sits on their Communications Committee. At the suggestion of staff, MABAS now sits, next to the OSFM fire desk, as a response partner in the SEOC. This permits greater interaction between agencies during SEOC activations, exercises and actual events.

# HOMELAND SECURITY

## *Statewide Committee Participation*

The Division continues to represent the fire marshal on the following task forces and committees:

**Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC)** – the purpose of this Statewide committee is based on ILCS 2615/10 (public safety radio interoperability) to improve public safety radio interoperability in the State of Illinois by managing all public safety radio spectrum that has been allocated to public safety agencies within the State. Staff served with the members of the committee in reviewing and recommending PSIC grants as well as working on the Statewide Interoperability Communications Plan (SCIP).

**Illinois Seismic Safety Task Force (ISSTF)** – The governor, on May 4, 2008, announced the creation of the Illinois Seismic Safety Task Force (SSTF) to enhance earthquake mitigation measures in the State so homeowners and business-owners have the protections they need if a damaging earthquake strikes, and buildings and other infrastructure are prepared to withstand seismic activity. The Seismic Safety Task Force will assess the adequacy of existing earthquake mitigation strategies, particularly of those in high-risk areas along fault lines in the southern portion of the State. The Task Force will provide the Governor with formal recommendations to further enhanced preparedness. OSFM served on both planning committees and looks forward to working with its partners to implement the recommendations of the Task Force. A final report of the Task Force is pending for release.

**Illinois Campus Safety Task Force (ICSTF)** - The shootings at Virginia Tech in April 2007, and at Northern Illinois University in February 2008, has called attention to the critical importance of campus security. In late April 2007, the Governor announced initiatives to enhance safety at Illinois institutions of higher education. The creation of a Campus Safety Task Force provided the foundation for the State to help colleges prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies. OSFM participates on the ICSTF and serves on the Response Committee.

**Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS)** – The mission of MABAS is to provide emergency aid that can be sustained when an area is affected by an overwhelming event. These events can be generated by any type of manmade, technological, or environmental threats. MABAS assets include both manpower and equipment for fire, emergency medical services (EMS), hazardous materials, technical rescue, SCUBA dive, Urban Search and Rescue (US&AR) emergencies. MABAS is prepared to respond upon the authorized direction of the State. OSFM continues to work with MABAS as a partner in the State Emergency Operations Center. OSFM staff also attends MABAS Executive Board meetings, conferences and serves on their Communications Committee.

**Illinois Terrorism Task Force (ITTF)** – staff participates on numerous committees and projects that help support the mutual goals of the fire service and the ITTF. The following summarizes those committees we participate in:

- Communications Committee
- Crises/Prevention Committee
  - Credentialing Workgroup
  - Incident Management Team (IMT) Workgroup





- Public Information Committee (OSFM co-chairs with American Red Cross)
  - Safe School Workgroup
  - Campus Safety Initiative
  - Ready Illinois Workgroup
  - Special Needs Emergency Preparedness Workgroup
  - State Fairs
- Training Committee
- Information Technology Committee
- Bio-Terrorism Committee
  - Pandemic Flu Workgroup

## Highlights

**Ready Illinois Web site ([www.ready.illinois.gov](http://www.ready.illinois.gov))** – OSFM chairs the ITTF Public Information Committee workgroup that looked at updating the task force’s Web site. The Web site has proven to be a resource that the public can use to prepare for, as well as utilize during and after emergencies. In the last year, the Web site was updated to having Spanish language, as well as enlarged text capabilities. The Web site also was a public source of information during the NIU school shootings and Statewide floods.



**State Fairs** – OSFM, in coordination with IEMA, the Illinois State Police and the Illinois Terrorism Task Force designed and provided a public safety display at the State fairs in Springfield and DuQuoin.

The Illinois State fairs provide a unique educational opportunity, addressing many State initiatives to large crowds in a short period of time. The 2008 themes from the combined public safety display included items OSFM wanted to highlight. These were the Ready Illinois Website, the Fire Equipment Exchange Program, as well as the Fire Truck Revolving Fund Program.

**Emergency Preparedness Tips for Those with Functional Needs** – Being prepared for disasters and emergencies is important for everyone, but it can be even more critical for special needs individuals, who may rely on the assistance of others during an emergency. A new publication developed by a team of emergency management and health professionals, including OSFM, addresses the unique preparedness considerations of individuals with functional needs and their caregivers. “Emergency Preparedness Tips for Those with Functional Needs” offers preparedness tips for people with visual, cognitive, or mobility impairments; citizens who are deaf or hard of hearing; those who utilize service animals or life support systems; and seniors. The document is available in print from IEMA and OSFM or as downloadable files from the Ready Illinois Web site.

