

**Sonoma County Fire Chief's Association
Annual Goal Planning, December 18, 2014
Santa Rosa JC Public Safety Campus**



2014 SCFC Accomplishments

Operations Chiefs/Training Officers:

- ✓ Expanded from five to ten REDCOMM duty officers, worked well this past fire season
- ✓ Active status program, strike team leader and division group supervisor was updated in ROSS.
- ✓ Operations SOG's being developed, will be presented to SCFC in early 2015
- ✓ Marin liaison continued;
- ✓ Attempted to host MAD, canceled due to lack of participation
- ✓ Moved from monthly "rainbow" Type III ST to every other month
- ✓ 2014 Out of County deployment analysis completed, to be published in 2015
- ✓ Assistance for hire SOCO Cal Fire agreement being updated

Fire Prevention Officers

- ✓ Hosted level II classes, many members completed the series for certification
- ✓ Code Standards for Boutique Distilleries is in progress

- ✓ Held joint meeting with Redwood Empire Building Officials, discussion on how we can all work better together
- ✓ Held joint meeting with Marin and Nor Cal FPO's: did program with Mexico family doing massive and successful public education, they have educated over 500,000+ people. Also agreed on residential fire sprinkler system maintenance flyer.
- ✓ Continued with regular public service announcements
- ✓ FITF: purchased six surveillance cameras, available for loan
- ✓ FITF SOP was developed for cameras
- ✓ Did training for diagramming and mapping of fire scene with camera, possible future purchase
- ✓ Did terrorism liaison presentation
- ✓ Completed arson reviews, strong conviction in Rincon Valley case
- ✓ Have trained 11,500 safety pals in three years
- ✓ Received \$7000 from Soroptimist International for trailer for Safety Pals
- ✓ Received \$5000 from PG&E
- ✓ Receive \$1000 from SMART and staff

SCFC 2014 Accomplishments

- ✓ Meetings were all held successfully; continue to have issue with volunteer fire chiefs unable to attend meetings during the workday. How do we ensure inclusion? Should we go back to embracing the zone concept?
- ✓ Financial policies and SCFC Bylaws were aligned, although there are some holes to be filled
- ✓ Subgroups made progress on grants
- ✓ New structure fire policy, some agencies doing Lexipol service subscriptions, many players
- ✓ Annual luncheon held in Petaluma, went well.
- ✓ Tony Gossner is new liaison, Randy alternate with Marin Chiefs; provided meeting updates
- ✓ Website is being updated and built back up, have over 100 on distribution list, caught up with 2014, loaded 2015 meeting calendar.
- ✓ Political awareness maintained
- ✓ Al Terrell provided legislative updates

- ✓ Provided multiple letters from SCFC and others, did not do Board of Supervisors, example in support of USAR canine program to Board of Supervisors

Current Issues & Concerns, Goals Needed

- ✓ Take a good look at first service delivery system; outcome = consensus on best solutions
- ✓ Cooperate in fire investigations; outcome = SCFC focus to benefit fire service
- ✓ Interagency training; outcome = specific drill
- ✓ Transition for CFSTES Changes; outcome = plan
- ✓ Outlines for grants; create guidelines for sections
- ✓ There is a disconnect between fire districts and volunteer fire companies; outcome = interagency communications planning
- ✓ Lack of Funding; outcome = outreach for those not here and brainstorming
- ✓ Ops group, training needs assessment; outcome = goals that are set are obtainable.
- ✓ Ops/TOs Section, TOs are struggling; outcome = direction in 2015 for TOs
- ✓ Better communication needed to Board of Supervisors about what fire service is really like; outcome = improve Board of Supervisors interaction, who is doing what in their zones
- ✓ Form Training Consortium group in County? Outcome = Regional Training Consortium? Look at all options
- ✓ Chief officer coverage; outcome = good discussion on this
- ✓ Communications in our group, focus on similarities; outcome should reference Mission and Values Training Section, outcome = provide clarity
- ✓ Political engagement as a group? Take advantage of our political power; outcome = consider a PAC? Or something similar beyond local level
- ✓ Need input into training at state level with CICCIS, training, etc. outcome = Ops Chiefs need new guidelines for section goals, requests, and objectives
- ✓ Lack of participation in meetings and committees; outcome equals increase in meaningful participation

