



OCFIRS-GRAM 10-4

OCFIRS Accountability

Captains and Future Captains

December 2010

For assistance with cause determination: Call the On-Duty Investigator

For questions on OCFIRS Coding: Tiffany Woods 714.573.6155

For FIRE F.R.I.E.N.D.S. forms or questions: Trish Sysak 714.573.6700

For Training Materials and Sample Reports (Click here): [OCFIRS Help](#)

Report of the Month Steve Stewart (click here): [GREAT REPORT!](#)

Fire Sprinklers Save Lives & Property!

During 2005, the OCFA attempted to identify and evaluate fire risks throughout our jurisdiction. It was clear at that time that the level of documentation did not provide reliable data. There were many reasons for this including lack of training, oversight, and accountability. Mostly there was a lack of understanding why proper/accurate documentation is so important.

HISTORY OF SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

During 2007 department-wide training was conducted to help provide the foundation for an understanding of the value of proper documentation and, conversely, the fact that good decisions regarding education, prevention and response are not possible without knowing what is causing fire related deaths, injuries, and property loss within Orange County.

After the initial training, our Fire Investigators developed the [OCFIRS Data Sheet](#) and then the Investigators started responding to all WSTR to assist with fire cause determination and the gathering of proper documentation.

Currently we have an OCFIRS Single Point of Contact (SPC - **Tiffany**) assigned to review all fire related OCFIRS reports. When reports are identified as having missing or inaccurate information, the report is returned to the report writer for editing/clarification.

Due to your increased efforts, the improvement in documentation over the past three years has been outstanding! We are now able to identify specific fire causes and contributing factors associated with most fire related incidents. These are being used to chart trends and develop risk profiles which are used to revise programs or develop new ones that improve community safety.

OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO YOU

- Make sure we continue to support the report writers by providing them the tools, education (SPC support, OCFIRS Grams), and on scene support you need to gather the proper information.
- Revise the current OCFIRS SOP to focus on accurate and timely documentation.
- Integrate OCFIRS related questions on future Fire Captain promotional exams. *Review of the OCFIRS Grams will provide the education necessary to master this knowledge.*
- **Please give us your ideas for further improvements.**

YOUR RESPONSIBILITY

- Continued self improvement and timely completion of reports.

The fire-related information that you enter into OCFIRS is used by the Fire Prevention Department to determine Orange County's fire risks and to create community awareness programs to reduce these risks.