2014 Strategic Plan

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State Fire Marshal

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The Planning Process

The initial strategic planning process, which was completed in 2006, spanned several months. Initial meetings were held with all Division employees and a facilitator. That first meeting produced a mission statement, values statements, and groundwork for the philosophy of operations. A subsequent meeting was held with all employees to begin setting the direction of a reorganization of the division. From that point, supervisory personnel held additional planning sessions to begin putting together the framework of the strategic plan. A draft of that plan was circulated to Division personnel for comment. From those comments, this final document was created.

The 2010 update reflected a renewed emphasis to be relevant and earnestly meet the goals established in this plan. Staff will meet quarterly to advance goal accountability and attainment. The Strategic Plan will be updated and republished each January.

This update adopts a new approach of answering our customers’ requests with an attitude of “How can we help you meet your goals?” In the past we have found it too easy to say no for requests for new services or changes to old. It is now the practice of the Division of Fire and Life Safety to attempt to find a way to accommodate our customers’ reasonable requests. If we are unable to accommodate them we will then have a valid, researched answer as to why. It is our practice to accommodate our customers with researched and logical answers to their inquiry and/or requested information.
The mission of the Division of Fire and Life Safety is to prevent the loss of life and property due to fire and explosion.
Core Values

Customer Service in an effective, efficient and professional manner.
Communication is open, honest, appropriate, and relevant.
Respect each other, 100% of the time.
Consistency when enforcing laws.
Honesty in all that we do.
Integrity is held in the highest esteem.
Commitment to the mission.
Teamwork within the Division.
Cooperation with all other agencies and organizations.
Accountability to each other and the public.

It is the philosophy of the Division of Fire and Life Safety to facilitate safe growth and development of the people, economy, infrastructure and resources of the State of Alaska. Division personnel actively pursue the compliance of all applicable state statutes, state administrative codes, Department of Public Safety Operating Procedure Manual (OPM), Division of Fire and Life Safety Standard Operating Guideline’s (SOG’s), codes and standards as adopted by the State. In addition, all training and education is uniformly and consistently delivered to our customers and meets or exceeds the guidelines as outlined in recognized standards and codes. Customer service is the cornerstone of all Division services, both internally and externally. The divisional attitude is to answer requests with the expectation of “How can we make it happen for you?” The Division’s intent is to permit economic and efficient fire and life safety solutions. The Division offers assistance by evaluating proposals for innovative, safe, cost effective, and efficient methods to satisfy the adopted codes and standards. The Division is a value driven organization with a commitment to excellence.
Division of Fire and Life Safety
Environmental Assessment

Strengths:
Highly qualified and skilled staff
Staff is dedicated to the mission and goals of the Division
Good inter and intra-agency rapport across the state
Hardworking diverse staff
Specialization in high risk occupancies
Strong fire service training and public education programs
Ability to counsel customers on solutions for code compliance and fire safety

Weaknesses:
Due to distances between offices it is difficult to get whole team together at times
Statutorily, inspections are prevented from directly reaching occupancy of highest fire risk
Increasing number of inspectable properties without increase in personnel

Opportunities:
Expand scope and criteria for fire investigation
Become more aggressive in arson fire investigation
Become stronger participants in juvenile fire setter efforts
A resource for teaching classes
Restructure fireworks portion of LSIB responsibility
Complete more inspections through self-inspection program
Identification of higher level of partners (Alaska Fire Chiefs, Firefighters, Industry, Juvenile Firesetter intervention, the business community)
Development of fire safety and prevention programs delivered directly and through other technologies
Marketing of the mission and division’s resources, capabilities and efforts to Alaskans through new technologies
Develop partnerships in community safety and risk reduction
Develop increased outreach utilizing technologies to reduce specific hazards (e.g. Smoke alarm and visual smoke alarm installation programs)
Establish a DPS Bomb Squad

Threats:
Public complacency towards fire dangers and individual responsibility for fire safety
Fluctuating revenue stream due to direct economic and state budget constraints
Administration turnover
1. How can DFLS improve oversight of the oil and gas industry?
   A. Implement Hansen Mobile Solution fire inspection program for oil and gas systems and facilities
   B. Encourage industry self-inspection programs in association with our inspection program

2. How do we successfully reduce fire deaths in high risk groups?
   A. Improve identification of causal factors
   B. Update the mandatory reporting areas under ANFIRS-In process with regulation update - Completed with 2009 ICC code adoption
   C. Annual review of high risk areas by staff
   D. Identify successful strategies to mitigate those causal factors
   E. Participate in child death review committee – Continual
   F. Develop a statewide multi-discipline Juvenile Firesetting Intervention working group to address the need for resources to prevent, identify, evaluate, educate and/or treat children involved in fire play
   G. Develop an accelerant canine program to augment fire investigations

3. How can we improve the evaluation of our programs; both training and education?
   A. Long term evaluation of fire trends
   B. Increase our public education program in schools through the use of the accelerant canine
Division of Fire and Life Safety
Strategic Plan

- Review position descriptions to reflect duties and responsibilities – July 2010, review and updating of Job Descriptions are in progress revised date of October 2011 Reclassification where necessary - September 2013, PRB (Fairbanks Office Assistant II) and TEB (Office Assistant I and Public Educator) submitted to SOA Classification for review and approval on June 2014 – December 2014
- Obtain DPS authority responsible for arson case management for property crimes – December 2010, In progress with restructure of DPS OPM – Completed October 2012; DFLS granted authority - Completed
- Obtain APSC certification and Field Training Officer status for Deputy Fire Marshals (DFM) – December 2010, FTO documentation complete and implementation June 2012, Five DFM’s obtained ASPC certification – On going for new employees
- Promote increasing the number of Arson cases being prosecuted – Continual
- Increase forensic testing of material failures from incendiary fires to support the prosecution of arson cases - Continual
- Promote prosecution of people who have fires but did not have a working smoke alarm - Continual
- Provide opportunity and resources for greater professional growth for division personnel - Continual
- Update required mandatory reports under ANFIRS – January 2011, Complete when regulation project is completed - September 2011; Completed November 2012
- Adopt new regulations for the 2009 ICC codes – September 2010, Regulations were drafted and are about to go public comment; 2009 ICC codes adopted November 2012 - Completed
- Review education focus to reduce fire deaths – Completed and on going
- Encourage web based fire training programs - Continual
- Encourage web based fire reporting to support ANFIRS - Continual
- Increase involvement in encouraging fire departments in village hubs to be more proactive in support of surrounding communities – Continual
- Increase involvement in training, development and delivery of programs in rural communities to encourage prevention, safety and health for all age groups. Building stronger and safer communities and reducing reliance on hub communities.
- 3 year recertification of Fire Safe Cigarettes – August 2014 and on going
• Develop Juvenile Firesetter Intervention program. Authorization, Regulatory Administration, funding and implementation – Juvenile Firesetter Summit – Completed April 2014 and ongoing
• Develop age specific fire prevention programs that are designed to reach rural Alaskans – February 2015
• Review, research and document Insurance Services Organization (ISO) Community Risk Reduction statewide score – On going and update annually
• Regulation Review in accordance with Governor Administrative Order Number 266 – On going and in progress
• Research, develop and create a DPS Bomb Squad and as an interim participate in a Bomb Squad Task Force – In progress
• Develop an accelerant canine response capability to augment fire investigations – In progress
Division of Fire and Life Safety
Statutory Mandates (Authority)

Alaska Statutes

Chapter 18.70. FIRE PROTECTION
Article 01. PREVENTION AND INVESTIGATION

Sec. 18.70.010. General function of Department of Public Safety with respect to fire protection.
To foster, promote, regulate, and develop ways and means of protecting life and property against fire, explosion, and panic.

