

Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal

Fiscal Year 2023 Annual Report





To the Honorable JB Pritzker, Governor:

In accordance with the requirements of the State Finance Act (30 ILCS 105/3(a)), the Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal submits this annual report for the fiscal year ended on June 30, 2023.

I am proud of the efforts of the entire OSFM staff who continues to maintain a high level of professionalism and productivity. It is because of their dedication to duty that OSFM has been able to fulfill its mission to ensure the safety of all Illinois citizens.

James A. Rivera State Fire Marshal

Agency Mission

The Office, as authorized by the State Fire Marshal Act, (20 ILCS 2905), is dedicated to working with its partners and providing assistance to the fire service in the protection of life, property and the environment through communications, inspection, investigation, certification and licensing.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI)



The Office of the State Fire Marshal commits to enabling staff to thrive in a culture which fully embraces diversity, equity and inclusion. OSFM acknowledges that in order to best empower, value, respect and safeguard our employees, our workforce must reflect Illinois' diversity. We pledge to enhance agency diversity by employing strategy initiatives for recruitment, support, and retention as we work closely with our industry partners and regulatory stakeholders throughout the State.

Organizational Chart



Budget

	FY23 Expenditures
Salary and Benefits	\$25,755,592
Agency Operations	\$5,729,864
Electronic Firefighter Certification Testing	\$226,292
Online Firefighter Training Management System	\$380,000
Chicago Fire Department	\$3,418,200
Chicago Department of Public Health (Underground Storage Tanks)	\$550,000
Illinois Fire Service Institute	\$1,345,000
Local Fire Department Training Reimbursement	\$1,450,000
Mutual Aid Box Alarm System	\$180,000
Firefighter Peer Support	\$60,000
Small Equipment Grant	\$1,498,419
Other Miscellaneous Grants	\$113,204
Medal of Honor Ceremony and Scholarships for Children of Firefighters Killed in the Line of Duty	\$199,071
Federal Underground Storage Tank Funding	\$592,853
TOTAL	\$41,498,495

Division of Arson Investigation

The Arson Division provides cause and origin determination, investigation and law enforcement services for suspected arson cases throughout the state. The Office is responsible for investigating suspicious fires and explosions throughout the State of Illinois. Nationally, arson (and suspected arson) is the primary cause of property damage due to fire in the United State and the second leading cause of fire deaths. To combat this serious problem, certified investigators respond to assist fire departments, communities, state and federal agencies 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Arson Special Agents are sworn peace officers authorized to interview witnesses, collect evidence, make arrests, and appear in court. Also available are accelerant detecting canine teams. Canines can detect minute traces of accelerants often used in fires and can lead investigators to a specific location where physical samples can be taken, analyzed, and confirmed by special laboratories.

Investigations Conducted	1185
Canine-Assisted Investigations	241
Cases Closed With An Arrest	51
Cause and Origin – Incendiary	340
Cause and Origin – Accidental	195
Cause and Origin – Undetermined/Under Investigations	639
Cause and Origin – Explosion	13
Cause and Origin – Natural	4
Fatalities	90

Division of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Safety

The Boiler and Pressure Vessel Safety Division provides inspection, certification and licensing of boiler and pressure vessel and related industries. State Boiler Safety Specialist, as well as inspectors hired by private insurance companies, conduct in-service inspections of boilers and pressure vessels in schools, hospitals, churches, factories, day care centers, restaurants, dormitories, libraries, municipal building, refineries, chemical plants, prisons, and other facilities which operate boilers and pressure vessels. The Office also commissions boiler inspectors in the state issues permits for all repairs conducted on boilers and pressure vessels, and licenses boiler and pressure vessel repair firms.