# HOMELAND SECURITY

**Suspicious Mail, Package and Explosives Awareness course** – Being prepared for incidents and emergencies that involve suspicious mail, packages and explosives is a reality that employees need to be trained in. OSFM staff, working with the ITTF Crises and Prevention and Public Information Committees, developed a Power Point program with audio narrative that provides information on the threats and hazards we now face. In addition, the program provides information that will permit the audience to implement basic safety procedures, and recognize that this information not only applies to themselves, but to their co-workers and their family. The program is 30 minutes in length and appropriate for all governmental and private sector employees.

In addition, the program provides:

- A sample action plan template,
- An informational poster and,
- A Threat Checklist brochure.


All are available on the Ready Illinois Web site.

**STARCOM 21** – is a new radio system platform introduced into operation by the Illinois State Police, but has expanded to include many State response agencies as well local authorities.

OSFM was able to receive a grant to assist in the implementation of the system within the Agency. All Arson and Homeland Security Division personnel have received this equipment, as well as the State Fire Marshal. This equipment, as well as the VHF and UHF mobile radios, provides staff the tools needed to communicate during the administration of their duties especially during emergencies.







PA 92-0873, cited as the Elevator Safety and Regulation Act was approved by the Illinois General Assembly in order to provide for public safety and awareness in relation to conveyances located within the State of Illinois. The Act requires that the design, construction operation, inspection, testing, maintenance, alteration, and repair of elevators, dumbwaiters, escalators, moving sidewalks, platform lifts, stairway chairlifts, and automated people conveyances are in accordance with all applicable statutes and rules. The Office of the State Fire Marshal is named as the administrator of the program, responsible for ensuring enforcement.

The Elevator Safety Review Board was also created by Public Act 92-0873 to adopt rules consistent with the provisions of the Act and for the administration and enforcement of the Act. The Board has the authority to grant exceptions and variances, hear appeals, hold hearings, establish fee schedules, and authorize all licensing.

Since its inception, PA 92-0873, the Elevator Safety and Regulation Act, has been amended on two occasions – PA 095-0573, which refined the Act, and PA 095-0767, which moved mandated conveyance upgrade compliance to 2013 from 2009 and 2011.

Activity within the Division for 2008 is as follows:

### ***Registration and Licensing for Calendar Year 2008:***

- The Division now has 23,729 conveyances registered of which 8,327 were registered in 2008.
- We now have 99 licensed contractors (including one limited contractor license of which 12 were issued in 2008.
- We now have 155 licensed inspectors with 44 on suspended status of which 60 were issued in 2008.
- We now have 1,749 active licensed mechanics (including 24 limited mechanics) of which 164 were issued in 2008.
- We now have 789 licensed apprentices (739 active) of which 174 were issued in 2008.
- We now have 24 licensed inspection companies (21 active) of which 22 were licensed in 2008.
- We issued 527 Permits through 12/31/08.
- Licenses are issued for a two year period and are now starting to expire. We are now in the process of sending out license renewal notices and through 1/13/09 have sent out 1,403 renewal letters.
- 144 Municipalities have signed an agreement with the OSFM indicating that they will continue to run their own elevator program and adopt the codes and rules used by the Elevator Safety Division of the OSFM.



