



# Oregon State Police Briefs 2009

## Office of State Fire Marshal



### Overview

Services of the Division of the State Fire Marshal include Emergency Planning and Response, the Oregon Community Right to Know and Protection Act, state Incident Management Teams, state hazardous materials spill response teams, Oregon Urban Search and Rescue Task Force, fire code adoption and enforcement, fire investigation, fire data collection and analysis, fire safety education and juvenile firesetter intervention, public information, regulation of fireworks, explosives, propane, safer-cigarettes, and non-retail gasoline dispensing industries; and mobilization of fire service resources during conflagrations, structural collapse and other emergencies. The Division has 74 employees and a biennial budget of \$20 million. Division units and programs include:

**Administration Services:** This unit provides administrative support to the Governor's Fire Service Policy Council and the Oregon Fire Code Committee. Administration also houses the codes and technical assistance staff who promote the application and use of effective and uniform fire and life safety codes, review plans and issues permits for above ground liquefied petroleum gas tanks and coordinates and facilitates a statewide dispute resolution process.

**Randy Simpson**  
State Fire Marshal

**Community Education Services:** Manages statewide fire prevention and safety education programs. Identifies residential fire problems and develops programs and resources designed to reduce fire deaths, injuries and property loss. Programs include home fire safety, smoke alarm, senior fire safety and fire safety curricula for elementary and middle schools. The section provides support, resources and technical assistance to local fire departments and community partners statewide; coordinates with Oregon Life Safety Team.

### Emergency Planning and Response

**Services:** Oversees the administration, training and equipping of the state's three Incident Management Teams, 14 Regional Hazardous Material Emergency Response Teams, and Oregon's Urban Search and Rescue Task Force

(US&R). Incident Management Teams provide comprehensive incident command during all-hazard emergency operations; Hazardous Materials Response Teams respond to and mitigate chemical emergencies; and the US&R Task Force responds to structural collapse or other events to provide expertise in technical search and rescue. Staff also manages the state Community Right to Know and Protection Act, tracking chemicals used, stored, and made in Oregon communities and reports that information to local emergency responders and citizens. Staff manages the collection and analysis of fire incident and hazardous response data.



**Fire and Life Safety Services:** Oversees a statewide team of 18 deputy state fire marshals who conduct inspections, investigate fires, and deliver training on fire inspection, investigation, scope of authority, and fire code requirements to members of the Oregon fire service. Deputies provide technical assistance on fire and life safety issues to community organizations, industry, and local fire and building officials. This unit also houses the Juvenile Firesetter Intervention program, which coordinates multi-disciplinary county networks to serve youth with firesetting behavior issues. Staff trains community partners and fire service members on screening youth and intervention through education or referral. Staff also markets and distributes fire awareness education curricula.

**License and Permit Services:** Administers the licensing, permitting and regulation of five statewide programs including explosives, fireworks, liquefied petroleum gas, non-retail fueling (cardlock), and fire-safer cigarettes. Staff enforces statutory requirements, issues notices and orders of correction, imposes civil penalties, presides over stakeholder meetings, and develops administrative rules and other information to assist industries' compliance with program regulations.