Florida Senate - 2008

By Senator Saunders

37-03578A-08

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1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to fire prevention and control;
3	amending s. 633.01, F.S.; revising a provision relating
4	to requirements for the State Fire Marshal to make
5	certain firesafety inspections and take certain
6	corrective actions; amending s. 633.02, F.S.; revising
7	provisions relating to agents of the State Fire
8	Marshal; amending s. 633.022, F.S.; revising provisions
9	relating to uniform firesafety standards to include
10	application to tunnels; creating s. 633.0221, F.S.;
11	providing for firesafety in educational facilities;
12	specifying uniform firesafety standards; providing for
13	periodic inspections of property by district school
14	boards; providing for inspections of educational
15	property by the State Fire Marshal; providing for
16	inspections of public postsecondary education
17	facilities; providing for actions to correct firesafety
18	deficiencies; specifying additional standards; amending
19	s. 633.03, F.S.; expanding application of authority of
20	the State Fire Marshal to investigate fires to include
21	explosions; amending s. 633.081, F.S.; abolishing
22	special state firesafety inspector classifications;
23	providing for certification as a firesafety inspector;
24	providing application and examination requirements;
25	authorizing the State Fire Marshal to develop a certain
26	advanced training and certification program for
27	firesafety inspectors; authorizing the Division of
28	State Fire Marshal to enter into a reciprocity
29	agreement with the Florida Building Code Administrators
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30 and Inspectors Board for certain continuing education 31 recertification purposes; amending s. 633.085, F.S.; 32 revising requirements for the State Fire Marshal to 33 inspect state buildings; amending s. 633.101, F.S.; 34 revising and expanding the authority and powers of the 35 State Fire Marshal to administer oaths, request 36 attendance of witnesses, and collect evidence; 37 providing certain forms of immunity from liability for 38 certain actions and persons under certain 39 circumstances; exempting certain information from 40 discovery under certain circumstances; exempting agents 41 of the State Fire Marshal from subpoena under certain 42 circumstances; specifying limitations on treatment of 43 physical evidence; providing for submittal of certain 44 crime-related reports or information to the State Fire 45 Marshal; authorizing agents of the State Fire Marshal 46 to make arrests as state law enforcement officers under certain circumstances; making it unlawful to resist 47 48 arrest; amending s. 633.121, F.S.; expanding eligible 49 persons authorized to enforce laws and rules of the 50 State Fire Marshal; amending s. 633.13, F.S.; revising 51 a provision relating to the authority of agents of the 52 State Fire Marshal; creating s. 633.145, F.S.; 53 establishing the Arson and Destructive Device Reward 54 Program within the department; providing for funding; 55 authorizing the department to pay awards for 56 information leading to certain arrests; providing 57 limitations; requiring the department to adopt rules; 58 amending s. 633.161, F.S.; expanding the list of

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59 violations for which the State Fire Marshal may issue 60 certain enforcement orders; providing criminal penalties for failure to comply with such orders; 61 62 amending s. 633.171, F.S.; revising a criminal penalty provision; amending s. 633.175, F.S.; specifying 63 criteria for commission of fraudulent insurance acts; 64 65 providing a criminal penalty; amending s. 633.18, F.S.; 66 revising a provision relating to conduct of inquiries 67 or investigations by agents of the State Fire Marshal; 68 amending s. 633.30, F.S.; revising definitions; amending s. 633.34, F.S.; revising requirements for 69 qualification for employment as a firefighter; amending 70 71 s. 633.35, F.S.; revising requirements for firefighter 72 training and certification; requiring the Division of 73 State Fire Marshal to establish training programs for 74 certain certifications; providing requirements; 75 amending s. 633.351, F.S.; revising provisions for 76 disciplinary actions for firefighters; revising 77 standards for revocation of firefighter certifications; 78 amending s. 633.352, F.S.; revising requirements for 79 retention of firefighter certification; amending s. 80 633.382, F.S.; expanding application of provisions 81 providing for required supplemental compensation for 82 firefighters; amending s. 633.524, F.S.; authorizing 83 the State Fire Marshal to contract to provide certain examinations; amending s. 633.541, F.S.; expanding an 84 85 exclusion from application of a prohibition against 86 contracting without certification for certain 87 homeowners; amending s. 633.811, F.S.; expanding

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authority of the division to enforce provisions of law
and rules applicable to employers; authorizing
assessment of administrative fines; amending s.
633.821, F.S.; deleting certain obsolete provisions
requiring counties, municipalities, and special
districts to implement certain provisions of federal
law; amending s. 1013.12, F.S.; revising provisions
providing for casualty, safety, sanitation, and
firesafety standards and inspections of educational
facilities and ancillary plants; amending ss. 218.23
and 447.203, F.S.; revising cross-references; repealing
s. 633.14, F.S., relating to agents' powers to make
arrests, conduct searches and seizures, serve
summonses, and carry firearms; providing an effective
date.
Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
Section 1. Subsection (7) of section 633.01, Florida
Statutes, is amended to read:
633.01 State Fire Marshal; powers and duties; rules
(7) The State Fire Marshal shall adopt and administer rules
prescribing standards for the safety and health of occupants of
educational and ancillary facilities pursuant to ss. 633.022,
1013.12, 1013.37, and 1013.371. In addition, in any county that
does not employ or appoint a local fire official, the State Fire
Marshal shall assume the duties of the local fire official with
respect to firesafety inspections of educational property

116 required under s. 1013.12(3)(b), and the State Fire Marshal may

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117 take necessary corrective action as authorized under s. 118 1013.12(6).

119 Section 2. Section 633.02, Florida Statutes, is amended to 120 read:

121 633.02 Agents; powers and duties; compensation. -- The State 122 Fire Marshal shall appoint such agents as may be necessary to 123 carry out effectively the provisions of this chapter, who shall 124 be reimbursed for travel expenses as provided in s. 112.061, in 125 addition to their salary, when traveling or making investigations 126 in the performance of their duties. Such agents shall be at all 127 times under the direction and control of the State Fire Marshal, 128 who shall fix their compensation, and all orders shall be issued 129 in the State Fire Marshal's name and by her or his authority.

Section 3. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section633.022, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

132 633.022 Uniform firesafety standards.--The Legislature 133 hereby determines that to protect the public health, safety, and 134 welfare it is necessary to provide for firesafety standards 135 governing the construction and utilization of certain buildings 136 and structures. The Legislature further determines that certain 137 buildings or structures, due to their specialized use or to the 138 special characteristics of the person utilizing or occupying 139 these buildings or structures, should be subject to firesafety 140 standards reflecting these special needs as may be appropriate.

141 (1) The department shall establish uniform firesafety142 standards that apply to:

(b) All new, existing, and proposed hospitals, nursing
homes, assisted living facilities, adult family-care homes,
correctional facilities, public schools, transient public lodging

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37-03578A-08 20082388 146 establishments, public food service establishments, elevators, 147 migrant labor camps, mobile home parks, lodging parks, 148 recreational vehicle parks, recreational camps, residential and nonresidential child care facilities, facilities for the 149 150 developmentally disabled, motion picture and television special 151 effects productions, and self-service gasoline stations, and 152 tunnels, of which standards the State Fire Marshal is the final 153 administrative interpreting authority. 154 155 In the event there is a dispute between the owners of the 156 buildings specified in paragraph (b) and a local authority 157 requiring a more stringent uniform firesafety standard for 158 sprinkler systems, the State Fire Marshal shall be the final 159 administrative interpreting authority and the State Fire 160 Marshal's interpretation regarding the uniform firesafety 161 standards shall be considered final agency action. 162 Section 4. Section 633.0221, Florida Statutes, is created 163 to read: 164 633.0221 Firesafety in educational facilities.--165 (1) UNIFORM FIRESAFETY STANDARDS. -- The State Fire Marshal, 166 in consultation with the Department of Education, shall adopt 167 uniform firesafety standards for educational and ancillary plants and educational facilities, as provided in s. 633.022(1)(b), and 168 169 a firesafety evaluation system to be used as an alternate 170 firesafety inspection standard for existing educational and 171 ancillary plants and educational facilities. The uniform 172 firesafety standards and the alternate firesafety evaluation 173 system shall be administered and enforced by local fire 174 officials. These standards shall be used by all public agencies