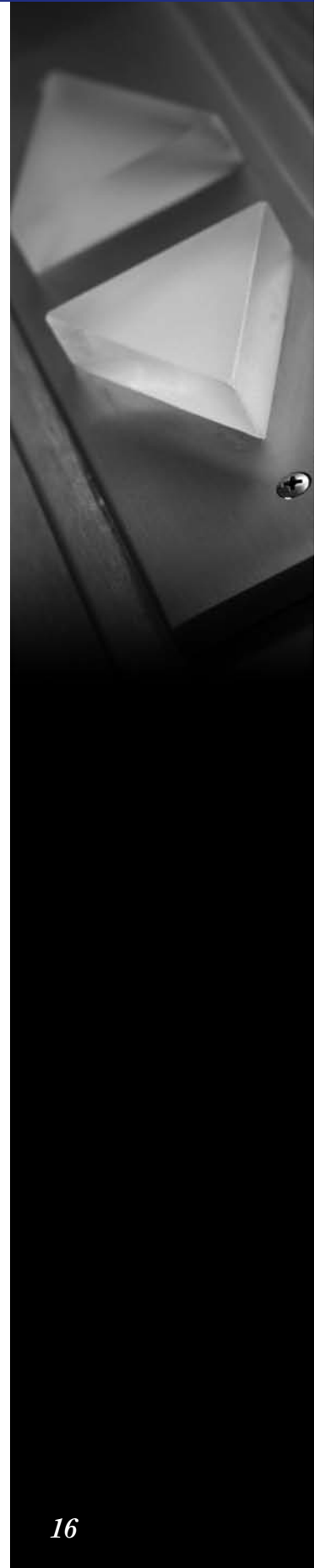
# ELEVATOR SAFETY

## *Division Complement:*

- The Elevator Safety Division formally moved its headquarters to Chicago during 2008. The Springfield Office continues to aid the Division with additional clerical staff who assist with conveyance registrations and certificates of operation. All licensing is handled out of the Chicago Office.
- The Division hired one additional elevator inspector, bringing our total to three (3), and one administrative assistant in 2008 bringing the total Division complement to five (5).

## *Work Performed:*

- Inspectors are in the field making random checks for registration tags, checking the work of licensed inspectors and checking mechanic licenses. Permits are generated through the Chicago Office and these are reviewed and issued by one field inspector. All incidents and accidents reported are given the highest priority and reports are generated as a result of investigations and kept on file. Any complaint received is also given priority attention and if necessary site visits are conducted and additional reports are generated and kept on file. We constantly inform the public of the Elevator Safety Act, our current Rules and Regulations and information on conveyances.
- The Director frequently appears before various groups informing them of the current Elevator Safety Rules and Regulations, changes to the Act, and updated Code information.
- Various meetings with legislators were attended in 2008 to discuss elevator safety legislation, and will continue throughout the balance of the year.
- Monthly meetings of the Elevator Safety Review Board are scheduled, held and attended by all staff with the Director holding the position of Administrator to the Board.
- Weekly meetings are held with Praeses to continually refine and upgrade our data entry program, Jurisdiction Online. Upgrades and additional reports are needed due to the first-time processes and additional work being performed by the Division.





## ***Risk Watch™***

***Risk Watch™*** is a comprehensive educational program that gives children and their families the information and support they need to make positive, health-promoting choices about their personal safety and well-being. The Illinois Risk Watch Champion Management Team (CMT) is coordinated by the Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal. The Office of the State Fire Marshal has assigned a staff member to be the Illinois Risk Watch Coordinator.

- The annual Illinois Risk Watch conference was held in Springfield in June. During this annual conference, the Risk Watch communities gathered for a day and a half of idea sharing, key note speakers, new initiatives, and progress of the program through National Fire Protection Association (NFPA).
- Two Risk Watch new community training sessions were held in Glenwood and Mt. Vernon, Illinois.
- The Illinois Risk Watch Coordinator attended three new and existing community teacher trainings throughout the year.
- Several conferences were attended by the Illinois Risk Watch Coordinator to promote the program and gain new communities.
- A Risk Watch Ad-Hoc Committee was created in order to provide informational support to the CMT.
- Illinois Risk Watch Statistics:
  - The Risk Watch program grew almost 100% with the addition of 23 new communities.
  - Two new community trainings were held.
  - Over 40 Risk Watch teacher trainings were held by communities.
  - Over 20 promotional events were attended by the Illinois Risk Watch State Coordinator and CMT, including conferences and speaking events.

## ***Look Up!***

Look Up! is a campaign designed for college students living in both off-campus and on-campus housing. The main statement which this campaign makes is to remind students to make sure they have a working smoke detector. The OSFM has teamed up with Kathleen Moritz in implementing this campaign. An OSFM employee has been assigned to this campaign.

- Over 150 colleges and universities around the State have received Look Up! posters to display around their campuses and housing units.
- Two press junctions were held at universities to promote the Look Up! campaign.

# PUBLIC EDUCATION

## Remembering When™

**Remembering When™** is a fire and fall prevention program for older adults that teaches protection from fires and falls through trivia quizzes, humor, and nostalgic interactive games. In 2008, Remembering When™ accomplishments include:

- Expanding the program from 38 communities to 65.
- Held its first Remembering When™ Conference.
- Formed a “Funding Team” to help communities find assistance in funding their Remembering When™ Program.



