

This SC State Fire Annual Report Review provides a "snapshot" of our accomplishments and achievements for Fiscal Year 2020.

We adapted to a "new normal" brought on by the COVID-19 public health emergency. Despite the challenges, the Division of Fire and Life Safety remained open for business. However, the way we conducted business changed to provide the safest environment possible for staff and customers.

## Fire Portal

The Fire Portal is a useful tool for our customers. Two recent improvements allow a fire chief to view any outstanding invoices and make payments online.



## Social Media

To increase exposure, showcase multiple accounts, and share real-time news, we utilize two types of social media platforms - Twitter and Facebook. To build a community of dedicated followers, these accounts highlight job openings, current events, course offerings, and safety tips. During the eight-week recruit school, they also showcase weekly training photographs and videos.

#### facebook

twittery

### **@SCStateFire Followers:** 8,511 (+20% more than FY19)

- Most July 11, 2019 - SC's efforts supporting LA preparing for Tropical Storm Barry. Popular This post was shared more than 170 times and reached more than 30,000 users.
  - Recruit graduation videos are always popular. The Sept. 27 State of South Caroling

and Dec. 16 graduation videos reached nearly 15,000 each.

### **@SCFireAcademy Followers:** 1,413 (+45%)

Most	March 23, 2019 - Showcased Bluffton FD in-house
Popular	recruit FLAG class photos.
Post:	This post reached more than <b>7,000</b> users.

### **@FireSafeSC** Followers: 2,495 (+51%)

Most	Jan. 7, 2020 - Highlighted Gov. McMaster's proclamation
Popular	declaring Jan. 20-26, 2020 as "Community Risk Reduction Week."
Post:	This post reached <b>8,257</b> users.

#### @SCStateFire Followers: 3,206 (+14%)

Most Popular Post:

Posts:

July 3, 2019 - Shared fireworks safety tips. This post reached more than **10,000** users.



Governor's Proclamation

every 24 seconds, a fire department in the United States responds to a fire somewhere in the nation, with a fire occurring in a structure at the rate of one memory E3 seconds and a firement for accurate second fire end of the second second

in 2017, home first were responsible for 77 percent of all fire deaths, 13,600 ovilian injuries, onc 72 percent of all civilian injuries as well as \$22 billion in property damage; and

ponds to a growing number of medical calls for service Community Risk, Reduction is a data-informed process to identify and prioritize local rates, followed by integrated and strategic investment of resources to reduce their occurrence and inpact; and the value of community support from local, state, and national partners to address community ratis is interception to meet the domands on paid, combinations and undertained meeting of the first source and the goal of Community ReA Reduction is to reduce the occurrence and impact of entergravity events for both community members and emergency responders hmrugh deliberate action in the areas of the first EL of Education, Engineering, Enforcement, Entergravity memory, and Economic incontinue, performance, and most the-related and many medical calls for service are preventable with the five, E's performed as port of an Hegysted Community Risk Reduction process and Luther King Doy is recognized as a National Day of Service and an nity for communities to reduce their risk through a series of educational McMaster, Governer of the great State of South Carolina, do many 28-26, 2020, as RISK REDUCTION WEEK stele and excourage all South Carelinians to learn more about this grassroot service prefersionals acress the reten to rake personness of the importance of Indextiling in the first service presentative and the apportance to ender

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## State Fire & Our Fire Service

#### **One Percent Fund**

To receive this one percent tax collected from fire insurance premiums, fire departments must submit quarterly inspection reports and their Annual Fire Equipment Certificate to State Fire.