Sec. 18.70.020. Duties of Department of Public Safety.
The Department of Public Safety shall
(1) aid in the enforcement of all laws and ordinances and the regulations adopted under AS 18.70.010 - 18.70.100 and all other laws relating to fires or to fire prevention and protection;
(2) encourage the adoption of fire prevention measures by means of education;
(3) prepare or have prepared for dissemination information relating to the subject of fire prevention and extinguishment; and
(4) administer the state fire-service training program, including the administration of grants for fire-service training.

Sec. 18.70.030. Investigation of fires resulting from crime.
If there is reason to believe that a fire has resulted from crime or that crime has been committed in connection with a fire, the Department of Public Safety shall report that fact in writing to the district attorney of the judicial district in which the fire occurred. If the fire occurred in an incorporated city with a regularly organized fire department, the investigation and report shall be made in conjunction with the fire official of that area.

Sec. 18.70.040. Cooperation with fire insurance companies.
The Department of Public Safety may assist, receive assistance from, and otherwise cooperate with an investigator or agent employed by a fire insurance company licensed to do business in the state, or with an investigator or agent employed by an association of insurance companies licensed to do business in the state.

Sec. 18.70.050. Power of department to inspect buildings.
The Department of Public Safety may enter any building subject to regulation under AS 18.70.080 during reasonable hours for the sole purpose of inspecting the property or abating a fire hazard.

Sec. 18.70.060. Removal of property from fire.
During a fire and in the absence of the owner or claimant, the Department of Public Safety may protect personal property affected by removing it. If the owner or claimant does not take charge of the property within 24 hours the Department of Public Safety may store it at the owner's or claimant's expense.
Sec. 18.70.070. Abatement of fire hazards.
The Department of Public Safety may require the owner of a commercial business or public property to abate a fire hazard that exists in violation of law or regulations, and the Department of Public Safety may take appropriate action to assure abatement.

Sec. 18.70.075. Authority of fire department officers; penalty.
(a) A fire officer of a municipal fire department or a fire department registered under AS 29.60.130, while providing fire protection or other emergency services, has the authority to
   (1) control and direct activities at the scene of a fire or emergency;
   (2) order a person to leave a building or place in the vicinity of a fire or emergency, for the purpose of protecting the person from injury;
   (3) blockade a public highway, street, or private right-of-way temporarily while at the scene of a fire or emergency;
   (4) trespass upon property at or near the scene of a fire or emergency at any time of the day or night;
   (5) enter a building, including a private dwelling, or premises where a fire is in progress, or where there is reasonable cause to believe a fire is in progress, to extinguish the fire;
   (6) enter a building, including a private dwelling, or premises near the scene of a fire for the purpose of protecting the building or premises or for the purpose of extinguishing the fire that is in progress in another building or premises;
   (7) upon 24-hour notice to the owner or occupant, conduct a prefire planning survey in all buildings, structures, or other places within the municipality or the registered fire department's district, except the interior of a private dwelling, where combustible material is or may become dangerous as a fire menace to the building;
   (8) direct the removal or destruction of a fence, house, motor vehicle, or other thing judged necessary to prevent the further spread of a fire.

(b) An owner or occupant of a building or place specified in this section or any other person on the site of a fire or other fire department emergency who refuses to obey the order of a fire officer of a municipal or registered fire department in the exercise of official duties is guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction, is punishable by imprisonment for one year, or by a fine of not more than $1,000, or by both.

(c) In this section,
   (1) "emergency" means a situation in which the services of fire department personnel are necessary or appropriate to protect life, property, or public health;
   (2) "prefire planning survey" means a limited inspection for the purpose of preparing a fire attack plan in the event of a future emergency.

Sec. 18.70.080. Regulations.
(a) The Department of Public Safety shall adopt regulations for the purpose of protecting life and property from fire and explosion by establishing minimum standards for
   (1) fire detection and suppression equipment;
(2) fire and life safety criteria in commercial, industrial, business, institutional, or other public buildings, and buildings used for residential purposes containing four or more dwelling units;
(3) any activity in which combustible or explosive materials are stored or handled in commercial quantities;
(4) conditions or activities carried on outside a building described in (2) or (3) of this subsection likely to cause injury to persons or property.

(b) may establish by regulation and the department may charge reasonable fees for fire and life safety plan checks made to determine compliance with regulations adopted under (a) (2) of this section.

Chapter 18.74. CIGARETTE FIRE SAFETY

Sec. 18.74.010. Requirement for sale.
Except as provided by AS 18.74.060, a person may not sell or offer to sell cigarettes in this state, or sell or offer to sell cigarettes to another person located in this state, unless
(1) the cigarettes are tested under
   (A) AS 18.74.030 and satisfy the performance standard in AS 18.74.030(d); or
   (B) AS 18.74.040, and satisfy an alternative performance standard under AS 18.74.040;
(2) the cigarettes have been marked as required by AS 18.74.130; and
(3) a certification has been submitted by the manufacturer of the cigarettes under AS 18.74.080.

Sec. 18.74.030. Testing of cigarettes.
(a) Cigarettes shall be tested under
   (1) the ASTM International Standard E2187-04, entitled "Standard Test Method for Measuring the Ignition Strength of Cigarettes"; or
   (2) a test method established under (b) of this section.
   (b) The state fire marshal may adopt an ASTM International standard test method that is adopted by the American Society of Testing and Materials after the standard test method identified under (a) of this section if the state fire marshal finds that the method does not result in a change in the percentage of full-length burns exhibited by any tested cigarette when compared to the percentage of full-length burns that the same cigarette would exhibit when tested under
      (1) the standard test method identified under (a)(1) of this section; and
      (2) the criteria established under (c) and (d) of this section.
   (c) The testing under this section shall be conducted on 10 layers of filter paper. A complete test trial consists of 40 replicate tests of each cigarette. The performance standard required by (d) of this section may only be applied to a complete test trial.
      (d) When tested under this section, not more than 25 percent of the cigarettes tested in a test trial may exhibit full-length burns.

Sec. 18.74.040. Alternative test methods.
(a) If the state fire marshal determines that cigarettes cannot be tested by a test method established in AS 18.74.030 (a), a manufacturer of the cigarettes shall propose an alternative test method and performance standard for the cigarettes to the state fire marshal. On approval of the
proposed test method and a determination by the state fire marshal that the performance standard proposed by the manufacturer is equivalent to the performance standard prescribed by AS
18.74.030(d), the manufacturer may employ the proposed alternative test method and performance standard to certify the cigarette under AS 18.74.080.

(b) Unless the state fire marshal demonstrates a reasonable basis why the alternative test method should not be accepted under this chapter, the state fire marshal shall authorize a manufacturer to use an alternative test method and performance standard to certify cigarettes for sale in this state if the state fire marshal

(1) determines that another state has enacted reduced cigarette ignition propensity standards that include a test method and performance standard that are the same as those contained in this chapter; and

(2) finds that the officials responsible for implementing those requirements have approved a proposed alternative test method and performance standard for particular cigarettes proposed by a manufacturer as meeting the fire safety standards of that state's law under a legal provision comparable to this section.

(c) All other applicable requirements of this chapter apply to the manufacturer of the cigarettes tested under this section.

Sec. 18.74.050. Testing laboratories.
(a) Testing of cigarettes under this chapter shall be performed by a laboratory that has been accredited under standard ISO/IEC 17025 of the International Organization for Standardization or by another comparable accreditation standard required by the state fire marshal.

