

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY
NEW JERSEY FIRE SAFETY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING**

Meeting of November 18, 2009

The NJ Fire Safety Commission meeting was held on Wednesday, November 18, 2009, at the Atlantic City Convention Center in Atlantic City, NJ.

Commission Members Present: Assemblyman John Wisniewski, Chairman
Assemblyman David Rible
Senator Anthony Bucco
Mr. Pasquale Intindola, Vice-Chairman
Mr. Charles W. Schilling
Mr. C. Kenneth Anderson
Mr. Paul Hartstein
Mr. John Lightbody
Mr. Armando Roman
Ms. Kathleen O'Leary
Mr. Lawrence D. Wood
Mr. Roger Potts
Mr. Daniel DeTrollo
Mr. Arthur Mercurio
Mr. Lewis Candura
Mr. Arthur Londensky

Commission Members Excused: Mr. Richard Blohm
Mr. Steve O'Gorman
Mr. Gerard Naylis

DCA Staff Members Present: Lawrence Petrillo, State Fire Marshal
Cynthia Wilk, Codes and Standards
William Kramer, NJDFS
Lou Kilmer, NJDFS James McFadden, NJDFS
Charles Luxton, NJDFS Charles Lavin, NJDFS
Jerry Clark, NJDFS Heather Allen, NJDFS
Chris Eckert, NJDFS Craig Augustoni, NJDFS
Rick Farletta, NJDFS Jason Spiecker, NJDFS
Paul Allen, NJDFS Michael Whalen, Codes and Standards

Guests: Michael Miller, Holland Twp. Fire Co.
Bill Golkiewicz, Fire Dist. 1 Toms River
Sheldon Green, Plainfield Fire Div. Craig Ambrose, Fire Dist. 1 Toms River
Frank Gunson, NJSFA Paul C. Sandrock Jr., Camden Co FM

George Heflich Sr., NJSFA	David Matos, Jr., NJ Fire & EMS Institute
William Johnson, E. Bruns. FD. #2	Lewis Ostrander, Cape May Co. Fire Official Assn.
A. Morello Lange, NFSA	Dominick McClain, Cape May Co. F.O. Assn.
Frank DellaPietro III, Fords FD	George C. Ehrmann, Somerdale Council
Tom Freeman, Hackensack FD	Paul T. Dansbach, Rutherford BFS
Frank Boccio, Emerson FPB	Joseph Kelly, family of Asm. Kelly
Joe Intile, East Orange	Regina Kelly La Scola, family of Asm. Kelly
William Gee, Ocean Co. FM Office	James Yates, West Windsor Twp.
Bill Davenport, City of Wildwood	Patrick Kenny, Woodbridge FD
Richard Gould, Woodbridge FD	Thomas McNamara, Woodbridge FD
Keith C. Repace, Woodbridge FD	Richard Dean, Cape May Co. Fire Officials
David Kurasz, NJFSAB	Carl S. Christensen, Fire Dist 9 Woodbridge Twp.
Justin Lizza, Fairfield/Pub. Ed.	Nicola Lepore, Chief, Old Tappan FD
Joe Zavarino, Northvale	Capt. Michael P. Rulen, Atlantic City FD
Jeff Markey, South Orange FD	Kieran Flynn, Toms River Fire Prev.
Tony Correia, Burlington Twp.	Capt. Ledford Mack, Atlantic City FD
Capt. Allen Huggins, Atl. City FD	Phil Zimm, Chief, Thorofare Fire Co.
Fred Frite, Manchester	Mark Ciarlariello, No. Plainfield FD
Heidi Michel, Stafford Twp.	Chris Freeman, Stafford Twp.
Capt. Lionel Fonville, ACFD	Capt. G. Pherribo, ACFD
Albert Beers, Cape May Co. FM	Ronald McGowan Jr., Wildwood Crest FD
Stanley J. Sickels, Red Bank FM	Carnice H. Lamberton, ACFD
Chief Thomas Bell, ACFD	Douglas J. Ferrigno, Hillside FD
Don Florek, Piscataway FD	Stephen Munson, Bordentown Fire Dist #2
Tim Coyle, Highland Park	Vincent A. Corsaro, Jefferson Fire Bureau

A. Call to Order

Assemblyman John Wisniewski called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM and began the meeting with the “Pledge of Allegiance” and pointing out the fire exits.

