

# 2004 ANNUAL REPORT

Towards a Fire Safe Colorado . . .



## Mission

**Assist in defining, developing, and implementing solutions to fire safety problems that are common to local, state and federal government units, and to advise the Governor and General Assembly regarding the problems of fire safety in the state.**

Colorado Department of Public Safety  
**Division of Fire Safety**  
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## Reducing Colorado's Fire Problem: The DFS Challenge

### About the Division of Fire Safety

The Division of Fire Safety was created as a Division within the Department of Public Safety on July 1, 1984. **The mission of the Division of Fire Safety is to develop solutions to fire safety-related problems in order to reduce the incidence of fire, fire-related civilian deaths, injuries, and property losses, and the subsequent effects of fire on the political, social, medical, legal and economic systems in Colorado.**

To achieve this mission, the Division assists units of local government in coordinating their fire safety related activities with the responsible state or federal agencies; encourages and assists in cooperative efforts among local fire departments to solve common problems; provides technical assistance in developing solutions to local fire safety problems; serves as a clearinghouse for fire safety related information; and advises the governor and general assembly regarding the problems of fire safety in Colorado.

The Division of Fire Safety also administers eight statutory programs, including:

- Emergency Services Responder Education and Training Program;
- Voluntary Certification Program for Firefighters and First Responders;
- Voluntary Certification Program for Hazardous Materials Responders;
- Fire Suppression Program (regulating the fire suppression system industry and certifying fire suppression system inspectors);
- Colorado Fireworks Act (regulating the importation, exportation and wholesale and retail sales, and the use of fireworks); and
- Fire Safety in Limited Gaming Establishments (ensuring that the state's responsibilities for fire and life safety in gaming establishments are addressed).
- Colorado All-Risk Incident Reporting System (National Fire Incident Reporting System).
- Colorado State Emergency Resource Mobilization Plan

This document represents the report for the Division of Fire Safety for calendar year 2004, identifying specific performance measures and outlining activity levels for each of our programs.



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The following identifies the Division of Fire Safety's responsibilities under HB 02-1315, and the status of implementing these responsibilities.

**CRS 24-33.5-1210 - Prepare a statewide mobilization plan to provide for the allocation and deployment of firefighting, emergency medical, and urban search and rescue resources in the event of a disaster or local incident that requires more resources than those available under any existing interjurisdictional or mutual aid agreement.**

**CRS 24-33.5-1203 (1) (m) - Administer a statewide plan for the allocation and deployment of firefighting resources development pursuant to section 24-33.5-1210.**

The Division has made significant progress toward addressing its responsibility to develop and implementing a statewide resource mobilization plan and resource database in support of the plan.

- A broad coalition representing the fire service, law enforcement, emergency management, and pre-hospital care disciplines, and other affected state agencies were brought together to develop this plan and expand it to include all-risk.
- Subcommittees of the Resource Mobilization Working Group created Resource Typing Standards for the various disciplines. This effort, in conjunction with the FEMA/DHS National Mutual Aid Initiative culminated in the development of standards for 120 resource types, which were released on November 1, 2004.
- The initial plan was completed and adopted by the Colorado Resource Mobilization System Working Group on May 11, 2004.
- A web tool (the State of Colorado Emergency Resource Inventory Report) was developed to gather required agency and resource information for Colorado's fire departments, law enforcement agencies, emergency medical services agencies, emergency management agencies, and public works departments.
- Implementation of the State of Colorado Emergency Resource Inventory Report commenced in February 2004. Progress collecting agency and resource information has been slow, but steady. As of October 31, 2004, a total of 165 fire departments (41.8%) have submitted complete information and 35 fire departments (8.9%) have submitted partial information.