(b) A laboratory that conducts cigarette testing under this chapter shall implement a quality control and quality assurance program that ensures the repeatability of the testing results. The repeatability value may not be greater than 0.19. In this subsection,

(1) "quality control and quality assurance program" means the laboratory procedures implemented to ensure that operator bias, systematic and nonsystematic methodological errors, and equipment-related problems do not affect the results of the testing quality control program;

(2) "repeatability" means the range of values within which the repeat results of cigarette test trials from a single laboratory will fall 95 percent of the time.

Sec. 18.74.060. Testing for another purpose.
AS 18.74.030 and 18.74.040 do not require cigarettes to be tested if the cigarettes are tested for another purpose and the testing is consistent with this chapter.

Sec. 18.74.065. Testing by state fire marshal.
The state fire marshal may perform testing of cigarettes to determine compliance with this chapter. If the state fire marshal or a contractor of the state fire marshal performs testing to determine a cigarette's compliance with the performance standard in AS 18.74.030 (d) or an alternative performance standard under AS 18.74.040, the testing shall be performed under this chapter.

Sec. 18.74.070. Maintenance of records.
A manufacturer shall keep for three years copies of the reports of all tests conducted on all cigarettes offered for sale. The manufacturer shall make copies of those reports available to the state fire marshal and the attorney general on written request.

Sec. 18.74.080. Certification requirement.
(a) A manufacturer shall submit to the state fire marshal a certification that each cigarette listed in the certification has been tested under AS 18.74.030 and satisfies the performance standard in AS 18.74.030 (d), or has been tested under AS 18.74.040 and satisfies an alternative performance standard under AS 18.74.040.
(b) If a manufacturer has certified a cigarette under this section and subsequently makes a change to the cigarette that is likely to alter its compliance with the performance standard under AS 18.74.030 (d) or an alternative performance standard under AS 18.74.040, the cigarette may not be sold or offered for sale in this state or sold to a person located in this state until the manufacturer retests the cigarette under AS 18.74.030 or 18.74.040, the cigarette meets the performance standard under AS 18.74.030 (d) or the alternative performance standard under AS 18.74.040, and the manufacturer maintains records of the retesting under AS 18.74.070.
(c) For each cigarette listed in a certification submitted under (a) of this section, a manufacturer shall pay to the state fire marshal a fee of $250. The state fire marshal may adjust this fee annually to ensure that it defrays the actual costs of the processing, testing, enforcement, and oversight activities required by this chapter.
(d) Each cigarette certified under this section shall be recertified every three years.

Sec. 18.74.090. Contents of certification.
The certification required by AS 18.74.080 must provide the following information for each cigarette listed in the certification:
1. the brand or trade name on the package;
2. the style, such as "light" or "ultra-light";
3. the length in millimeters;
4. the circumference in millimeters;
5. the flavor, if applicable;
6. whether the cigarette is filtered or nonfiltered;
7. a description of the package;
8. the marking approved under AS 18.74.120;
9. the name, address, and telephone number of the laboratory that conducted the test, if different than the manufacturer who conducted the test; and
10. the date that the testing occurred.

Sec. 18.74.100. Banding requirement.
Each cigarette listed in a certification submitted under AS 18.74.080 that uses lowered permeability bands in the cigarette paper to achieve compliance with the performance standard in AS 18.74.030 (d) must have at least two nominally identical bands on the paper surrounding the tobacco column. At least one complete band must be located at least 15 millimeters from the lighting end of the cigarette. For cigarettes on which the bands are positioned by design, there must be at least two bands fully located at least
(1) 15 millimeters from the lighting end; and
(2) 10 millimeters from
(A) the filter end of the tobacco column; or
(B) the labeled end of the tobacco column of a nonfiltered cigarette.

Sec. 18.74.110. Availability of certifications.
The certification required by AS 18.74.080 shall be made available to the attorney general for purposes consistent with this chapter and to the department for the purpose of ensuring compliance with AS 18.74.080.

Sec. 18.74.120. Packaging marking approval.
(a) Before submitting a certification of a cigarette under AS 18.74.080, a manufacturer shall present its proposed packaging marking to the state fire marshal for approval. The state fire marshal shall approve or disapprove the proposed packaging marking. Proposed packaging marking shall be considered approved if the state fire marshal fails to act within 10 business days after receiving a request for approval.
(b) Notwithstanding AS 18.74.130, the state fire marshal shall give a preference to proposed packaging marking for a cigarette that is in use and approved for the cigarette under the fire safety standards for cigarettes established by the law of the state of New York, unless the state fire marshal demonstrates a reasonable basis why the proposed packaging marking should not be approved under this chapter.
(c) Notwithstanding AS 18.74.130, the state fire marshal shall approve the use of the letters "FSC" for "fire standards compliant" on proposed packaging marking to indicate that the cigarettes comply with the performance standard in AS 18.74.030 (d) or an alternative performance standard under AS 18.74.040.
(d) A manufacturer may not change its approved packaging marking unless the state fire marshal has approved the modification under this section.
(e) A wholesale dealer, an agent, and a retail dealer shall permit the state fire marshal, the department, the attorney general, and the employees of those persons to inspect packaging markings of cigarettes.

Sec. 18.74.130. Marking of cigarette packaging.
(a) The packaging containing a brand and style of cigarette that a manufacturer certifies under AS 18.74.080 must be marked to indicate compliance with the requirements of this chapter. The packaging marking must be in eight-point type or larger and consist of
(1) a modification of the universal product code to include a visible mark printed at or around the area of the code; the mark may consist of alphanumeric or symbolic characters and must be permanently stamped, engraved, embossed, or printed in conjunction with the universal product code;
(2) any visible combination of alphanumeric or symbolic characters permanently stamped, engraved, or embossed on the package or wrapping; or
(3) printed, stamped, engraved, or embossed text on the cigarette package that indicates that the cigarettes satisfy the requirements of this chapter.
(b) A manufacturer shall use only one packaging marking and apply that packaging marking uniformly to all packaging and to all brands marketed by the manufacturer for sale in this state.

Sec. 18.74.150. Copies.
A manufacturer who certifies a cigarette under AS 18.74.080 shall provide a copy of the certification to each wholesale dealer and agent to whom the manufacturer sells the cigarette. The manufacturer shall also provide the wholesale dealer and agent with sufficient copies of an illustration of the cigarette packaging markings used by the manufacturer under AS 18.74.130 for each retail dealer to whom the wholesale dealer or agent sells cigarettes. A wholesale dealer or an agent shall provide a copy of the cigarette packaging markings received from a manufacturer to each retail dealer to whom the wholesale dealer or agent sells cigarettes.

Sec. 18.74.160. Penalties for violations.
(a) A manufacturer, a wholesale dealer, an agent, or another person who knowingly sells or offers to sell cigarettes other than through retail sale and in violation of AS 18.74.010 is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed
(1) $10,000 for a first violation;
(2) $25,000 for each violation that is not a first violation.
(b) A retail dealer who knowingly sells or offers to sell cigarettes in violation of AS 18.74.010 is subject, for each sale or offer to sell, to a civil penalty not to exceed
(1) $500 for a first violation in which the total number of cigarettes sold or offered for sale does not exceed 1,000 cigarettes;
(2) $2,000 for each violation that is not a first violation and in which the total number of cigarettes sold or offered for sale does not exceed 1,000 cigarettes;
(3) $1,000 for a first violation in which the total number of cigarettes sold or offered for sale exceeds 1,000 cigarettes;
(4) $5,000 for a violation that is not a first violation and in which the total number of cigarettes sold or offered for sale exceeds 1,000 cigarettes.
(c) The penalties against
(1) one manufacturer, wholesale dealer, agent, or other person under (a) of this section may not exceed $100,000 for violations occurring during a 30-day period; or
(2) one retail dealer under (b) of this section may not exceed $25,000 for violations occurring during a 30-day period.
(d) In addition to any other penalty prescribed by law, a person engaged in the manufacture of cigarettes who knowingly makes a false certification under AS 18.74.080 is subject to a civil penalty of at least $75,000 for a first violation and a civil penalty not exceeding $250,000 for each violation that is not a first violation.
(e) A manufacturer who fails to make copies of reports available under AS 18.74.070 within 60 days after receiving a written request from the state fire marshal or the attorney general is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed $10,000 for each day after the 60th day that the manufacturer does not make the copies available.
(f) If a person violates a provision of this chapter and a civil penalty is not set for the violation, the person is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed $1,000 for a first violation and a civil penalty not exceeding $5,000 for each violation that is not a first violation.
Sec. 18.74.180. Separate accounting.
The fee received under AS 18.74.080 (c) and the civil penalties imposed under AS 18.74.160 shall be deposited into the general fund and separately accounted for under AS 37.05.142. The legislature may appropriate the money accounted for under this section to the fire prevention and public safety fund established under AS 18.74.210.

