Executive Summary

The FIRESCOPE Board of Directors, Operations Team, Task Force and Specialist/Working Groups continue working to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the California Fire Service consistent with the organization’s mission. The California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) Fire and Rescue Services Advisory Committee / FIRESCOPE Board of Directors has approved and initiated implementation of new or revised FIRESCOPE documents during their October 9th, 2019 meeting.

The dissemination and implementation of new or revised policy, procedural and developmental documents is critical to maintaining the integrity and effective execution of Cal OES Fire and Rescue Branch operations, the Incident Command System (ICS), Multi-Agency Coordination System (MACS), and the State’s Master Mutual Aid System. To that end, this “FIRESCOPE Quarterly Briefing” is designed to inform the California Fire Service and affected stakeholders of material changes, and to provide clarity as to the impact associated with new or recently revised FIRESCOPE documents.
FIRESCOPE Recognition

In July of 2019, the redesigned FIRESCOPE website was launched. At the Board of Directors meeting the following members of the web development team were recognized.

Justin Short
Dan Reilly
Eric Rischer
Balwinder Singh

Fire Chief Jeff Meston was recognized for his service on the FIRESCOPE Board of Directors as the Cities North Representative since 2015. Chief Meston retired from the South Lake Tahoe Fire Department in February of 2019. Chief Meston is also the former president of the California Fire Chiefs Association. Chief Meston’s fire service career has spanned 44 years. Congratulations Chief Meston!

Resource Status

In October of 2019 members of the Messaging and Marketing Working Group were recognized for their outstanding work at the Board of Directors meeting. The following members of the working group were recognized.

Brad Alexander
Mike Eliason
Erik Scott
Brian May
John Larimore

During major events, resources from all over California are mobilized to assist as part of California’s Master Mutual Aid system. In order to improve the communication and tracking of available resources, agencies will transition to the use of Google Sheets to share resource status updates between agencies, Operational Area Coordinators, Regions, and OES Headquarters. Region II, III and Region IV have implemented this process with a great deal of success. This system provides the ability to track the availability of resources for deployment, with local status that can be viewed at all levels of the state mobilization system, and will reduce the amount of time required to deploy mutual aid resources.
The information contained in this Quarterly Briefing is intended to be widely shared among the California fire service, its federal partners, as well as with other affected stakeholders. Agency Administrators, or responsible representatives, should ensure that this material is thoroughly reviewed and communicated within their respective organizations. Questions may be directed to FIRESCOPE Deputy Chief Jim Johnstone at james.johnstone@caloes.ca.gov or (951)-312-8966.

Fire service professionals and the public are encouraged to follow FIRESCOPE on its social media sites and visit the FIRESCOPE website at http://firescope.caloes.ca.gov to learn more about the FIRESCOPE organization and to keep apprised of the latest product development, and key initiatives.

The FIRESCOPE Board of Directors/OES Fire and Rescue Services Advisory Committee vision is to continue national leadership in the development of all-hazard management and multi-agency coordination systems, to enhance and encourage full participation by the California fire service in the statewide Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid System, and to provide a common voice for the California fire service relating to these issues.