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## MEMORANDUM

TO: SC Fire Service Leadership
FROM: Josh Fulbright, Chief of CRR
RE: 2024 Fire Safe South Carolina Designation
DATE: Feb. 5,2024

For seven years, Fire Safe South Carolina has worked with local fire departments to develop community risk reduction (CRR) plans for their jurisdictions. With their help, we have worked together to reduce fire-related injuries, promote consistent messaging, increase data quality, and provide valuable resources.

We are currently in the process of reviewing submitted activities for the 2023 Fire Safe South Carolina Designation. We anticipate awarding the 2023 Fire Safe South Carolina Communities starting this June during the Fire Rescue Conference in Myrtle Beach.

The New Year brings an opportunity for your department to expand your CRR activities in the Fire Safe SC program, again seek the annual designation, or request the designation for the first time.

First, note the award cycle is set by calendar year (January – December). Mandatory orientation briefings start in February and will be offered throughout the year. This allows us the opportunity to share information on how to achieve designation using this year's Fire Safe SC Community goals. **As a reminder, to remain or become designated, at least one member from every department must attend the annual orientation briefing.** 

Learn more about the mandatory virtual meetings by visiting: Orientation-Briefing.pdf (sc.gov)

Second, in 2024, we look to streamline training-related goals specifically based off your feedback. For new departments seeking designation, we wish to support you in integrating risk reduction practices. For those previously designated, we wish to further support you in institutionalizing those practices to ensure a safe, healthy, prepared, and resilient future for your community. Please share with us upcoming opportunities to partner together, especially for in-home safety visits which we know are extremely effective ways of promoting life-saving practices across our state.

Last, we encourage you to follow us on social media. Look for @FireSafeSC on Facebook and Twitter to obtain updated information to share in your community, obtain program updates, and learn of new opportunities for your fire department members.

As we continue to work together, we recognize the continued importance of our unified partnership and appreciate the collaboration between SC State Fire, SC Firefighters' Association, SC Fire Marshals Association, SC Chapter of The International Association of Arson Investigators, and the SC Fire Chiefs Association. Our Fire Safe SC Coordinator, as well as our Regional Program Representatives, are available to support you. Thank you for your continued dedication and please don't hesitate to reach out to us.

<u>Chief of Community Risk Reduction</u> Josh Fulbright josh.fulbright@llr.sc.gov 803-896-9895 Fire Safe SC / Outreach Coordinator Kaitlyn "K.T." Tepper KT.Tepper@llr.sc.gov 803-622-2015 Unite. Engage. Support. Serve.