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- The Law Enforcement Data Collection Pilot Project began on October 10th with a deadline for submission of information on November 5, with 34 police and sheriff departments invited to participate.
  - Subcommittees have been created to determine existing Incident Management Teams (IMT's) and to examine and standardize qualifications for Incident Command positions within the IMT's.
  - Coordination with the Colorado Department of Emergency Management, the US Forest Service, the Colorado State Forest Service, the Rocky Mountain Area Coordination Center, as well as the Pueblo and Ft. Collins Interagency Dispatch Centers on training and business rules for ROSS dispatch is ongoing, as is the evaluation of data currently in ROSS.



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## TRAINING & CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS

Theresa Staples, Training & Certification Director

### Fire Service & Hazardous Materials Responder Certification Programs

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CRS 24-33.5 Parts 12 & 14 create a voluntary certification program for firefighters, EMS first responders and for hazardous materials responders. For firefighters and EMS first responder certification, procedures are established in conjunction with a nine-member advisory board, in accordance with recognized national standards. For the certification of hazardous materials responders, a seven-member advisory board works with the Division to establish procedures in accordance with recognized national standards.

#### Program Objective

Increase the level of competency of Colorado firefighters and emergency services responders to handle fires, medical emergencies, hazardous materials and other incidents by maintaining

The Division develops appropriate written and practical examinations, processes requests for examinations, administers written and/or practical examinations, grades the examinations, and issues certificates to firefighters, first responders, and hazardous materials responders who achieve the established standard. The Division also reviews requests for renewal of certification and issues renewal certificates to firefighters, EMS first responders, and hazardous materials

responders who meet renewal requirements.

Colorado's firefighter and hazardous materials certification programs are accredited by the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAAC), an international accrediting body that has established guidelines for the administration of certification programs to ensure consistency and validity.

#### Colorado Fire Service Training and Certification Advisory Board

CRS 24-33.5 Part 12 creates a nine-member board to advise the Director concerning the establishment of training standards and procedures for the Firefighter and EMS First Responder Certification Program. Following are the members, appointed by the Governor . . .

#### Hazardous Materials Responder Certification Board

CRS 24-33.5 Part 14 creates a seven-member board to advise the Director concerning the establishment of standards and procedures for the Hazardous Materials Responder Certification Program. Following are the members, appointed by the Governor . . .



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### 2004 Performance Measures

<b>Performance Measures</b>	<b>Year-To-Date</b>
Number of Firefighter, EMS First Responder and Hazardous Materials Responder Certification Exams Administered	6,883
Number of Firefighters, EMS First Responders and Hazardous Materials Responders Certified	5,140
Number of Renewals of Firefighter, EMS First Responder and Hazardous Materials Responder Certification	1,632



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## Emergency Services Responder Training

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The Colorado Division of Fire Safety is required by law to “coordinate fire service education and training programs, which shall be available statewide” [§24-33.5-1203 (1)(i), C.R.S.]. Colorado law further requires the Division to “...train and instruct firefighters and first responders in subjects relating to the fire service and to coordinate fire service-related education and training classes, programs, conferences, and seminars, and train and instruct, or coordinate the training of, hazardous materials responders” [§24-33.5-1203 (1)(k), C.R.S.].

Due to the absence of state (general) funding for fire service training, the Division is limited in both the type and quantity of fire service training opportunities it can provide. The program relies upon revenues (profit) from fire training manual sales, participant fees, and federal grants.

### **Program Objective**

Increase the level of preparedness and proficiency of Colorado firefighters and emergency services responders to fires, hazardous materials incidents, and domestic terrorism incidents, and reduce the potential of line-of-duty

The Division coordinates all National Fire Academy (NFA) Field Program deliveries in the state, including direct course deliveries; train-the-trainer course deliveries; field hand-off course deliveries; and regional deliveries.

This program also administers and monitors a statewide hazardous materials responder training

program. The Division receives requests for hazardous materials training from state and local response agencies, schedules hazardous materials course deliveries, coordinates and evaluates instructors, and provides instructor and student support materials. This program is funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) with SARA Title III training funds and by the U.S. Department of Transportation under the Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning (HMEP) Training Grant Program.