Chairman Wisniewski read and presented a Resolution in recognition of former Assemblyman John Kelly who had passed away recently. He spoke about Assemblyman Kelly’s great work for the fire service, his willingness to always speak his mind and do what was right, and how he served as a personal mentor and role model to Mr. Wisniewski when he was a young Assemblyman. After reading the Resolution in full, the Fire Safety Commission observed a moment of silence in Assemblyman Kelly’s honor.

Chairman Wisniewski presented the Resolution to Assemblyman Kelly’s family, who were represented by his son Joseph and daughter Regina. Joseph spoke fondly of his father as a tremendously great man, great father, and great life-long advocate for firefighters and the fire service as a whole. He thanked the Fire Safety Commission for this honor and their continued hard work in the area of fire safety.

B. Approval of Minutes

With no discussion requested or necessary corrections, the minutes of the regular meeting of September 16, 2009, were approved.

C. Correspondence

Chairman Wisniewski noted that all correspondence for today's meeting is contained in the Fire Safety Commission packets. With no discussion requested on any of the correspondence at this time, the meeting was moved to a special presentation by David Matos.

D. David Matos, Executive Direction, NJ Fire & EMS Institute

Mr. Matos began his presentation by expressing his condolences to the family of Assemblyman John Kelly. He spoke briefly about Assemblyman Kelly and his dedication to his work and his effectiveness in working with everyone, including many times across party lines. He referred to Assemblyman Kelly as a true friend of the fire service.

Mr. Matos gave a brief synopsis of the NJ Fire & EMS Institute and what they do. It is an organization that is designed to work with the legislature and executive branch of State government to inform them about issues of importance to NJ's fire and EMS services, and also keep the emergency service community informed about what is going on in Trenton. The Institute operates in a non-partisan, non-biased manor. The activities of the Institute is expected to pick up significantly with the upcoming formation of the New Jersey Legislative Fire Services Caucus. In 2010, the Institute is planning to hold a 'training day' in addition to its annual dinner. It will be a half-day session on fire-grounds to illustrate the dangers of fire and promote public safety. Also in 2010, the NJ Fire & EMS Institute will be pushing the State to get the Highway Incident Traffic Safety guidelines finally published.

Mr. Matos thanked the Fire Safety Commission for their time. For more information on the NJ Fire & EMS Institute, you can visit the website at: www.njfemsi.org

E. Public Comment I

Chairman Wisniewski opened the floor to any member of the public wishing to speak.

Douglas J. Ferrigno, the Executive Vice-President of the NJ Deputy Fire Chiefs Assn., spoke and expressed concern about the adoption of the Highway Incident Traffic Safety guidelines. He, on behalf of his organization, strongly suggested that the Fire Safety Commission push to get these guidelines published before a firefighter or emergency responder is killed while working at a highway traffic incident.

With no other members of the public wishing to comment at this time, the meeting was moved to Division of Fire Safety Activities.

F. Division of Fire Safety Activities

State Fire Marshal Lawrence Petrillo began his report by expressing his condolences to Assemblyman Kelly's family and thanked them for attending the meeting today. Director Petrillo called Assemblyman Kelly a champion of fire safety who would certainly be missed by many throughout the State.

Director Petrillo reported that the comment period for the adoption of the International Residential Code has closed. There were over 1,600 responses that came in in support of the Code. The fire service, the Director feels, really stepped up in support of this Code with all of the supportive responses. There were only a handful of public comments that came in opposed to the Code's adoption.

