# VIRTUAL MEETING GUIDELINES



Board Members and Guests,

Please mute your audio when you're not speaking:

- · Use only one source of audio (computer OR phone).
  - · Do not put your phone on hold.

Submit questions in the chat box when possible.

The chat log will be saved as public record.

To request the floor:
Please state your name then pause for acknowledgement from the Chair before proceeding.

To make a motion: Please state your name and jurisdiction before making a first or second motion.

In accordance with State Statute, all votes shall be roll call.

Keep your points clear and concise.



# North Carolina Code Officials Qualification Board

#### **AGENDA – July 26, 2022**

- Introduction / Roll Call / Conflict of Interest Reminder
- Approve Minutes
- Recognize Fifth Level III Standard Certificate(s)
- Public Comment
- Committee Reports
- Unfinished Business
- New Business
- Staff Report
- Election of Officers
- Adjournment





Staffed by NC Dept. of Insurance

## Introduction

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# **Chairman**Bill Thunberg Public member

- Introduction
- Roll call
- EthicsReminder
- Changes to the agenda?

#### **Board Officers**

**Vice Chairman** County Elected Official - Fleming El-Amin, **Secretary** Commissioner Designee - Rob Roegner,

#### Members

#### Design Professionals

Architect - Mark Paterson Engineer - Mack Summey, PE

#### **Code Enforcement Officials**

Code Official, County - Jeffrey Griffin Code Official, City - Michael Crotts Code Official, Fire Prevention - Thomas Bender

#### **Local Government**

Elected Official, County - Danny Couch Elected Official, City - Bettie Parker Elected Official, City - Russell Fox Manager, City - Richard White

#### **Licensed Contractors**

General - Andy Matthews General - Mark Smith Mech/Plumbing - Allen Kelly Electrical - James Steele

#### **Academic Institutions**

UNC School of Government - Richard D. Ducker
NCSU Engineering Faculty - Stephen Terry, PhD, PE
NCAT Engineering Faculty - Stephanie Luster-Teasley, PhD
NC Community College System - Karen Tikkanen

## Ethics / Conflict of Interest

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#### **ETHICS AWARENESS & CONFLICT OF INTEREST REMINDER**

In accordance with the State Government Ethics Act, it is the duty of every NC Code Officials Qualification Board member to avoid both conflicts of interest and appearances of conflict.

Do any NC Code Officials Qualification Board members have any known conflict of interest or potential of conflict with respect to any matters coming before the NC Code Officials Qualification Board today?

If so, please identify the conflict or potential of conflict and refrain from any undue participation in the particular matter involved.

Let the minutes show that members of the Board who <u>are certified</u> <u>code officials</u> are reminded that the State Ethics Commission has cited the <u>potential</u> for a conflict of interest because they serve on the Board that licenses them. Board members should exercise appropriate caution in the performance of their public duties should issues involving their licenses or that of any of their employees come before the Board. This would include recusing themselves to the extent that their interests would influence or could reasonably appear to influence their actions.

## **Approve Minutes**

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• April 26, 2022, regular meeting

# Recognize 5<sup>th</sup> Level III Standard Certificate(s)

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- Ray Harrell, Fire Prevention, Level III issued 4/25/2022
- Wesley Keith, Fire Prevention, Level III issued 5/31/2022

## **Public Comment**

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## **Committee Reports**

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# **Standing Committees**

- Executive Committee
- Policies & Procedures
- Qualifications & Evaluation
- Education & Research

# **Special Committees**

- Investigation Review
- Rules Review Update

## **Executive Committee**

ChairmanBill ThunbergVice-ChairmanFleming El-AminSecretaryRob RoegnerPolicies and ProceduresRichard WhiteQualification and EvaluationThomas BenderEducation and ResearchKaren Tikkanen

### Meeting held May 20, 2022, minutes

### **Strategic Plan FY 2022-2023**

- Pool of qualified code officials, 1) Veterans, Inmates
- Goals
  - 1) Rules Review
  - 2) KPIs
  - 3) Joint meeting BCC remote inspections, marketplace

## Policies & Procedures

### Chairman, Richard White

Richard D. Ducker

Allen Kelly

Rob Roegner

James Steele

**Danny Couch** 

Thomas Fox

No meeting held.	
	$\Box$

## Qualification & Evaluation

#### **Chairman, Thomas Bender**

Mark Smith

**Michael Crotts** 

Fleming El-Amin

**Richard White** 

Mark Patterson

## **Meeting held July 21**

#### Recommendations on 2 cases.

- Applicant #1
- Applicant #2

#### **Agenda**

## **Education & Research**

### Chairwoman, Karen Tikkanen

Andy Matthews Stephen Terry, PhD, PE Mack Summey, PE Stephanie Luster-Teasley, PhD

No meeting held.	