In addition to the above duties and responsibilities, as of October 1, 1998, the Division also administers a statewide domestic terrorism responder training program. The Division receives requests for domestic terrorism responder training from state and local response agencies, schedules course deliveries, coordinates instructors and provides instructor and student support materials. This program is funded by the US Department of Homeland Security.

This program is critical to the state's fire and life safety community. The majority of communities across Colorado rely on volunteers to be their first line of defense in almost



any emergency. Of the 391 fire departments in the state, approximately 232 (59%) are all-volunteer and another 118 (30%) are combination paid/volunteer departments. Volunteers comprise roughly 64% of all firefighters in the state. Of the total estimated 15,044 volunteer and paid firefighters across the state, approximately 9,558 are volunteers.

Many of the volunteer fire departments in the state, particularly those in rural communities, lack the fiscal resources and expertise to develop a local firefighter training program. As a result, many firefighters are inadequately prepared to face the challenge of providing fire protection and related emergency services. Competency not only improves firefighter performance, it also improves firefighter safety and survival.

In its *Five Point Plan for a Fire Safe Colorado*, the Colorado State Fire Chiefs Association (CSFCA) identifies firefighter training as a significant need. According to the CSFCA, "Firefighter training is the single most important factor in determining if firefighters are prepared to meet the challenges of the environments in which they work. Proper training means the difference between success and failure during emergency operations, where proper action must be taken in a swift and decisive manner. The need for augmented firefighter training in Colorado is great and growing."

### 2004 Performance Measures

Performance Measures	2004 Total
Number of Emergency Services Responder Training Course Deliveries	77
Number of Emergency Services Responders Participating in Training	1,765





## FIRE & LIFE SAFETY PROGRAMS

### Colorado/National Fire Incident Reporting System

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To date in 2004, participating fire departments reported a total of 96,122 incidents (4,825 fires). These 4,825 fires resulted in 17 reported civilian fire deaths, 49 civilian fire-related injuries, and \$18.0 million in estimated property loss. Additionally, two fire fighters have lost their lives and 35 have been injured in the line-of-duty during 2004.

During the month of December 2004, there were three reported fire deaths. December 1, 2004, two girls, ages 3 and 5, died when their family's mobile home, in the Holiday Village Mobile Home Community in southeast Greeley, erupted into flames. December 5, 2004, an 89 year-old woman died in a house fire in the 500 block of South Oneida Way in Denver.

<b>Program Objective</b>		
Administer a uniform, statewide reporting system for fires, hazardous materials incidents, EMS incidents and other incidents to which fire departments respond.		
<b>NATURE OF INCIDENT</b>	<b>2004 REPORTED INCIDENTS</b>	<b>PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL</b>
Building Fires	1,571	1.63%
Vehicle Fires	840	0.87%
Other Fires	2,411	2.51%
<b>TOTAL FIRES</b>	<b>4,825</b>	<b>5.02%</b>
Overpressure Ruptures, Explosions	134	.14%
Emergency Medical / Rescue Calls	61,491	64%
Hazardous Condition Calls	4,478	4.66%
Service Calls	5,331	5.55%
Good Intent Calls	8,829	9.19%
Severe Weather / Natural Disaster	106	.11%



Special / Unknown Incidents	261	.27%
False Alarms (Includes malicious)	10, 667	11.10%
<b>TOTAL INCIDENTS</b>	<b>96,122</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
Civilian Fire-Related Deaths	17	
Civilian Fire-Related Injuries	44	
Firefighter Line-of-Duty Deaths	2	
Firefighter Line-of-Duty Injuries	35	
Estimated Total Property Loss	\$18.0 Million	

NOTE: Currently, a total of 102 fire departments, representing approximately 82.8% of the State's population participate in the incident reporting system. To date, a total of 75 fire departments, which protect about 46.2% of Colorado's resident population, have submitted their 2004 data to the Division.