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175	when inspecting public educational and ancillary plants, and the
176	firesafety standards shall be used by local fire officials when
177	performing firesafety inspections of public educational and
178	ancillary plants and educational facilities.
179	(2) PERIODIC INSPECTION OF PROPERTY BY DISTRICT SCHOOL
180	BOARDS
181	(a) Firesafety inspections of each educational and
182	ancillary plant shall be made annually by persons certified by
183	the Division of State Fire Marshal to be eligible to conduct
184	firesafety inspections in public educational and ancillary
185	plants. The board shall submit a copy of the firesafety
186	inspection report to the State Fire Marshal and, if there is a
187	local fire official who conducts firesafety inspections, to the
188	local fire official.
189	(b) In each firesafety inspection report, the board shall
190	include a plan of action and a schedule for the correction of
191	each deficiency which have been formulated in consultation with
192	the local fire control authority. If immediate life-threatening
193	deficiencies are noted in any inspection, the board shall take
194	action to promptly correct the deficiencies or withdraw the
195	educational or ancillary plant from use until such time as the
196	deficiencies are corrected.
197	(3) INSPECTION OF EDUCATIONAL PROPERTY BY THE STATE FIRE
198	MARSHAL
199	(a) One firesafety inspection of each educational or
200	ancillary plant must be conducted each fiscal year by the county,
201	municipality, or special fire control district in which the plant
202	is located using the standards adopted by the State Fire Marshal.
203	The board shall cooperate with the inspecting authority when a

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204	firesafety inspection is made by a governmental authority under
205	this paragraph.
206	(b) In each firesafety inspection report, the local fire
207	official, in conjunction with the board, shall include a plan of
208	action and a schedule for the correction of each deficiency. If
209	immediate life-threatening deficiencies are noted in any
210	inspection, the local fire official shall take action to require
211	the board to promptly correct the deficiencies or withdraw the
212	educational facility from use until the deficiencies are
213	corrected, subject to review by the State Fire Marshal, who shall
214	act within 10 days to ensure that the deficiencies are corrected
215	or withdraw the facility from use.
216	(4) INSPECTIONS OF PUBLIC POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION
217	FACILITIES
218	(a) Firesafety inspections of community college facilities
219	shall comply with the applicable rules of the State Fire Marshal.
220	(b) Firesafety inspections of state universities shall
221	comply with rules of the State Fire Marshal related to state-
222	owned buildings.
223	(5) CORRECTIVE ACTION; FIRESAFETY DEFICIENCIESUpon
224	failure of the board to take corrective action within the time
225	designated in the plan of action to correct any firesafety
226	deficiency noted under paragraph (2)(b) or paragraph (3)(b), the
227	local fire official shall immediately report the deficiency to
228	the State Fire Marshal, who shall have enforcement authority with
229	respect to educational and ancillary plants and educational
230	facilities as provided in this chapter for a violation or
231	deficiency of any other building, structure, or facility.

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232	(6) ADDITIONAL STANDARDSIn addition to any other rules
233	adopted under this section or s. 633.022, the State Fire Marshal,
234	in consultation with the Department of Education, shall adopt and
235	administer rules prescribing the following standards for the
236	safety and health of occupants of educational and ancillary
237	plants:
238	(a) The designation of serious life-threatening hazards,
239	including, but not limited to, nonfunctional fire alarm systems,
240	nonfunctional fire sprinkler systems, doors with padlocks or
241	other locks or devices that preclude egress at any time,
242	inadequate exits, hazardous electrical system conditions,
243	potential structural failure, and storage conditions that create
244	<u>a fire hazard.</u>
245	(b) The proper placement of functional smoke and heat
246	detectors and accessible, unexpired fire extinguishers.
247	(c) The maintenance of fire doors without doorstops or
248	wedges improperly holding them open.
249	Section 5. Section 633.03, Florida Statutes, is amended to
250	read:
251	633.03 Investigation of <u>fires and explosions</u> fire ;
252	reportsThe State Fire Marshal shall investigate the cause,
253	origin, and circumstances of every fire or explosion occurring in
254	this state wherein the State Fire Marshal deems an investigation
255	is necessary and property has been damaged or destroyed where
256	there is probable cause to believe that the fire <u>or explosion</u> was
257	the result of carelessness or design. Report of all such
258	investigations shall be made on approved forms to be furnished by
259	the <u>State Fire Marshal</u> fire marshal .

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260 Section 6. Section 633.081, Florida Statutes, is amended to 261 read:

262 633.081 Inspection of buildings and equipment; orders; firesafety inspection training requirements; certification; 263 264 disciplinary action. -- The State Fire Marshal and her or his 265 agents may shall, at any reasonable hour, when the department has 266 reasonable cause to believe that a violation of this chapter or 267 s. 509.215, or a rule promulgated thereunder, or a minimum 268 firesafety code adopted by the State Fire Marshal or a local 269 authority, may exist, inspect any and all buildings and 270 structures which are subject to the requirements of this chapter 271 or s. 509.215 and rules promulgated thereunder. The authority to 272 inspect shall extend to all equipment, vehicles, and chemicals 273 which are located on or within the premises of any such building 274 or structure.

275 Each county, municipality, and special district that (1)276 has firesafety enforcement responsibilities shall employ or 277 contract with a firesafety inspector. The firesafety inspector 278 must conduct all firesafety inspections that are required by law. The governing body of a county, municipality, or special district 279 280 that has firesafety enforcement responsibilities may provide a 281 schedule of fees to pay only the costs of inspections conducted 282 pursuant to this subsection and related administrative expenses. 283 Two or more counties, municipalities, or special districts that 284 have firesafety enforcement responsibilities may jointly employ 285 or contract with a firesafety inspector.

(2) Every firesafety inspection conducted pursuant to stateor local firesafety requirements shall be by a person certified

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as having met the inspection training requirements set by the State Fire Marshal. Such person shall:

(a) Be a high school graduate or the equivalent asdetermined by the department;

(b) Not have been found guilty of, or having pleaded guilty or nolo contendere to, a felony or a crime punishable by imprisonment of 1 year or more under the law of the United States, or of any state thereof, which involves moral turpitude, without regard to whether a judgment of conviction has been entered by the court having jurisdiction of such cases;

(c) Have her or his fingerprints on file with the department or with an agency designated by the department;

300 (d) Have good moral character as determined by the 301 department;

302

(e) Be at least 18 years of age;

303 (f) Have satisfactorily completed the firesafety inspector 304 certification examination as prescribed by the department; and

(g)1. Have satisfactorily completed, as determined by the department, a firesafety inspector training program of not less than 200 hours established by the department and administered by agencies and institutions approved by the department for the purpose of providing basic certification training for firesafety inspectors; or

311 2. Have received in another state training which is 312 determined by the department to be at least equivalent to that 313 required by the department for approved firesafety inspector 314 education and training programs in this state.

315 (3) (a)1. Effective July 1, 2011, the classification of 316 special state firesafety inspector is abolished and all special

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317	state firesafety inspector certifications expire at midnight June
318	<u>30, 2011.</u>
319	2. Any person who is a special state firesafety inspector
320	on June 30, 2011, and who has failed to comply with paragraph (b)
321	or paragraph (c) shall not be permitted to perform any firesafety
322	inspection required by law.
323	3. A special state firesafety inspector certification may
324	not be awarded after June 30, 2008.
325	(b)1. Any person who is a special state firesafety
326	inspector on July 1, 2008, and who has at least 5 years'
327	experience as a special state firesafety inspector as of July 1,
328	2008, may take the same firesafety inspection examination as
329	provided in paragraph (2)(f) for firesafety inspectors prior to
330	July 1, 2011, to be certified as a firesafety inspector described
331	in subsection (2).
332	2. Upon passing the examination, such person shall be
333	certified as a firesafety inspector as provided in subsection
334	(2).
335	3. Failure to obtain certification requires compliance with
336	paragraph (c) to be certified as a firesafety inspector as
337	provided in subsection (2).
338	(c)1. To be certified as a firesafety inspector as provided
339	in subsection (2), any person who:
340	a. Is a special state firesafety inspector on July 1, 2008,
341	and who does not have 5 years' experience as a special state
342	firesafety inspector as of July 1, 2008; or
343	b. Has 5 years' experience as a special state firesafety
344	inspector but has failed the examination taken pursuant to
345	paragraph (b),

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346 347 must take an additional 80 hours of the courses described in 348 paragraph (2)(g). 2. After successfully completing the courses described in 349 350 this paragraph, such person is permitted to take the firesafety inspection examination described in paragraph (2)(f), provided 351 352 such examination is taken prior to July 1, 2011. 3. Upon passing the examination, such person shall become 353 354 certified as a firesafety inspector as provided in subsection 355 (2). 356 4. A person who fails the course of study or the 357 examination described in this paragraph may not perform any 358 firesafety inspection required by law on or after July 1, 2011. 359 Each special state firesafety inspection which is required by law 360 and is conducted by or on behalf of an agency of the state must 361 be performed by an individual who has met the provision of 362 subsection (2), except that the duration of the training program 363 shall not exceed 120 hours of specific training for the type of 364 property that such special state firesafety inspectors are 365 assigned to inspect. (4) A firefighter certified pursuant to s. 633.35 may 366 367 conduct firesafety inspections, under the supervision of a certified firesafety inspector, while on duty as a member of a 368 369 fire department company conducting inservice firesafety 370 inspections without being certified as a firesafety inspector, if 371 such firefighter has satisfactorily completed an inservice fire 372 department company inspector training program of at least 24 373 hours' duration as provided by rule of the department.

