



Center for
Public Safety
Excellence

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact:

July 28, 2011

Debbie Sobotka

866-866-2324

www.publicsafetyexcellence.org

dsobotka@publicsafetyexcellence.org

Commission on Professional Credentialing (CPC) Launches New Designation

The Commission on Professional Credentialing (CPC) is pleased to announce the launching of the Fire Marshal (FM) Designation. Rick Mason, CFO, Chair, CPC said “when contemplating what the next professional designation should be the Commission on Professional Credentialing was quick to embrace the Fire Marshal Designation...it makes sense that those who enforce our fire codes, teach citizens fire prevention, and find the cause of destructive fires should have a professional designation. Having the designation will both show professionalism of the individual as well as the professionalism of the department.”

The designation was created following the “whole” officer model the Commission developed in 2000 for the Chief Fire Officer (CFO) credential. The program is a verification and recognition of past accomplishments and a starting point for future achievements. There are minimum eligibility requirements in the form of academic achievements and practical experience. In addition, the process also assesses contributions to the fire prevention field in the way of professional articles, public speaking, teaching and research as well as professional memberships, community and civic involvement and technical competence all of which is peer reviewed. The program also offers an excellent road map for someone choosing to move up in fire prevention.

To initiate the Fire Marshal (FM) Designation process the candidate must assemble a portfolio demonstrating excellence in seven key areas: Experience, Education, Professional Development, Professional Contributions, Professional Memberships and Affiliations, Community Service, and Technical Competencies. Those exhibiting extensive experience and educational background may meet the eligibility requirements to exempt them from having to complete the technical competency section.

In addition, fire prevention officers who have a valid International Code Council (ICC) Fire Marshal Certification will have an advantage when they seek the Fire Marshal Designation through CPC. The ICC certification acknowledges credentials and competencies to serve as a Fire Marshal. The CPC recognizes

anyone holding a current ICC Fire Marshal Certification as having the technical competencies in building and fire code administration necessary for the Fire Marshal Designation.

When asked about this new designation, Chief Randy R. Bruegman, CFO, CPSE President stated “The introduction of the Fire Marshal credential is yet another step for the Center for Public Safety Excellence and the Commission on Professional Credentialing (CPC) to recognize current leaders and provide a means to assist others in their professional development in the future. We recognize the critical importance that fire and life safety prevention has in the fire service today. It is imperative that we recognize those in leadership positions who have committed to obtaining the needed qualifications, experience and education to achieve success in this field of endeavor. As importantly, that we provide a road map that will support a career development for young officers today, who aspire to become Fire Marshals in the future. I am very proud of the work that was done by the Commission and I would encourage every Fire Chief to encourage their Fire Marshal to undertake this credentialing process.”

To learn more about the Fire Marshal designation or to begin the application process, please visit our website at <http://www.publicsafetyexcellence.org/professional-credentialing/fire-marshal.aspx>.

The Center for Public Safety Excellence Inc. (CPSE) is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization established in 1996 to award accreditation to fire and emergency service agencies and to pursue scientific research and education in the public interest. In 2000 credentialing was developed to facilitate in the professional development and career planning for fire and emergency service personnel.

The Center for Public Safety Excellence primary concentration is on its accreditation and credentialing models. The accreditation model identifies and maintains optimal levels of fire and emergency services for agencies. The credentialing model elevates and sustains the professional standards for those persons responsible for managing and delivering essential fire and emergency services.

The Center for Public Safety Excellence conducts workshops and publishes materials specifically designed to achieve and maintain a continuous path for quality improvement for both fire and emergency service agencies and personnel. CPSE has a consulting service to help the fire and emergency service community meet the new public expectations to achieve and measure standards of effectiveness for the cost and methods of delivering essential fire and emergency services.