Sec. 18.74.190. Seizure of cigarettes.
(a) If a person is offering for sale or has made a sale of cigarettes in violation of AS 18.74.010, the state fire marshal, the department, or a law enforcement agency shall seize and, subject to (b) of this section, dispose of the cigarettes.

(b) Before disposal of cigarettes under (a) of this section, the state fire marshal or the department shall
   (1) provide the person from whom the cigarette was seized with notice of the seizure and an opportunity for a hearing regarding the seizure; and
   (2) permit the holder of the trademark rights in the cigarette brand to inspect the cigarettes.

Sec. 18.74.200. Other remedies.
In addition to any other remedy provided by law, the state fire marshal or attorney general may file an action in superior court for a violation of this chapter, including an action for injunctive relief or to recover costs or damages suffered by the state because of a violation of this chapter, including enforcement costs relating to the specific violation. Each violation of this chapter or of the regulations adopted under this chapter constitutes a separate cause of action for which the state fire marshal or attorney general may obtain relief.

(a) The fire prevention and public safety fund is established. The fund consists of appropriations made to the fund.

(b) The purpose of the fund is to pay the expenses of the state fire marshal and the department for implementing and enforcing this chapter.

(c) Money appropriated to the fund may be spent for the purposes of the fund without further appropriation. Money appropriated to the fund does not lapse.
Mission
Prevent the loss of life and property from fire and explosion.

Desired Results
A: Reduce loss of life due to fire and explosion.
B: Reduce property loss due to fire and explosion.
C: Reduce number of fires.

Performance Measure Detail

A: Result - Reduce loss of life due to fire and explosion.

Target #1: Reduce unintentional fire fatalities (non-homicide) to less than 16 annual fatalities.

Status #1: Unintentional fire fatalities (non-homicide) decreased by 47% to 12 in CY2013, compared to 23 in CY2012.

Analysis of results and challenges:
There has been a significant decrease in fire fatalities. Compared to CY 2012, the number of fire fatalities went from 23 to 12 which resulted in a 47% reduction. There was one fire fatality under the division’s statutory authority. 11 fire fatalities occurred in buildings the division has no statutory authority for plan reviews and fire inspections. Personal residences are where 10 of the 12 fire fatalities occurred. One occurred in an automobile and one in a marine vessel. The division continues to have limited success because of very limited residential building code authority, no inspection authority, and little direct access to family residences. The division enjoys significant success in all other occupancy types where it is empowered to act.

Smoke detectors failed to be installed in 33% of the residences where fire fatalities occurred.

57% of all the fire fatalities had alcohol or drugs as a contributing factor to the fire cause or fire fatality.

**B: Result - Reduce property loss due to fire.**

**Target #1:** Reduce property loss to less than $48,000.

**Status #1:** Dollar value of property loss due to fire decreased 15% in CY2013 compared to CY2012.

**Analysis of results and challenges:** Alaska experiences significant fire related property loss each year. Property loss decreased by 15% in CY2013. In the case of fire loss in 2006, 2007, and 2008 the Hooper Bay fire that burned most of that community created a spike in the dollar value of fire loss.
loss, in conjunction with the upturn of the economy. The reduction in property value loss due to fire in the second half of 2008 and in 2009 was the result of the down turning of the economy and property value reductions.


**Target #1:** Reduce property loss in high loss occupancies-residential structures to less than $27,000 annually.

**Status #1:** Property loss in high loss occupancies decreased 8% in CY2013 compared to CY2012.

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**Property Loss from Fire in Residential Structures (in millions)**

- Yearly Property Loss
- Target-$27,000

**Methodology:** Source: Division of Fire and Life Safety

**Analysis of results and challenges:** Property loss decreased by eight percent in CY 2014 compared to CY 2013. However, residential occupancies continue to be the type of structure where Alaska's greatest fire-related property loss occurs. The Division of Fire and Life Safety is working to reduce this property loss through a combination of public fire education, fire and life safety initiatives, and plan reviews of four-plex (and above) residential buildings for code compliance. Since the division has no code authority, no inspection authority, and little direct access to single-family residences - where most CY2013 fire fatalities occurred - public fire education is the one component that will support a downward trend in fire loss in residential occupancies. The spike in residential property loss in 2006 and 2007 is due to increased property values; the number of residential fires has remained relatively static.
C: Result - Reduce number of fires.

**Target #1:** Reduce number of structure fires to less than 1,108 structure fires per year.

**Status #1:** The number of structure fires decreased by one in CY2013 compared to CY 2012.

### Analysis of results and challenges
Structure fires decreased by one fire in CY2013 when compared to CY 2012. The division continues working to reduce the number of structure fires in Alaska through fire and life safety building inspections, building plan reviews for code compliance, and public education. The hole in the program continues to be single-family residences, because the division has very limited code authority, no inspection authority, and little direct access to individual residences except through education. Additionally, Alaska currently doesn’t have an age specific fire prevention program, juvenile fire setter intervention program or any programs for primary or secondary prevention.
Alaska Statutes

Chapter 18.70. FIRE PROTECTION
Article 01. PREVENTION AND INVESTIGATION

Sec. 18.70.010. General function of Department of Public Safety with respect to fire protection. The Department of Public Safety shall foster, promote, regulate, and develop ways and means of protecting life and property against fire, explosion, and panic. Sec. 18.70.020. Duties of Department of Public Safety. The Department of Public Safety shall

(1) aid in the enforcement of all laws and ordinances relating to fires or to fire prevention and protection.

Sec. 18.70.020. Duties of Department of Public Safety. The Department of Public Safety shall

(1) aid in the enforcement of all laws and ordinances and the regulations adopted under AS 18.70.010 - 18.70.100 and all other laws relating to fires or to fire prevention and protection;

(2) encourage the adoption of fire prevention measures by means of education;

(3) prepare or have prepared for dissemination information relating to the subject of fire prevention and extinguishment; and

(4) administer the state fire-service training program, including the administration of grants for fire-service training.

Sec. 18.70.030. Investigation of fires resulting from crime. If there is reason to believe that a fire has resulted from crime or that crime has been committed in connection with a fire, the Department of Public Safety shall report that fact in writing to the district attorney of the judicial district in which the fire occurred. If the fire occurred in an incorporated city with a regularly organized fire department, the investigation and report shall be made in conjunction with the fire official of that area.

Sec. 18.70.040. Cooperation with fire insurance companies. The Department of Public Safety may assist, receive assistance from, and otherwise cooperate with an investigator or agent employed by a fire insurance company licensed to do business in the state, or with an investigator or agent employed by an association of insurance companies licensed to do business in the state.

Sec. 18.70.050. Power of department to inspect buildings. The Department of Public Safety may enter any building subject to regulation for the purpose of inspecting the property or abating a fire hazard.

