



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

L. Brad Creasy
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Virginia Department of Fire Programs

Jamey Brads
BRANCH CHIEF
TRAINING & OPERATIONS

Memorandum

To: Brad Creasy, Executive Director
Fire Board Members

From: Jamey Brads, Branch Chief
Training and Operations

Date: December 1, 2023

Subject: Report Training and Operations

The Training and Operations Branch continues to support both funded and non-funded deliveries. Since our last report that was presented in September:

Overall Branch Updates:

- We have delivered three Instructor Symposiums in Blacksburg, Henrico, and the Tidewater Area. These symposiums netted over 650 additional Train-the-Trainers (TTT).
- A new sign-off process in development for TTT's in calendar year 2024. We will continue to use post-testing through the end of this calendar year to ensure an informed decision on how we will move forward with TTT sign-off's for competency.
- Jeff Liebold, Curriculum Development Specialist and former Division 2 Chief, retired at the end of October. After a short break in service, Jeff plans to return to the agency in an adjunct instructor capacity to continue working with Learning Development.
 - His retirement creates a vacancy that we hope to fill by the end of January.
- We will be working towards implementing centralized testing assignments and testing packet delivery on a division-by-division basis by the first of the year.

Special Operations Updates:

- Updates continue on all HTR foundational programs: Vehicle, Rope, Confined Space, Trench, and Water, at Operations and Technician levels to be reaccredited.
- New curriculum textbook released from IFSTA on Heavy Vehicle Operations and Technician.
 - Waiting on instructor curriculum information to be released. Have begun the initial phase of updating this curriculum. This is the last to update.

- IFSAC and Pro Board reviews on foundational programs are tentatively being scheduled for Spring 2024.
- Fall ARFF programs concluded in November at Wallops Island. ARFF Chiefs and Instructor meeting scheduled for January 2024.
- The ten 2023 SCS Scholarship recipients successfully completed the school in October.
- Fall Rescue Week was held at PSTC November 6-12. We collaborated with Virginia State Police on the swift water program and Henrico Fire on Rope Tech and EBSS.
- Updated equipment purchased and secured for trench, heavy vehicle, and tower rescue.

Logistics Updates:

- KFT made repairs to ARFF unit at Wallops Island and installed new smoke machines on MBTs to replace old out of service units.
- Procured 2 trucks from OEMS; one to be an additional pull truck and the other to replace the logistics chief truck.
 - OEMS has additional items which we are negotiating to procure. They have AV equipment which will help facilitate our support for conferences and large events.
- The Logistics team worked closely with Special Operations to support Fall Rescue Week, November 6-10.

Online testing solution:

- The agency has elected to evaluate some additional software options since the vendor we have been working with has been unable or unwilling to address the latency issue with their software.
 - The IT Division has been working to get some devices ready for testing once a vendor and/or software has been selected.

Modular FF Update

Certificates:

- The Accreditation and Certification Division has addressed the majority of the sessions identified as incorrectly processed last year. The final phase of this project will be to print the remaining certificates and mail them to the students.
- The Accreditation and Certification Division has partnered with the Learning Development Division to get an intern to review all past sessions and develop a list of sessions and/or students that certificates have not been issued and/or uploaded to the session.

Lithium-Ion Battery Training Update

Cornerstone OnDemand (CSOD):

- We're leveraging CSOD technology to audit programs to ensure consistency in program submission and processing across all divisions.

Jamey Brads

Virginia Department of Fire Programs
Branch Chief - Training & Operations
1005 Technology Park Drive
Glen Allen, Virginia 23059-4500
804.371.3209 (fax)
804.839.1042 (cell)
<http://www.vafire.com>
E-mail: jamey.brads@vdfp.virginia.gov