Greetings,

As most of you are aware Alaska is struggling through some serious budgetary issues. I am resurrecting the Fire Flyer to better communicate to you what we are doing.

Let me begin by restating our mission statement.

"The mission of the Division of Fire and Life Safety is to prevent the loss of life and property from fire and explosion."

Our mission has not changed, nor do I expect it to. As we make organizational and budgetary changes we are keeping our mission at the forefront.

There have been numerous changes since I returned in February. Some of this is going to be old news, but I want to make sure everything is communicated to you.

Effective June 30, 2016 we closed the Palmer and Fairbanks Training and Education Bureau (TEB) offices. This was done to save the cost of leasing those sites. At the same time we received authorization to move the Fairbanks Fire Training Specialist position to Anchorage. Unfortunately we lost the Palmer Office Assistant I position. On October 17, 2016 we hired Chris Lau to be our new Anchorage Fire Training Specialist.

The next major change was when Commissioner Monegan moved the Fire Standards Council administrative unit back to DFLS. This was done as part of the Administration's directive to streamline chains of command.

We did fill the Fairbanks Deputy Fire Marshal’s position. Kyle Carrington started on July 11, 2016. He has been working diligently on getting caught up with inspections and his training.

Now for the new news. In the Governor’s FY18 budget we are making several changes. The Fairbanks Plan Review Office will be closed effective June 30, 2017. The Plans Examiner position will be moved to Anchorage. The Office Assistant position will not be funded. Additionally the Plan Review Bureau’s Supervisor position will not be funded beyond June 30, 2017.

The Juneau Deputy Fire Marshal position was relocated to Anchorage. This again was a cost saving measure. Our travel and training costs for this position are going to be drastically reduced.

We are currently in the process of hiring two Deputy Fire Marshal’s for the Anchorage office. This is a long process. Hopefully we’ll have this done by May 2018.

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All building plan reviews will be accomplished in Anchorage. The Plan Review Bureau will be directly supervised by the Deputy Director (Assistant Fire Marshal). I will directly supervise the TEB Supervisor and the Fire Standards Council Administrator. Again, this is part of the Administration’s directive to lengthen the spans of control, and flatten out the organizational charts.

Below is the organizational chart that is reflected in the Governor’s FY18 budget.

I anticipate there will be some slowing of the plan review process. Currently our goal is to have the first letter out within 10 working days of receipt of payment. Depending on the time of year we may see an additional week to get these letters out.

Due to travel restrictions our building inspections will mainly be limited to communities on the road system. As we can we will do inspections of critical occupancies in conjunction with other trips.

Rural fire training will continue to be a top priority for TEB. We are working to make other courses available to the larger departments as well. I hope to have more information on this to you soon.

At this time I see no changes in store for the Administrative staff of the Fire Standards Council. We will be

our limited funding goes further.

There may or may not be more changes coming as the budget is worked through the legislative process. I will keep everyone as up to date as I possibly can.

One final note. The code revisions for the 2012 ICC Codes have been signed at the Department level and are currently in the Attorney General’s Office for review. I do not have an estimated time for them to complete their review. Once the AG’s office is done with them they go to the Lieutenant Governor for signature. We expect to get started on the 2015 codes as soon as the 2012 codes are signed.

These are tough times, but we are up to the task. If you have any ideas or comments please let me know.

That’s all for now. Stay safe.

David L. Tyler, State Fire Marshal

david.tyler@alaska.gov

Office (907) 269-5491

State of Alaska

Department of Public Safety

DIVISION OF FIRE AND LIFE SAFETY

FY18 Governor’s Budget
Our Newest Employees

Deputy Fire Marshal I
Hired: July 11, 2016
Life Safety Inspection Bureau
Fairbanks Office
Office (907) 451-5214
kyle.carrington@alaska.gov

Kyle Carrington

Fire Training Specialist
Hired: October 17, 2016
Training & Education Bureau
Anchorage Office
Office (907) 334-0894
chris.lau@alaska.gov

Chris Lau
**Alaska Fire Chiefs Association**

**2017 Leadership Summit**

February 6 - 10, 2017

Meetings will take place at:
Baranof Westmark Hotel & Conference Center
127 N. Franklin Street
Juneau, AK 99801

Reservation information for the Baranof Westmark Hotel
by phone: 1-800-544-0970  Group Name “Alaska Fire Chief Association 2017”
Online Group Code “FIRE2017”

Go to this website to register for the summit
http://www.akml.org/alaska-fire-chiefs-leadership-summit/
(Sorry no link to click.  MS Publisher no longer supports multipage html documents)

**State of Alaska**

**10th Annual**

**Fire and Building Officials Forum**

During the week of March 20 - 24, 2017
Exact dates will be posted soon

To be held at the Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory
Anchorage

For more information contact Lloyd Nakano
(907) 269-5491
lloyd.nakano@alaska.gov

**Remembering the Past**

**and**

**Moving into the Future**

**Alaska Fire Conference**