Sec. 18.70.060. Removal of property from fire.
During a fire and in the absence of the owner or claimant, the Department of Public Safety may protect personal property affected by removing it. If the owner or claimant does not take charge of the property within 24 hours the Department of Public Safety may store it at the owner’s or claimant’s expense.

**Sec. 18.70.070. Abatement of fire hazards.**
The Department of Public Safety may require the owner of a commercial business or public property to abate a fire hazard and may take appropriate action to assure abatement.

**Sec. 18.70.090. Enforcement authority.**
The Department of Public Safety and the chief of each fire department recognized under regulations adopted by the Department of Public Safety, and their authorized representatives in their respective areas, may enforce the regulations adopted by the Department of Public Safety for the prevention of fire or for the protection of life and property against fire or panic. All state peace officers may assist the Department of Public Safety in the enforcement of AS 18.70.010 – 18.70.100 and the regulations adopted under those sections. The authority conferred in AS 18.70.010 – 18.70.100 extends to the enforcement of the provisions of AS 11.46.400 – 11.46.430.

**Sec. 18.70.095. Smoke and carbon monoxide detection devices.**
(a) Smoke detection devices shall be installed and maintained in all dwelling units in the state, and carbon monoxide detection devices shall be installed and maintained in all qualifying dwelling units in the state. The smoke detection devices must be of a type and shall be installed in a manner approved by the state fire marshal. The carbon monoxide detection devices must have an alarm and shall be installed and maintained according to manufacturers’ recommendations.

(b) In a dwelling unit occupied under the terms of a rental agreement or under a month-to-month tenancy,

(1) at the time of each occupancy, the landlord shall provide smoke detection devices and, if the dwelling unit is a qualifying dwelling unit, carbon monoxide detection devices; the devices must be in working condition, and, after notification of any deficiencies by the tenant, the landlord shall be responsible for repair or replacement; and

(2) the tenant shall keep the devices in working condition by keeping charged batteries in battery-operated devices, if possible, by testing the devices periodically, if possible, and by refraining from permanently disabling the devices.

(c) If a landlord did not know and had not been notified of the need to repair or replace a smoke detection device or a carbon monoxide detection device, the landlord’s failure to repair or replace the device may not be considered as evidence of negligence in a subsequent civil action arising.

**Sec. 18.70.100. Criminal penalty; appeal of administrative orders.**
(a) Except as provided in (c) of this section, a person who violates a provision of AS 18.70.010 - 18.70.100 or a regulation adopted under those sections, or who fails to comply with an order issued under AS 18.70.010 - 18.70.100, is guilty of a class B misdemeanor. When not otherwise specified, each 10 days that the violation or noncompliance continues is a separate offense.
(b) A person aggrieved by a final order may appeal to the superior court within 30 days after the issuance of the final order. Filing of the appeal does not excuse noncompliance with the order. The court may stay the operation of the order on those terms relating to bonding or other matters that the court finds proper. A stay may not be granted or continued if the court finds that it is against the public interest.

(c) A person who violates AS 18.70.095, as that section relates to carbon monoxide detection devices is guilty of a violation. In this subsection, "violation" has the meaning given in AS 11.81.900.

Chapter 18.72. STATE REGULATION OF FIREWORKS
Sec. 18.72.010. Regulation of sale of dangerous fireworks.
(a) The sale or offer to sell dangerous fireworks at wholesale or retail for any purpose other than industrial, agricultural, wildlife control, or public display is prohibited.

(b) A person desiring to use dangerous fireworks for industrial, agricultural, wildlife control, or public display purposes shall first comply with the permit requirements of the fire safety code.

(c) All dangerous fireworks shall be purchased from a fireworks wholesaler licensed as such in this state. A fireworks wholesaler may not sell dangerous fireworks to anyone unless the wholesaler has a currently valid permit required by the fire safety code, the number of which shall be affixed to each record of sale by the fireworks wholesaler and maintained as a permanent record of the sale.

Sec. 18.72.020. Regulation of sale of salable fireworks.
(a) A person holding a permit required by the fire safety code may sell or offer for sale salable fireworks if

(1) the person has submitted to the state fire marshal a policy, or a certified true copy of a policy, of public liability and products liability insurance, including both accident and occurrence coverage, provided by the wholesale company selling fireworks to the person, in the amount of at least $200,000 for bodily injury or death and at least $50,000 property damage and the person is named as an insured party upon the policy and the policy is continuously in force while the person is engaged in the retail sale of fireworks; and

(2) an endorsement fee of $10 is paid to the state fire marshal for an endorsement that is valid for two years or portions of two years during which the permit holder is engaged in the retail sale of fireworks.

(b) Upon approval of the insurance required in (a) of this section, the permit of the holder shall be endorsed by the state fire marshal to indicate the holder’s right to sell fireworks at retail, and shall indicate an expiration of the authority. The expiration date shall coincide with the expiration date of the permit holder's liability insurance.

Sec. 18.72.030. Fireworks wholesaler's license
(a) A person who desires to sell fireworks at wholesale in the state shall first make verified application for a license to the state fire marshal on forms provided by the state fire marshal. The
forms must require the applicant to supply the applicant's social security number if the applicant is a natural person. The application shall be accompanied by an annual license fee of $50.

(b) The license required under (a) of this section is valid until December 31 of the year during which it is issued and is renewable upon

(1) the payment of each subsequent annual license fee and affirmation that the information contained in the wholesaler's original application for a fireworks wholesaler's license is currently accurate; and

(2) supplying the wholesaler's social security number if it has not previously been supplied under (a) of this section and if the wholesaler is a natural person.

Sec. 18.72.040. Criminal penalty.
A person who recklessly fails to comply with a provision of this chapter or fireworks regulations adopted in the fire safety code is guilty of a class B misdemeanor. Each day of noncompliance constitutes a separate offense. In this section, "recklessly" has the meaning given in AS 11.81.900.

Sec. 18.72.060. Municipal regulation of fireworks.
This chapter and fireworks regulations adopted under the fire safety code supersede the provisions of an ordinance adopted by a city or borough, whether before or after May 23, 1969, that are less restrictive than this chapter or the code. However, nothing in this section affects the authority of a city or organized borough under other law to prohibit or regulate more restrictively than this chapter the offering for sale, exposure for sale, sale, use, or explosion of fireworks.

Alaska Administrative Code

13 AAC 50 Codes and Standards
   13 AAC 50.010. Occupancy classifications
   13 AAC 50.020. Building code
   13 AAC 50.023. Mechanical code
   13 AAC 50.025. Fire code
   13 AAC 50.030. Fire protection systems (installed and portable)
   13 AAC 50.060. Occupancy standards
   13 AAC 50.070. Inspections, orders, and appeals

13 AAC 51 Fireworks
   13 AAC 51.010. Use of dangerous fireworks
   13 AAC 51.020. Permits for the sale of salable fireworks
   13 AAC 51.030. Storage of dangerous and salable fireworks
   13 AAC 51.040. Discharge of fireworks
   13 AAC 51.050. Revocation of licenses and permits
   13 AAC 51.060. Seizure

13 AAC 55 General Provisions
   13 AAC 55.010. Intent
   13 AAC 55.030. Application
The Life Safety Inspection Bureau is measured by the following:

**Performance Measure Detail**

A: Result - Reduce loss of life due to fire and explosion.
A2: Strategy - Fire and Life Safety Inspections.

**Target #1:** 30% of all buildings scheduled for priority fire and life safety building inspections to be found in compliance at time of inspection.