## **Investigation Review**

#### Chairman, Jeff Griffin

Michael Crotts
James Steele
Rob Roegner

#### **Voluntary Settlement Agreement (VSA)**

**569** Lee (Thompson) - Whiteville

#### **Basis**

**576** Halifax (Johnson) – Roanoke Rapids

#### No Basis - Dismiss with Letter of Caution

**917** Petty #3615 (Robison)

920 Hutchison #4439 (Fellhofer)

**925** Daugherty #366 (Oakes)

#### **No Basis - Dismiss**

**565** Evans (Cohen) – Holden Beach

**574** Reeves – Tatum (Robinson) – Hope Mills

**578** Gaskins (Chambers) – Anson Co.

### Meetings held June 6, 22 and July 14

Recommended disposition of complaints.

Recommend Bylaw change to make the IRC a standing committee.

5. The Investigation Review Committee shall review all investigation reports prepared pursuant to a consumer or board-initiated complaint; shall determine terms and conditions of proposed consent agreements; and shall make recommendations to the Board as to the disposition of cases.

The IRC shall have authority to direct staff to initiate an investigation on behalf of the Board.

# Rules Review and Update

### Chairman, Rob Roegner

Michael Crotts
James Steel
Fleming El-Amin
Richard Ducker

Meetings held May 4 and June 7.	

## **Unfinished Business**

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# Legislative Update (Bills)

- S372
- S329
- S316
- H291
- H489
- H865
- H110
- H783 permit tech
- H366 remote insp
- H853 plan review
- H821
- H398

# Legislative Update (SL)

- 2022-11 (S372)
- 2022-62
- 2021-192 (S329)
- 2021-117 (H366)

## **New Business**

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## Staff Report

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Executive Director - Mike Hejduk

Assistant Director – Beth Williams

**Certification - Terri Tart** 

**Examination - Rich Hall** 

Education – Jennifer Hollyfield

Investigation - Sam Whittington

# Executive Director Mike Hejduk

FY 2021-2022 Annual Renewals (7/1)					
Code Officials 4,098					
Suspended CEOs 347					
Suspended Certificates 624					

Activity	Count
Applications	3,167
Military / Spouses <u>93B-2</u>	
Criminal history <u>93B-2</u>	
Board courses	189
Student	1,911
Exam eligibilities	1,530
Exams taken	1,329
Exams passed	860
Certificates issued	2,165
Complaints	15
Disciplinary actions	

#### § 93B-2. Annual reports required; contents; open to inspection; sanction for failure to report.

- (a) No later than October 31 of each year, each occupational licensing board shall file electronically with the Secretary of State, the Attorney General, and the Joint Legislative Administrative Procedure Oversight Committee an annual report containing all of the following information:
  - (9a) The number of applicants for a license and, of that number, the number granted a license.
  - (9b) The number of applicants with a conviction record and, of that number, the number granted a license, denied a license for any reason, and denied a license because of a conviction.
  - (9c) The number of applicants with military training, the number granted a license, the number denied a license for any reason, and a summary of the reasons for denial. The information provided in accordance with this subdivision shall not disclose any identifying information of any applicant.
  - (9d) The number of applicants who are military spouses, the number granted a license, the number denied a license for any reason, and a summary of the reasons for denial. The information provided in accordance with this subdivision shall not disclose any identifying information of any applicant.
- (b1) No later than October 31 of each year, each occupational licensing board or State agency licensing board shall file electronically with the Secretary of the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs information collected pursuant to G.S. 93B-2(a)(9c) and (9d).
- (c) The reports required by this section shall be open to public inspection.
- (d) The Joint Legislative Administrative Procedure Oversight Committee shall notify any board that fails to file the reports required by this section. Failure of a board to comply with the reporting requirements of this section by October 31 of each year shall result in a suspension of the board's authority to expend any funds until such time as the board files the required reports. Suspension of a board's authority to expend funds under this subsection shall not affect the board's duty to issue and renew licenses or the validity of any application or license for which fees have been tendered in accordance with law. Each board shall adopt rules establishing a procedure for implementing this subsection and shall maintain an escrow account into which any fees tendered during a board's period of suspension under this subsection shall be deposited.
- (e) No later than October 31 of each year, each State agency licensing board shall file electronically with the Secretary of State, the Attorney General, and the Joint Legislative Administrative Procedure Oversight Committee an annual report containing all of the following information:
  - (1) The number of applicants for a license and, of that number, the number granted a license.
  - (2) The number of applicants with a conviction record and, of that number, the number granted a license, denied a license for any reason, and denied a license because of a conviction.
  - (3) The number of applicants with military training, the number granted a license, the number denied a license for any reason, and a summary of the reasons for denial. The information provided in accordance with this subdivision shall not disclose any identifying information of any applicant.
  - (4) The number of applicants who are military spouses, the number granted a license, the number denied a license for any reason, and a summary of the reasons for denial. The information provided in accordance with this subdivision shall not disclose any identifying information of any applicant.

