*N***orth** *C***arolina** *F***ire** *M***arshal’s** *A***ssociation Committee Reports**

 **( ) Scholarship (X) Education ( ) Legislative**

**( ) Technology ( ) Code revision ( ) Fire Investigations**

**( ) Nominating ( ) Audit ( ) By-Law**

**NCFMA Education Committee Meeting Minutes 07/21/2025**

The NCFMA Educational Committee met virtually for the third quarter on July 21, 2025.

The meeting was called to order by Tony Smart, Chair, at 0903 AM. Those in virtual attendance were Jeff Johnson, Robert Carmon, David Stone, Chris Jenkins, Billy Judson, Jon Williams, Buddy Thompson, Randy Jones, Luke McKenzie, Blake Holloman, and Justin McLauren.

Tony Smart provided Charlie Johnson’s OSFM updates. Charlie provided an update on the new 2024 NC Fire Code status with the new code being printed by ICC at this time. The bridge classes to update existing fire inspectors with the changes in the new code will occur tentatively in 2026 across the state. These classes will be scheduled once we have a firm effective date of the code. The time that will be involved in this update will be a minimum of 6 hours and will count as Con Ed for the Fire trade. It is felt that a possible January, February, March 2026 class delivery timeline will be the most effective. More information will be forthcoming on these update classes and the locations.

With the adoption of HB 47 into law, there is no effective date in place for the new 2024 fire code, although it is thought that it will be potentially later in 2026 or possibly even the first part of 2027. The Standard Fire Inspection Classes and State Fire Inspector Exam(s) will follow a forecasted effective date of January 1, 2026 once the Qualification Board decides on this. More information to follow on all of this.

Charlie shared that SL-2025-50 affecting ERCES was signed by the governor into law on July 2, 2025, and SL 2025-36 is also effective and has requirements regarding family childcare homes and how they are handled. There are still bills that will have a direct impact on the enforcement capabilities of the fire code and are still in discussion/negotiation at the Legislative level of our State.

Charlie also reminded the committee that the classes for the Fire Marshal Institute that are still outstanding for approval need to be submitted for continuing education credit(s).

Jeff Johnson with OSFM provided current information on the Fire Marshal 101 Classes. The upcoming classes were discussed with locations/dates identified as follows:

Charlotte – August 11-14, 2025

Cleveland Community College – November 13-16, 2025

Winston Salem/Kernersville – November 17-20, 2025

Jeff provided the attendance numbers since the FM101 series was offered, and to this point there has been approximately 450 students that have attended. Positive feedback has been provided by these students, and this class will continue into the 2026 year, with schedules to be announced. The forecasted locations for 2026 classes are Rocky Mount, Winterville, Pinehurst, Smithfield, Rockingham, and Cherokee. Again, these locations are tentative, and more information will follow regarding these classes in the Fall of 2025.

Smart shared that there will be a morning training class provided the date of our 3rd quarterly meeting for the NCFMA in Raleigh at the SAFRE conference, at the Raleigh Convention Center Room 206. The class topic will be a review to the new Chapter 12 of the 2024 NC Fire Code (Energy Storage Systems) and is approved for 3 hours of Fire Con. Ed. credit. Todd Iaeger with Underwriters Laboratory will be the instructor. Registration is currently continuing and is free for NCFMA members, and $25 for non NCFMA members.

Smart provided that the Fire Marshal Institute is scheduled for September 15-19, 2025 at Guilford Technical Community College Campus. The Institute will start at 1:00 PM on the 15th and end Noon on the 19th. The registration fee is $150 for NCFMA members and $200 for non-members. Con. Ed. credits will be awarded and the subject matter tracs will involve code enforcement, and fire investigation. The focus of this institute will be practical information for the fire inspectors and investigators.

Smart shared that the 4th quarter NCFMA meeting will be held in Washington, NC at the Convention Center, and Todd Iaeger with UL will be providing the 3-hour continuing education class that morning from 08:30 to 11:30. The class topic will be a review to the new Chapter 12 of the 2024 NC Fire Code (Energy Storage Systems). Registration is available and is $25 for NCFMA members, and $50 for non NCFMA members.

Smart shared that the NCFMA & the International Code Council will deliver a 6 hour continuing education class on November 13, 2025, in Chatham County at the Agricultural and Conference Center on the 2021 IFC - Fire Protection and Alarm Systems from 9am to 4pm. Rob Neale with ICC will be the instructor for the class. Registration is available and is $25 for NCFMA members, and $50 for non NCFMA members.

Eric Wiseman shared that there was a joint meeting held in Durham this past month with the Dept. of Health and Human Services staff regarding the changes to the family childcare rules that have been impacted by the legislative changes that have been adopted by law. (SL 2025-36). Discussion on a potential coalition among agencies impacted by these changes will continue.

Smart offered that any topics for 2025 for continuing education that anyone may want to suggest, just let us know.

The fourth quarter 2025 meeting of the NCFMA Educational Committee will be held virtually via Microsoft Teams on **October 20, 2025,** at 0900 AM

Meeting was adjourned at 0940 hrs. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Respectfully submitted,

Tony Smart, Chair

Education Committee NCFMA