The Information Services Division has worked with various programs within the Agency to promote green computing. Many efficiencies were realized in 2008 due to these upgrades. Highlights are:

- Each Illinois fire department was issued a unique email address and OSFM now directly sends reports and communicates information to them through this email system. Fire Prevention and NFIRS Divisions are currently utilizing this system to send inspection reports and we hope to expand this communication tool to provide timely and useful information to fire departments.
- Personnel Standards and Education Division (PS&E) developed a web interface to the internal PS&E system. Fire departments now have the ability to update their contact information and personnel rosters, as well as complete requests for examinations and certifications online. More than thirty departments have piloted this program and extensive online training began in December, 2008. The web update system streamlines the process and ensures we have the most accurate fire department contact information. We have been using an online system to train departments on how to use this system and will expand this web capability over the next year.
- The Fire Prevention Division purchased a web based tablet inspection software system to perform statewide fire prevention inspections. This system was rolled out in January 2008, and replaced a manual inspection process. The web-based system allows inspectors to complete their reports on-site and promptly provide occupants with a completed inspection report.
- A data warehouse site was launched in October 2007, and we have had more than 70,000 “hits” since the site was launched. This is a user-friendly tool for the lay person to be able to check for environmental issues at a specific address. Underground storage tank facility and tank information on specific locations that may have had underground storage tanks on the property is now provided. The data warehouse has resulted in a decrease of Freedom of Information requests as requestors have the ability to access information directly.
- The Underground Storage Tank (UST) Division implemented the Facility and Compliance Tracking System (FACTS) in December 2008. The system is a tablet based field inspection tool. This application allows UST inspectors to perform inspections on site and utilize online forms via their tablet PCs. The inspection results are automatically transported to the UST database which results in higher productivity for field inspectors and a decrease in administrative office functions.

## INFORMATION SERVICES

- Our National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) program is a state mandated program that originated with the passing of the Fire Prevention Act (425 ILCS 25). Per this legislation, Illinois fire departments are required to report their incidents to the Fire Marshal's office on a monthly basis. Departments are required to report even if they had no activity. In 2005, the agency implemented a strategy to deliver a training program to distribute computers to fire departments to assist them in their mandatory reporting. This program is called NFIRS Information Technology Enhancement (NITE). We have trained 1,056 departments to date (including 21 departments receiving retraining) and issued 1,017 computers. Eighteen (18) departments either waived a computer or share a computer with another department. Below is a breakdown of the NITE program activities for the last four years.

	Number of Departments trained*	Number of Computers issued
2005	12	12
2006	203	186
2007	542	529
2008	298	290
Grand Total	1,056	1,017

\*includes 21 Departments which were re-trained.

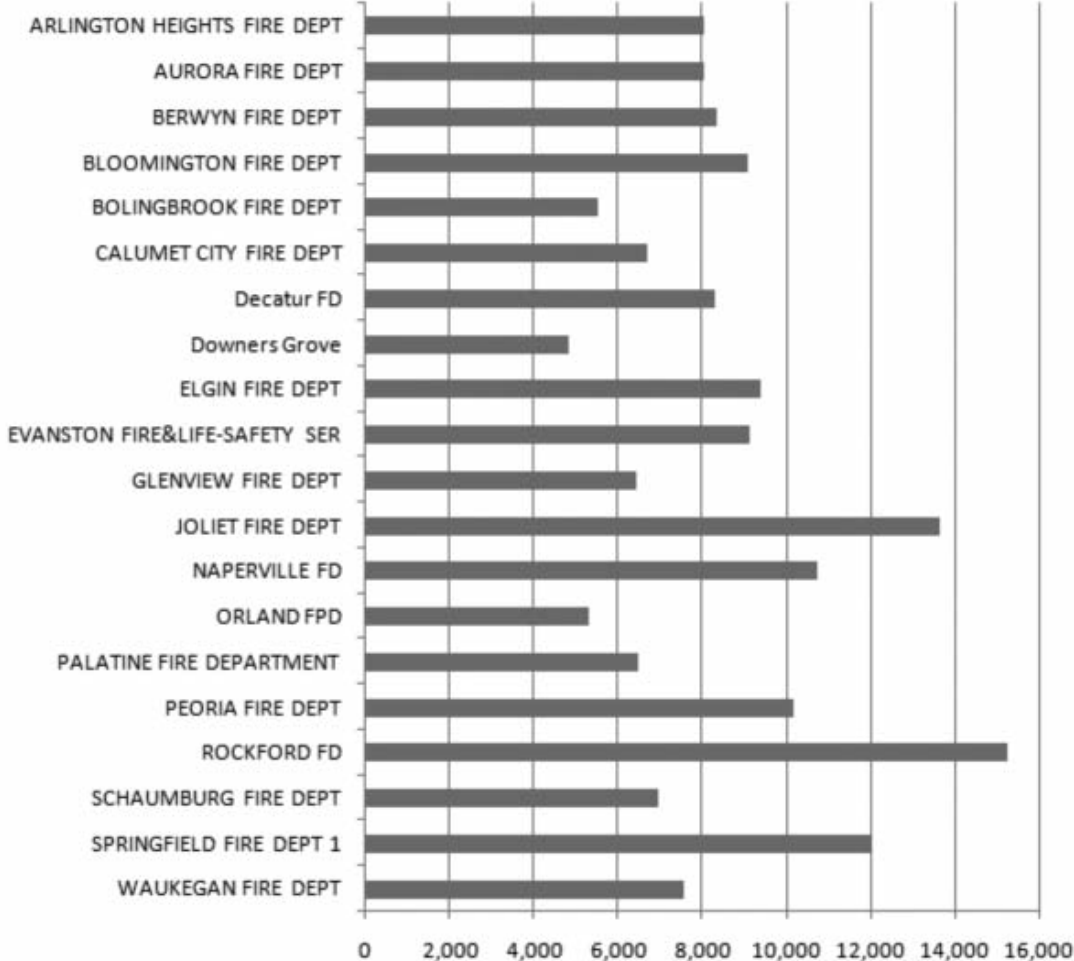
In 2008, the Agency developed a data warehouse of statewide NFIRS information of the incidents reported by the Illinois fire departments. The following is a breakdown of incidents reported by type and year:

