



ORANGE COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES
DIVISION OF FIRE SERVICES



Edward A. Diana
County Executive

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Walter C. Koury
Commissioner

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Dear Chief,

In order to comply with updates that were made to the NFPA 1403 standard, Standard on Live Fire Training Evolutions, in 2012, the OCFTC has updated its own live fire guidelines. The principle change to the standard that will affect most departments is the need for the lead instructor to meet the NFPA 1041 standard, Standard for Fire Service Instructor Professional Qualifications. Anyone who has taken the OFPC Fire Service Instructor I course meets this requirement. For those departments who are unable to supply their own instructor, or wish to have the County assist with their training, the OCFTC will supply a lead instructor for them, availability permitting.

Some of the other changes to the County policy reflect the desire to tie our rules more closely to other recognized industry standards such as OFPC's policy regarding the need for a Backup / RIT / FAST team.

Although not specifically stated in the live fire guidelines or on the checklist, it is the policy of the OCFTC that whenever an SCBA is worn, there will be no facial hair between the rubber of the mask and the skin of the wearer. This applies to all evolutions, regardless of whether or not there is live fire. Also, please take note of the student pre-requisites that are required before being allowed to participate in a live-fire exercise. The new standard has added one additional requirement of Building Construction to the list.

To assist with compliance to the new standard, the OCFTC has developed a checklist to be used for all live fire drills at the FTC. This will help the lead instructor and OIC perform a safe and successful evolution. Copies of the live fire guidelines and the checklist are attached. Please contact the FTC for any assistance or questions you may have regarding these forms.

The staff at the OCFTC is committed to helping you deliver safe and effective training to your department. We appreciate your support and will assist in any way possible to allow for a successful training experience for your firefighters.

Be safe,

James E. McCann
DFC / Training