



South Carolina
Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation



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Division of Fire and Life Safety

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Greetings:

As your State Fire Marshal I would like to extend a friendly reminder that Saturday October 31, 2009, is the deadline for reporting your department's required information to the OSFM for the Firemen's Insurance and Inspection Fund (affectionately known as the One Percent Fund). As of October 21, 2009, only 98 departments are shown as complete with the Office of State Fire Marshal.

After October 31, 2009, the computer system will not allow entries for the reporting year 2009. If your annual certificates of existence (Equipment Certificate) and Quarterly Inspection Reports are not in, you will not receive one percent funding in the late summer of 2010. A list of departments that have met all of the requirements for the State Fire Marshal's reporting for the One Percent Funds will be posted on the web-page next month and the county treasurers will be notified. This will be the final list from the State Fire Marshal's Office for the 2010 distribution.

In previous years there were modifications and exceptions made due to extenuating circumstances. During the past month, staff has entertained one percent calls from a myriad of persons from the firehouse to the statehouse.

To comply with state statute, avoid confusion with the county treasurers, and stop the delayed distribution to departments that did comply, there will be no modification to the published list. If you have any questions or wish to confirm your current status, contact the OSFM at 803-896-9800.

SECTION 23-9-380. Annual certificate of existence of fire department; penalty for failure to file. The clerk of any incorporated city or town and the treasurer of the county in which is located the greater part of any unincorporated community accepting the benefits of this article as required herein shall annually, by October thirty-first, make and file with the State Fire Marshal on a blank to be furnished by the State Fire Marshal his certificate stating the existence of the department, the number of steam, hand, or other engines, hook and ladder trucks, and hose carts in actual use, the number of organized companies, and the system of water supply in use for the department, together with any other facts the State Fire Marshal requires. If the certificate required by this section is not filed with the State Fire Marshal by October thirty-first in any year, the city, town, or community failing to file the certificate is considered to have waived and relinquished its rights for that year to any benefits distributed under this article by the county treasurer.