

MEETING MINUTES



Oregon Fire Casualty Review Committee

Meeting Date: Thursday, November 15, 2012

Time: 10:00 a.m. – noon

Location: Office of State Fire Marshal, 4760 Portland Rd. NE, Salem, OR 97305, Mt. Hood conference room

Members:

Candice Clark, OSFM – Data Unit	John Phillips, OSFM – Data Unit
Curtis Ryun, Oregon Burn Center	Krista Fischer, OSFM – Youth Fire Intervention
Dave Gulledge, OSFM – Data Unit	Kristina Deschaine, OSFM – Fire & Life Safety via T/C
Debbie McDermott, McMinnville Fire Department	Terry Wolfe, OSFM
Jeff Cranford, McMinnville Fire Department	Tim Birr, OFSC

Guest:

Alice Johnson, Portland Fire & Rescue	Sam Garland, OSFM Volunteer
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Dave Gulledge called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. on November 15, 2012.

Agenda Items:

Review of August minutes

- Corrections identified for the August 16, 2012, meeting minutes.
 - To view visit: www.oregon.gov/osp/SFM/docs/OFCRC08-16-2012minutes.pdf.

Current Casualties

Members reviewed the *2012 Fire Fatality Tracking* spreadsheet and the NFIRS reports for the current fire casualties.

- Dave informed members that the Data Unit has created protocols and has implemented quality assurance measures for the fire departments that are improperly reporting casualties in the NFIRS system.
- Dave reported that there were 11 confirmed out of 25 reported casualties at the August 16 2012, OFCRC meeting and we currently have 20 confirmed out of 24 reported casualties. Dave explained that most of these are structure fires. One casualty was reported as a fire fatality but the investigation found it to be a homicide.
- Dave asked members if they have any recommendations regarding the fatalities.

Members discussed the *Oregon Residential Structure Fires with Civilian Injuries 01/01/2012 – 10/31/2012* handout.

- Dave reported that there were just 22 fire injuries reported since the August 16, 2012, OFCRC meeting. He explained that he thought the year to date trend would give the committee a larger sampling and makes it easier to identify trends.
- The data indicated that almost 70% of the fires occurred in residential structures, most injuries occurred between 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., cooking related fires continue to be the number one source of injury, most fire injuries occur in 1 or 2 family dwellings, and involve males.
- Dave shared a copy of the graphs and charts of the data.
- The U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) released a report in April 2012 where they identify a potential correlation between the fire injuries that occurred at 7:00 p.m. and cooking related fires. To view this report visit: <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/downloads/pdf/statistics/v13i3.pdf>.

- Dave shared that on average Oregon has the 11th lowest fire fatalities per leading population nationally. He explained that they have not run fire injuries statistics because it is harder to validate. The fatalities are based on the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) – WISQARS national database that stands for web-based Injury Statistics Query and Reporting System. To view this database visit: <http://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/index.html>.
 - The majority of the injuries occur in 1- or 2-family homes,
 - Males account for about 60% of the injuries,
 - About 54% are minor injuries,
 - The most common activity at the time of injury about 32% is attempting to control the fire,
 - A smoke detector was present two-thirds of the time (about 67%) and operated about 45% of the time.
- The last injury report released indicated that the leading cause of injury was attempting to control the fire and that the common cause of the fire was cooking related. It was our recommendation to increase or continue education on this cause. He reminded members that the OFCRC helps the OLSST.
- Curtis explained that during this time of the year the Burn Center sees turkey fryer injuries and children with scald injuries.
- Dave informed members that Rich Hoover our Community Liaison requested data on cooking fires with turkey fryer fires segmented for a press release that will be a feature story on OSFMs main web page.
 - Rich Hoover has also requested chimney related fire information. Dave has noticed this information posted on several fire departments facebook pages.
- Members can contact Dave at 503-934-8273 or dave.e.gulledge@state.or.us or John at 503-934-8237 or john.l.phillips@state.or.us with questions or recommendations regarding the injuries.
- Dave informed members that he and John have discussed including pie charts with the percentages and shared examples of the pie charts. Dave asked members for their thoughts.
 - Alice likes the *Time of Day* pie chart.
- Debbie asked if we know the time of day people are dying in fires.
- Dave replied that according to last year's fire statistics the fatalities were most commonly occurring between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 2:00 a.m. and most of the fires are occurring shortly after people get home from work.
- Dave and John will work on making correlations between the highest incidents of injuries and the time day, gender, and the fire cause. They will bring this information to the February 21, 2013, OFCRC meeting.
- Tim asked about adding materials first and second ignited, for example cooking fire are they grease fires.
- Dave invited members to sit with Data to go over the statistics.
 - Tim said he would like to go over statistics with Data.

Other Business

- Dave informed members that the Oregon Fire Casualty Review Committee now has a web page.
 - To view visit: www.oregon.gov/osp/SFM/Pages/OFCRC.aspx.
- Dave reminded members that during the August 16, 2012, OFCRC meeting, it was decided that the meeting information and packets would only be sent via email and members could print hard copies if wanted.

Next meeting Reminder – Dave Gulledge

Dave reminded members that the February 21, 2013, OFCRC meeting will be held from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at OSFM, Mt. Hood Conference Room.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.