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374 (5) Every firesafety inspector or special state firesafety 375 inspector certificate is valid for a period of 3 years from the 376 date of issuance. Renewal of certification shall be subject to 377 the affected person's completing proper application for renewal 378 and meeting all of the requirements for renewal as established 379 under this chapter or by rule adopted promulgated thereunder, 380 which shall include completion of at least 40 hours during the 381 preceding 3-year period of continuing education as required by 382 the rule of the department or, in lieu thereof, successful 383 passage of an examination as established by the department.

(6) The State Fire Marshal may deny, refuse to renew, suspend, or revoke the certificate of a firesafety inspector or special state firesafety inspector if it finds that any of the following grounds exist:

(a) Any cause for which issuance of a certificate could
have been refused had it then existed and been known to the State
Fire Marshal.

391 (b) Violation of this chapter or any rule or order of the392 State Fire Marshal.

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(c) Falsification of records relating to the certificate.

(d) Having been found guilty of or having pleaded guilty or
nolo contendere to a felony, whether or not a judgment of
conviction has been entered.

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(e) Failure to meet any of the renewal requirements.

398 (f) Having been convicted of a crime in any jurisdiction 399 which directly relates to the practice of fire code inspection, 400 plan review, or administration.

401 (g) Making or filing a report or record that the402 certificateholder knows to be false, or knowingly inducing

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403 another to file a false report or record, or knowingly failing to 404 file a report or record required by state or local law, or 405 knowingly impeding or obstructing such filing, or knowingly 406 inducing another person to impede or obstruct such filing.

(h) Failing to properly enforce applicable fire codes or permit requirements within this state which the certificateholder knows are applicable by committing willful misconduct, gross negligence, gross misconduct, repeated negligence, or negligence resulting in a significant danger to life or property.

Accepting labor, services, or materials at no charge or 412 (i) at a noncompetitive rate from any person who performs work that 413 414 is under the enforcement authority of the certificateholder and 415 who is not an immediate family member of the certificateholder. For the purpose of this paragraph, the term "immediate family 416 member" means a spouse, child, parent, sibling, grandparent, 417 418 aunt, uncle, or first cousin of the person or the person's spouse 419 or any person who resides in the primary residence of the 420 certificateholder.

421 (7) The department shall provide by rule for the422 certification of firesafety inspectors.

42.3 (8) The State Fire Marshal may develop by rule an advanced 424 training and certification program for firesafety inspectors with 425 fire code management responsibility. This program shall be 426 consistent with national standards. The program shall establish 427 minimum training, education, and experience levels for fire 428 safety inspectors with fire code management responsibilities. (9) 429 The Division of State Fire Marshal may enter into a

430 reciprocity agreement with the Florida Building Code

431 Administrators and Inspectors Board, established pursuant to s.

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432 <u>468.605, to facilitate joint recognition of continuing education</u> 433 <u>recertification hours for certificateholders licensed in</u> 434 <u>accordance with s. 468.609 and firesafety inspectors certified in</u> 435 accordance with subsection (2).

436 Section 7. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) and subsections 437 (2), (3), and (4) of section 633.085, Florida Statutes, are 438 amended to read:

439 633.085 Inspections of state buildings and premises; tests
440 of firesafety equipment; building plans to be approved.--

441 (1) (a) It is the duty of the State Fire Marshal and her or 442 his agents to inspect, or cause to be inspected, each state-owned 443 building and each building located on land owned by the state and 444 used primarily for state purposes as determined by the State Fire 445 Marshal, such buildings to be referred to in this section as a 446 state-owned building or state-owned buildings, on a recurring 447 basis established by rule, and to ensure that high-hazard 448 occupancies are inspected at least annually, for the purpose of 449 ascertaining and causing to be corrected any conditions liable to 450 cause fire or endanger life from fire and any violation of the 451 firesafety standards for state-owned buildings, the provisions of 452 this chapter, or the rules or regulations adopted and promulgated 453 pursuant hereto. The State Fire Marshal shall, within 7 days 454 following an inspection, submit a report of such inspection to 455 the head of the department of state government responsible for 456 the building.

457 (2) The State Fire Marshal and her or his agents <u>may shall</u>
458 conduct performance tests on any electronic fire warning and
459 smoke detection system, and any pressurized air-handling unit, in
460 any state-owned <u>building</u> or state-leased space on a recurring

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461 basis as provided in subsection (1). The State Fire Marshal and 462 her or his agents shall also ensure that fire drills are 463 conducted in all <u>high hazard</u> state-owned <u>buildings</u> or <u>high hazard</u> 464 state-leased <u>high-hazard</u> occupancies at least annually.

(3) All construction of any new, or renovation, alteration,
or change of occupancy of any existing, state-owned <u>building</u> or
state-leased space shall comply with the uniform firesafety
standards of the State Fire Marshal.

For all new construction or renovation, alteration, or 469 (a) 470 change of occupancy of state-leased space, compliance with the 471 uniform firesafety standards shall be determined by reviewing the 472 plans for the proposed construction or occupancy submitted by the 473 lessor to the Division of State Fire Marshal for review and 474 approval prior to commencement of construction or occupancy, 475 which review shall be completed within 10 working days after 476 receipt of the plans by the Division of State Fire Marshal.

(b) The plans for all construction of any new, or
renovation or alteration of any existing, state-owned building
are subject to the review and approval of the Division of State
Fire Marshal for compliance with the uniform firesafety standards
prior to commencement of construction or change of occupancy,
which review shall be completed within 30 calendar days of
receipt of the plans by the Division of State Fire Marshal.

(4) The Division of State Fire Marshal may inspect stateowned <u>buildings</u> space and state-leased space as necessary prior
to occupancy or during construction, renovation, or alteration to
ascertain compliance with the uniform firesafety standards.
Whenever the Division of State Fire Marshal determines by virtue
of such inspection or by review of plans that construction,

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490 renovation, or alteration of state-owned <u>buildings</u> and state-491 leased space is not in compliance with the uniform firesafety 492 standards, the Division of State Fire Marshal shall issue an 493 order to cease construction, renovation, or alteration, or to 494 preclude occupancy, of a building until compliance is obtained, 495 except for those activities required to achieve such compliance.

496 Section 8. Section 633.101, Florida Statutes, is amended to 497 read:

498 633.101 Hearings; investigations; investigatory powers of
499 State Fire Marshal; costs of service and witness fees.--

(1) The State Fire Marshal may in his or her discretion
take or cause to be taken the testimony on oath of all persons
whom he or she believes to be cognizant of any facts in relation
to matters under investigation. <u>The State Fire Marshal may</u>
administer oaths and affirmations, request the attendance of
witnesses or proffering of matter, and collect evidence.

506 (2) If the State Fire Marshal seeks to obtain by request 507 any matter that or the testimony of any person who is located 508 outside the state, the person requested shall provide the 509 testimony to the State Fire Marshal or make the matter available 510 to the State Fire Marshal to examine at the place where the 511 matter is located. The State Fire Marshal may designate 512 representatives, including officials of the state in which the 513 matter is located, to inspect the matter on behalf of the State 514 Fire Marshal, and the State Fire Marshal may respond to similar 515 requests from officials of other states.

516 <u>(3) (a) The State Fire Marshal may request that an</u> 517 <u>individual who refuses to comply with any request made under</u> 518 <u>subsection (2) be ordered by the circuit court to provide the</u>

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519 testimony or matter. The court shall not order such compliance 520 unless the State Fire Marshal has demonstrated to the 521 satisfaction of the court that the testimony of the witness or 522 the matter under request has a direct bearing on matter under the 523 jurisdiction of the State Fire Marshal, constitutes a felony or 524 misdemeanor under this chapter, the Florida Insurance Code, or a 525 fraudulent insurance act, or is pertinent and necessary to 526 further such investigation. 527 (b) Except in a prosecution for perjury, an individual who 528 complies with a court order to provide testimony or matter after asserting a privilege against self-incrimination to which the 529 530 individual is entitled by law may not be subjected to a criminal 531 proceeding or to a civil penalty with respect to the act 532 concerning which the individual is required to testify or produce 533 relevant matter. 534 (c) In the absence of fraud or bad faith, a person is not 535 subject to civil liability for libel, slander, or any other 536 relevant tort by virtue of filing reports, without malice, or 537 furnishing other information, without malice, required by this 538 chapter or required by the State Fire Marshal under the authority granted in this chapter, and no civil cause of action of any 539 540 nature shall arise against such person for: 541 1. Any information relating to a matter under the 542 jurisdiction of the State Fire Marshal, suspected violations of 543 the Florida Insurance Code, or fraudulent insurance acts or 544 persons suspected of engaging in such acts furnished to or 545 received from law enforcement officials or their agents or 546 employees;

