

OR-OSHA Fire Fighters Advisory Committee Charter

Article I. Origin and Purpose

The OR-OSHA Fire Fighters Advisory Committee was established to provide technical information and guidance to Oregon OSHA for development, interpretation and application of occupational safety and health standards applicable to fire and emergency services.

Article II Accountability

The Manager of Oregon OSHA's Standards & Technical Resources Section, or their assigned representative facilitates the meetings and work of the OR-OSHA Fire Fighters Advisory Committee.

Article III Role of the Committee

The committee assists Oregon OSHA in an advisory role, providing technical guidance and recommendations. Members of the committee are selected from representative parts of the Fire Service and OR-OSHA to work together in a non-adversarial, cooperative effort to create a safer work environment for fire fighters. The committee also serves as a network between Oregon OSHA and the Fire Service to collect and distribute information.

Article IV Membership

Representatives from various parts of the Fire and Emergency Services, and from Oregon OSHA, will serve on the committee. The members will be chosen by the Manager of OR-OSHA's Standards & Technical Resources Section. Membership will be limited to not more than 20 members (for efficiency and meeting space). Represented bodies will include (but are not limited to) volunteer fire departments,

career fire departments, combination fire departments, Oregon Fire Chiefs Association, Oregon Volunteer Fire Fighters Association, Oregon Fire District Directors Association, Oregon State Fire Fighters Council, Oregon Fire Instructors Association, Oregon Fire Medical Administrators Association, Department of Public Safety Standards & Training (DPSST), and Oregon OSHA. Members will serve until they are replaced by the body they represent, until they choose not to be on the committee, or until they are replaced by someone else chosen by the Manager of OR-OSHA's Standards & Technical Resources Section.

Committee members are expected to work for the overall improvement of occupational safety and health in the Fire Service. While each committee member individually represents a segment of the Fire Service, each member also represents all fire fighters and emergency responders. Decisions will be made by consensus.

Committee members are expected to attend meetings. If they are unable to attend, then they are encouraged to send a qualified alternate. If a member knows that they will not be able to attend a meeting, then they are encouraged to communicate that information to the chairperson for inclusion into the minutes.

Committee members will act as liaisons between those segments of the Fire Service they represent and the committee.

Committee members may invite guests to attend the meetings. Guests or subject-matter experts may take part (when invited) in portions of a meeting.

Article V Chairperson

A representative of Oregon OSHA's Standards & Technical Section will chair the committee. The chairperson will provide guidance and leadership to the committee. The chairperson is responsible for planning meetings and preparing agendas, conducting meetings, making assignments, seeing that minutes are kept and distributed to members, maintaining the "official file" for any rule-making proposals, and for making sure that the committee's discussions and activities line up with the mission of the committee.

Article VI Meetings

The committee will meet at least once every six months unless there is need to meet more often. The next meeting date will be agreed on by the committee prior to adjournment.

The meetings will be held either in Salem, at or near Oregon OSHA's office, or at a location agreed upon by the committee that is conveniently located for the majority of the members.

Article VII Amending the Charter

This charter may be amended at any time by a consensus of those present at a scheduled meeting, and approval from the Manager of Oregon OSHA's Standards & Technical Resource Section.

Adopted: 4/25/05