		1st QTR Jul -	2nd QTR Oct -	3rd QTR Jan -	4th QTR Apr	Total FY
COQB	2020-2021	Sep	Dec	Mar	- Jun	2021-2022
CEOs	4,210					4,136
Applications	2,704	756	762	848	1,202	3,261
Pre-Qualification	576	143	159	172	271	679
Probationary	1,186	379	342	427	562	20
Standard	942	243	269	249	369	1,038
Military/Spouses						
Criminal History						
Board courses	206	44	45	57	67	189
Students	1,884	409	439	678	771	1,972
Exam eligibilities						
Exams taken	1,256	289	498	323	488	1,371
Exams passed	793	171	309	212	344	888
Certificates Issued	1,357	469	516	593	855	2,209
Probationary	725	296	279	217	522	1,327
Standard	632	173	237	376	333	882
Complaints						15
Disciplinary actions						

# COQB Program Effective and Efficient?

Roughly 20 working days per month X 12 months

= 240 days x 8 hours / day = 1,920 hours

### **COQB**

- 1.65 applications per hour (or 0.61 hours per application ~ 36 minutes)
- 0.80 exam eligibilities per hour (or 1.25 hours per exam eligibility)
- \*Exam eligibility determination takes twice as long, on average, versus application review.
- 1.13 certificates issued per hour

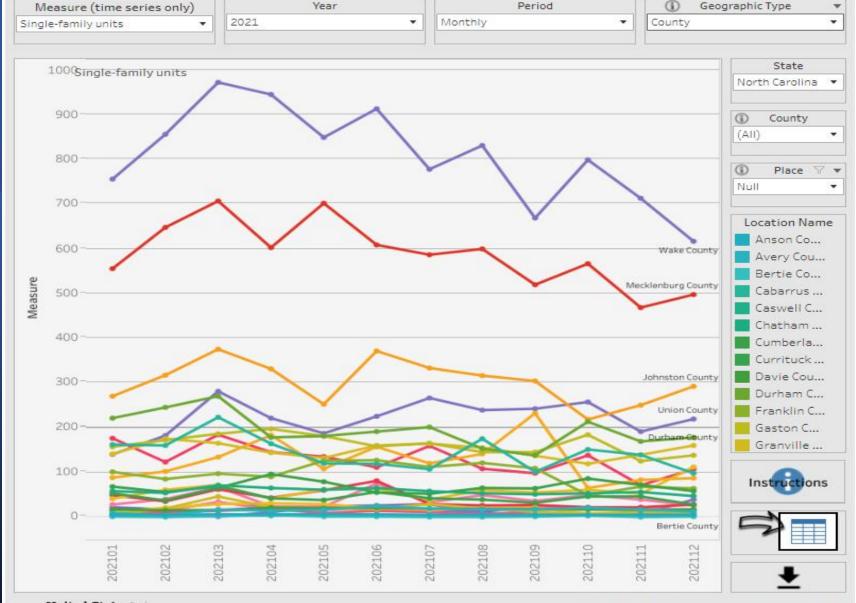
### PER DAY (above per hour X 8 hours/day):