## Fireworks Regulatory Program

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The responsibility for regulating the fireworks industry in Colorado was transferred from the Secretary of State's Office to the Department of Public Safety on June 4, 1991, pursuant to Senate Bill 91-51.

Colorado law and the regulations promulgated thereunder establish requirements for obtaining and maintaining licenses to sell fireworks in Colorado. The statutes and/or regulations also establish minimum requirements and standards for the certification of fireworks display operators and pyrotechnic special effects operators and for permits to conduct fireworks displays and pyrotechnic special effect performances.

### Program Objective

Establish, administer and enforce rules and regulations for the fireworks industry in Colorado that are reasonably necessary for the safety of workers and the public.

The Division of Fire Safety processes applications for the various licenses and certifications; conducts inspections of fireworks sales outlets and fireworks display sites, and acts on violations of the fireworks statutes or regulations in accordance with the Colorado Administrative Procedures Act.

Senate Bill 04-071 updated and clarified Colorado's law concerning the regulation of fireworks. There was no fiscal impact to the bill. Major changes were:

- A new definition of "fireworks". The previous definition referred to an old, non-existent federal regulation. This bill also added definitions for "articles pyrotechnic", "display fireworks", "fireworks display operator", and "pyrotechnic operator". The definition of "permissible fireworks" was also amended to be consistent with definitions now found in federal regulations.
- The addition of "multiple tube device" as a permissible firework type (emits showers of sparks only).
- The addition of a permit fee that may be assessed by a governing body for retail sales of items that are not fireworks, such as toy caps.
- A limit on fee for permits to that which "...is reasonable and necessary to cover the direct and indirect costs associated with the granting and enforcement of such permits."
- Clarified that the rules and regulations are promulgated by the Executive Director of the Department of Public Safety, but that licenses are obtained from the Division of Fire Safety and appropriates the fees collected through licensing to the Division of Fire Safety. Both have been the practice since 1991, but were not clear in statute.
- Permits the Executive Director of the Department of Public Safety to promulgate rules and regulations for the certification of fireworks display operators and pyrotechnic operators.
- Requires that articles pyrotechnic that are used for pyrotechnic special effects performances be obtained from a licensed display retailer.
- Specifies what is competent evidence for the purposes of prohibiting fireworks during open fire bans.



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## 2004 Performance Measures

<b>Performance Measures</b>	<b>2004 Total</b>
Number of Wholesaler, Exporter & Display Retailer Licenses	32
Number of Fireworks Retailer Licenses Issued	628
Number of Applications for Fireworks Display Operator and/or Pyrotechnic Special Effects Operator Certification Processed	163
Number of Exams Administered for Fireworks Display Operator and/or Pyrotechnic Special Effects Operator Certification	80
Number of Fireworks Display Operator and/or Pyrotechnic Special Effects Operator Certification Issued	62
Number of Inspections of Fireworks Establishments	53
Number of Warnings Issued for Fireworks Violations	8



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## Fire Suppression Program

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The Colorado Fire Suppression System Program began on January 1, 1991. It was created by Senate Bill 90-4, which was an outgrowth of a sunrise application submitted to the Department of Regulatory Agencies in 1989. The purpose of the Colorado Fire Suppression Program is to ensure that life safety systems installed in commercial and residential occupancies are installed and maintained properly, according to nationally recognized standards. National statistics show that death and injury are significantly reduced when fires occur in protected buildings where the systems are properly installed, maintained, and protected by tamper devices that prevent malicious damage to the systems.

### **Program Objective**

Increase the quality, integrity, and performance of fire suppression systems installed and maintained in Colorado by regulating fire suppression system contractors and inspectors, and ensuring that system installations and

This program registers contractors who install or perform maintenance on fire suppression systems; certifies state and local government officials who perform plan reviews and conduct inspections of fire suppression system installations; and suspends or revokes registration or certification for cause in accordance with the Colorado Administrative Procedures

Act.

