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DPSST FIRE PROGRAM HOSTS THE 2024 DLO CONFERENCE

On April 11th-13th, the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) hosted a District Liaison Officer (DLO) Conference in Sunriver to review and discuss fire service agency accreditation, certification, and training processes. DPSST is proud to have a very unique group of volunteers who serve as DLOs in more than 20 regions throughout the state. These volunteers are the focal point within their region related to Fire Certification, and they assist Fire Program staff by completing Accreditation Agreement reviews, approving Task Performance Evaluation (TPE) requests, and answering DPSST Fire Program-related questions. If you are not familiar with the DLO in your region you can find their contact information here: <https://www.oregon.gov/dpsst/FirePrograms/Pages/Program-District-Liaison-Officer-Program.aspx>

This was a very productive conference in which we clarified several of the DLO's roles and responsibilities as well as discussed updates to forms which include tweaks to verbiage, updates to format to ensure uniformity and modernity, and an increased transparency. As form updates are finalized you will start to see newer versions of the following on our website:

- *Training Roster (Issued Upon the Submittal of an F-9F: Application to Instruct a Class)
- *Training Notice of Course Completion (NOCC's)(Issued Upon the Submittal of an F-9F: Application to Instruct a Class)
- TPE-10 Notice of Proposed Task Performance Evaluations
- TP-4 Task Performance Evaluation Form
- R-1 Accreditation Review Form

*New versions of Rosters and NOCC's will not be issued to currently approved instructors but will be sent out for all new course requests.

DLO CONFERENCE CONTINUED

Additionally, the entire Fire Program team was in attendance, so it was an excellent opportunity to network, for the Fire Training team to get to know the DLOs in their regions, and for the Fire Certification team to interact with the DLOs in person rather than over phone and email as they do so often. Our DPSST Rules Coordinator Jennifer Howald was also able to attend and observe the discussion. As a result, staff will be working with Jennifer shortly to determine if any discussion items warrant proposed Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) updates. If they do, the Fire Program will communicate that process each step of the way via the Fire Program Monthly Newsletter and our mass email delivery system. Sign up for those emails now by clicking [here](#).

We are so thankful and fortunate to work with such an amazing team of DLOs throughout the state of Oregon and value the work that they do to help the fire program and the Oregon fire service. If you are interested in learning more about the DLO Program, please view their webpage [here](#) or contact Brooke Bell-Urbe at 503-569-8260 or brooke.bell-uribe@dpsst.oregon.gov.

We currently have one DLO position open for Region 8, which covers Jackson and Josephine counties. If you are interested in applying for this position, please find the application here: <https://www.oregon.gov/dpsst/FirePrograms/FireForms/DLOAPP2014.pdf>

TRAIN FOR SUCCESS THROUGH MEMORIZATION

By DPSST District Coordinator Josh Feller

Have you ever trained at a task in a long session only to fail at the task the following day? Looking at our personal experience I'm sure we have all suffered this issue (think National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians [NREMT] practical tests). Current research suggests that if we follow the actual "sets and reps" mindset we are likely to be better prepared for the task.

Sets and reps in workout routines involve a manageable amount of resistance repeated over a manageable amount of time, then a rest followed by a repeat of the exercise. In the Fire Service we have historically used the "sprint" mindset in which we need to get a bunch of people to the finish line in a short period of time. On a volunteer drill night we might have three hours to get twenty people through forcible entry, so three stations rotated with minimal waiting means at most a person might have three minutes per station position.

Commonly called muscle memory, the concept is actually neuro-motor pathways. The brain works more like a highway with many lanes, each "lane" represents a neural pathway. When we repeat tasks we add lanes, and layers of redundancy. Studies show that Alzheimer's patients might forget faces and names, however, might remain able to play a musical instrument because this is largely supported by the redundant neural pathways. If this concept is carried over to our minds, we should be able to perform our tasks with the ambient stressors and chaos of the fire scene assuming the appropriate amount of training.

So how do we fix our training to reflect this concept? Some of DPSST's props can be dropped and left at your location, after DPSST staff's initial train-the-trainer. Your team then can continue the training and increase their pathways and build freeways of neuro-motor reflex. The burden then passes to training and company officers to ensure that the learning continues, and your team is successful. For props that we can't leave, getting them on a yearly training calendar and making sure that the value is optimized through time on prop can also help. We are more than willing to help you with whatever your agency's needs are, and full day training and weekends are available.

For more information on DPSST props, please click to see our website [here](#) or contact your District Fire Training Coordinator [here](#).

DPSST 2024 LEADERSHIP LISTENING TOUR

Over six days in April 2024, DPSST's eight-member executive leadership team embarked on a listening tour throughout Oregon to speak with public safety constituents about how the agency can best meet their needs. DPSST gained feedback on a variety of topics impacting the law enforcement, fire, corrections, parole and probation, and telecommunications fields.

Over the course of six days, DPSST's eight-member leadership team traveled over 1800 miles, held listening sessions in 16 communities and heard from nearly 200 constituents and elected officials to learn about how we can better serve Oregon's public safety providers.

We gained some extremely valuable feedback and are already working to implement changes wherever possible based on what we learned. Agencies in different parts of our state are facing unique challenges, and DPSST is committed to helping our partners throughout Oregon meet those challenges. There were also a lot of common themes we heard throughout the tour - no matter whether they're on the southern coast or in the eastern Oregon desert, agencies have many common needs, and we look forward to acting on what we learned to help them keep their communities safe.

