



PUBLIC PROTECTION
CABINET

Department of Housing, Building and Construction
Division of Fire Prevention-Kentucky State Fire Marshal

October 22, 2024

Division of Fire Prevention Structure

- The Division of Fire Prevention is a division within the Public Protection Cabinet, Department of Housing, Buildings, and Construction
- The Division of Fire Prevention has two primary areas:
 - Hazardous Materials
 - General Inspection
- Additionally, the Division oversees two programs:
 - Fire Safe Cigarettes
 - Retail Sales of Consumer Fireworks

Division of Fire Prevention Staffing

- 1 Director – State Fire Marshal
- 2 State Fire Marshal Managers
- 1 Program Coordinator
- 13 Deputy State Fire Marshals
 - Currently there are 4 (funded) vacant Deputy State Fire Marshals (Hiring currently being conducted/scheduled).
- 1 Hazardous Material Inspector Supervisor
- 7 Hazardous Material Inspectors
- 1 Plan Reviewer
- 1 Administrative Specialist Senior

Division of Fire Prevention Mission

- KRS 227.220(1) requires the state fire marshal to enforce or aid in the enforcement of all laws, administrative regulations, and ordinances of the state and its political subdivisions relating to fire loss as defined in KRS 227.200.
- “Fire loss” means loss of or damage to property, loss of life or personal injury, by fire, lightning, or explosion.
- KRS 227.220(3) authorizes the state fire marshal to perform a number of tasks, including investigating the causes and origins of fires and explosions for the purposes of detecting and suppressing arson or for the purpose of minimizing fire loss; making periodic inspections of all property within the state and assisting cities having fire departments in making like inspections; and issuing and enforcing reasonable emergency orders for the prevention of fire loss.

Division of Fire Prevention Mission

- The Division of Fire Prevention accomplishes its mission to prevent injury, loss of life and fire by:
 - Periodic inspections of public buildings.
 - Permitting and oversight of the installation of flammable and combustible liquid and gas storage tanks.
 - Investigating the cause, origin and circumstances of fires.
 - Instructing and assisting fire departments in the performance of these activities.

Division of Fire Prevention Totals FY24

- Performed over 14,834 fire and life safety inspections.
- Completed 951 Hazardous Materials Plan Reviews.
- Registered 645 Retail Sales of Consumer Fireworks Facilities.
- Performed 145 fire investigations.
- Provided fire code classes to over 200 fire department personnel.

FIRE INVESTIGATIONS

Kentucky State Fire Marshal



Division of Fire Prevention Fire Investigations FY24

- The Division of Fire Prevention investigates fires at the request of local fire chiefs, Kentucky State Police, or local law enforcement.
- Fires reported to the Division of Fire Prevention – 257
- Fire investigations performed by the Division of Fire Prevention – 136
- Fire related fatalities reported to the Division of Fire Prevention – 58

Division of Fire Prevention Fire Investigations

- Currently the Division has 8 Fire Investigators with 3 additional employees in training.
- Typically, the Division performs between 80 and 120 fire investigations annually.
- Requests for investigations are generally received through the state Emergency Operations Center, local fire and police, and the Kentucky State Police.
- The Division maintains 6 “on call managers” to receive request(s) for assistance 24/7.

Kentucky State Fire Marshal

Deputized Fire Department Program



Deputized Fire Departments

- There are currently 90 deputized fire departments across the state.
- Deputization is voluntary and done only at the request of the Chief of the fire department.
- KRS 227.370 authorizes local fire departments to conduct inspections without being deputized by the State Fire Marshal.
- The goal of the deputization program is to unify inspection priorities across jurisdictional boundaries, prevent dual inspection services, improve local response time for complaints and request(s) for inspection.

Deputized Fire Departments

There are currently three levels of deputization provided by the Division.

- **General** – The deputized department only performs non-licensed inspections within their jurisdiction. The Division of Fire Prevention maintains jurisdiction over all licensed facilities.
- **General + Daycare** - The deputized department performs non-licensed inspections and daycare inspections within their jurisdiction. The Division of Fire Prevention maintains jurisdiction of all other licensed facilities inspections.
- **Full** - The deputized department performs all inspections, including licensed facilities within their jurisdiction. The Division of Fire Prevention does not perform any inspections unless assistance is requested by the fire department.

Past and Present Staffing Levels; Historical Funding

	FY09	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24
Total # of positions*	44	36	30	21	21	24	27	33~
<i>*Data from Biennial Budget submissions, number is the average filled positions for each FY. ~Data from FY24 budgeted positions, not filled positions.</i>								

Expenditures by Fund	FY18*	FY19*	FY20*	FY21*	FY22*	FY23*	FY24~	FY25^	FY26^
GF Total Expend	2,411,907	2,610,800	1,853,351	2,613,849	2,703,700	2,977,400	3,098,700	3,085,400	3,085,400
RF Total Expend	1,355,840	1,187,172	1,375,181	657,154	341,904	96,825	377,964	331,900	331,900
Grand Total Funds Expend	3,767,747	3,797,972	3,228,532	3,271,003	3,045,604	3,074,225	3,476,664	3,417,300	3,417,300
<i>*Data from Biennial Budget submissions ~Data from eMARS ^Budgeted Amounts</i>									

Department of
Housing, Building
and Construction
Division of Fire
Prevention-Kentucky
State Fire Marshal
Contact Information

- Phone: (502) 573-0382
- Email:
 - Max Fuller
(Commissioner):
max.fuller@ky.gov
 - Mike Haney (State
Fire Marshal):
mike.haney@ky.gov

