

WHO IS THAT TALKING?

SPEAKERS

**WINDY C. BOULDIN**

Deputy Director, Office of Program Accountability and Returning Veterans: Enlisting Their Skills for CAL FIRE Service (R.V.E.T.S.) Coordinator

With over 29 years of civil service experience with the State of California including 24 years with CAL FIRE, Windy brings a plethora of knowledge in governance, policy formulation and implementation, program administration, human resources, internal audits, risk management, and leadership.

Windy comes from a multi-generational military family and is a proud Navy Mom. Using her knowledge of civil service processes, she brings practical tips to those interested in pursuing a mission to serve and safeguard the people and protect the property and resources of California. Understanding the unique skill sets of those who have served, are serving, and their families, Windy is inspired to teach, develop, and mentor others interested in pursuing a career with the State of California.

Windy and her R.V.E.T.S. team are dedicated to working with stakeholders in promoting a diverse, equitable, and inclusive workplace.

**REBECCA VATALARO**

Assistant Manager, Southern Region Management Services, CAL FIRE

Rebecca oversees finance and human resources for the nine Southern Region Units. She has worked with CAL FIRE for 14 years at the Unit, Sacramento Headquarters program, and Region levels, and she currently oversees the Fire Fighter I, Forestry Aide – Defensible Space Inspector, and Fire Fighter II hiring processes for the Department. Rebecca is also part of the

CAL FIRE Hiring Work Group which plans and oversees the hiring processes for the Fire Fighter I, Fire Fighter II, Fire Apparatus Engineer, and Fire Captain classifications.

Rebecca comes from a multi-generational fire family, and she enjoys helping others succeed in the fire service by teaching and guiding those interested in pursuing a career with CAL FIRE.

**KELLY MANDELL**

Manager, Northern Region Management Services, CAL FIRE

Kelly has over 30 years of civil service experience with the State of California including 15 years with CAL FIRE. All of her experience has been in the human resources field. Kelly has a broad range of knowledge regarding all aspects of human resources and leadership. She is dedicated to supporting the mission to serve and safeguard the people and protect the property and resources of California. Throughout her career with the State of California she

has provided training and mentorship to employees as well as those looking at a career with the State of California.

Kelly is currently a member of the CAL FIRE Hiring Work Group which continually looks at ways to improve the Department's hiring processes and provide information to those seeking a career with CAL FIRE. Kelly is always looking for new ways to inspire and mentor people who are interested in a career with the State of California.

SPEAKERS *(Cont'd.)***KERRY BRADFORD**

Assistant Manager, Northern Region Management Services, CAL FIRE

Kerry has over 21 years of civil service experience with the State of California, all this time has been with CAL FIRE in various programs within the Department. She has held positions at the Unit level as well as the Region level which has provided her with a breadth of knowledge in the human resources and finance areas within CAL FIRE. Kerry is always willing to go the extra mile to assist anyone interested in a career with CAL FIRE.

**TRISHA ADDISON**

Assistant Deputy Director, Human Resource Management, CAL FIRE

Trisha has more than 19 years of experience in the State of California civil service, going on 16 years with CAL FIRE, serving in various classifications within her tenure. Throughout her career with the Department she has worked with various levels of management and has been involved in numerous workgroups, such as the Fire Fighter I Consolidation, Statewide Hiring for the 2012 Strategic Plan, Statewide Hiring for Fire Fighter II and Fire Apparatus Engineer, R.V.E.T.S., the Veterans Network through the Employment Development Department (VetNET), and various other committees and workgroups. Trisha works closely with internal stakeholders, the California Natural Resources Agency, and State of California control agencies. Throughout her experience at CAL FIRE she has had the good fortune of developing and maintaining collaborative and cooperative relationships with management. Trisha's number one priority is customer service from the lowest level to the highest. The best part of her job is assisting others looking to gain employment with CAL FIRE.