- ✓ We flounder with committees and follow through, and outcome = to be united
- ✓ We are gaining traction with participation
- ✓ Joint agency drills, outcome = it happens
- ✓ Better ways to deliver training given SFT changes, outcome = outlined to accomplish this more with interagency cooperation.
- ✓ Politics with Board of Supervisors is up, outcome = PAC, subgroups, BOS? What is County's obligation to provide fire and emergency services? FITF effect, and outcome = direction, interoperability, outcome = seamless boundaries
- ✓ Recruiting and retention issues with volunteers, outcome = tactics and game plan

Updates to Environmental Context for Goal Planning

Fire & EMS Service Trends:

- ✓ Succession planning needed in many FD's
- ✓ New State Fire Training track, not universally known
- ✓ "Flavor of the month" training: active shooters, earthquake, trains, Ebola, etc.
- ✓ Loss of institutional knowledge and experience
- ✓ Recruitment and retention of volunteers
- ✓ Certificate driven training challenges
- ✓ Movement toward national certification standards
- ✓ Delivery of EMS changing due to Obamacare
- ✓ Dealing with more diverse population providing one-stop shopping online

Political:

- ✓ Path is unclear for Sonoma County fire services: consolidation, JPA countywide?
- ✓ Political factors political gridlock EMS and Fire RFPs including private services
- ✓ Board of Supervisors disconnect with Fire Service
- ✓ Zone representation varies, often weak

Technology:

- ✓ Paperless, computer-based reporting, resource sharing, QR codes, downsizing, BLS versus ALS

- ✓ iPads use increasing
- ✓ Social media, improved, could be PIO training needed
- ✓ Increased use for communications
- ✓ Smart devices increasing
- ✓ Need to adapt to new technology

Uncertainties:

- ✓ What is our next flavor of the month?
- ✓ Feds, state, regulatory agencies: what new permits do we need? New regulations to follow, and with restrictions
- ✓ Countywide MSR underway
- ✓ Funding opportunities: 172, TOT, Park fees, etc.

Economic climate:

- ✓ District versus city municipalities for funding
- ✓ Property values slower to recover,
- ✓ Taxes and TOT, general fund shared with other agencies
- ✓ Alternative funding availability decreasing
- ✓ Proposition 172 grants uncertainties
- ✓ TOT general fund opportunity changes in purse,
- ✓ Two-tier retirement systems being implemented
- ✓ 50% contribution by employees to PERS

SCFC 2015 Goal Feedback

- ✓ Be more inclusive of people and groups that are not here
- ✓ Possibly do a retreat (probably more than a year out?)
- ✓ Require Sections to plan goals before SCFC planning? What are your goals?
- ✓ Communications group through OPS meeting separately with goals recommendations for February SCFC meeting. FPO's, FITF goal planning
- ✓ Planning process to be iterative
- ✓ Re-embrace Zone concept: we support monthly or quarterly meetings with hot topics; share hot topics and issues throughout County
- ✓ MSR information & updates needed
- ✓ EMS RFP, two years out
- ✓ Consensus definition, what does it mean?

- ✓ Hold section planning meetings late in the year, present recommended goals to SCFC at planning meeting
- ✓ Identify liaisons to sections & report guidelines

Next Steps: Executive Officers to develop specific goals.

Bin/Parking Lot Topics for later consideration:

- ✓ Web updates needed, update strategy and person?
- ✓ Include goals for FITF, OPS/TO's consortium
- ✓ Improve communications: internal, volunteer fire companies, BOS, others.
- ✓ Vision Mission and Values link to goals needed
- ✓ Recruiting and Retention help needed
- ✓ Section goals needed
- ✓ Fire service delivery system changes need consensus
- ✓ Funding challenges complex, need help
- ✓ Chief officer coverage needs better definition
- ✓ Political engagement, PAC creation?