	2006	2007	2008	Total
False Alarm and False Call	93,420	116,627	95,569	305,616
Fire	38,123	51,370	36,899	126,392
Good Intent Call	42,875	56,710	46,786	146,371
Hazardous Conditions (No fire)	28,855	40,211	32,154	101,220
Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat -no fire	1,077	1,457	1,143	3,677
Rescue and Emergency Medical Service Incidents	318,917	437,454	378,204	1,134,575
Service Call	43,296	59,261	50,739	153,296
Severe Weather and Natural Disaster	1,656	1,671	2,139	5,466
Special incident type	2,940	2,752	1,615	7,307
Total	571,159	767,513	645,248	1,983,920



The following chart shows the top twenty reporting departments by calendar year.

2008



# FIRE PREVENTION

## 2008 Highlights

- Continued statewide enforcement of Illinois' administrative rules pertaining to fire safety. The Division continued enforcement of the 2000 edition of the National Fire Protection Association's *Life Safety Code*® as the statewide rules for fire prevention.
- Conducted 10,466 on-site inspections at facilities including day care centers, day care homes, residential board and care homes, community integrated living arrangements, hotel/motels, places of public assembly, aboveground storage tank installation sites, and state owned/operated buildings including correctional centers.
- Continued the practice of conducting fire prevention inspections at the Illinois State and DuQuoin State Fairs to ensure fire safety compliance at exhibits, concession stands, tents, and special events during the fairs.
- Conducted a survey of Illinois' hospitals to determine the number and nature of injuries sustained in fireworks accidents during a four-week period that include the Fourth of July holiday.
- Continued the regulation of Pyrotechnic Distributors and Operators as required by the amended Fireworks Use Act (425 ILCS 35) and the Pyrotechnic Distributor and Operator Licensing Act (225 ILCS 227). At the end of 2008, the Agency has processed applications and provided licenses for 50 companies (Distributor licenses) and 532 Operator licenses.
- Continued the regulation of the Sprinkler Contractor Licensing program which requires all sprinkler contractors to be licensed by the Agency in order to do business in the state of Illinois. At the end of 2008, there were 217 licensed contractors.
- Continued the regulation of the State's fire equipment contractors and their employees in accordance with the *Fire Equipment Distributor and Employee Regulation Act*. At the close of 2008, the Agency licensed 191 companies and 910 employees for purposes of performing fire equipment installation and service in Illinois.
- Provided 2,796 hours of training for Division personnel relative to the application of the National Fire Protection Association's *Life Safety Code*® as well as other laws and rules adopted and enforced by the Division including computer skills and usage.