Inspections Performed	47,302
Violations Issued	8,095
% of Inspections Past Due-State	0.70%
% of Inspections Part Due-Insurance Companies	1.54%
Audits Conducted	18
Commissions Issued – New and Renewals	253
Repair Permits Issued	88
Repair Licenses Issues – New and Renewals	71
Fees Collected	\$3,756,326.46

Division of Elevator Safety

The Elevator Safety Division provides monitoring of third-party inspection companies and municipalities with state agreements, provides certification and registration of conveyances, as well as licensing of mechanics, apprentices, inspection companies, elevator contractors and related industries, investigates accidents and reviews plans for permits and variances. The Division assures that conveyances are correctly, and safety installed and operated within the State of Illinois outside the City of Chicago by regulating the design, installation, construction, operation, inspection, testing, maintenance, alteration, and repair of elevators, dumbwaiters, escalators, moving sidewalks, platform lifts, and automated people movers in accordance with all the applicable statutes and rules. The Office currently has 182 agreements with municipalities to operate the program on behalf of the state in their municipalities.

Permits Issues	606
Certificates of Operation Processed	11,627
Conveyances Registered	517
Licenses Processed	1,143
Fees Collected	\$1,579,130

Division of Fire Prevention

The Fire Prevention Division provides inspections of structures to ensure fire safety codes are being properly followed and enforced, as well as licensing and oversight activities over the following industries: fire equipment distributors, sprinkler contractors, pyrotechnic distributors and operators and of mobile or above ground liquid petroleum gas tanks. The Office conducts inspections of building for compliance with the Life Safety Code. These inspections primarily concentrate on state-owned or regulated facilities including day care centers and group day care homes licensed by the Department of Children and Family Services, the Illinois Department of Aging, Correctional Centers, public schools (in cooperation with the Illinois State Board of Education), racetracks regulated by the Illinois Racing Board, permanently moored gaming facilities regulated by the Illinois Gaming Board, and telecommunications switching offices. The Office ensures compliance with regulations pertaining to LP-gas tanks and inspection of aboveground bulk and dispensing tank installations of flammable and combustible liquids. The Office also inspects certain "target" hazards, including the inspection of hotel/motel occupancies, and any occupancy where a fire hazard has been reported by the local fire authority or the general public. In addition to conducting inspections, the Office is also responsible for enforcing the Fire Equipment Distributor and Employee Regulations Act (225 ILCS 217), Fire Sprinkler Contractor Licensing Act (225 ILCS 317), and the Fireworks Use Act (425 ILCS 35) and Pyrotechnic Operator and Distributor Licensing Act (425 ILCS 35).

Inspections Performed	13,879
School Inspections Performed by Division Personnel	2,106
School Inspections Performed by Local Fire Department's	1,287
% of School Inspections Completed Within the Statutorily Mandated One-Year Timeframe	100%
Inspections Performed-State Fairs	2,324
Fire Equipment Distributor Companies Licensed	133
Fire Equipment Distributor Employees Licensed	599
Fire Sprinkler Contractors Licensed	136
Pyrotechnic Distributor Companies Licensed	6
Pyrotechnic Operators Licensed	121
Pyrotechnic Use Act- Consumer Retailers	150
Production Companies Licensed	12
Total Licensing Fees Collected (Sprinkler, Fire Equipment, Pyrotechnics/Fireworks)	\$314,030
Total Mobile Fueling Fees Collects	\$16,300

Division of Petroleum and Chemical Safety

The Petroleum and Chemical Safety Division provides inspection, investigation and licensing of underground storage tanks and contractors, permitting and inspection of installation, upgrade, repair and removal of underground storage tank and piping and responds to emergencies that involve hazardous regulated products, stored in underground storage tanks. The Office is responsible for protecting against threats to human safety and contamination of the environment that can occur from underground storage of petroleum products and other hazardous substances through prevention, education, and enforcement. The Office works under a comprehensive program combining federal and state laws and rules to regulate UST system management, fuel dispensing, UST installation, repair and removal, emergency response, and financial responsibility requirements. Additionally, the Office administers the state Eligibility and Deductibility (E&D) program, which is the first step for UST owners to follow when they have had a release or contamination incident and they wish to access the Leading Underground Storage Tank Fund (LUST Fund), as well as oversees the Financial Responsibility program, which requires UST owners to have pollution liability policies in case of environmental or third party property and personal injury damages caused by product releases from USTs.