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547 2. Any information relating to any matter under the 548 jurisdiction of the State Fire Marshal, suspected violations of 549 the Florida Insurance Code, fraudulent insurance acts or persons 550 suspected of engaging in such acts furnished to or received from 551 other persons subject to the provisions of this chapter; 552 3. Any such information furnished in reports to the State 553 Fire Marshal or any local, state, or federal enforcement 554 officials or their agents or employees; or 555 4. Other actions taken in cooperation with any of the 556 agencies or individuals specified in this paragraph in the lawful 557 investigation of violations under the jurisdiction of the State 558 Fire Marshal, suspected violations of the Florida Insurance Code, 559 or suspected fraudulent insurance acts. 560 (d) In addition to the immunity granted in paragraph (c), 561 persons identified as designated employees whose responsibilities 562 include the investigation and disposition of violations under the 563 jurisdiction of the State Fire Marshal or the Florida Insurance 564 Code and claims relating to suspected fraudulent insurance acts 565 may share information relating to persons suspected of such acts 566 with other designated employees employed by the same or other 567 insurers whose responsibilities include such acts, provided the 568 State Fire Marshal has been given written notice of the names and 569 job titles of such designated employees prior to such designated 570 employees sharing information. Unless the designated employees of 571 the insurer act in bad faith or in reckless disregard for the 572 rights of any insured, the insurer or its designated employees 573 are not civilly liable for libel, slander, or any other relevant 574 tort, and a civil action does not arise against the insurer or 575 its designated employees for:

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576	1. Any information related to any matter under the
577	jurisdiction of the State Fire Marshal, the Florida Insurance
578	Code, or suspected fraudulent insurance acts provided to an
579	insurer; or
580	2. Any information relating to any matter under the
581	jurisdiction of the State Fire Marshal, the Florida Insurance
582	Code, or suspected fraudulent insurance acts provided to the
583	National Insurance Crime Bureau or the National Association of
584	Insurance Commissioners.
585	
586	However, the qualified immunity against civil liability conferred
587	on any insurer or its designated employees shall be forfeited
588	with respect to the exchange or publication of any defamatory
589	information with third persons not expressly authorized by this
590	paragraph to share in such information.
591	(e) The State Fire Marshal and any employee or agent of the
592	department, when acting without malice and in the absence of
593	fraud or bad faith, is not subject to civil liability for libel,
594	slander, or any other relevant tort, and no civil cause of action
595	of any nature exists against such person by virtue of the
596	execution of official activities or duties of the State Fire
597	Marshal or by virtue of the publication of any report or bulletin
598	related to the official activities or duties of the State Fire
599	
	Marshal under this chapter.
600	Marshal under this chapter. (f) This section does not abrogate or modify in any way any
600 601	
	(f) This section does not abrogate or modify in any way any
601	(f) This section does not abrogate or modify in any way any common-law or statutory privilege or immunity otherwise enjoyed
601 602	(f) This section does not abrogate or modify in any way any common-law or statutory privilege or immunity otherwise enjoyed by any person.

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605 subject to discovery until the investigation is completed or 606 ceases to be active. Agents of the State Fire Marshal shall not 607 be subject to subpoena in civil actions by any court of this 608 state to testify concerning any matter of which they have 609 knowledge pursuant to a pending investigation by the State Fire 610 Marshal. 611 (b) Physical evidence that is not capable of being copied 612 or reproduced shall not constitute a public record and shall be 613 disposed of in accordance with s. 705.105. During the pendency of 614 an active investigation, physical evidence shall not be subject to subpoena until the investigation is completed or ceases to be 615 616 active, unless the State Fire Marshal consents to release of the 617 physical evidence. 618 (6) Any person, other than an insurer, agent, or other 619 person licensed under the Florida Insurance Code, or an employee 620 of such licensee, having knowledge or a belief that a crime 621 involving arson, a destructive device, a fraudulent insurance 622 act, or any other act or practice which, upon conviction,

623 constitutes a felony or a misdemeanor under this chapter, the Florida Insurance Code, or s. 817.233 is being or has been 624 625 committed may submit to the State Fire Marshal a report or 626 information pertinent to such knowledge or belief and such 627 additional information relative to such knowledge or belief as 628 the State Fire Marshal may request. Any insurer, agent, or other 629 person licensed under the Florida Insurance Code, or an employee 630 of such licensee, having knowledge or belief that a fraudulent 631 insurance act or any other act or practice which, upon 632 conviction, constitutes a felony or a misdemeanor under this 633 chapter, the Florida Insurance Code, or s. 817.233 is being or

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634 has been committed shall send to the State Fire Marshal a report 635 or information pertinent to such knowledge or belief and such 636 additional information relative to such knowledge or belief as the State Fire Marshal may require. The State Fire Marshal shall 637 638 review such information or reports and select such information or 639 reports as, in his or her judgment, may require further 640 investigation. The State Fire Marshal shall then cause an 641 independent examination of the facts surrounding such information 642 or report to be made to determine the extent, if any, to which a 643 crime involving arson, a destructive device, or a fraudulent insurance act or any other act or practice which, upon 644 645 conviction, constitutes a felony or a misdemeanor under this 646 chapter, the Florida Insurance Code, or s. 817.233 is being or 647 has been committed. The State Fire Marshal shall report any 648 alleged violations of law which his or her investigations reveal 649 to the appropriate licensing agency and state attorney or other 650 prosecuting agency having jurisdiction with respect to any such 651 violation. If prosecution by the state attorney or other 652 prosecuting agency having jurisdiction with respect to such 653 violation is not begun within 60 days after such report by the State Fire Marshal, the state attorney or other prosecuting 654 655 agency having jurisdiction with respect to such violation shall 656 inform the State Fire Marshal of the reasons for the lack of 657 prosecution. 658 (7) Each agent of the State Fire Marshal may make arrests 659 for criminal violations established as a result of an 660 investigation and are considered state law enforcement officers 661 for all purposes and may execute arrest warrants and search

662 warrants; may serve subpoenas issued for the examination,

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663 investigation, and trial of all offenses; and may arrest upon probable cause without warrant any person found engaging in any 664 665 act constituting a felony or misdemeanor under this chapter, the Florida Insurance Code, or s. 817.233. Each agent of the State 666 667 Fire Marshal may make arrests under this section and may bear 668 arms in the performance of his or her duties. In such situations, 669 the agent of the State Fire Marshal must be certified in 670 compliance with the provisions of s. 943.1395 or must meet the 671 temporary employment or appointment exemption requirements of s. 672 943.131 until certified.

673 (8) It is unlawful for any person to resist arrest by an
674 agent of the State Fire Marshal authorized by this section or in
675 any manner to interfere, by abetting or assisting such resistance
676 or otherwise interfering, with any Division of State Fire Marshal
677 investigator in the duties imposed upon such agent or
678 investigator by law or department rule.

679 (2) If the State Fire Marshal shall be of the opinion that 680 there is sufficient evidence to charge any person with an 681 offense, he or she shall cause the arrest of such person and 682 shall furnish to the prosecuting officer of any court having jurisdiction of said offense all information obtained by him or 683 684 her, including a copy of all pertinent and material testimony 685 taken, together with the names and addresses of all witnesses. In 686 the conduct of such investigations, the fire marshal may request 687 such assistance as may reasonably be given by such prosecuting 688 officers and other local officials.

689 (3) The fire marshal may summon and compel the attendance
 690 of witnesses before him or her to testify in relation to any
 691 manner which is, by the provisions of this chapter, a subject of

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692 inquiry and investigation, and he or she may require the
693 production of any book, paper or document deemed pertinent
694 thereto by him or her, and may seize furniture and other personal
695 property to be held for evidence.

696 (4) All persons so summoned and so testifying shall be 697 entitled to the same witness fees and mileage as provided for 698 witnesses testifying in the circuit courts of this state, and 699 officers serving subpoenas or orders of the fire marshal shall be 700 paid in like manner for like services in such courts, from the 701 funds herein provided.

702 Section 9. Section 633.121, Florida Statutes, is amended to 703 read:

704 633.121 Persons authorized to enforce laws and rules of 705 State Fire Marshal. -- The chiefs of county, municipal, and 706 special-district fire departments; other fire department 707 personnel designated by their respective chiefs; and personnel 708 designated by local governments having no organized fire 709 departments; and all law enforcement officers in the state duly 710 certified under chapter 943 may are authorized to enforce this 711 chapter law and all rules adopted prescribed by the State Fire 712 Marshal within their respective jurisdictions. Such personnel 713 acting under the authority of this section shall be deemed to be 714 agents of their respective jurisdictions, not agents of the State 715 Fire Marshal.