The newest Fire In New Jersey (2008 edition) report is posted online at the NJ Division of Fire Safety website. The Director thanked Heather Allen and her NFRIS Unit staff for providing this report that is its best yet. There were 83 fire fatalities during 2008 and 77% of those were in residential buildings. Director Petrillo feels this clearly illustrates the need for residential sprinklers in new construction in one- and two-family homes. Director Petrillo urged the Fire Safety Commission to take the time to read through the report, and they will find a tremendous amount of comprehensive and useful data. Director Petrillo spoke specifically about the large number of incidents being caused by dryer fires and cooking fires, and suggested new campaigns in 2010 to combat this.

The Division of Fire Safety has been doing its due diligence on the failure of a piece of equipment in Sussex County. The piece of equipment, a manifold device, is the second of its kind to fail in New Jersey and the results could have been disastrous. The Division of Fire Safety has issued a bulletin on this equipment and it is currently being analyzed by Rutgers University's metallurgical department. As soon as additional information is obtained, it will be distributed to the fire service and the piece of equipment will be recalled if it is deemed necessary.

The Division of Fire Safety has just added to its website a program for firefighters on Solar Panels/Photovoltaic System safety. Director Petrillo expressed the importance of firefighters and departments being aware of the specific hazards that come with these solar systems. With new "greener" initiatives cropping up every day, there are more and more of these types of solar panels appearing in New Jersey all the time. The safety program is a PowerPoint presentation and it is available at the NJDFS website.

Director Petrillo spoke about a devastating fire that took place at a refinery in Puerto Rico recently. The fire lasted for two whole days, resulting in the burning of 18 of the 40 tanks at the refinery. The Director cited this incident as an example of why New Jersey campaigned so hard for the equipment to fire a large-scale chemical fire such as this. The Division will be speaking with the Puerto Rico Fire Marshal to obtain information on this

incident in case something similar should happen with a refinery in New Jersey. Director Petrillo also briefly mentioned the placarding of lightweight construction in one- and two-family homes, and added that this could be something Commissioner Schilling and the Codes Council could look into.

Chief William Kramer reported that the Division of Fire Safety has sent out a notice to local fire departments to remind them what the requirements are to hold elected (or appointed) fire officer positions in the State of New Jersey. The Division tries to do this every year, but surprisingly there have been a lot of follow-up phone calls and questions on this alert. The Division also sent a request out to all Local Enforcing Agencies for copies of ordinances and resolutions that appointed fire officials into their current positions. A lot of towns have changed ordinances, or modified them, and the Division has not received copies of those in many cases.

Chief Kramer added, in regards to the failed large-diameter hose manifold appliance in Sussex County, that the preliminary evaluation by Rutgers University is leading us to believe that there may be a manufacturing issue with this particular device. The Professor at Rutgers added that it would be impossible to tell whether the device is defective simply by looking at it. The Division of Fire Safety is starting to work with NIOSH and the federal government to see what can be done if a recall on this device is necessary. Chief Kramer described the investigation into this device as “long-term” and “multi-pronged” and assured the Commission that the Division of Fire Safety is doing its due diligence to ensure that potential future incidents with this piece of equipment are prevented. Chairman Wisniewski asked if there was any mechanism to initiate a recall on this equipment if it is deemed necessary. Chief Kramer answered that the Division is working with the Feds and Attorney General’s Office on exactly that issue.

Chief Lou Kilmer reported that the Division of Fire Safety is making good progress with the implementation of the new Fire Code. The Division has been steadily receiving and answering the wide-spread questions that through the NJDFS website. This has proved to be an effective way to communicate with fire officials on the local level. The DFS is continuing to working on modifying the old computer system, while at the same time developing and streamlining the new incoming system. Lastly, the Division is in the process of sending out paperwork to the local officials for the 2009 Annual Reports. These will be going out in the very near future.

