CAL FIRE

OSFM Fire Engineering & Enforcement

The CAL FIRE Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) Fire Engineering Division administers licensing programs and performs engineering functions affecting consumer services and product evaluation, approval and listing.

The Fire Engineering Section has the overall responsibility to administer licensing programs which approve, certify, and list fire safety products for the OSFM. These programs include the Building Materials Listing, Fireworks, Vapor Recovery, Fire Safe Cigarette and Flame Retardant Programs all of which deal with the approval of products used throughout California. Fire Engineering also administers business licensing and technician certification for the Fire Extinguisher, Automatic Extinguishing System, Pyrotechnic, Motion Picture Film, and Flame Retardant Programs.

The program requires staff with academic training in fire protection engineering and other disciplines, as well as technical expertise in laboratory testing procedures. The proper application of civil, mechanical, electrical, chemical and industrial engineering techniques can reduce the number of ignitions caused by hazardous conditions or operations.

The Enforcement Section of the Division oversees and manages the Arson & Bomb Unit and the Investigations Unit which together provide investigative and law enforcement capabilities for the OSFM. Detectives in the Arson & Bomb and Investigations Units conduct detailed and complex investigations of explosions, fires, program fraud and counterterrorism.

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