716 Section 10. Section 633.13, Florida Statutes, is amended to 717 read:

633.13 State Fire Marshal; authority of agents.--The
authority given the State Fire Marshal under this <u>chapter or any</u>
rule or order adopted by the State Fire Marshal law may be

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37-03578A-08 20082388 721 exercised by his or her agents, either individually or in 722 conjunction with any other state or local official charged with 723 similar responsibilities. Section 11. Section 633.145, Florida Statutes, is created 724 725 to read: 726 633.145 Arson and Destructive Device Reward Program .--727 (1) The Arson and Destructive Device Reward Program is 728 established within the department, to be funded from the 729 Insurance Regulatory Trust Fund. 730 (2) The department may pay rewards of up to \$25,000 to persons providing information leading to the arrest and 731 732 conviction of persons committing crimes involving arson and 733 destructive devices investigated by the Bureau of Fire and Arson 734 Investigations arising from violations of s. 790.161, s. 735 790.1615, s. 790.162, s. 790.163, s. 790.164, s. 790.166, s. 736 806.01, s. 806.031, s. 806.10, s. 806.111, or s. 817.233. 737 (3) Only a single reward amount may be paid by the 738 department for claims arising out of the same transaction or 739 occurrence, regardless of the number of persons arrested and convicted and the number of persons submitting claims for the 740 741 reward. The reward may be disbursed among more than one person in 742 amounts as determined by the department. 743 (4) The department shall adopt rules, including any necessary forms, which set forth the application and approval 744 745 process, including the criteria against which claims shall be 746 evaluated, the basis for determining specific reward amounts, and 747 the manner in which rewards shall be disbursed. Applications for 748 rewards authorized by this section must be made pursuant to rules 749 adopted by the department.

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750 (5) Determinations by the department to grant or deny a 751 reward under this section are discretionary on the part of the 752 department and are final. Such determinations are not agency 753 actions subject to review under s. 120.569 or s. 120.57 and are 754 not final orders or appealable in any court of appeal.

Section 12. Subsections (1) and (3) of section 633.161,
Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

757 633.161 Violations; orders to cease and desist, correct
758 hazardous conditions, preclude occupancy, or vacate; enforcement;
759 penalties.--

(1) If it is determined by the department that a violation specified in this subsection exists, the State Fire Marshal or her or his deputy may issue and deliver to the person committing the violation an order to cease and desist from such violation, to correct any hazardous condition, to preclude occupancy of the affected building or structure, or to vacate the premises of the affected building or structure. Such violations <u>consist of</u> are:

(a) Except as set forth in paragraph (b), a violation of any provision of this chapter, of any rule adopted pursuant thereto, of any applicable uniform firesafety standard adopted pursuant to s. 633.022 which is not adequately addressed by any alternative requirements adopted on a local level, or of any minimum firesafety standard adopted pursuant to s. 394.879.

(b) A substantial violation of an applicable minimum firesafety standard adopted pursuant to s. 633.025 which is not reasonably addressed by any alternative requirement imposed at the local level, or an unreasonable interpretation of an applicable minimum firesafety standard, and which violation or interpretation clearly constitutes a danger to lifesafety.

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37-03578A-08 A building or structure which is in a dilapidated (C) condition and as a result thereof creates a danger to life, safety, or property. A building or structure which contains explosive matter (d) or flammable liquids or gases constituting a danger to life, safety, or property. (e) A fire department that is not operated by or under contract with a political subdivision as defined in s. 1.01. (3) Any person who violates or fails to comply with any order under subsection (1) or subsection (2) commits is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable as provided in s. 633.171. Section 13. Subsection (1) of section 633.171, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 633.171 Penalty for violation of law, rule, or order to cease and desist or for failure to comply with corrective order.--Any person who violates any provision of this chapter (1)law, any order or rule of the State Fire Marshal, or any order to cease and desist or to correct conditions issued under this chapter commits a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083. Section 14. Subsection (1) of section 633.175, Florida Statutes, is amended, subsection (9) of that section is renumbered as subsection (10), and a new subsection (9) is added to that section, to read: 633.175 Investigation of fraudulent insurance claims and crimes; immunity of insurance companies supplying information .--(1)In addition to the other powers granted by this chapter, the State Fire Marshal or an agent appointed pursuant to

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808 s. 633.02, any law enforcement officer as defined in s. 111.065, 809 any law enforcement officer of a federal agency, or any fire 810 department official who is engaged in the investigation of a fire 811 loss may request any insurance company or its agent, adjuster, employee, or attorney, investigating a claim under an insurance 812 813 policy or contract with respect to a fire to release any 814 information whatsoever in the possession of the insurance company 815 or its agent, adjuster, employee, or attorney relative to a loss 816 from that fire. The insurance company shall release the available 817 information to and cooperate with any official authorized to request such information pursuant to this section. The 818 819 information shall include, but shall not be limited to:

(a) Any insurance policy relevant to a loss underinvestigation and any application for such a policy.

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(b) Any policy premium payment records.

(c) The records, reports, and all material pertaining to
any previous claims made by the insured with the reporting
company.

(d) Material relating to the investigation of the loss,
including statements of any person, proof of loss, and other
relevant evidence.

(e) Memoranda, notes, and correspondence relating to the
investigation of the loss in the possession of the insurance
company or its agents, adjusters, employees, or attorneys.

(9) For the purposes of this section, a person commits a
 fraudulent insurance act if the person knowingly and with intent
 to defraud presents, causes to be presented, or prepares with
 knowledge or belief that it will be presented, to or by an
 insurer, self-insurer, self-insurance fund, servicing

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837 corporation, purported insurer, or broker, or any agent of such 838 an entity, any written statement as part of, or in support of, an 839 application for the issuance of, or the rating of, any insurance 840 policy, or a claim for payment or other benefit pursuant to any 841 insurance policy, which the person knows to contain materially 842 false information concerning any fact material to such statement 843 or claim or if the person conceals, for the purpose of misleading 844 another, information concerning any fact material to such 845 statement or claim.

846 <u>(10)</u> (9) Any person who willfully violates the provisions of 847 this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree, 848 punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

849 Section 15. Section 633.18, Florida Statutes, is amended to 850 read:

851 633.18 State Fire Marshal; hearings and investigations; 852 subpoena of witnesses; orders of circuit court. -- Any agent 853 designated by the State Fire Marshal for such purposes, may hold 854 hearings, sign and issue subpoenas, administer oaths, examine witnesses, receive evidence, and require by subpoena the 855 856 attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production of such 857 accounts, records, memoranda or other evidence, as may be 858 material for the determination of any complaint or conducting any 859 inquiry or investigation under this chapter or any rule or order 860 of the State Fire Marshal law. In case of disobedience to a 861 subpoena, the State Fire Marshal or his or her agent may invoke 862 the aid of any court of competent jurisdiction in requiring the 863 attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production of 864 accounts, records, memoranda or other evidence and any such court may in case of contumacy or refusal to obey a subpoena issued to 865

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866	any person, issue an order requiring the person to appear before
867	the State Fire Marshal's agent or produce accounts, records,
868	memoranda or other evidence, as so ordered, or to give evidence
869	touching any matter pertinent to any complaint or the subject of
870	any inquiry or investigation, and any failure to obey such order
871	of the court shall be punished by the court as a contempt
872	thereof.
873	Section 16. Section 633.30, Florida Statutes, is amended to
874	read:
875	633.30 Standards for firefighting; definitionsAs used in
876	this chapter, the term:
877	(1) "Apprentice firefighter" means any high school student
878	who completes a high school course of instruction and examination
879	approved by the department that includes specified components of
880	firefighter I and II certification in accordance with the
881	division's rules. Prior to the person's 18th birthday, an
882	apprentice firefighter may function as a fireground resource
883	technician with a recognized fire department. Upon the apprentice
884	firefighter's 18th birthday and graduation from high school, the
885	apprentice firefighter may complete the outstanding components of
886	firefighter I and II certification training and become certified
887	at level II in accordance with the division's rules.
888	(2) "Career firefighter" means a person who is compensated
889	at an hourly or salaried rate and whose work hours are scheduled
890	in advance to maintain a schedule of coverage at a station,
891	facility, or area to function as described in subsection (8).
892	(3)(4) "Council" means the Firefighters Employment,
893	Standards, and Training Council.

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894 <u>(4)(3)</u> "Department" means the Department of Financial 895 Services.

896 <u>(5)</u> "Division" means the Division of State Fire Marshal 897 of the Department of Financial Services.

898 <u>(6)(2)</u> "Employing agency" means any municipality or county, 899 the state, or any political subdivision of the state, including 900 authorities and special districts, employing firefighters as 901 defined in subsection (1).

902 (7) "Fire department" means an organization that responds
903 to emergency calls for the purpose of fighting fires.

904 <u>(8)(1)</u> "Firefighter" means any person initially employed as 905 a full-time professional firefighter by any employing agency, as 906 defined herein, whose primary responsibility is the prevention 907 and extinguishment of fires, the protection and saving of life 908 and property, and the enforcement of municipal, county, and state 909 fire prevention codes, as well as of any law pertaining to the 910 prevention and control of fires.