Commissioner Armando Roman asked what the exact specifications were for determining a fire fatality. Commissioner Roman said that many times a victim of fire will not pass away until much later after the initial incident when the injuries are sustained. Although the result is still a fatality, sometimes if enough time passes the statistics will not classify it as such. Commissioner Roman thought this could be a potential issue with the numbers in the Fire In New Jersey reports. Heather Allen answered that obtaining this kind of follow-up data is difficult to get because of laws against the releasing an individual’s medical records for public knowledge. The death is considered a fire fatality if the injuries result in death within one year but again, being able to follow up with a specific patient through the hospital they were treated at is difficult.

Commissioner John Lightbody spoke about the computer system issue the requires municipalities to assess fees, and then issue rebates the following month. Commissioner Lightbody said that this is a nightmare on the local level. Although there are financial issues with getting the new computer system, but can't the Division of Fire Safety modify the old one to work properly. State Fire Marshal Petrillo answered that he shared Commissioner Lightbody's concern on this issue, and they are working as best they can with antiquated equipment. The current system is certainly flawed, but at this point we are forced to work with what we've got and do our best with it. Unfortunately, there are less and less people in Information Technology who know how to work with this old system. Assemblyman Wisniewski added that just about every State agency is struggling with its computer system and it continues to be a major problem.

G. Advisory Council Reports:

1. Codes Advisory Council

Commissioner Charles Schilling reported that the Codes Advisory Council met on October 21, 2009, at the Middlesex Fire Academy. The minutes from that meeting are contained in the Commission packets, but Commissioner Schilling highlighted a few specific areas that were discussed:

Commissioner Schilling spoke about the Jewelers Torch Flashback and Backflow Device Bulletin. There was much discussion on this issue, but the end result was to send out a modified bulletin to local fire officials. This situation stemmed from the realization that jewelers were using these special torches that involved natural gas. Commissioner Schilling said the new bulletin should resolve the issue effectively.

The Codes Council discussed a memo on the Code Enforcement Jurisdiction of One- and Two-Family Owner-Occupied Dwellings. The memo has been discussed and debated at length, and it was determined that a modified version should be sent out before the proposed Oxford House Bulletin 2009-4.

Lou Kilmer had reported that Bulletin 2009-4 was prepared with the assistance of Codes & Standards. This Bulletin mirrors the concerns of the UCC Bulletin 04-2. The Codes Council agreed that items 1-5 should be deleted from the DFS Bulletin and a reference to the UCC Bulletin should be added. Additional text was suggested after the line ending with "existing homes" stating "No additional inspections should be conducted unless there is a local ordinance that addresses all single family home rental properties." The Codes Council moved to approve this Bulletin with the approved changes.

The next meeting of the Codes Advisory Council is scheduled for December 9th at the Middlesex County Fire Academy at 9:30 AM.

2. Training and Education Advisory Council

Commissioner C. Kenneth Anderson gave the following report of the Training and Education Advisory Council:

The Training and Education Advisory Council met on October 20th at the Dempster Training Center at 10:00 am. The minutes of the meeting are in your folders.

At the July Fire Safety Commission meeting, my motion to endorse recommended changes to the Fire Officer standard was tabled. Director Petrillo facilitated a meeting of stakeholders on July 31st to comment on the Proposal. There were more questions than solutions. Some of the concerns were: Studying for DOP exams should count for something. A department might conceptually agree with the standard, but the costs to comply, considering backfilling, etc, might not fit in the budget. If DOP put the certification requirement on the individual, the town wouldn't have to meet the costs.

On August 6th, a summary of the meeting was sent to the members of the Commission, T&E, the Tier I EOs, and the attendees of the meeting. All were invited to the T&E meeting on August 18th. At that meeting, T&E agreed that it is necessary to address the questions. Although that would be accomplished best if everyone concerned was in one meeting, the Division staff should first meet with DOP (Civil Service) and DOL to brief them on our objective of developing a reasonable certification standard for fire officers and to see where they might be of assistance and were they have regulations that conflict with ours.

Unfortunately, a meeting of T&E, Tier I EOs, Fire Safety Commission, and the Stakeholders with Civil Service and DOL representatives could not be scheduled until October 30th. All of the groups were represented. Although not unanimous, there was a consensus of things that should be included in the requirements for Fire Officer Certification and how equivalencies could be accepted and how the requirements would meet the DOL standards.