The Division of Fire Prevention, by legislative mandate, is charged with ensuring that no building endangers persons or property by reason of faulty construction, age, lack of repair, or any other cause that would make it especially liable to fire. Under authority granted in 425 ILCS 25, the Division conducts fire safety inspections in accordance with the applicable laws and administrative rules adopted to ensure such fire safety. These inspections primarily concentrate on state-owned or regulated facilities including day care centers and day care homes as required by the Department of Children and Family Services, residential facility programs at the request of the Department of Human Services, correctional centers in accordance with an interagency agreement with the Department of Corrections, race tracks as required by the Illinois Racing Board, permanently moored gaming facilities regulated by the Illinois Gaming Board, and telecommunications switching offices as prescribed by administrative rule. Enforcement also ensures compliance with regulations pertaining to LP-gas tanks if larger than 2,000 gallons in capacity or at any installation intended for purposes of dispensing LP-gas, and inspection of aboveground bulk and dispensing tank installations.





The Division also concentrates its efforts on certain “target” hazards including the inspection of state and county fairgrounds; hotel/motel occupancies; and any occupancy where a fire hazard has been reported by the local fire authority or the general public. The *Life Safety Code*®, published by the National Fire Protection Association, has been adopted as Illinois’ rules for fire prevention and safety and serves as the primary enforcement tool of the Division of Fire Prevention when conducting building inspections. Separate administrative code sections are applicable to volatile liquid storage, handling and storage of liquefied petroleum gases, furniture fire safety regulation, and fireworks storage.

### ***Fire Equipment Distributor and Employee Regulation***

The Division has responsibility for the enforcement of the *Fire Equipment Distributor and Employee Regulation Act*. This Act, and the resulting administrative rules applied by the Division of Fire Prevention, requires the licensing of all companies and their employees providing fire equipment installation or service work in Illinois. While not applicable to fire sprinkler systems, the rules and subsequent enforcement do concentrate on the work done recharging and inspecting portable fire extinguishers, as well as the installation and servicing of fixed chemical fire suppression systems, including those protecting cooking surfaces in commercial establishments.

Currently, the Agency licenses close to 191 companies and 191 employees for purposes of performing fire equipment installation and service in Illinois in accordance with the Act and subsequently developed administrative rules.

### ***Sprinkler Contractor Licensing Regulation***

The Division of Fire Prevention issues licenses for fire sprinkler contractors performing work in Illinois. Illinois requires any person, partnership, corporation or other business entity that installs or repairs any fire sprinkler system in Illinois to be licensed by the Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal. The Fire Sprinkler Contractor Licensing Act [225 ILCS 317/1 et seq.] establishes the minimum standards for licensure of fire sprinkler installation contractors for the purpose of protecting the public health and general welfare of the citizens of Illinois. At the end of 2008, the Agency has issued 217 licenses.

### ***Pyrotechnic Distributor and Operator Licensing Regulation***

The Division processes applications for Pyrotechnic Distributors and Operators as required by the amended Fireworks Use Act (425 ILCS 35) and the Pyrotechnic Distributor and Operator Licensing Act (225 ILCS 227), effective January 1, 2006.

Pursuant to the Fireworks Use Act, no person may act as a consumer distributor or retailer, or advertise or use any title implying that the person is a consumer distributor or retailer unless registered with the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM). No consumer fireworks may be distributed, sold, transferred, or provided free of charge to an individual who has not been issued a permit in accordance with the Act or has not registered with the OSFM.

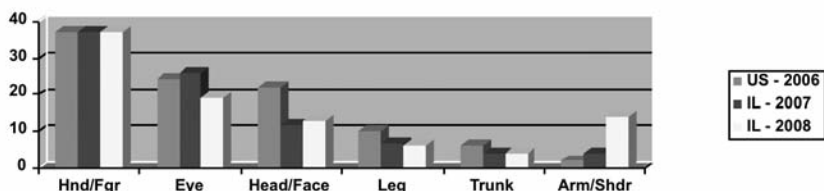
To date, the Agency has processed applications and provided licenses for 50 companies (Distributor) licenses and 532 (Operator) licenses.

# FIRE PREVENTION

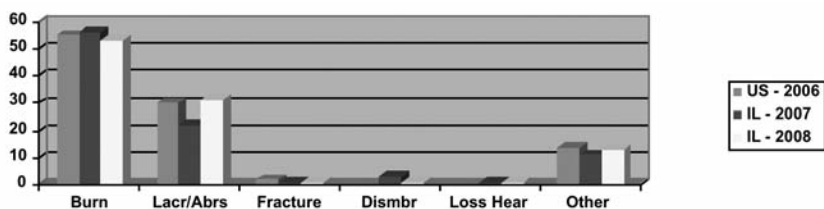
## Fireworks Safety

In 2008, we increased the number of hospitals from which we solicited information (from 198 to 335), and we gave them an additional two weeks to collect and submit the data. We had a slight increase in reporting hospitals (from 68 to 73). Twenty-two hospitals reported no injuries. We had only 103 injuries reported. There has been a decrease in injuries reported, but with the reporting information being so low it's difficult to measure accurately. There has been a decrease in sparkler related injuries to 10 in 2008.

