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# FLAME RETARDANT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

## Meeting Minutes – Wednesday, October 29th, 2025, 9AM – 12PM

### Public Committee Meeting

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#### Meeting Location:

The California Natural Resources Building  
Office of the State Fire Marshal  
715 P Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room 2-310  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Meeting ID: 874 9430 0279

#### MEMBERS PRESENT

Riley Munson, Victorville Fire Department  
Bobby Brown, SGS North America, Inc.  
Jason Friedrich, OAI Laboratories  
Cori Leffler (Alternate), President FireTect, Inc.  
Donny Vasquez, CEO Made in the Shade Tent  
John Ramos, Disney Live Entertainment  
John Kardos, Advanced Textiles Association  
Rebecca Carranza (Alternate), Disney Live Entertainment  
Brian Dement, Diversified Testing Laboratories

#### MEMBERS ABSENT

Almeda Hall, Fort Irwin Fire Department  
Beth McDowell, Sacramento City Fire Department

#### OSFM STAFF

Brice Bennett, Committee Chairperson, OSFM  
Andrew Henning, OSFM  
Jeffrey Schwartz, OSFM  
Larry Godbout, OSFM  
Adam Stewart, OSFM  
Wanda Albritten, OSFM  
Chris Dale, OSFM  
Thomas Setnan, OSFM  
Galileo Atalig, OSFM

#### PUBLIC GUESTS

Eric Elias, Pyrotechnics Licensed Theatrical  
Pat Dyas, Pyrotechnics Licensed Theatrical, and Basic Theatrical Licensed

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

##### A. Welcome and Logistics Briefing.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Brice Bennett at 9:05 A.M. PDT on October 29th, 2025. Attendees were informed of meeting logistics and etiquette.

##### B. Committee Member Introductions and Roll Call.

The Roll call was conducted by Wanda Albritten, and it was determined that there was a quorum, only (6 of 10) members were present.

**C. Introductions of Non-Committee Members.**

All attendees introduced themselves

**D. Approval of Past Meeting Minutes.**

October 29th, 2025, was approved at 9:15 a.m.

Chairperson Brice Bennett asked for approval of the minutes for the April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025, meeting. It was moved by Member Bobby Brown to approve of the minutes as presented; motion seconded by Member Kathy Newman motion was carried out with a unanimous vote in favor of approval of the April meeting minutes as presented.

**E. Announcements.**

Chairperson Brice Bennett stated he would pass the announcements over to Chief Jeffrey Schwartz. Chief Schwartz announced that Deputy Patricia Setter has retired. Chief Schwartz will be acting as coordinator until Deputy Jennifer Reiss starts on November 12, 2025. She will be the new Flame-Retardant Program Coordinator.

Chief Schwartz announced that Chief Brice Bennett has been promoted to the Division Chief for Fire Engineer & Investigation. Larry Godbout is the new Staff Services Manager I (SSMI) for Fire Engineer & Investigation Division. He will be overseeing the administrated staff along with Cortney Walker. Thomas Setnan has promoted to Associate Governmental Program Analyst (AGPA) working with Regulations.

**2. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Non-Approved Online Tents Sales Update.**

Chairperson Brice Bennett stated that he has been investigating with other agencies, in particular, Department of Water Resources about showerheads online, and was unable to purchase high-flow showerheads online in California. Chief Bennett stated that going up against Amazon to try and tell them not to sell something is quite an undertaking.

**B. Chapter 8 Regulations Update.**

Chairperson Brice Bennett mentioned along with Chief Henning that (OSFM) will be adding a second attorney for the purpose of ensuring Regulation packages are progressing in a timely manner. This will safeguard that our Regulatory packages will go through Office of Administrated Law successfully.

**3. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Individual Chemical Applicators vs Company Applicators.**

Member Kathy Newman stated that it's been requested by the general applicators, and limited applicators to mirror the same criteria as the Portable Fire Extinguisher Program's Certificate of Registration process. Member Kathy Newman wants to implement a subcommittee discussion workgroup. It was moved by members of a workgroup that Chief Schwartz will facilitate.

**4. OPEN FORUM**

Chairperson Brice Bennett opened the floor for an open forum. There were no comments in open forum.

## 5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairperson Brice Bennett opened the floor for public comment.

Pat Dyas mentioned that he has over 45 years' experience as a show producer in the firework industry. He cited Health and Safety Code 13119 and 13115. He stated his concerns with Sacramento City Fire Department wanting all costumes to have Flame Retardant applied to them with a cost of \$30,000.00 dollars.

Chief Schwartz address Pat Dyas concerns with the Health and Safety Code and the City, County Ordinances.

Pat Dyas said that Sacramento Fire Department was requiring that Flame Retardant Program be placed on all costumes.

Member Bobby Brown asks the question of the age of the costumes used.

Eric Elias stated that NFPA 3 "Flaming Wardrobe Piano California" does not approve of these items such as drapey, hanging curtains items which primarily applies to stationary decorative items. Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) agreed to provide Pat Dyas with information on filing a code interpretation request and it may not be completed before Disney's return in February.

Chief Brice Bennett said he would reach out to Pat Dayas to file for a code of interpretation.

Member Kathy Newman mentioned that she would like the results to be shared with the Committee after they have been answered.

## 6. UPCOMING MEETING DATES

### A. Wednesday, January 27th, 2026

Chief Brice Bennett announced that the upcoming meeting will be located in Long Beach, CA with other details TBD.

## 7. MEETING ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Member Bobby Brown and seconded by Member Kathy Newman Motion was carried with a unanimous vote to adjourn the meeting. Chairperson Brice Bennett thanked everyone for their participation and adjourned the meeting at 09:45 A.M. PDT.

*This notice and copies of the written materials have been posted on the Office of the State Fire Marshal website <https://osfm.fire.ca.gov/>. For information concerning the Committee meeting, please email the Flame Retardant Program inbox at [fr@fire.ca.gov](mailto:fr@fire.ca.gov). Any written reports being provided to the Committee members in advance of the public meeting will also be available to the public upon request.*

*In accordance with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, reasonable accommodations are available. Request for reasonable accommodations should be made at least five (5) working days prior to the meeting date. To request reasonable accommodations, including documents in alternative formats, please contact the Flame Retardant Program inbox at [fr@fire.ca.gov](mailto:fr@fire.ca.gov).*