Since T&E has the charge to recommend and assist with the development of training criteria for the State's fire service, both career and volunteer, the Council has to agree on a recommendation to the Fire Safety Commission. I sent a report on the October 30th meeting to the Council on November 1st, and asked for comments on the recommendations.

There were a number of comments. I decided that it was better for the members to have a face-to-face discussion at our December T&E Meeting than to rush a recommendation to the Commission. And, looking at the time frames, even if the Fire Safety Commission endorsed a proposal today with a recommendation to Commissioner Richman, the likelihood is very high that a Proposal would not be printed in the *Register* until it was cleared by the new Administration.

Expect a recommendation on amendments to the Fire Officer Certification Standards prior to the January Commission meeting.

The Proposal to amend the Fire Instructor Certification Standards was published in the November 16th *Register*. The revisions will:

- Create a 30-hour course for Fire Instructor I
- Create a 30-hour course for Fire Instructor II.
- Adopt the IFSTA text *Fire and Emergency Services Instructor*
- Establish a Fire Ground Instructor Certification to replace the individual SCBA/Smokehouse Certification and Live Burn Certification

The RIC Committee written recommendations for Awareness and Ops modules, Instructor criteria, RIC leaders and supervisors, RIC Team training and continuing education, and tips on RIC for Fire Officers have been edited and rewritten in a final form. PowerPoints and instructor and student manuals for the Awareness and Ops modules are being prepared. Materials currently used by several EOs and in classes in the Division's CEU program are being consolidated. The RIC Committee will make a final review of the materials and then a recommendation to T&E. No certification program is being proposed. We believe the materials can be incorporated into the New Jersey Addendum.

T&E adopted goals for the Apparatus Driver Training Committee. It is to develop a voluntary emergency vehicle driver training, testing, and certification program that is accepted by the Advisory Council, endorsed by the Fire Safety Commission, adopted by the Commissioner of the Department of Community Affairs, and approved by the New Jersey Division of Motor Vehicles for special endorsement to an existing non-CDL licensed driver. It will include a classroom training program that meets or exceeds all applicable NFPA standards, particularly NFPA 1002, "Standard for Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator Professional Qualifications," and is consistent with the applicable sections of the most recent edition of, "Commercial Driver License Manual" for New Jersey, particularly relating to Commercial Drivers License requirements.

Kent Neiswender reported on several projects including:

*The Jones and Bartlett Firefighter I texts have been received. Several Train-the-Trainer programs have been conducted.

*The New Jersey Addendum is being revised. It will not be printed by the State. It will likely be distributed to EOs on a CD and posted on the Division website for download

*The Department of Treasury has established a State Training Contract of approved vendors who can bid on training programs. It is not clear how this will effect the Division CEU courses and the existing arrangement with Kean University

*The rules for Assistance to Firefighter Grants are being revised. It appears that it will be possible for State Training Agencies to apply for grants.

*The Fire Inspector/Fire Official Retreat and the Juvenile Firesetters Conference were announced.

*The Counter Terrorism for Fire Inspectors program was released to the EOs

*The Counter Terrorism Awareness for Firefighters and EMS will be added to NJ Learn

*The Emergency Management Institute has released some 15 ICS All Hazard Job Specific training programs. There are a limited number qualified instructors for these programs. Many are five day classes. The Division hopes to be able to fund two or three initially.

The next T&E Council meeting will be December 15th at the Dempster Training Center at 10:00 am.

Commissioner Kenneth Anderson made a motion that William Bates be accepted as a member of the Training and Education Advisory Council. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lightbody and passed unanimously.

3. Statistics and Information Advisory Council

In the absence of Commissioner Gerard Naylis, no report was given.

4. Master Planning and Research Advisory Council

Commissioner John Lightbody reported that the Master Planning and Research Advisory Council met on November 11, 2009 at the Middlesex County Fire Academy. Members of the Council reported back from the September Firemen's Convention that was held in Wildwood. At that convention, over 2,000 letters were handed out by the NJ Residential Fire Sprinkler Coalition to be signed in support of residential sprinklers and firefighter safety.