Full-Time Equivalent Staff (as of 6/30/23)	25
Active Tanks Registered	18,734
UST Inspections Conducted	6,996
UST Inspections Conducted – City of Chicago	1,003
Field Investigations	173
Field Investigations – City of Chicago	11
UST Emergency Responses	5
UST Emergency Responses – City of Chicago	0
Initial Facility Certification Audits Performed	2,525
Initial Facility Certification Audits Performed – City of Chicago	360
% of UST facilities in Compliance with USEPA	66%
Began Reporting on new measure in 2019	
UST Permits Granted	1,325
UST Permits Granted – City of Chicago	250
Motor Fuel Dispensing Permits Approved	93
Motor Fuel Dispensing Facilities Inspected	2,906
Motor Fuel Dispensing Facilities Inspected – City of Chicago	345
Financial Responsibility Reports Processed	3,639
Eligibility and Deductibility Applications Processed	186
% of Eligibility and Deductibility Applications Processed Electronically	100%
% of Permit Applications Processed Electronically	100%
Notice of Violations Issued (NOVs) Issued	2,024
Notice of Violations Issued (NOVs) Issued – City of Chicago	308
Motor Fuel Dispensing NOVs Issued	467
Motor Fuel Dispensing NOVs Issued – City of Chicago	40
Facilities Red Tagged	612
Facilities Red Tagged (City of Chicago)	45
Cases Referred to Agency Legal Staff for Non-Compliance	179
Cases referred to the Illinois Attorney General for Non-Compliance	0
NOV Cases Resolved	2,793
UST Equipment and Testing Forms Processed	19,661

Division of Personnel Standards and Education

The Division of Personnel Standards and Education is responsible for overseeing the voluntary firefighter certification program for firefighters in the state. The Division ensures the standardization and enhancement in the levels of education and training for firefighters and professionals in Illinois with the highest priorities placed on safety and career advancement. The Division operates under the mandate of the Illinois Fire Protection Training Act (50 ILCS 740), which provides for the promotion of standards to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public.

Fire Service Outreach serves as a point of contact for fire departments and our fire service partners with the purpose of ensuring good communication and support. Fire Service Outreach represents the OSFM at conferences and regional meetings to increase the agency's visibility and accessibility and provides resources for fire departments to assist them in their fire safety education efforts.

Full-Time Equivalent Staff	15
Number of Fire Departments Participating	841
Certification Processed	9,152
Written Examinations Administered	7,853
Claims for Reimbursement – Total Training Hours	154,442
Claims for Reimbursement – Total Approved	1,766
Claims for Reimbursement – Total Number of Fire Departments	124

Technical Services Section

The Technical Services Section provides technical and engineering services, interprets codes and provides training to Office personnel. The Office provides the fire service and the general public with technical and engineering expertise in the form of code interpretation and plan and application review. The Office reviews plans and applications submitted for installation or modification of Aboveground flammable and combustible liquid storage tanks and Liquefied petroleum gas tanks, reviews architectural and engineering drawings of new construction, renovations, and additions for compliance with state codes, analyzes Fire Safety Evaluations Systems (FSES) which offer owners alternative methods for proving equivalent life safety in nonconforming structures, and analyzes submitted Prison Fire Safety Plans for Illinois Correctional and Transitional facilities. The Office also delivers training to agency staff and local fire department personnel to familiarize them with applicable codes and changing technologies to ensure consistency in code enforcement across the state.

Aboveground Flammable Liquid Storage Tank Plan and Application Reviews (AST)	641
Building Plans	184
Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG)	69
Prison Safety Plans	17
Variances	7
% Completed within 10 Business Days	99.3%
Training Contact Hours Provided to Agency and FD's	200 hours
Telephone, E-Mail, and Written Inquiries	8,676

Grants

During fiscal year 2023, the Office provided more than \$6.2 million in grants for firefighter training programs, including:

- \$3.4 Million to the Chicago Fire Department
 - \$1.5 Million to local governments to reimburse them for firefighter training cost
- \$1.3 Million to the Illinois Fire Service Institute at the University of Illinois for firefighter training programs

The Office also awarded \$1.5 million in grants to 64 Fire departments and not-for-profit ambulance services for the purchase of small firefighting equipment.

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