To view the feedback we received on the listening tour, click [here](#).

We are working on a detailed action plan for service improvements based on the feedback we heard, and we'll send that to you by May 15.

Lastly, we are grateful to all who joined us on the listening tour, and we are especially thankful to the agencies that hosted a tour stop in their communities. As always, we encourage you to contact us with any additional questions.



Pictured above: DPSST Leadership Team at a Southern Oregon stop at Jackson County Fire District No. 3.

WELCOME TO THE TEAM, MADISON HOCKETT!

We are thrilled to welcome the Fire Program's newest team member: Fire Program Support Specialist Madison Hockett who started April 29th! For the past six years, Madison worked in fashion retail where she loved to organize community events, manage social media, and create a fun working environment with all her employees. She is also a freelance esthetician and performs beauty services in her free time for friends and family. Although she loves the beauty/fashion industry, she is excited to expand her expertise with DPSST in the Fire Program!

After working hours, she is often throwing the ball for Duke, her three-year-old german shepherd, or trying to decide what wall to paint next in her new home in Stayton! During the weekends when the weather is gloomy, she tries to find some type of creative outlet like playing music, creating art, or reading books. As soon as the sun comes out, she is out camping, boating, and hiking every chance she gets! Help us give a warm welcome to Madison!



MAINTENANCE RE-CERTIFICATION IS NEAR

Maintenance Packets will be mailed out to all Oregon fire service agencies with DPSST fire certified personnel on June 1st, 2024. If you have not received your packet by July of 2024, please contact Fire Certification Specialist Michelle Hilt at 503-931-8806. Packets are due back to DPSST by December 31st, 2024 and will be processed in order of receipt.

For a reminder of the Maintenance Re-Certification process, please visit the website [here](#).

We prepare, too! Pictured right are packets ready to be mailed to Oregon fire service agencies in 2022.



2024 OREGON FALLEN FIRE FIGHTERS MEMORIAL

SAVE THE DATE

**OREGON FALLEN FIRE FIGHTERS
MEMORIAL CEREMONY**

JUNE 20, 2024

OREGON FALLEN FIRE FIGHTERS MEMORIAL
IN THE LINE OF DUTY

OREGON
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
STANDARDS AND TRAINING

BRAVERY
COURAGE
HONOR
SACRIFICE

ACTIVE VERSUS IMPLIED CERTIFICATIONS

In an effort to increase uniformity and ease of understanding as well as streamline internal processes, the DPSST Fire Certification section will be changing all certifications statuses within the Oregon Fire Service Information Records Inquiry System (IRIS) labeled as “Implied” to “Active” starting June 1st. Until now, Fire Certification has used the “Implied” status label on certifications that are prerequisites to a higher level of certification. Each time a firefighter receives that higher level of certification, DPSST staff changes the prerequisite certification status to “Implied”. We have found this task to be an unnecessary, lengthy step when it essentially means that the “Implied” certification are still just simply “Active” certifications.

What does this mean for the Oregon fire service? Essentially, the only difference you will see is a slight change in your records within IRIS. All certifications and issue dates will remain the same, but the status label of your certifications will now just read “Active” or “Lapsed”, and never “Implied”.

If you are interested understanding which levels of certifications are prerequisites to higher levels, you may consult the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standard associated with the level of certification, or refer to the Application for Certification’s bullet-point items on the form which will always state the prerequisites necessary to obtain certifications.

Please see the pictures below for an example of upcoming changes.

If you have any questions or seek further clarification, please contact Brooke Bell-Urbe at brooke.bell-uribe@dpsst.oregon.gov or 503-569-8260.

By June first, your IRIS records will go from this:

1/1/2023	NFPA Fire Fighter I		Implied	8/13/2001	12/31/2024
1/1/2023	NFPA Fire Fighter II		Active	12/15/2005	12/31/2024
1/1/2023	NFPA Fire Instructor I		Implied	6/15/2006	12/31/2024
1/1/2023	NFPA Fire & Emergency Svcs Inst II		Implied	2/18/2021	12/31/2024

To this:

1/1/2023	NFPA Fire Fighter I		Active	8/13/2001	12/31/2024
1/1/2023	NFPA Fire Fighter II		Active	12/15/2005	12/31/2024
1/1/2023	NFPA Fire Instructor I		Active	6/15/2006	12/31/2024
1/1/2023	NFPA Fire & Emergency Svcs Inst II		Active	2/18/2021	12/31/2024

ABOUT DPSST

Our mission is to pursue excellence in training and accountability for public safety professionals. DPSST trains and certifies/licenses police officers, corrections officers, parole and probation officers, regulatory specialists (OLCC), telecommunicators (9-1-1), emergency medical dispatchers, criminal justice instructors, private security providers, private investigators, fire service professionals, and polygraph examiners in the State of Oregon.

We strive to provide resources and certification programs that public safety officers and local public safety organizations need to maintain the highest professional skill standards, stewardship and service to Oregon's communities and citizens. These services are based at our 236-acre academy and extend across the state through a network of regional training coordinators.

Agency functions are guided by several Oregon Revised Statutes and our authority is defined specifically in Chapter No. 259 of the Oregon Administrative Rules. We are governed by a 26-member Board and six discipline-specific policy committees; we serve more than 43,000 public safety constituents across the state.

The Department of Public Safety Standards and Training

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Find us at:
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