Commissioner Lightbody reported on the Code Hearings in Baltimore, Maryland, on October 28th. The ICC panel voted to keep the code changes into the International Residential Code – 7 in favor, 4 against. The main opposition to these code changes came from the National Builders Association, who appealed the vote but it passed again and the one- and two-family fire sprinkler requirements will remain in the code. Commissioner Lightbody thanked all the members of the NJ Fire Safety Commission and members of the Master Planning and Research Council who attended that meeting in support of the code changes.

The annual report of the Master Planning and Research Advisory Council for 2009 has been submitted to the Fire Safety Commission and is contained in everyone's packets. The main themes were residential sprinklers, municipal shared services, resource sharing, and recruitment/retention of volunteer firefighters. Commissioner Lightbody suggested that his Council meet with Commissioner DeTrollo and the Public Education Council on the recruitment and retention issue. Commissioner Lightbody talked about the changing times and economy that has had an effect on staffing numbers and the amount of time served in the volunteer fire service.

The next meeting of the Master Planning and Research Advisory Council will be December 14, 2009, at the Middlesex County Fire Academy.

5. Public Education Advisory Council

Commissioner Daniel DeTrolio reported that the Public Education Advisory Council had met on November 12th at the Middlesex County Fire Academy.

Commissioner DeTrolio requested a meeting in the near-future with Assemblyman Wisniewski to discuss a potential Recruitment & Retention campaign for 2010. With council member Alan Musicant recently resigned, there has been no one to fill the void to step in and specialize in this area for the Council. Chairman Wisniewski agreed that now that the busy seasons of elections are now through, it would be an opportune time to sit down and discuss the direction of the Public Education Council.

Commissioner DeTrolio spoke about the Novelty Lighter Bill and the fact that it was not signed by Governor Corzine at September's Firemen's Convention, and he wondered if he was going to sign it before his term expired. Assemblyman Wisniewski added that he has been checking up with the Governor's Office on this issue and has been told by Governor Corzine's staff that he could sign the bill at any time.

The planning of the 2010 New Jersey FIRE Bowl is in full-swing. The program is hoping to integrate a record number of six school districts for this year's programs. Those six districts would be Bayonne, Belleville, Carteret, Camden, Freehold, and Paterson. The lead person on this program from the Division of Fire Safety is Charles Lavin, so if anyone knows of any schools or districts that may want to get involved, they can contact him.

The next meeting of the Public Education Advisory Council will be held on January 14, 2009, at the Middlesex County Fire Academy.

6. Firefighter Safety and Health Advisory Council

In the absence of Commissioner Richard Blohm, no report was given.

7. Juvenile Firesetter Prevention Council

Commissioner Paul Hartstein reported the Juvenile Firesetter Prevention Council met on November 4, 2009, at the Burlington County Emergency Services Training Academy. Commissioner Hartstein echoed Commissioner DeTrolio's sentiments about the Novelty Lighter Bill. A lot of work has gone into this on the fire service's end, and hopefully Governor Corzine will sign the bill in due time. It is hoped that we will not have to start all over again on the bill, and the Council will be in close contact with Assemblyman Wisniewski to help make sure the signing happens.

The 2009 Juvenile Firesetter Conference is scheduled for December 3rd and 4th at the Middlesex County Fire Academy. Registration forms are available and have been distributed at today's meeting. Commissioner Hartstein commended Charlie Luxton and

the entire Juvenile Firesetter Prevention Council on putting together a terrific two-day program.

The next meeting of the Juvenile Firesetter Prevention Council will be January 13, 2010, at the Middlesex County Fire Academy. The meeting schedule for 2010 is also contained in the Commission packets.

G. Committee Reports

1. Residential Sprinkler Committee

In the absence of Commissioner Gerard Naylis, no formal report was given.