**Status #1:** 18% of 2,086 buildings inspected in FY2014 were found to be in compliance with legal standards.

![Percentage of Buildings in Compliance with Legal Standards According to Inspections](image)

**Methodology: Source:** Division of Fire and Life Safety

**Analysis of results and challenges:** The number of fire inspections decreased in FY 2014 compared to FY 2013 due to two vacant Deputy Fire Marshal (DFM) I positions. One position has been filled and training in being conducted. Training personnel and keeping a fully trained staff are contributing factors in the decrease of total number of fire inspections. During FY 2014 four Deputy Fire Marshals completed the Division Fire Investigator Field Training Education Program. The field training from a certified Field Training Officer was approximately one month and when completed the four Deputy Fire Marshals went from Peace Officers to Certified Police Officers. Prioritization of building inspections continues to be based upon those occupancies that are at greatest risk of fire-
related injuries, fatalities, property loss, and community impact. The division is striving to increase owner/occupant awareness of hazards so a greater number of buildings will be found in compliance with legal standards at time of inspection. Each item identified as needing correction on an Order to Correct Deficiencies must be followed up to completion as mandated by the Alaska Supreme Court in Adams vs The State of Alaska. There were 4,028 follow up communications actions in support of the 1730 fire inspections that were not in compliance in FY2014. This is the second year that the division completed fire inspections in all oil and gas processing facilities for regulated and unregulated pipelines throughout the state. Again, this year we have had no unintended fire fatalities in any facility in which we have conducted a fire inspection.
Life Safety Inspection Bureau

Strategic Issues

1. What can be done in order to improve the value of fire investigations?
2. How can LSIB meet inspection goals?
3. How do we reach and exceed the target percentage of inspections found to be compliant at time of inspection?
4. What needs to be done to improve fireworks safety throughout the state?
5. How can we meet the increasing federally requested Life Safety Code 101 surveys?
6. How can we improve fire system and fire extinguisher permits?
7. What are the Bomb Squad response criteria?

Strategies for the Future

1. What can be done in order to improve the value of fire investigations?
   A. Continue to maintain professional standards/certifications of fire investigators through training and education
   B. Receive, provide and share with staff specialized training courses
   C. Encourage national and require state certification in fire investigation
   D. In ARMS reports continue to provide accurate, detailed and complete information
   E. Gain and maintain APSC certification for Fire Investigators
   F. Study the need, costs and logistics of an arson dog to assist in fire investigation
   G. Develop and implement fire investigation process for cradle to grave
   H. Spend more time in the field during the investigation and work with District Attorneys when investigation is near completion

2. How can LSIB meet inspection goals?
   A. Finish and implement Hansen Mobile Solution data program
   B. Efficiently make use of time while on inspection campaigns
   C. Improve self-inspection program
   D. Retain a motivated staff of trained DFM’s
   E. Spend more time in the field during investigations and conduct fire inspections

3. How do we reach and exceed the target percentage of inspections found to be compliant at time of inspection?
   A. Regularly scheduled inspections
   B. Pre-inspection correspondence sent two weeks prior to travel
   C. Use inspections as an opportunity to teach and educate
   D. Improve and understand technology to bring the codes to the field

4. What needs to be done to improve fireworks safety throughout the state?
   A. Revise and update fireworks statutes and regulations to include motion picture pyrotechnics/special effects
B. Hold wholesalers more accountable for whom they sell to (Authorized licensed retailers)
C. Implement fireworks safety education programs and start a consumer disposal program

5. How can we meet the increasing federally requested Life Safety Code 101 surveys?
   A. Evaluate the need to increase and expand certified surveyors
   B. Assist in training of HSS employees

6. How can we improve fire system and fire extinguisher permits?
   A. Review statutory authority to charge for permits - Completed
   B. Evaluate the budgetary effects of charging for permits
   C. Eliminate level I Fire Extinguisher permit – In process w/Regulation update; November 2012 - Completed

7. What are the Bomb Squad response criteria?
   A. Participate in a Task Force with Anchorage Bomb Squad – In progress
   B. Develop a DPS Bomb Squad
   C. Develop required equipment and equipment acquisition – On-going
   D. Develop training requirements - On going
   E. Establish response guidelines – March 2014
• Review and secure capital funding for held technology and software – INFOR Mobile Solutions April 2008. Revised completion capital equipment funding June 2013. Implementation in process – September 2013, Development and beta testing – September 2014


• Have majority of DFM’s MOI trained - September 2008. Revised December 2010, completed with exception of one new DFM - On going

• Improve customer self-inspection program – June 2014; Continual

• Have all DFM’s APSC certified - December 2010, FTEP developed and completed – September 2012. Five positions obtained APSC certification; Newly hired DFM I has Advanced Police certification – April 2014; Completed - On going with new employees

• Have all DFM’s State certified fire investigators – August 2015, -Two IAAI Certified Fire Investigator and one meets minimum qualifications. One will meet IAAI qualification October 2014. One will meet IAAI qualification. August 2015; Five have State certifications; Completed - on going with new employees

• Note: Five of seven DFM’s IAAI Fire Investigation Technician certified; Completed - On going with new employees

• Feasibility study for an arson dog – December 2009, verified the need of an arson dog in Alaska completed. Research contract arson dog and submit Arson Dog Plan to DPS Commissioner - June 2014; Public Education PD to reflect Arson Dog submitted to classification August 2014; Classification for review and approval – December 2014; requested funding for FY 2016

• Have a plan to accommodate increased LSC surveys – Completed March 2010. Evaluate efficiency and effectiveness of LSC surveys – On-going

• Long term plan to address fire fatalities – include Root Cause Analysis (RCA) of contributing factors such as alcohol, no supervision, Reduced Ignition Propensity cigarette etc. – July 2008; Revised July 2010, identified need for RCA training of fire investigators to be able to augment origin and cause determination and case management, DFM’s to attend RCA training; schedule, attend RCA training and implement RCA for all DFLS investigated fires – August 2015

• Establish DFM’s on the DPS Bomb Squad; participate with bomb squad training – In progress
Plan Review Bureau
Statutory Mandates (Authority)

Alaska Statutes

Chapter 18.70. FIRE PROTECTION
Article 01. PREVENTION AND INVESTIGATION

Sec. 18.70.010. General function of Department of Public Safety with respect to fire protection. The Department of Public Safety shall foster, promote, regulate, and develop ways and means of protecting life and property against fire, explosion, and panic.

Sec. 18.70.020. Duties of Department of Public Safety. The Department of Public Safety shall

(1) aid in the enforcement of all laws and ordinances and the regulations adopted under AS
18.70.010 - 18.70.100 and all other laws relating to fires or to fire prevention and protection;
(2) encourage the adoption of fire prevention measures by means of education;
(3) prepare or have prepared for dissemination information relating to the subject of fire prevention and extinguishment; and
(4) administer the state fire-service training program, including the administration of grants for fire-service training.

Sec. 18.70.080. Regulations.

(a) The Department of Public Safety shall adopt regulations for the purpose of protecting life and property from fire and explosion by establishing minimum standards for
(1) fire detection and suppression equipment;
(2) fire and life safety criteria in commercial, industrial, business, institutional, or other public buildings, and buildings used for residential purposes containing four or more dwelling units;
(3) any activity in which combustible or explosive materials are stored or handled in commercial quantities;
(4) conditions or activities carried on outside a building described in (2) or (3) of this subsection likely to cause injury to persons or property.

(b) The commissioner of public safety may establish by regulation and the department may charge reasonable fees for fire and life safety plan checks made to determine compliance with regulations adopted under (a) (2) of this section.

Sec. 18.70.081. Approval of fire protection systems.
Before October 30 of each year, the Department of Public Safety shall prepare and make available a list of approved fire protection systems to the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development and the public.