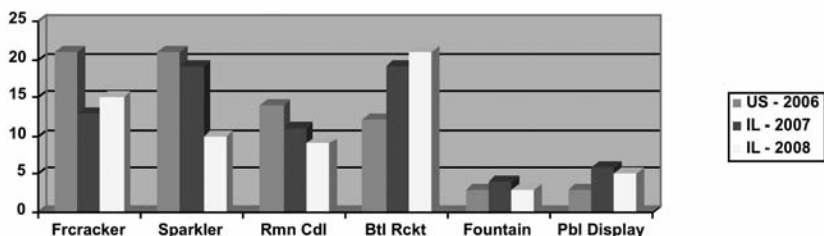
### Fireworks Related Injuries – Percentage by Body Part



### Fireworks Related Injuries - Percentage by Injury Type



### Fireworks Related Injuries - Percentage by Type of Fireworks



## Furniture Fire Safety Act

Responsibility for enforcement of the *Furniture Fire Safety Act* is also within the purview of the Division of Fire Prevention. The Act, and subsequently promulgated administrative rules enforced by the Division regulate the manufacturing, sale and use of upholstered seating furniture in specific occupancies including day care centers, prisons, hotels/motels, health care facilities, and public assembly occupancies. The combination of upholstered furniture and the careless use of smoking materials have been identified as the cause of several past fatal fires.

## Inspections

Fire Prevention inspectors conducted a total of 10,466 inspections in 2008. During those inspections inspectors found a total of 9,520 deficiencies/violations and conducted a total of 1,462 re-inspections for compliance. These inspections protect the public by uncovering building and fire safety hazards before tragedy strikes.



## *State and County Fairs*

The Division continued its practice of conducting inspections at the Illinois State Fair and the DuQuoin State Fair. During the 2008 Illinois State Fair, Division of Fire Prevention inspectors conducted fire inspections at buildings, exhibits, concession areas and tents prior to, and during the fair. These inspections focused on public assembly areas, beer tents, livestock barns, and the grandstand coliseum. Inspectors also checked the fireworks display area and grandstand stage area before and during each show. Sites were inspected and re-inspected before and during the fair. The 2008 Springfield State Fair was again incident-free from a fire safety standpoint.

Inspectors also conducted similar work at the DuQuoin State Fair. There, the Division staff conducted inspections and carried out numerous other special assignments. Fire Prevention personnel from throughout southern Illinois participated in “Firefighters Day” at the DuQuoin Fair. As in Springfield, the 2008 DuQuoin State Fair was incident-free from a fire safety standpoint.





# LEGISLATION

## **Bills Passed During the 95<sup>th</sup> General Assembly (2<sup>nd</sup> Year Legislation) for the Office of the State Fire Marshal**

### ***PA 95-0884 Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code.***

Provides victims of “Scott’s Law” related accidents to receive the same reckless homicide protection as workers in construction and maintenance zones. The amendment also allows judges/juries to interpret a defendants’ failure to move over for an emergency vehicle as reckless.

### ***PA 95-0799 Amends the Fire Protection District Act***

Permits the district to raise the salary of the trustees by an amount equal to 50% of the salary being paid to trustees at the time. Trustees must become certified in order to be eligible.

### ***PA 95-0946 Creates the Fire and Life Safety Device Act***

Prohibits the manufacture, installation, or sale of imitation life safety/fire protection devices such as sprinkler heads, CO alarms, heat detectors, smoke detectors, etc. The bill establishes the penalties as petty offenses and sets appropriate fines; it also identifies who can inspect for such devices.

### ***PA 95-0800 – Amends the Fire Protection District Act***

Allows the Board of a fire protection district to develop a grant program to award grants to certain property owners who install and maintain sprinkler systems or other fire suppression systems.

### ***PA 95-0807 – Amends the Municipal Code***

Requires that certain money from out-of-state entities effecting fire insurance be paid to the Foreign Fire Insurance Board instead of the municipality.

