

Restructured Training and Training Delivery Methods

Under the Major Operating Principle of EMS/Support, the majority of Reserves will not be trained or required to enter burning buildings and hazardous environments, or perform dangerous tasks during emergencies. This redefined role will reduce the training time commitment required for Reserves.

Three distinct levels of training have been identified as necessary in order to support successful implementation of the EMS/Support role for the OCFA's Reserve Program. Training programs for all three levels will be customized and delivered at the local level (e.g., station level) where possible. This will decrease the time commitment for individuals, reduce driving and lessen the burden of commitment for those members of the community who wish to volunteer as Reserves. The three levels of training for Reserves will be as follows:

- **Level I:** These RFF will be trained and capable of staffing the five full-service engine companies, which have been recommended by staff as enhancements to the EMS/Support Operating Principle. This level will include training and certification for all personnel as Emergency Medical Technicians, qualified to use automated external defibrillators (EMT-D).
- **Level II:** These RFF will be trained for EMS responses, and as wildland firefighters. They will respond on a patrol type vehicle to EMS calls, wildland fires, plus a wide range of other incident types. All Reserve personnel from the OCFA's two volunteer hand crews will be trained to this level. Level II Reserves will also be EMT-D certified.
- **Level III:** These personnel will be trained as EMS/Support responders. They will respond on squad type vehicles to EMS calls, as well as other types of emergency incidents to provide a wide variety of non-combat support functions.

Level II and III Reserves will not be trained to combat structure fires, or perform other hazardous duties where self-contained breathing apparatus are required to operate safely.

Training delivery methods will be restructured with the goal of accomplishing the following:

- ◆ Identify needs, and develop training curriculum based on knowledge, skills and abilities required to operate safely and effectively on each type of unit.
- ◆ Utilize delivery methods designed to reduce the time it takes to train a new Reserve.
- ◆ Provide training on a regional or local basis to minimize time impacts, and customize delivery methods to reduce the time it takes to train new (entry level) Reserves..
- ◆ Provide on going skills maintenance training at the local level (station) with Training Officers as instructors.
- ◆ Provide enhanced EMS training to all Reserves, including Emergency Medical Technician (EMT). EMT certification requires 127 hours of initial training and 24 hours of recurrent training every two years to maintain valid certification. It is estimated that approximately 60% of the existing Reserve Program members are currently certified as EMTs.

Note: ESECG recommended additional Training staff which will be required to accomplish training outlined in this attachment. The number of additional staff will depend on which Major Operating Principle is determined by the Board of Directors. Information regarding ongoing costs for additional staff is contained in Attachment 6 (Ongoing Program Costs).