911 <u>(9) "Firefighter I" means a person who has successfully</u> 912 <u>completed the firefighter I training program and is certified at</u> 913 <u>level I in accordance with the division's rules. Firefighter I is</u> 914 <u>the minimum level of certification to function as a volunteer</u> 915 <u>firefighter.</u>

916 <u>(10)</u> "Firefighter II" means a person who has successfully 917 completed the firefighter II training program and is certified at 918 <u>level II in accordance with the division's rules. Firefighter II</u> 919 <u>is the minimum level of certification to function as a full-time</u> 920 <u>career firefighter as set forth in subsection (2).</u>

921 <u>(11)</u> "Fireground resource technician" means a volunteer 922 <u>exterior firefighter or support person who is not qualified by</u>

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37-03578A-08 20082388 923 certification to be an interior firefighter but who has completed 924 a course of instruction in accordance with the division's rules. 925 Fireground resource technician is the minimum level of 926 certification to function on the fireground in accordance with 927 division rules. 928 Section 17. Section 633.34, Florida Statutes, is amended to 929 read: 930 633.34 Firefighters; qualifications for employment.--931 (1) Any person applying to an employing agency to function 932 for employment as a firefighter must: 933 (a) (1) Be a high school graduate or the equivalent, as the 934 term may be determined by the division, and at least 18 years of 935 age. 936 (b) (2) Never have been adjudicated guilty of, or pled quilty or nolo contendere to, any: 937 938 1. Felony. If an applicant has been convicted of a felony, 939 the applicant is not eligible for certification until the 940 applicant complies with s. 112.011(2)(b); or 941 2. Misdemeanor involving moral turpitude, dishonest acts, 942 or misleading or false statements relating to certification or 943 employment as a firefighter. 944 945 If an applicant has been sentenced for any conviction of a felony 946 or a misdemeanor, the applicant is not eligible for certification 947 until 4 years after the expiration of any sentence. If a sentence is suspended or adjudication is withheld and a period of 948 probation is imposed, the applicant must have been released from 949 950 probation. Neither have been convicted of a felony or of a 951 misdemeanor directly related to the position of employment

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952 sought, nor have pled nolo contendere to any charge of a felony. 953 If an applicant has been convicted of a felony, such applicant 954 must be in compliance with s. 112.011(2)(b). If an applicant has 955 been convicted of a misdemeanor directly related to the position 956 of employment sought, such applicant shall be excluded from 957 employment for a period of 4 years after expiration of sentence. 958 If the sentence is suspended or adjudication is withheld in a 959 felony charge or in a misdemeanor directly related to the 960 position or employment sought and a period of probation is 961 imposed, the applicant must have been released from probation.

962 <u>(c) (3)</u> Pay for and submit fingerprints as directed by the 963 <u>division</u>. Submit a fingerprint card to the division with a 964 <u>current processing fee</u>. The <u>fingerprints shall</u> fingerprint card 965 will be forwarded to the Department of Law Enforcement <u>or and/or</u> 966 the Federal Bureau of Investigation <u>or both</u>, as directed by 967 <u>division rule</u>.

968 (4) Have a good moral character as determined by
 969 investigation under procedure established by the division.

970 (d) (5) Be in good physical condition as determined by a 971 medical examination given by a physician, surgeon, or physician 972 assistant licensed to practice in the state pursuant to chapter 973 458; an osteopathic physician, surgeon, or physician assistant 974 licensed to practice in the state pursuant to chapter 459; or an 975 advanced registered nurse practitioner licensed to practice in 976 the state pursuant to chapter 464, who are aware of and familiar 977 with the medical requirements for training and certification as 978 stated in department rule. Such examination may include, but need 979 not be limited to, provisions of the National Fire Protection 980 Association Standard 1582. Results of this A medical examination

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37-03578A-08 20082388 981 evidencing good physical condition shall be submitted to the 982 division, on a form as provided by rule, before an individual is 983 eligible for admission into a firefighter training program as defined in s. 633.35. 984 985 (e) (6) Be a nonuser of tobacco or tobacco products for at 986 least 1 year immediately preceding application, as evidenced by 987 the sworn affidavit of the applicant. 988 (2) A person who does not hold an apprentice firefighter, 989 fireground resource technician, firefighter I, or firefighter II 990 certificate shall not respond to or engage in hazardous 991 operations, including, but not limited to, interior structural 992 firefighting, hazardous-materials-incident mitigation, and 993 incident command, requiring the knowledge and skills taught in 994 the training programs established in s. 633.35, regardless of volunteer or employment status. 995 Section 18. Section 633.35, Florida Statutes, is amended to 996 997 read: 998 633.35 Firefighter training and certification.--999 The division shall establish by rule a firefighter (1)1000 training programs for certification as a fireground resource 1001 technician, an apprentice firefighter, a firefighter I, or a 1002 firefighter II, to be program of not less than 360 hours, 1003 administered by such agencies and institutions as approved by the 1004 division in accordance with division rules, it approves for the 1005 purpose of providing basic employment training for firefighters. 1006 Nothing herein shall require a public employer to pay the cost of 1007 such training. 1008 (2)The division shall issue certificates a certificate of 1009 compliance for certification as a fireground resource technician,

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1010 an apprentice firefighter, a firefighter I, or a firefighter II 1011 to any person who has satisfactorily completed complying with the 1012 training programs program established in subsection (1), who has 1013 successfully passed an examination as prescribed by the division, 1014 and who possesses the qualifications specified for employment in 1015 s. 633.34, except s. 633.34(5). A No person may not be employed as a career regular or permanent firefighter by an employing 1016 agency, or by a private entity under contract with the state or 1017 1018 any political subdivision of the state, including authorities and special districts, unless certified as a firefighter II, except 1019 for an individual hired to be trained and become certified as a 1020 1021 firefighter II. An individual hired to be trained and become 1022 certified as a firefighter II has a maximum of, for a period of 1023 time in excess of 1 year from the date of initial employment to 1024 obtain the firefighter II until he or she has obtained such 1025 certificate of compliance. A person who does not hold a 1026 firefighter II certificate of compliance and is employed under 1027 this section may not directly engage in hazardous operations, 1028 such as interior structural firefighting or and hazardous-1029 materials-incident mitigation, requiring the knowledge and skills 1030 taught in a training program established in subsection (1), 1031 including incident command. However, a person who is certified 1032 and has been employed by served as a volunteer firefighter with 1033 the state or any political subdivision of the state, including 1034 authorities and special districts, who is then employed as a 1035 career regular or permanent firefighter may function, during this 1036 period, in the same capacity in which he or she acted prior to 1037 being employed as a career firefighter as a volunteer

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1038 firefighter, provided that he or she has completed all training
1039 required by the volunteer organization.

1040 The division may issue a certificate of compliance at (3) 1041 the firefighter I or firefighter II level to any person who has received basic employment training for firefighters in another 1042 state when the division has determined that such training was at 1043 1044 least equivalent to that required by the division for approved 1045 firefighter education and training programs in this state and 1046 when such person has satisfactorily complied with all other 1047 requirements of this section. The division may also issue a 1048 special certificate to a person who is otherwise qualified under 1049 this section and who is employed as the administrative and 1050 command head of a fire/rescue/emergency services organization, 1051 based on the acknowledgment that such person is less likely to 1052 need physical dexterity and more likely to need advanced 1053 knowledge of firefighting and supervisory skills. The certificate 1054 is valid only while the person is serving in a position as an 1055 administrative and command head of a fire/rescue/emergency 1056 services organization and must be obtained prior to employment in 1057 such capacity.

1058 (4) A person who fails an examination given under this 1059 section may retake the examination once within 6 months after the 1060 original examination date. An applicant who does not pass retake 1061 the examination within such time must repeat or take the 1062 applicable training program Minimum Standards Course, pursuant to subsection (1), before being reexamined. The division may 1063 1064 establish reasonable preregistration deadlines for such reexaminations. 1065

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(5) Pursuant to s. 590.02(1)(e), the division shall establish a structural fire training program of not less than 40 hours. The division shall issue to any person satisfactorily complying with this training program and who has successfully passed an examination as prescribed by the division and who has met the requirements of s. 590.02(1)(e) a Certificate of Forestry Firefighter.

1073 (6) A certified forestry firefighter is entitled to the 1074 same rights, privileges, and benefits provided for by law as a 1075 certified firefighter.

1076 Section 19. Section 633.351, Florida Statutes, is amended 1077 to read:

1078 633.351 Disciplinary action; firefighters; standards for 1079 revocation of certification.--

(1) The certification of a firefighter shall be revoked if evidence is found that the certification was improperly issued by the division or if evidence is found that the certification was issued on the basis of false, incorrect, incomplete, or misleading information.

1085 (2) The certification of a firefighter who has been 1086 adjudicated guilty of, or pled guilty or nolo contendere to, any 1087 felony, or any misdemeanor involving moral turpitude, dishonest 1088 acts, or misleading or false statements relating to the 1089 certification or employment as a firefighter, shall be revoked. 1090 In the case of a felony, the certification may not be reinstated 1091 is convicted of a felony, or who is convicted of a misdemeanor 1092 relating to misleading or false statements, or who pleads nolo 1093 contendere to any charge of a felony shall be revoked until the firefighter complies with s. 112.011(2)(b). However, if sentence 1094

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1095 upon such felony or such misdemeanor charge is suspended or 1096 adjudication is withheld, the firefighter's certification shall 1097 be revoked until she or he completes any probation.