Sec. 18.70.082. Remote housing facilities.
Any construction camp, logging camp, cannery, or oil or mining camp that has buildings not in a fire department service area in which persons are housed in dormitories or similar facilities shall be equipped with an automatic fire detection system in that portion of the building used for living or sleeping purposes. In this section, "automatic fire detection system" means a type of automatic fire detection system approved by the state fire marshal.

Sec. 18.70.090. Enforcement authority.
The Department of Public Safety and the chief of each fire department recognized under regulations adopted by the Department of Public Safety, and their authorized representatives in their respective areas, may enforce the regulations adopted by the Department of Public Safety for the prevention of fire or for the protection of life and property against fire or panic. All state peace officers may assist the Department of Public Safety in the enforcement of AS 18.70.010 - 18.70.100 and the regulations adopted under those sections. The authority conferred in AS 18.70.010 - 18.70.100 extends to the enforcement of the provisions of AS 11.46.400 - 11.46.430.

Sec. 18.70.095. Smoke and carbon monoxide detection devices.
(a) Smoke detection devices shall be installed and maintained in all dwelling units in the state, and carbon monoxide detection devices shall be installed and maintained in all qualifying dwelling units in the state. The smoke detection devices must be of a type and shall be installed in a manner approved by the state fire marshal. The carbon monoxide detection devices must have an alarm and shall be installed and maintained according to manufacturers' recommendations.

(b) In a dwelling unit occupied under the terms of a rental agreement or under a month-to-month tenancy,

1. at the time of each occupancy, the landlord shall provide smoke detection devices and, if the dwelling unit is a qualifying dwelling unit, carbon monoxide detection devices; the devices must be in working condition, and, after notification of any deficiencies by the tenant, the landlord shall be responsible for repair or replacement; and
2. the tenant shall keep the devices in working condition by keeping charged batteries in battery-operated devices, if possible, by testing the devices periodically, if possible, and by refraining from permanently disabling the devices.

(c) If a landlord did not know and had not been notified of the need to repair or replace a smoke detection device or a carbon monoxide detection device, the landlord's failure to repair or replace the device may not be considered as evidence of negligence in a subsequent civil action arising

Sec. 18.70.100. Criminal penalty; appeal of administrative orders.
(a) Except as provided in (c) of this section, a person who violates a provision of AS 18.70.010 - 18.70.100 or a regulation adopted under those sections, or who fails to comply with an order issued under AS 18.70.010 - 18.70.100, is guilty of a class B misdemeanor. When not otherwise specified, each 10 days that the violation or noncompliance continues is a separate offense.

(b) A person aggrieved by a final order may appeal to the superior court within 30 days after the issuance of the final order. Filing of the appeal does not excuse noncompliance with the order. The
court may stay the operation of the order on those terms relating to bonding or other matters that the court finds proper. A stay may not be granted or continued if the court finds that it is against the public interest.

(c) A person who violates AS 18.70.095, as that section relates to carbon monoxide detection devices is guilty of a violation. In this subsection, "violation" has the meaning given in AS 11.81.900.

Alaska Administrative Code

13 AAC 50 Codes and Standards
   13 AAC 50.010. Occupancy classifications
   13 AAC 50.020. Building code
   13 AAC 50.023. Mechanical code
   13 AAC 50.025. Fire code
   13 AAC 50.030. Fire protection systems (installed and portable)
   13 AAC 50.060. Occupancy standards
   13 AAC 50.070. Inspections, orders, and appeals
Plan Review Bureau
Performance Measures

The Plan Review Bureau is measured by the following:

B: Result - Reduce property loss due to fire and explosion.

Target #1: Complete 95% of initial building plan reviews within 14 days.

Status #1: 67% of 1,264 submitted building plan reviews were completed within 14 days in FY2014.

Analysis of results and challenges: The target of completing 95% of initial building plan reviews in 14 days was not met in FY2014. During the fiscal year, the plan review bureau experienced an increase of 167 plan reviews compared to FY 2013. The bureau hired and trained one new plans examiner. Training personnel and keeping a fully trained staff are contributing factors in the decrease of plan reviews being completed. Plan reviews are recorded as data elements that, when refined, provide many different ways to access information and therefore research answers to customer questions more rapidly and accurately. Every plan review requires multiple follow-ups. Further refinement of data input and follow-up continues to increase customer satisfaction.

Plan reviews range from the very complex to the very simple. Total volume of requests received is purely economy-based.
Plan Review Bureau
Strategic Issues

1. How can the Plan Review Bureau improve quality customer service?
2. What can be done in order to improve the value of the plan review personnel?
3. How can we keep qualified personnel interested in the job?

Strategies for the Future

1. How can the Plan Review Bureau improve quality customer service?
   A. Provide personnel with specialized training in industrial plan reviews
   B. Conduct 60% and 90% construction inspections on all high dollar projects greater than $5M.
   C. Outreach quarterly and at building official forum. Provide additional services to deferred jurisdictions for code interpretation and code talk.

2. What can be done in order to improve the value of the plan review personnel?
   A. Maintain professional standards and encourage obtaining Fire and Building Code Official certification, NICET level training, NFPA training and continuing education
   B. Evaluate and equip personal with ergonomic workstations to prevent workplace injuries and minimize work absences

3. How can we keep qualified personnel interested in the job?
   A. Maintain training opportunities
   B. Create an atmosphere of cooperation and learning between all staff
   C. Encourage participation in Technical Committees and professional organizations
   D. All Plan Examiners will participate in all types of plan reviews
   E. All Plan Examiners will perform onsite inspections on their high dollar plan review projects
Plan Review Bureau
Strategic Plan

• Become certified as a Fire Code Official – On going
• Become certified as a Building Code Official - On going
• Review NICET Training and Levels available – On going
• Plans Examiner II will visit satellite offices annually to review office procedures and plan review consistency – On going
• Provide methods of instruction training to deliver quality instruction to other agencies – November 2013
• Review and update Building Plans Examiner I and II Position Descriptions July 2013 - Completed
• Review and update Office Assistant II (OA II) Position Descriptions - Anchorage OA II approved April 2014; Fairbanks OA II – submitted to classification on May 2014; Classification for review and approval – October 2104
• Post IBC, IFC, IMC and IFGC 2009 online along with directly referenced NFPA’s – December 2013; ICC Ecodes link posted on DFLS Website - Completed
• Adopt new regulations for 2012 ICC codes, Draft 2012 ICC codes regulations – February 2014, Public Comment for Proposed Regulations – Regulation file closed on July 31, 2014 due to issue with rental cabins; Open discussion with public – October 2014
Alaska Statutes
Chapter 18.70 FIRE PROTECTION
Article 01. PREVENTION AND INVESTIGATION

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18.70.010 - 18.70.100 and all other laws relating to fires or to fire prevention and protection;

(2) encourage the adoption of fire prevention measures by means of education;

(3) prepare or have prepared for dissemination information relating to the subject of fire prevention
and extinguishment; and

(4) administer the state fire-service training program, including the administration of grants for fire-
service training.
The Training and Education Bureau is measured by:

A: Reduce loss of life due to fire and explosion  
B: Reduce property loss due to fire and explosion  
C: Reduce number of fires

A: Result – Reduce loss of life due to fire and explosion.  

Target #1: Reduce fire fatalities in high-risk groups to less than 4.4 annual fatalities.

Status #1: Fire fatalities in high-risk groups decreased by 50% in CY2013 compared to CY2012.