Cindy Wilk, the Director of the Division of Codes and Standards, gave a brief report on the comments that had been received on the proposed regulations on residential sprinklers. There were 1,675 comments received in support of the residential sprinklers, and only two in opposition to the IRC. The earliest timeframe to get these regulations in the New Jersey Register would be in December, then adopted in January.

H. Old Business

Commissioner Lewis Candura spoke about an issue he had raised at a prior meeting regarding Contractor Certifications. Mr. Candura had requested a report on the types and frequency of the various violations that the NJDFS's Contractors Certification Unit had been issuing. Chief Kramer answered that there was a memo contained in the Commission packet from Director Petrillo on this very topic. Contractor Certification Unit Supervisor Gary Licknack had compiled the data and it is contained in that memo.

Commissioner Arthur Londensky spoke about the ongoing issue of the Highway Incident Traffic Safety guidelines. He asked Director Petrillo why it was taking so long for these guidelines to be adopted. Director Petrillo answered that the NJ Division of Fire Safety, as well as the NJ State Police, have reviewed and endorsed the current document and it is now on the Attorney General's desk. Director Petrillo is not sure what is causing the delay in getting these guidelines issued. Commissioner C. Kenneth Anderson made a motion that the NJ Fire Safety Commission draft a letter to the Attorney General stressing the importance of these guidelines to expedite the process of issuing them. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Londensky and passed unanimously.

I. New Business

Commissioner Lawrence Wood spoke on the topic of the NJ Fire Safety Commission working with Governor-Elect Christie. He stressed the importance of having a good working relationship with the new regime to ensure that the progress the Commission has made for New Jersey's fire service continues and grows into the future. Chairman Wisniewski suggested that Senator Bucco reach out to the newly elected Governor on behalf of the Commission, and Senator Bucco agreed to do so. Commissioner Wood

made a motion that the Commission set up a meeting with the new Governor by way of its legislative members. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lightbody and passed unanimously.

Commissioner Wood also suggested that once a new Commissioner of the Department of Community Affairs is appointed under the new Governor, that individual be invited to all Fire Safety Commission meetings going forward. Chairman Wisniewski agreed that participation from the DCA Commissioner would certainly be welcome and always has been, and while they can not make every meeting State Fire Marshal Petrillo serves as their representative at all meetings. Commissioner Wood agreed and commended State Fire Marshal Petrillo on all his great work; he was just simply suggesting an invitation be sent to the DCA Commissioner for all future meetings to keep them in the loop. Commissioner Arthur Mercurio added that holding Fire Safety Commission meetings in the State House is a good way to get these government officials to the meetings since they are located nearby in Trenton.

Commissioner Wood made a motion that the Fire Safety Commission asks PEOSHA for all regulations that they have in regards to the fire service. Chairman Wisniewski suggested that the letter come from Director Petrillo and the Division of Fire Safety. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Lightbody and passed unanimously.

J. Public Comment II

Carl Christensen from Woodbridge Township spoke about Senator Bucco's "Slow Down, Move Over" campaign. The initiative was started years ago to urge drivers to slow down and pull over when emergency response vehicles were trying to move through. Mr. Christensen feels this is a great idea, but it has fallen by the wayside in recent years. Senator Bucco agreed and said that he would work this by contacting the Department of Transportation to get more signage out on the roads throughout the entire State of New Jersey.

Chief Conrad Johnson from the Wildwood Fire Department spoke briefly to thank the Fire Safety Commission for holding their meeting in his city back in September. He offered to host the September meeting again in 2010 at the Wildwood Convention Center. Chairman Wisniewski thanked Chief Johnson for his hospitality and said they would try to have the September meeting in Wildwood again.

K. Adjournment

Chairman Wisniewski asked if anyone had any additional business they would like to bring before the Commission. There being none, the meeting adjourned at 11:27 AM.

*** The next meeting of the Fire Safety Commission will be on January 27, 2010 at 10am. It will be held at the Middlesex County Fire Academy in Sayreville, NJ. ***