While the majority of fire suppression systems will never be used to combat a fire, it is critical that they be designed, installed and maintained to properly operate if a fire does occur. These systems are the last line of public protection within buildings and they have no backup systems that intervene if they fail. There is no margin for error.

Systems must be designed, installed and maintained by qualified persons who are aware of the specifications and operations of all types of fire suppression systems. These persons should be trained, knowledgeable and competent with these systems, and the best way to ensure this will occur is through regulation.

A goal of the Fire Suppression Program is to ensure compliance with the provisions of Part 12 of the Act and the rules and regulations promulgated hereunder. Section 24-33.5-1206.4, C.R.S., requires that any installation,



modification, alteration, or repair of a fire suppression system must be approved by a certified fire suppression systems inspector before the structure is cleared for occupancy.

Each time a member of the public enters a building, there is need for the building to be safe. Further, that safety must be real and not just perceived. The existence of a fire suppression system within a building creates a perceived feeling of safety among the public. The Fire Suppression Program works to ensure that the public safety and security are maintained.



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## 2004 Performance Measures

<b>Performance Measures</b>	<b>2004 Total</b>
Number of Fire Suppression System Plan Reviews Conducted	120
Number of Inspections of Fire Suppression Systems	187
Number of Fire Suppression Contractors Registered	355
Number of Fire Suppression System Inspectors Certified/Recertified	71



## Fire Safety in Limited Gaming Establishments

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This program was created on June 4, 1991 as a result of enactment of the Colorado Limited Gaming Act (Senate Bill 91-149). The purpose of this program is to establish minimum standards for fire and life safety in limited gaming establishments, and to provide technical assistance to local building and fire officials in the gaming communities of Central City, Black Hawk, and Cripple Creek.

### **Program Objective**

Establish and enforce minimum standards of fire and life safety in Colorado's limited gaming establishments in order to reduce the risk of fire, fire related injuries

The program provides for the review of building construction, fire suppression systems, fire detection and fire alarm system plans; inspections of buildings containing limited gaming establishments and inspections of fire suppression, fire detection and fire alarm system installations. This program also approves Certificates of Compliance with fire and life safety requirements before the establishment can

obtain a license from the Colorado Limited Gaming Commission to operate as a limited gaming establishment.

### **2004 Performance Measures**

<b>Performance Measures</b>	<b>2004 Total</b>
Number of Plan Reviews Conducted for Gaming Establishments	7
Number of Inspections of Existing Gaming Establishments	82
Number of Inspections of New or Remodeled Gaming Establishment	11
Number of Fire Safety Deficiencies Cited Upon Inspection	503

Note: In addition to the inspections reported above, a total of two inspections have been conducted at the request of local officials, pursuant to C.R.S. 24-33.5-1203(h), which requires the Division to "provide technical assistance in defining and developing solutions to





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local fire safety problems including but not limited to . . . inspection of facilities . . .” upon the request local government officials.



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## Colorado State Emergency Resource Mobilization Plan

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Prior to 2004, Colorado did not have a plan for the mobilization of structure fire or specialized resources in the event of a disaster or incidents exceeding the capabilities of local response agencies.

### Program Objective

Develop and administer a statewide mobilization plan for the allocation and deployment of fire fighting, emergency medical, and USAR resources for the event of a disaster or incidents exceeding the

The enactment of HB 02-1315 seeks to address this need by requiring the Division of Fire Safety, subject to the availability of federal funds, to prepare and administer a "statewide mobilization plan to provide for the allocation and deployment of firefighting, emergency medical, and urban search and rescue resources in the event of a disaster or local incident that requires more resources than those available under any existing inter-jurisdictional or mutual aid agreement." [CRS 24-33.5-1203 (1)]

(m) and (o); CRS 24-33.5-1210].