Analysis of results and challenges: Nationally, children and the elderly have been identified to be at higher risk for fire related fatalities. Alaska continues to follow these national trends. There were no fatalities in ages 0-19 years of age and two 60 years or older in CY2013. This is very encouraging and the division attributes that to public education through the use of smart phone applications, the internet, and using every opportunity to take advantage of speaking to young and 60 years or older public groups. We will continue to focus our efforts and resources here. Public education at schools, clubs, conferences, state fairs, and other opportunities are other means we use to provide education to the public to counter loss of life in the young and elderly.

Target #2: Reduce fires in high-loss regions to less than 768 fires.
**Status #2:** The number of fires in these targeted regions for CY 2013 rose by 18 compared to CY2012.

![Number of Fires in Targeted Regions](image)

*Methodology: Source: Division of Fire and Life Safety*

**Analysis of results and challenges:** Target regions are those areas of the state that experience a proportionately higher number of fires. Fire incident reports indicate the greatest number of fires consistently occur in western Alaska, central Alaska, and Anchorage. These areas are targeted for increased educational and inspection efforts to reduce fires.

In CY2013, the number of fires in these targeted regions rose by 18 compared to CY2012. It is anecdotally suspected that many of the fires are due to drug and alcohol use, domestic violence, and/or the presence of combustible items too close to heat-producing equipment.

**Target #3:** Reduce alcohol and drug related fire fatalities to less than nine fatalities.

**Status #3:** Alcohol and drug related fire fatalities decreased by one in CY2013 compared to CY2012.
Analysis of results and challenges: Impairment due to alcohol and drug use can cause carelessness, poor judgment, and decreased motor skills which can lead to fires starting from unattended cooking or heating sources or misuse of ignition sources. Impairment then contributes to an inability to recognize the danger, hear and respond to a smoke alarm, escape from a burning dwelling, and assist others in reaching safety.

The data were obtained directly from toxicology reports from victim autopsies or from blood alcohol tests on persons who contributed to starting fires relating to fatalities. The division continues to work with its partners and various foundations, public service organizations, and state agencies that advocate reducing intoxication and its negative effects on society.
Training and Education Bureau
Strategic Issues

1. How do we successfully reduce fire deaths in high risk groups?
2. How can we improve our management of fire training records?
3. How do we improve the promotion and delivery of fire and life safety education?
4. How can we improve the evaluation of our programs; both training and education?
5. How can we make better use of technology to deliver fire training and education?
6. Promote fire and life safety education programs for youth to educate them about responsible use of fire.

Strategies for the Future

1. How do we successfully reduce fire deaths in high risk groups?
   A. Improve identification of causal factors
   B. Annual review of high risk areas by staff
   C. Identify successful strategies to mitigate those causal factors
   D. Participate in Child death review committee – On going
   E. Develop a statewide multi-discipline Juvenile Firesetting Intervention working group to address the need for resources to prevent, identify, evaluate, educate and/or treat children involved in fire play

2. How can we improve our management of fire training records?
   A. Create access database to store records electronically - Completed
   B. Develop procedure to ensure records are documented - Completed
   C. Create website to post fire training records for online access by students. Working on identifying a product in cooperation with the Alaska Fire Standards Council – IMPACT Completed

3. How do we improve the promotion and delivery of fire and life safety education?
   A. Primarily focus on one topic until reductions are sustained - On-going
   B. Continue to develop networking teams across the state
   C. Offer more continuing education for program partners
   D. Involve more communities in statewide campaigns
   E. Utilize available technology such as OWL to deliver distance education to remote communities

4. How can we improve the evaluation of our programs; both training and education?
   A. Fire Life Safety Educator certification
   B. Conduct pre and post testing of course attendees
   C. Conduct pre and post surveys of community members during public awareness campaigns
   D. Annual review of fire death causes
E. Fire Training
F. Conduct an annual survey of training needs for all audiences during conference
G. Evaluate need for Training Officer Summit – August 2015

5. How can we make better use of technology to deliver fire training and education?
   A. Implement web based training tools to include library outreach system (OWL)
   B. Identify and promote more web based programs
   C. Develop more web based and interactive programs
   D. Encourage the use of web based distance learning In process with partner departments
      starting with online testing (Fairbanks area)
   E. Maximize social media to promote fire safety
   F. Interactive games and internet

6. Develop partnerships with organizations that have similar missions to deliver education services
   and training more efficiently. The priority partners are:
   A. DMVA, Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management
   B. DHSS, Division of Public Health, Emergency Programs
   C. DNR, Division of Forestry
   D. National Volunteer Fire Council
   E. Governor’s Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

7. Promote fire and life safety education programs for youth to educate them about responsible use
   of fire to include a fireworks safety education program.

8. Educate local departments about the Campus Fire Safety educational materials and promote their
   use in the high schools, college campuses and boarding schools.
   A. Implement a requirement for fire and life safety education prior to high school graduation

9. How can we improve service delivery for rural communities?
   A. Secure dedicated funding source
   B. Increase instructor pool
   C. Secure fire protection training equipment
   D. Promote villages obtaining Registered Fire Department status

10. How can we increase trained fire protection and prevention personnel in rural communities?
    A. Regional training for all levels of rural firefighting training
    B. Community risk assessment and needs analysis
    C. Create consortium vested partners
Develop and promote online training records website – January 2010, revised to June 2013 due to determination of a capital request of the Legislature; Funding secured thru DPS April 2014, Interagency Modular Portal for Alaska Certification and Testing (IMPACT) beta testing – Completed December 2013; IMPACT website online – On going

Identify other funding sources and partnerships to expand public awareness programs – On going

Develop, identify and promote established web based training programs; Instructor I, instructor CEUs etc. – December 2008; Revised September 2010, need involvement from UAA system for web based distance delivery - On going

Survey all fire departments about training needs – September 2008 and on going

Expand fire service training deliveries in Western, South Central and Northern regions to include all hub communities – On going

Expand delivery of safety and prevention training programs state wide – January 2009 Social Media maintenance - On going

Create age specific and Alaska specific fire prevention courses with supporting materials – February 2015

Deliver a Fire and Life Safety Educators (FLSE) course for certification, host annual FLSE workshop or meeting to include best practices, conduct a FLSE training needs assessment to include online training to receive certifications – February 2014; Roll with TRADE in Wasilla. Class cancelled and rescheduled for later date – On going

Formalize accreditation – December 2013; Completed

Present information on successful fire and life safety strategies at AML or other conference of community leaders – On going

Develop a procedure to share community response asset information – In-progress and on going

Develop a method to expand the CERT program to rural Alaska and add a focus on prevention and fire and life safety education – August 2015

Formalize a partnership to deliver emergency response training using federal funding such as haz-mat, USAR and ICS – On going

Continue supporting Home Fire Safety Improvement Program and explore alternate funding – On going

Deliver Youth Firesetter Intervention Specialist Class (South Central) Statewide – On going

Establish Youth Firesetter Intervention and Prevention Coalition/Summit – April 2014 - On going

Establish capital improvement funding for facility and equipment maintenance, replacement and upgrade – April 2015

Become current with Accreditation Audits and maintain 5 year Reaccreditation Audit schedule – April 2015 and on going

Utilize OWL to conduct videoconferencing between Fire Training Specialists and their assigned departments; increase communication and identify training needs – February 2015

Obtain grant opportunities for implementing short-term action plan that includes community risk assessment and needs analysis – December 2015
• Obtain funding for regional training for all levels of rural firefighting training – On going
• Partner with higher education institutions to create internships – December 2015
• Partner with boarding schools to implement Apprentice Firefighter Training Academy – December 2015 and on going
• Create mentorship program for rural fire service instructors - January 2016
• Continue active solicitation and enrollment of Registered Fire Departments, focused on the rural communities - On going
• Obtain fire protection training equipment – On going
• Partner within Division to pool resources for community needs assessment – December 2015
• Host summit of Rural Community partners to develop consortium – October 2015