



DPSST Newsletter

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Department of Public Safety, Standards & Training, 4190 Aumsville Hwy SE
Salem, OR 97317

Update from the Commander

By Commander Todd Anderson

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Training Division Update

Governor Kitzhaber released his 2013-2015 Governor's Recommended Budget (GRB) a short time ago. The initial analysis shows DPSST's budget will be reduced by about \$500,000. If you would like to review the information, the Safety Outcome Areas for the 10-year plans start on page D-1 and the budgets for public safety agencies start on page N-38.

http://www.oregon.gov/gov/priorities/Documents/GBB_Complete.pdf

Please keep in mind that this initial budget is what the Governor is submitting to the Oregon Legislative Assembly. The assembly will begin their work when they arrive at the State Capitol in January. The state budget process traditionally takes up to five or six months, so there will be many discussions, hearings, work sessions, and news articles on the proposals. The final document, which is called the Legislatively Adopted Budget (LAB), will become the state budget at the conclusion of the session.

The positive news about our budget is twofold - there are no recommended cuts in the Training Division for the 2013-2015 biennium and the Fire Insurance Premium Tax, which supports the training and certification of fire fighters across the state, has been built into the Governor's Recommended Budget. With that being said, we will have to wait for a final budget from the Legislative Branch, because it traditionally looks different than what has been proposed by the Governor at the start of the session.



Tactical Training Section Update

By Captain Suzy Isham

I am constantly amazed at the level of commitment, enthusiasm, and skill that I see from our full-time, agency loaned, and part-time instructors, as well as our volunteers during the scenario based training that is conducted in OPSA Village. Patrol Week is an especially taxing time for all of these talented and knowledgeable folks.

From November 5th through 8th, 2012, we conducted Patrol Week for BP332 and the level of passion and professionalism from all of our role players, evaluators, and coordinators was evident through the wind, rain, slick surfaces, and cold temperatures. Field Training Officers from around the state commented on the fantastic, effective, and quality training that was conducted not only in the Village, but throughout their recruits' Academy experience here at DPSST.

With that said, I want to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of our full-time, agency loaned, part-time, volunteer instructors and role players that sacrifice their time to come and pass along their knowledge, as well as their appreciation for the public safety disciplines that we represent. The information and the expertise that you all share is so important to the "next generation" of public safety professionals that DPSST is turning out. You all have a unique and important hand in shaping those that will serve and protect the communities throughout the state.

It is an awe-inspiring thought and you all should be proud of the job that you have undertaken. I know that I am certainly proud to be a part of this agency and a part of the Tactical Training Team, which is so appreciative of your efforts and dedication. We can't do this job without all of you! Thank you for everything that you do!



Survival Skills Section Update

By Captain Roger Eaton

I hope this newsletter finds that everyone has had a very nice Thanksgiving holiday. As you know, we had a down week with the holiday followed by an agency wide mandatory furlough on Friday. Many of our full time staff were able to spend precious time with their families over this long weekend.

As December comes in, we will continue to have two classes in session, BP 333 and BP 334. We will be down the last week in December and the first week in January of 2013.

In December, we will say good bye to Lynette Geiger, the office specialist for Survival Skills who has been with DPSST for 9½ years. She has been instrumental in scheduling, among other things, deficient students for remediation at the Academy. Lynette was extremely versatile and able to work competently in almost any area of DPSST. We wish her well in her new position working for Polk County as a receptionist in their Mental Health office in Dallas.

Academy Training Update

By Captain Teresa Plummer

During the month of November, we said good-bye to our parole and probation coordinator, Kim (Fulton) Menjou. Kim was hired with DPSST on February 13, 2006 as a basic class coordinator. She served as a mentor, subject matter expert, co-worker and friend to many at this agency. After almost 7 years, she decided that it was time to return to the field and was hired as a supervisor by the Lane County Parole and Probation Department. She will continue to teach for us as an agency part-time instructor and we wish her the best.

On November 9th, 2012, DPSST graduated 39 students from Basic Police 332. Chief Ray Rau, from the Nyssa Police Department, shared his wisdom and advice with the students as the guest speaker. It was a fitting close to the class since Chief Rau was the Academy Training Supervisor when BP332 started and Nyssa had a graduating recruit.



Fire Training Section Update

By Captain Mark Ayers

Today's emergency responders face unexpected challenges as new uses of alternative energy increase. These renewable power sources save on the use of conventional fuels such as petroleum and other fossil fuels; but, they also introduce unfamiliar hazards that require new firefighting strategies and procedures.

Among these alternative energy uses are buildings equipped with solar power systems—which present a variety of significant hazards should a fire occur. The safety of firefighters and other emergency first responder personnel depends on understanding and properly handling these hazards through adequate training and preparation.

Solar electricity developed from photovoltaic systems is one of those new technologies that the fire service needs to become familiar with, both from a codes and regulations perspective, and from a fire department operations perspective. When responding to a building fire how do you work around large expanses of very expensive photovoltaic panels on the roof? What are some of the associated hazards and how do you effectively mitigate them? How do you address these systems in plan review and what should you be asking for?

DPSST's Fire Section, in conjunction with TVF&R, Energy Response Solutions and Captain Matt Paiss of the San Jose Fire Department, have developed a CD that highlights solar power systems utilizing solar panels that generate thermal and/or electrical energy (with a particular focus on solar photovoltaic panels used for electric power generation). If you are interested in this program, feel free to contact Captain Ayers @ 503-378-2726 or mark.ayers@state.or.us for a copy of this presentation.