1098 Section 20. Section 633.352, Florida Statutes, is amended 1099 to read:

633.352 Retention of firefighter certification .--

1101 (1) Any certified firefighter who has not been active as a 1102 firefighter, or as a volunteer firefighter with an organized fire 1103 department, for a period of 3 years shall be required to retake 1104 and pass the written and practical portions portion of the 1105 minimum standards state examination specified in division rules. 1106 rule 4A-37.056(6)(b), Florida Administrative Code, in order to 1107 maintain her or his certification as a firefighter; however,

(2) This requirement does not apply to state-certified firefighters who are certified and employed as full-time fire safety inspectors by a fire department employing agency instructors, as determined by the division.

1112 (3) The 3-year period begins on the date the certificate of 1113 compliance is issued, or upon termination of service with an 1114 organized fire department, or upon expiration of instructor 1115 certification.

1116 Section 21. Subsections (1), (2), and (3) of section 1117 633.382, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

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633.382 Firefighters; supplemental compensation.--

(1) DEFINITIONS.--As used in this section, the term:

(a) "Employing agency" means any municipality or any county, the state, or any political subdivision of the state, including authorities and special districts employing firefighters.

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(b) "Firefighter" means any person who meets the definition of the term "firefighter" in s. 633.30(2) and (10)(1) who is certified in compliance with s. 633.35 and who is employed solely within the fire department of the employing agency or is employed by the division.

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(2) QUALIFICATIONS FOR SUPPLEMENTAL COMPENSATION. --

(a) In addition to the compensation now paid by an employing agency to <u>a</u> any firefighter <u>II</u>, every <u>career</u> firefighter shall be paid supplemental compensation by the employing agency when such firefighter has complied with one of the following criteria:

1135 1. Any firefighter <u>II</u> who receives an associate degree from 1136 <u>an accredited</u> a college, which degree is applicable to fire 1137 department duties, as outlined in policy guidelines of the 1138 division, shall be additionally compensated as outlined in 1139 paragraph (3)(a).

1140 2. Any firefighter <u>II</u>, regardless of whether or not she or 1141 he earned an associate degree earlier, who receives from an 1142 accredited college or university a bachelor's degree, which 1143 bachelor's degree is applicable to fire department duties, as 1144 outlined in policy guidelines of the division, shall receive 1145 compensation as outlined in paragraph (3)(b).

1146 <u>3. Any firefighter II who receives from an accredited</u> 1147 <u>college or university a master's degree, which master's degree is</u> 1148 <u>applicable to fire department duties, as outlined in policy</u> 1149 <u>guidelines of the division, shall receive compensation as</u> 1150 <u>outlined in paragraph (3)(c).</u>

1151 (b) Whenever any question arises as to the eligibility of 1152 any firefighter to receive supplemental compensation as provided

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1153	in this section, the question, together with all facts relating
1154	thereto, shall be submitted to the division for determination,
1155	and the decision of the division with regard to determination of
1156	eligibility shall be final, subject to the provisions of chapter
1157	120.
1158	(3) SUPPLEMENTAL COMPENSATIONSupplemental compensation
1159	shall be determined as follows:
1160	(a) Fifty dollars shall be paid monthly to each firefighter
1161	who qualifies under the provisions of subparagraph (2)(a)1.
1162	(b) One hundred and ten dollars shall be paid monthly to
1163	each firefighter who qualifies under the provisions of
1164	subparagraph (2)(a)2.
1165	(c) One hundred and fifty dollars shall be paid monthly to
1166	each firefighter who qualifies under subparagraph (2)(a)3.
1167	Section 22. Subsection (3) is added to section 633.524,
1168	Florida Statutes, to read:
1169	633.524 Certificate and permit fees; use and deposit of
1170	collected funds
1171	(3) The State Fire Marshal may enter into a contract with
1172	any qualified public entity or private company in accordance with
1173	chapter 287 to provide examinations for any applicant for any
1174	examination administered under the jurisdiction of the State Fire
1175	Marshal under this chapter or any other chapter under the
1176	jurisdiction of the State Fire Marshal. The State Fire Marshal
1177	may have payments from each applicant for each examination made
1178	directly to such public entity or private company.
1179	Section 23. Subsections (1) and (4) of section 633.541,
1180	Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

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1181 633.541 Contracting without certificate prohibited; 1182 violations; penalty.--

1183 (1) It is unlawful for any organization or individual to engage in, or to engage in the business of, the layout, 1184 1185 fabrication, installation, inspection, alteration, repair, or 1186 service of a fire protection system, other than a preengineered 1187 system, act in the capacity of a fire protection contractor, or 1188 advertise itself as being a fire protection contractor without 1189 having been duly certified and holding a valid and existing 1190 certificate, except as hereinafter provided. The holder of a 1191 certificate used to qualify an organization must be a full-time 1192 employee of the qualified organization or business. A 1193 certificateholder who is employed by more than one fire 1194 protection contractor during the same period of time is deemed 1195 not to be a full-time employee of either contractor. The State 1196 Fire Marshal shall revoke, for a period of time determined by the 1197 State Fire Marshal, the certificate of a certificateholder who 1198 allows the use of the certificate to qualify a company of which 1199 the certificateholder is not a full-time employee. A contractor 1200 who maintains more than one place of business must employ a 1201 certificateholder at each location. Nothing in this subsection 1202 prohibits an employee acting on behalf of governmental entities 1203 from inspecting and enforcing firesafety codes, provided such 1204 employee is certified under s. 633.081, or an owner of a one or 1205 two family dwelling from inspecting or maintaining the fire 1206 protection system for his or her own house.

(4) In addition to the penalties provided in subsection
(3), a fire protection contractor certified under this chapter
who violates any provision of this <u>chapter</u> section or who commits

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1210 any act constituting cause for disciplinary action is subject to 1211 suspension or revocation of the certificate and administrative 1212 fines pursuant to s. 633.547.

1213 Section 24. Section 633.811, Florida Statutes, is amended 1214 to read:

1215 633.811 Firefighter employer penalties.--If any firefighter employer violates or fails or refuses to comply with ss. 633.801-1216 1217 633.821, or with any rule adopted by the division under such 1218 sections in accordance with chapter 120 for the prevention of 1219 injuries, accidents, or occupational diseases or with any lawful 1220 order of the division in connection with ss. 633.801-633.821, or fails or refuses to furnish or adopt any safety device, 1221 1222 safequard, or other means of protection prescribed by division 1223 rule under ss. 633.801-633.821 for the prevention of accidents or 1224 occupational diseases, the division may issue an administrative 1225 cease and desist order, enforceable in the circuit court in the 1226 jurisdiction where the violation is occurring or has occurred, 1227 and assess an administrative fine against a firefighter employer 1228 of not less than \$100 nor more than \$1,000 for each violation and 1229 each day of each violation. The administrative penalty assessment 1230 shall be subject to the provisions of chapter 120. The division 1231 may also assess against the firefighter employer a civil penalty 1232 of not less than \$100 nor more than \$5,000 for each day the 1233 violation, omission, failure, or refusal continues after the 1234 firefighter employer has been given written notice of such 1235 violation, omission, failure, or refusal. The total penalty for 1236 each violation shall not exceed \$50,000. The division shall adopt 1237 rules requiring penalties commensurate with the frequency or 1238 severity of safety violations. A hearing shall be held in the

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1239 county in which the violation, omission, failure, or refusal is 1240 alleged to have occurred, unless otherwise agreed to by the 1241 firefighter employer and authorized by the division. All 1242 penalties assessed and collected under this section shall be 1243 deposited in the Insurance Regulatory Trust Fund.

1244 Section 25. Subsection (3) of section 633.821, Florida 1245 Statutes, is amended to read:

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633.821 Workplace safety.--

1247 With respect to 29 C.F.R. s. 1910.134(g)(4), the two (3) 1248 individuals located outside the immediately dangerous to life and 1249 health atmosphere may be assigned to an additional role, such as 1250 incident commander, pumper operator, engineer, or driver, so long 1251 as such individual is able to immediately perform assistance or 1252 rescue activities without jeopardizing the safety or health of 1253 any firefighter working at an incident. Also with respect to 29 1254 C.F.R. s. 1910.134(q)(4):

1255 (a) Each county, municipality, and special district shall 1256 implement such provision by April 1, 2002, except as provided in 1257 paragraphs (b) and (c).