In FY 2004, the Division met this statutory responsibility. The Colorado State Emergency Resources Mobilization Plan (CSERMP) was completed and adopted by the Colorado Resource Mobilization System Working Group in May. This plan will be utilized only after all local and mutual aid resources have been depleted or will be imminently depleted. The CSERMP is an all-risk system for the allocation and mobilization of firefighting, emergency medical, and urban search and rescue resources. It will be used in the event of a disaster or local incident (other than a wildland fire) that requires more resources than those available under any inter-jurisdictional or mutual aid agreement.

Along with the completion of the CSERMP, the Division made significant progress toward further development and wider implementation of the statewide resource mobilization computer database. Data from participating fire departments and emergency medical service (EMS) agencies were validated, and the inclusion of data for resources among departments with no Internet access was ensured. User input allowed for enhancements and additional features, which became available in 2004, make the system easier to use and more beneficial to participants.

As a direct benefit of the on-line agency and resource database (and the Colorado fire service census), the Division published "Colorado Fire Service Profile, July 2004." This report gives a more accurate snapshot of the composition of Colorado's fire service. Data provided by the on-line database and the CSERMP will allow the refinement of fire service data over time, as local situations change and participation and accuracy of reporting increase.



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## 2004 Performance Measures

<b>Performance Measures</b>	<b>2004 Total</b>
Level of participation in the resource mobilization plan and database implementation by fire departments (total 393)	189 (48.1%) Note: an additional 32 departments (8.1%) have partially completed the inventory



## Federal Hotel and Motel Fire Safety Act

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On September 25, 1990, the Hotel and Motel Fire Safety Act of 1990 was signed into law. This Act, Public Law 101-391, aims to increase the level of fire safety in hotels and motels by discouraging federal travel to hotels and motels that do not meet certain minimum fire protection standards.

### Program Objective

Protect lives and property by addressing Colorado's responsibilities under the federal Hotel and Motel Fire Safety Act of 1990—which promotes fire and life safety in hotels, motels, and all

In general, the Act prohibits federal funding of a meeting, conference, convention, or training seminar if it is conducted in a place of public accommodation that does not meet the fire safety requirements of the Act. These requirements include protection by hardwired smoke detectors in accordance with NFPA 74 for all hotels and motels, and

protection by automatic sprinkler systems in accordance with NFPA 13 or 13R for all hotels and motels over three stories in height.

Under the Act, states are responsible for maintaining and submitting data to the U.S. Fire Administration regarding which hotels and motels meet those specified standards. No federal funding is provided for this mandate.

### 2004 Performance Measures

Performance Measures	2004 Total
Number of Hotels and Motels Certified in Compliance with Federal Act	813

### Administration and Technical Assistance

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The Division of Fire Safety has broad statutory responsibility for assisting the local fire protection community in developing and implementing programs and services that reduce the incidence of fire, fire-related deaths, injuries and property loss. Colorado law requires that the Division of Fire Safety "...provide technical assistance in defining and developing solutions to local



fire safety problems..." [CRS 24-33.5-1203 (1) (h)]. The Division is also responsible for assisting in the solution of "...problems of fire safety which are common to local, state, and federal governmental units..." [CRS 24-33.5-1203 (1) (c)].

Other specific statutory duties related to technical assistance include:

- Assist units of local government...in coordinating their activities with state agencies that have similar responsibilities [CRS 24-33.5-1203 (1) (a)].
- Refer local fire departments to appropriate state and federal agencies for advice, assistance, and services regarding their specific problems [CRS 24-33.5-1203 (1) (d)].
- Serve as an information clearinghouse, and collect and disseminate...statistical and research reports [CRS 24-33.5-1203 (1) (c)].
- Encourage and...assist in cooperative efforts among...various local fire departments to solve common problems [CRS 24-33.5-1203 (1) (f)].
- Upon the request of local government officials...assist with the inspection of facilities when the performance of such inspections is the statutory duty of another state agency [CRS 24-33.5-1203 (1) (h)].