#### **Local Inspections** Total: 55,085 (across the state) 76% of violations were corrected Violations 61.930 **Discovered: Fire Equipment Certificates** Total: \$880 Million <u>Top 3</u> Total Total Nearly \$880 **Estimated Value** Equipment Types Number million of fire equipment in SC Ariel/Ladder/Platform \$160 Million 267 1923 \$474 Million Engine (Structual) Tanker/Tender 626 \$89 Million

### Volunteer Strategic Assistance and Fire Equipment (V-SAFE)

This grant program assists volunteer and combination fire departments with firefighting and safety-related equipment purchases. The 2019 grant cycle had:

<u>Total</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Requests</u>	Amount Requested	<u>Awards</u>	Amount Rewarded
151	\$3.9M	50	

## Community Risk Reduction

#### Fire Fatalities/CLEAR Team

The following statistics represent FY20:

Fire Fatalities: 84\* Fatal Fires: 76 Multiple Fatalities: 8 Deadliest Month: February 2020 - 12 Deaths Average Age of Victims: 54 Age of Victims: Gender: <20 20-50 >50 4 26 53 30% 70% (30%) (63%) (6%) \*One victim from FY20 has yet to be positively identified.

#### Fire Safe South Carolina

The first annual Fire Safe South Carolina Community awards were presented to more than **50** fire departments. These departments held **1,500** CRR events, educated more than **250,000** citizens, and engaged **344** community partners. Find the complete list of departments <u>here</u>.



## Community Risk Reduction

#### **Smoke Alarm Program**

In partnership with the American Red Cross, **51,714** smoke alarms have been installed in homes across SC, since 2015. In FY20, our statistics show:



Additionally, in FY20, the smoke alarm program:

- Received 6,739 smoke, 414 combination, 1,101 carbon monoxide, and 162 deaf/hard of hearing alarms.
- Dispersed to 100 different local fire departments: **3,248** smoke, **584** carbon monoxide, **24** combination, and **207** deaf/hard of hearing alarms.

## Code Enforcement

The COVID-19 pandemic caused an **18%** decrease in face-to-face inspections. Thus, the average number of inspections completed per deputy also decreased. Virtual inspections were added in June 2020 to meet customer needs.

<u>Average Inspections</u>	Inspections	<u>Total</u>
<u>per Deputy</u>	Completed	<u>Violations Cited</u>
579	3,878	8,686

# SC Fire Academy

The Academy provided **353** days of on campus and regional training. The Columbia campus was open **212** days (down from 269 due to COVID-19).

<u>Programs</u>	<u>Programs</u>	<u>Pre-registered</u>	<u>Successful</u>
<u>Requested</u>	Completed	<u>Students</u>	<u>Students</u>
2,515	1,806	27,910	19,051

### Training

Regional staff attended **378** fire department meetings, trained **1,011** high school students in **33** schools, and supported **24** recruit schools with **340** graduates.

Resident staff provided 435 programs for 5,227 students.

### Facilities (Maintenance/Cafeteria/Retail)







97 EMS courses offered

886 students

successfully completed

# STATE FIRE

# SC Fire Academy

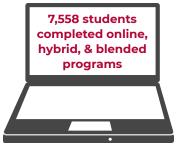
#### Production

The Academy printed **13,487** documents at a cost of **\$34,293.54** with a savings of **\$42,706.69** (compared to the SCDC print shop).

In June, staff introduced Live Instructor Led Virtual training for the 2153-ICS-300. Additional offers are coming in FY21.

#### Accreditation/Testing/Certification





## Emergency Response

#### SC-Task Force I

SOUTH CAROLINA SC-TF1 URBAN SEARCH & RESCUE	<u>Total</u> <u>Activities</u>	<u>Average</u> <u>Man Hours</u> (per event)	<u>Total</u> <u>Team Members</u>
	83	193	133

## SC-Helicopter Aquatic Rescue Team (HART)



**1st HART Academy** Aug. 12-16, 2019

### **Firefighter Mobilization**

Firefighter Mobilization completed **six** mobilizations and a response to Hurricane Dorian. These mobilizations included large fires, wide area searches, tornado responses, and flash flood events.

### Palmetto Incident Support Team (IST)

Palmetto IST completed its first ever deployment to Baton Rouge, LA sending **five** members in response to Hurricane Barry. The first in-state team **(20+ members)** participated in a deployment in response to Hurricane Dorian.



HART completed **four** rescues waterfall **(2)** & night time **(2)** 



