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Date: January 9, 2026

To: Statewide Training and Education Advisory Committee
State Board of Fire Services
From: Caryn Petty, Deputy State Fire Marshal III (Specialist)

SUBJECT/AGENDA ACTION ITEM:
Accredited Academy Steering Committee

Recommended Actions:
Information Only.

Background Information:

The current Accredited Academies system was established prior to 2000 as a partnership between accredited community colleges and/or fire agencies/authorities having jurisdiction, for the purpose of delivering approved SFT curriculum within a given region. Since that time, the SFT and Accredited Academies systems have evolved to focus not only on statewide system engagement but also on fostering cooperative partnerships and providing Fire Fighter Accredited Academy instruction, as well as IFSAC/Pro Board Certification Exams. This growth warrants a review of the existing Accredited Academies system and accreditation processes to ensure that parameters and compliance measures align with the evolution of the SFT system.

The Accredited Academies Steering Committee will be established to review the SFT processes, regulations, and incorporated reference documents, as well as accreditation processes, to ensure currency and relevance. The working group may also propose code changes, adoption of procedures, and best practices for the continued development of the Accredited Academies system. The Steering Committee begins meeting in Quarter One of 2026 and will act in an advisory capacity, facilitated by State Fire Training.

Steering Committee membership will include the following:

- Chief of State Fire Training and/or their designee(s)
- Three (3) representatives from the Accredited Regional Training Programs (ARTPs)
- Three (3) representatives from the Accredited Local Academies (ALAs)
- A representative from the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)
- A representative from the Statewide Training and Education Advisory Committee (STEAC)
- A representative from the California Fire Technology Directors (CFTDA)
- A representative from the California Training Officers Association

State Fire Training may decide to add other appropriate stakeholders. The appointed members of the Committee shall serve at the pleasure of the Chief of State Fire Training. The members of the Committee shall serve without compensation. The Chairperson of the Committee shall be the Chief of State Fire Training or their designee.