### ***PA 95-0868 – Amends the Humane Care for Animals Act.***

Provides that any person, including a veterinarian, who in good faith provides emergency care or treatment without fee to an injured animal or an animal separated from its owner due to an emergency or a disaster is not liable for civil damages as a result of his or her acts or omissions in providing or arranging further care or treatment, except for willful or wanton misconduct.

### ***PA 95-0801 – Amends the Criminal Code***

Makes changes to the Criminal Code, including the addition of firefighters and correctional institution employees to the statute regarding obstruction of a peace officer; makes obstructing a firefighter a class A misdemeanor. If injury is inflicted, it becomes a class 4 felony; it also stipulates other conditions.

### ***PA 95-0751 – Amends the Burn Injury Reporting Act***

Repeals a section and allows the Act to be extended.

### ***PA 95-0802 – Amends the New Vehicle Buyer Protection Act***

Extends buyer protection that currently exists for the purchase of new vehicles to also include the purchase of fire trucks.





***PA 95-0832 – Amends the Mobile Home Park Act***

Establishes specific requirements for mobile home parks in relation to fire hydrants and water supply. Also addresses requirements for agreements between mobile home parks and the local fire department if the park does not have a private water supply.

***PA 95-0803 – Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code***

This change is commonly known as “Shib’s Law”; it allows local fire officials to close lanes on a highway (other than roads under the jurisdiction of the Illinois State Toll Highway Authority) in the absence of local law enforcement or DOT officials.

***PA 95-0928 – Amends the State Prompt Payment Act, the Court of Claims Act and the Line of Duty Compensation Act***

Makes changes to the line of duty death benefit, and adds an interest penalty to line of duty death benefits not paid within six months of the claim.

***PA 95-0894 – Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code***

Authorizes the Secretary of State to suspend or revoke the driving privileges of a person if he or she does not yield the right-of-way or reduce speed for a stationary authorized emergency vehicle, if the violation resulted in damage to the property of another or the death or injury of another. This change corrects a conflict in existing state statutes.

***PA 95-0935 - Amends the Municipal code***

Allows a municipality to require that all firefighters hired after the effective date to be certified as an EMT-B, EMT-I, or EMT-P.

***PA 95-0866 - Amends the Fire Protection District Act***

Allows an elected or appointed trustee to a fire protection district to be absent from his/her job during meetings of the Board.

***PA 95-0867 – Amends the Township Code, the Illinois Municipal Code, and the Fire Protection District Act***

Allows a township, municipality or fire protection district to fix, charge, and collect a reasonable fee for certain technical rescue services.

## ADVISORY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

### ***Illinois Fire Advisory Commission***

The Illinois Fire Advisory Commission provides the State Fire Marshal a forum for advice, counsel and assistance on matters related to the fire services in Illinois (20ILCS 2905/3).

### ***Firefighting Medal of Honor Committee***

This committee, formed in 1993 by PA 86-1230, places emphasis and priority on the consideration of firefighters who have been killed or seriously injured in the line of duty and those who have displayed exceptional bravery or heroism while performing their duties as a firefighter.

### ***Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Reimbursement Panel***

This panel (created under 430 ILCS 55/) assists emergency response organizations in receiving reimbursement of hazardous materials mitigation costs when the spiller is unknown or unable to pay in a timely manner.

### ***Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Rules***

The Board helps govern the use and operation of boilers and pressure vessels in Illinois. It formulates and reviews the State's definitions, rules and regulations for the safe and proper construction, installation, repair, use, and operation of boiler and pressure vessels.

### ***Personnel Standards and Education Ad Hoc Committees***

A variety of committees counsel the OSFM on training programs and procedures, courses, and other matters relating to the Illinois Fire Protection Training Act with the duties and areas designated. The OSFM's training program ad hoc committees provide input from professionals in the fire service and contain sub-committees.

### ***Fire Equipment Distributor Advisory Board***

This Board serves in an advisory capacity to the Office of the State Fire Marshal. The Board is made up of a variety of members with an array of expertise and knowledge in their industry. They work with the Agency in proposing rule amendments, providing guidance and consultation as it regards the industry and make suggestions for improving standards in licensing. (225 ILCS 216).

### ***Elevator Safety Review Board***

The Elevator Safety Review Board was created by Public Act 92-0873 to adopt rules consistent with the provisions of the Act and for the administration and enforcement of the Act. The Board has the authority to grant exceptions and variances, hear appeals, hold hearings, establish fee schedules, and authorized contractor, mechanic, and inspector licenses.



# OFFICE LOCATIONS



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