**LAWRENCE TROXLER III**

Manager, Recruitment and Workforce and Succession Management Unit, CAL FIRE

Lawrence has more than 10 years of experience in the State of California civil service, going on four years with CAL FIRE. Throughout his career with the Department, he has led the Recruitment Unit and most recently the Workforce and Succession Management Unit, traveling statewide for employment events helping interested candidates pursue a career with CAL FIRE. Lawrence has a great working relationship many California Conservation Corps Navigators throughout the State and loves helping Corpsmembers achieve their career goals. Lawrence works closely with internal stakeholders, the California Natural Resources Agency, and State of California control agencies in helping get the right person in the right job at the right time for CAL FIRE. Lawrence's number one priority is helping individuals obtain gainful employment, while showcasing CAL FIRE as an employer of choice. The best part of his job is attending career fairs, meeting potential candidates, and helping them to understand the State of California hiring process.

**TANYA TORST, MA, MBA**

Lead Transition Navigator, California Conservation Corps

As one of the first career navigators at the California Conservation Corps, Tanya started out at the Magalia Fire Center, and has helped hundreds of Corpsmembers get their dream jobs. She works closely with CAL FIRE and currently leads the California Conservation Corps Navigators statewide. Her job is to assist Navigators and help Corpsmembers get the education and skills needed for a career in CAL FIRE. In addition to a long career serving others, Tanya is trained as a life and career coach, and loves to encourage young people to find great careers.

ADHOC SPEAKERS



SERENA ORTEGA

Deputy Director, Equal Employment Opportunity, CAL FIRE

Serena brings over 13 years of State of California experience and has served in various capacities that have contributed to her overall success within the Department. Her career has exposed her to government relations, the complex facets of personnel responsibilities, performance management, and Statewide advocacy roles.

As the Department head for the Equal Employment Opportunity Office, Serena provides oversight of the Department's Mediation Program, facilitation of the Department's Disability Advisory Committee, oversight of the Limited Examination Appointment Program, as well as managing multiple complex investigations for CAL FIRE and the California Natural Resources Agency. Beyond her day-to-day duties, Serena also serves as a R.V.E.T.S. Core Member.

Serena and her team's hard work and recommendations continue to positively shape the State of California's efforts to achieve equality for all.



ANDREW HENNING

Assistant Deputy Director, Office of the State Fire Marshal, CAL FIRE

Assistant Deputy Director Henning is responsible for administering the California Fire Service Training and Education System, Fire Service Training and Education Program, and the California Fire Academy System. The Office of the State Fire Marshal State Fire Training program is considered the foundation for the professional development of the California fire service. He currently serves as a member of the Statewide Training and Education Advisory

Committee, FIRESCOPE Task Force, National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 14 technical committee, and NFPA 22 technical committee.

Assistant Deputy Director Henning can assist in understanding State Fire Training's reciprocity and equivalency requirements using IFSAC and Pro Board certifications issued out of state and through the Department of Defense.



CURTIS BROWN

Assistant Region Chief, Southern Region, CAL FIRE

As an Assistant Region Chief, Chief Brown oversees five of the nine CAL FIRE Units in the Southern Region. He was promoted through the ranks of Firefighter, Fire Apparatus Engineer, Fire Captain, Battalion Chief, Assistant Chief, and Staff Chief before his current position. Chief Brown has a Chief Officer certification and is an instructor for California State Fire Training with extensive knowledge in fire administration and operations. Chief Brown has a

passion for firefighter and civilian health and safety. Through collaboration with various universities,

Chief Brown has produced reports related to firefighter staffing, economic impacts from wildfires, heat stress, and smoke exposure and contamination during wildland and wildland urban interface fire incidents.

ADHOC SPEAKERS (Cont'd.)

**DAMON GODDEN**

Deputy Chief, Crew Program Sacramento Headquarters, CAL FIRE

As the Deputy Chief of the Crew Program, Chief Godden is the Program Manager overseeing the Fire Fighter I, California Conservation Corps and California National Guard Service Member Handcrews. Prior to coming to CAL FIRE in 2007 he served 12 years with the Bureau of Land Management and United States Forest Service as Handcrew Firefighter, Engine Captain, Hotshot Assistant Superintendent, and Battalion Chief in California, Nevada, and Idaho. After joining CAL FIRE as a Fire Crew Captain he spent nine years at the Susanville Fire Training Center, four years as the Wellness and Safety Battalion Chief at the CAL FIRE Training Center and one and half years as the Safety Program Division Chief before his current position.

Chief Godden has spent most of his career involved with handcrews and has been essential in the development of the training curriculum and policies of CAL FIRE Handcrews.