1258 (b) If any county, municipality, or special district is unable to implement such provision by April 1, 2002, without 1259 1260 adding additional personnel to its firefighting staff or 1261 expending significant additional funds, such county, 1262 municipality, or special district shall have an additional 6 1263 months within which to implement such provision. Such county, 1264 municipality, or special district shall notify the division that the 6-month extension to implement such provision is in effect in 1265 1266 such county, municipality, or special district within 30 days 1267 after its decision to extend the time for the additional 6

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1268 months. The decision to extend the time for implementation shall 1269 be made prior to April 1, 2002. 1270 (c) If, after the extension granted in paragraph (b), the county, municipality, or special district, after having worked 1271 with and cooperated fully with the division and the Firefighters 1272 1273 Employment, Standards, and Training Council, is still unable to 1274 implement such provisions without adding additional personnel to 1275 its firefighting staff or expending significant additional funds, 1276 such municipality, county, or special district shall be exempt 1277 from the requirements of 29 C.F.R. s. 1910.134(g)(4). However, 1278 each year thereafter the division shall review each such county, 1279 municipality, or special district to determine if such county, 1280 municipality, or special district has the ability to implement 1281 such provision without adding additional personnel to its 1282 firefighting staff or expending significant additional funds. If 1283 the division determines that any county, municipality, or special 1284 district has the ability to implement such provision without 1285 adding additional personnel to its firefighting staff or 1286 expending significant additional funds, the division shall require such county, municipality, or special district to 1287 implement such provision. Such requirement by the division under 1288 1289 this paragraph constitutes final agency action subject to chapter 1290 $\frac{120}{120}$ 1291 Section 26. Section 1013.12, Florida Statutes, is amended 1292 to read:

1293 1013.12 Casualty, safety, sanitation, and firesafety 1294 standards and inspection of property.--

1295 (1) FIRESAFETY.--The State Board of Education shall adopt 1296 and administer rules prescribing standards for the safety and

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1297 health of occupants of educational and ancillary plants as a part 1298 of State Requirements for Educational Facilities or the Florida 1299 Building Code for educational facilities construction as provided in s. 1013.37, except that the State Fire Marshal in consultation 1300 1301 with the Department of Education shall adopt uniform firesafety 1302 standards for educational and ancillary plants and educational 1303 facilities, as provided in s. 633.022(1)(b), and a firesafety 1304 evaluation system to be used as an alternate firesafety 1305 inspection standard for existing educational and ancillary plants 1306 and educational facilities. The uniform firesafety standards and 1307 the alternate firesafety evaluation system shall be administered 1308 and enforced by local fire officials. These standards must be used by all public agencies when inspecting public educational 1309 and ancillary plants, and the firesafety standards must be used 1310 1311 by local fire officials when performing firesafety inspections of 1312 public educational and ancillary plants and educational 1313 facilities. In accordance with such standards, each board shall prescribe policies and procedures establishing a comprehensive 1314 1315 program of safety and sanitation for the protection of occupants 1316 of public educational and ancillary plants. Such policies must 1.317 contain procedures for periodic inspections as prescribed in this 1318 section and for withdrawal of any educational and ancillary 1319 plant, or portion thereof, from use until unsafe or unsanitary 1320 conditions are corrected or removed.

1321 (2) PERIODIC INSPECTION OF PROPERTY BY DISTRICT SCHOOL1322 BOARDS.--

1323 (a) Each board shall provide for periodic inspection, other
 1324 than firesafety inspection, of each educational and ancillary
 1325 plant at least once during each fiscal year to determine

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1326 compliance with standards of sanitation and casualty safety
1327 prescribed in the rules of the State Board of Education.

1328 (b) Firesafety inspections of each educational and ancillary plant must be made annually by persons certified by the 1329 1330 Division of State Fire Marshal to be eligible to conduct 1331 firesafety inspections in public educational and ancillary 1332 plants. The board shall submit a copy of the firesafety 1333 inspection report to the State Fire Marshal and, if there is a 1334 local fire official who conducts firesafety inspections, to the 1335 local fire official.

1336 (c) In each firesafety inspection report, the board shall 1337 include a plan of action and a schedule for the correction of each deficiency which have been formulated in consultation with 1338 1339 the local fire control authority. If immediate life-threatening 1340 deficiencies are noted in any inspection, the board shall either take action to promptly correct the deficiencies or withdraw the 1341 educational or ancillary plant from use until such time as the 1342 1343 deficiencies are corrected.

1344 (3) INSPECTION OF EDUCATIONAL PROPERTY BY OTHER PUBLIC 1345 AGENCIES.--

1346 (a) A safety or sanitation inspection of any educational or 1347 ancillary plant may be made at any time by the Department of 1348 Education or any other state or local agency authorized or 1349 required to conduct such inspections by either general or special 1350 law. Each agency conducting inspections shall use the standards adopted by the Commissioner of Education in lieu of, and to the 1351 1352 exclusion of, any other inspection standards prescribed either by 1353 statute or administrative rule. The agency shall submit a copy of 1354 the inspection report to the board.

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(b) One firesafety inspection of each educational or ancillary plant must be conducted each fiscal year by the county, municipality, or special fire control district in which the plant is located using the standards adopted by the State Fire Marshal. The board shall cooperate with the inspecting authority when a firesafety inspection is made by a governmental authority under this paragraph.

1362 (c) In each firesafety inspection report, the local fire 1363 official in conjunction with the board shall include a plan of action and a schedule for the correction of each deficiency. If 1364 1365 immediate life-threatening deficiencies are noted in any 1366 inspection, the local fire official shall either take action to require the board to promptly correct the deficiencies or 1367 1368 withdraw the educational facility from use until the deficiencies 1369 are corrected, subject to review by the State Fire Marshal who 1370 shall act within 10 days to ensure that the deficiencies are 1371 corrected or withdraw the facility from use.

(4) CORRECTIVE ACTION; DEFICIENCIES OTHER THAN FIRESAFETY DEFICIENCIES.--Upon failure of the board to take corrective action within a reasonable time, the agency making the inspection, other than a local fire official, may request the commissioner to:

(a) Order that appropriate action be taken to correct all
deficiencies in accordance with a schedule determined jointly by
the inspecting authority and the board; in developing the
schedule, consideration must be given to the seriousness of the
deficiencies and the ability of the board to obtain the necessary
funds; or

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1412 potential structural failure, and storage conditions that create
1413 a fire hazard.

1414(b) The proper placement of functional smoke and heat1415detectors and accessible, unexpired fire extinguishers.

1416 (c) The maintenance of fire doors without doorstops or 1417 wedges improperly holding them open.

1418 <u>(5) (8)</u> ANNUAL REPORT.--The State Fire Marshal shall publish 1419 an annual report to be filed with the substantive committees of 1420 the state House of Representatives and Senate having jurisdiction 1421 over education, the Commissioner of Education or his or her 1422 successor, the State Board of Education, the Board of Governors, 1423 and the Governor documenting the status of each board's 1424 firesafety program, including the improvement or lack thereof.

1425 Section 27. Paragraph (e) of subsection (1) of section 1426 218.23, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

218.23 Revenue sharing with units of local government.--

1428 (1) To be eligible to participate in revenue sharing beyond
1429 the minimum entitlement in any fiscal year, a unit of local
1430 government is required to have:

(e) Certified that persons in its employ as firefighters, as defined in s. 633.30(1), meet the qualification for employment as established by the Division of State Fire Marshal pursuant to the provisions of ss. 633.34 and 633.35 and that the provisions of s. 633.382 have been met.

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Additionally, to receive its share of revenue sharing funds, a unit of local government shall certify to the Department of Revenue that the requirements of s. 200.065, if applicable, were met. The certification shall be made annually within 30 days of

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20082388 37-03578A-08 1441 adoption of an ordinance or resolution establishing a final 1442 property tax levy or, if no property tax is levied, not later 1443 than November 1. The portion of revenue sharing funds which, 1444 pursuant to this part, would otherwise be distributed to a unit 1445 of local government which has not certified compliance or has 1446 otherwise failed to meet the requirements of s. 200.065 shall be deposited in the General Revenue Fund for the 12 months following 1447 1448 a determination of noncompliance by the department. 1449 Section 28. Paragraph (b) of subsection (4) of section 1450 447.203, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 447.203 Definitions.--As used in this part: 1451 1452 (4) "Managerial employees" are those employees who: 1453 Serve as police chiefs, fire chiefs, or directors of (b) 1454 public safety of any police, fire, or public safety department. 1455 Other police officers, as defined in s. 943.10(1), and 1456 firefighters, as defined in s. 633.30(1), may be determined by 1457 the commission to be managerial employees of such departments. In 1458 making such determinations, the commission shall consider, in 1459 addition to the criteria established in paragraph (a), the 1460 paramilitary organizational structure of the department involved. 1461 1462 However, in determining whether an individual is a managerial 1463 employee pursuant to either paragraph (a) or paragraph (b), 1464 above, the commission may consider historic relationships of the 1465 employee to the public employer and to coemployees. Section 29. Section 633.14, Florida Statutes, is repealed. 1466 1467 Section 30. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008.

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