

# The Agency

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## Rhode Island State Fire Marshal

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### Agency Operations

The State Fire Marshal Division is responsible for enforcing and performing the duties required by the Fire Safety Code and all other provisions of the general and public laws as they relate to fires, and fire prevention, protection, inspection and investigation. The division enforces all laws regarding the keeping, storage, use, manufacturing, sale, handling, transportation, or other disposition of explosives and inflammable materials as well as conducting and supervising fire safety inspections of all buildings regulated by the code, and certifying whether or not buildings satisfy these requirements.

The division is divided into units specified in law: The Bomb Disposal Unit assists local police and fire departments in the proper handling and disposition of all hazardous materials suspected to be of explosive or incendiary nature. It also conducts training programs of local fire departments.

The Investigation Unit investigates suspicious or attempted fires to determine the cause, origin and circumstances where property has been damaged or destroyed. It also investigates fires where a fatality has occurred in so far as it is possible to determine the cause. Local government officials must report such fires immediately so as not to delay the start of the investigation.

The Enforcement Unit is responsible for the criminal prosecution of any person(s) in violation of the State Fire Safety Code and any general and public laws as they relate to fires, fire prevention, fire inspection, and fire investigations.

The Fire Education and Training Unit administers the Fire Academy by providing education and training to all fire departments in the State, public and private. The Fire Education and Training Coordinating Board develops the training program and the cost is reimbursed by the participating community.

The Plan Review Unit reviews architectural drawings of proposed construction plans for compliance with the Fire Safety Code. All fees collected for review of the plans are deposited as general revenue for the State.

The Inspection Unit is responsible for conducting fire safety inspections of all buildings regulated by the Fire Safety Code.

### Agency Objectives

To reduce the number of fire losses in Rhode Island through prosecution of arson related crimes and through the investigation of suspicious fire; to enforce state, federal, and other laws relative to fires, explosives and public safety; to develop public awareness programs related to arson, explosives, juvenile firesetters, and fire prevention; and, to develop uniformity in firefighting techniques through courses presented by the State Fire Marshal and Training Academy.

### Statutory History

R.I.G.L.23-28.2 establishes the Rhode Island State Fire Marshal and defines its duties.

# The Budget

## Rhode Island State Fire Marshal

	<b>FY 2005 Actual</b>	<b>FY 2006 Actual</b>	<b>FY 2007 Revised</b>	<b>FY 2008 Recommended</b>
<b>Expenditures By Object</b>				
Personnel	1,682,100	1,835,738	2,304,244	2,569,985
Operating Supplies and Expenses	480,698	369,853	465,606	299,903
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	8,115	235	91,835	24,890
<b>Subtotal: Operating Expenditures</b>	<b>\$2,170,913</b>	<b>\$2,205,826</b>	<b>\$2,861,685</b>	<b>\$2,894,778</b>
Capital Purchases and Equipment	43,582	167,618	162,304	61,500
Debt Service	6,612	-	-	-
Operating Transfers	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$2,221,107</b>	<b>\$2,373,444</b>	<b>\$3,023,989</b>	<b>\$2,956,278</b>
<b>Expenditures By Funds</b>				
General Revenue	2,099,879	2,243,866	2,596,825	2,728,306
Federal Funds	121,228	129,578	414,565	227,972
Operating Transfers	-	-	12,599	-
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$2,221,107</b>	<b>2,373,444</b>	<b>3,023,989</b>	<b>\$2,956,278</b>
<b>FTE Authorization</b>	<b>32.0</b>	<b>38.0</b>	<b>36.0</b>	<b>36.0</b>
<b>Agency Measures</b>				
Minorities as a Percentage of the Workforce	3.1%	2.6%	3.1%	3.1%
Females as a Percentage of the Workforce	21.9%	23.7%	21.7%	21.7%
Persons with Disabilities as a Percentage of the Workforce	-	3.8%	3.1%	3.1%
<b>Program Measures</b>				
Fire Determination Rate	85.5%	79.0%	76.0%	76.0%
Fire Fatalities in Rhode Island	8	5	4	4