The Division of Fire Safety has, over time, received countless requests for technical assistance from federal, state, and local units of government. Of the 373 fire departments in the state, approximately 260 (70%) are all-volunteer. Volunteers comprise roughly 68% of all firefighters in the state. There is an estimated 391 fire departments in Colorado, 59.3% of which are all volunteer. Career firefighters number approximately 5,486, or 35.6% of the state's total. Of the estimated 15,044 firefighters in the state, approximately 9,558, or 63.5%, are volunteers. Rural, volunteer fire departments typically do not have the resources or expertise to deal with often-complex fire problems. The Division's role is to provide local officials the advice and consultation necessary to empower them to address their fire problems.

### **Program Objective**

Assist units of local government in defining and developing solutions to local fire safety problems and to propose and implement solutions to fire safety-related problems that are common to local, state, and

Another area included under the general heading of technical assistance is the service provided directly to the Governor's Office and the General Assembly. The Division of Fire Safety is required by law to "...advise the Governor and the General Assembly regarding the problems of fire safety in the state" [C.R.S. 24-33.5-1203(1)(b)]. In recent years, both the Governor's Office and the General Assembly have increasingly turned to the

Division as a problem-solving resource and a clearinghouse for information. Even before



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the Governor's Citizen's Advocate Office was disbanded, the number of citizens referred to the Division from the Office had increased tremendously. In addition, members of the Colorado Legislature refer constituent questions, issues, and problems to the Division for resolution on an ever-increasing basis.

### **Other Duties and Responsibilities**

The statutory requirement that the Division assist in the solution of problems of fire safety that are common to local, state and federal governmental units demands that the Division stay abreast of fire protection-related issues of concern to the Colorado fire service. Thus, it is both indicated and necessary that the Division maintain communications with various state and national fire service organizations. Following are some of the many state and national organizations with which the Division maintains active membership and/or communications:

- Colorado State Fire Chiefs Association
- Colorado State Firefighters Association
- Fire Marshals Association of Colorado
- Fire Safety Educators of Colorado
- Colorado Fire Training Officers Association
- Colorado Fire Protection Association
- National Association of State Fire Marshals
- Fire Marshals Association of North America
- National Association of State Training Directors
- National Fire Information Council
- National Fire Protection Association
- International Association of Fire Chiefs

This program also provides for the supervision and administrative support of the Division's programs and services. In addition to all other responsibilities of an agency of state government, Colorado law requires the Division provide the tools necessary to complete its statutory mission. These include, "...office space, equipment, and the services of clerical staff as necessary for the carrying out of the intent of this Part 12." [CRS 24-33.5-1203(1)(j)].

### **Juvenile Firesetter Prevention and Intervention**

Every year, juveniles are responsible for setting about 3,163 fires in Colorado. In the "average" year, these fires will kill three people, injure 73 others, and destroy more than \$7 million in property. Juvenile fire play and intentional acts of arson by children under the age of 18 account for nearly one out of every five fires (20%) reported in Colorado.

As a result of the budgetary challenges facing the state in FY 02-03 and 03-04, in FY 04 it was necessary to completely abolish funding for the Juvenile



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Firesetter Prevention Program, which the Division administered for nearly seven years. The Division continues, on a very limited basis, to make arrangements for some training classes each year, and works with other agencies/entities to ensure that a referral network is still in place for those who are seeking assistance or who need to place a juvenile in treatment or an intervention program. The Division continues to be viewed, as it does with many other things within the fire safety arena, as the state clearing house and contact for juvenile firesetter information.

In FY 2004, the Division met the statutory responsibility, assigned by HB 02-1315, directing it to obtain federal funding to develop and implement a statewide mobilization plan for fire resources. The Colorado State Emergency Resources Mobilization Plan (CSERMP) was completed and adopted by the Colorado Resource Mobilization System Working Group in May. Along with the completion of the CSERMP, the Division made significant progress toward further development and wider implementation of the statewide resource mobilization computer database.

### 2004 Performance Measures

Performance Measures	2004 Total
Requests for Technical Assistance (Responded to)	38
Referrals to Juvenile Firesetter Intervention and/or Treatment Programs	31