- 13.2 applications review
- 6.4 exam eligibilities
- 9.04 certificates issued

# Building Permits

Single-family

#### U.S. Census Bureau Building Permits Survey New Privately Owned Housing Unit Authorizations



# Separate Fire and Building

#### **FIRE**

- Fire Code Inspection Requirements?
- Simple math
- 1 yr +  $(\frac{1}{2})$  2 yr +  $(\frac{1}{3})$  3 yr = total # inspections required
- Count building and occupancies
- County level aggregate

#### **BUILDING**

- Driven by Planning & Development, construction
- Building Permits? KPI
- Inspect < 2 business days</li>
- Remote inspections

# Fire "Goals" new position SL 2021-180 Engineer II

- Fire Marshal 101
- Count building and occupancies
- County level aggregate
- Community Risk Reduction 5 E's (CRR Plans)
  - Education
  - Engineering
  - Enforcement Fire Inspections
  - Economic Incentives
  - Emergency Response

# Assistant Director Beth Williams

# Certification Terri Tart

Comity Applications
Pre-Qualification

**ICC** certificates



#### North Carolina Code Officials Qualification Board

Staffed by the NC Department of Insurance

1202 Mail Service Center | Raleigh, NC 27699-1202 | tel: 919.647-0000 fax: 919.662-4414

July 19, 2022

The Board staff have reviewed your application to prequalify for a standard certificate in Building Level 1, Electrical Level 3, Mechanical Level 1, and Plumbing Level 1.

#### 1. The Following Applications are On Hold:

More information is needed from you before we can process the following applications. Log into the Qualification Board application at <a href="https://apps.ncdoi.net/f?p=114">https://apps.ncdoi.net/f?p=114</a> to provide the needed information.

#### Building Level 1

- \* Missing Technical Supervision Letter: Download the form at <a href="https://www.ncosfm.gov/media/2618">https://www.ncosfm.gov/media/2618</a>, upload the completed form to the application and resubmit.
- \* Holding for additional Information: Need more documentation to support your Building 1 application.

#### Mechanical Level 1

- \* Required course not completed for this trade/level
- \* Holding for additional Information: Your references for work on the Phillips building in 2019 could not be confirmed. Please provide additional supporting information on that project.

#### Comity Review

Based on a review of your application, you have been granted comity for the following trade, and will not be required to sit for an exam.

Standard certificates issued under comity shall expire if required courses are not completed within the 3 year period.

#### Plumbing Level 1

#### 3. Exam Eligibility Approval

Your application for Electrical Level 3 has been approved. You will be allowed to register for the following exams after the date shown:

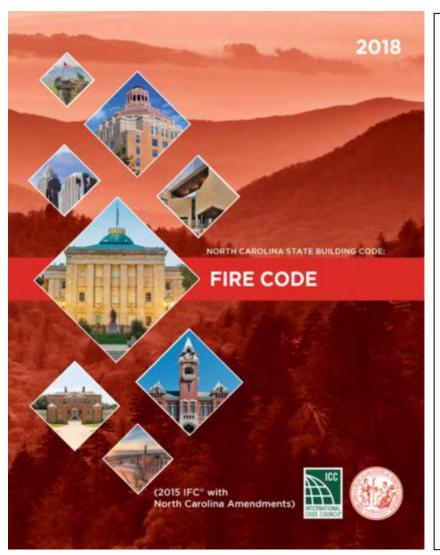
Trade and Level Starting Exam Code Electrical Level 3 07/28/2022 EL3

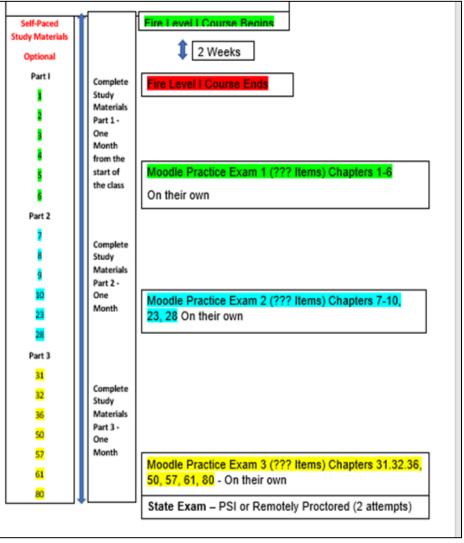
Exam approvals are sent out each night. Please wait 24 hours to contact PSI for registration. To

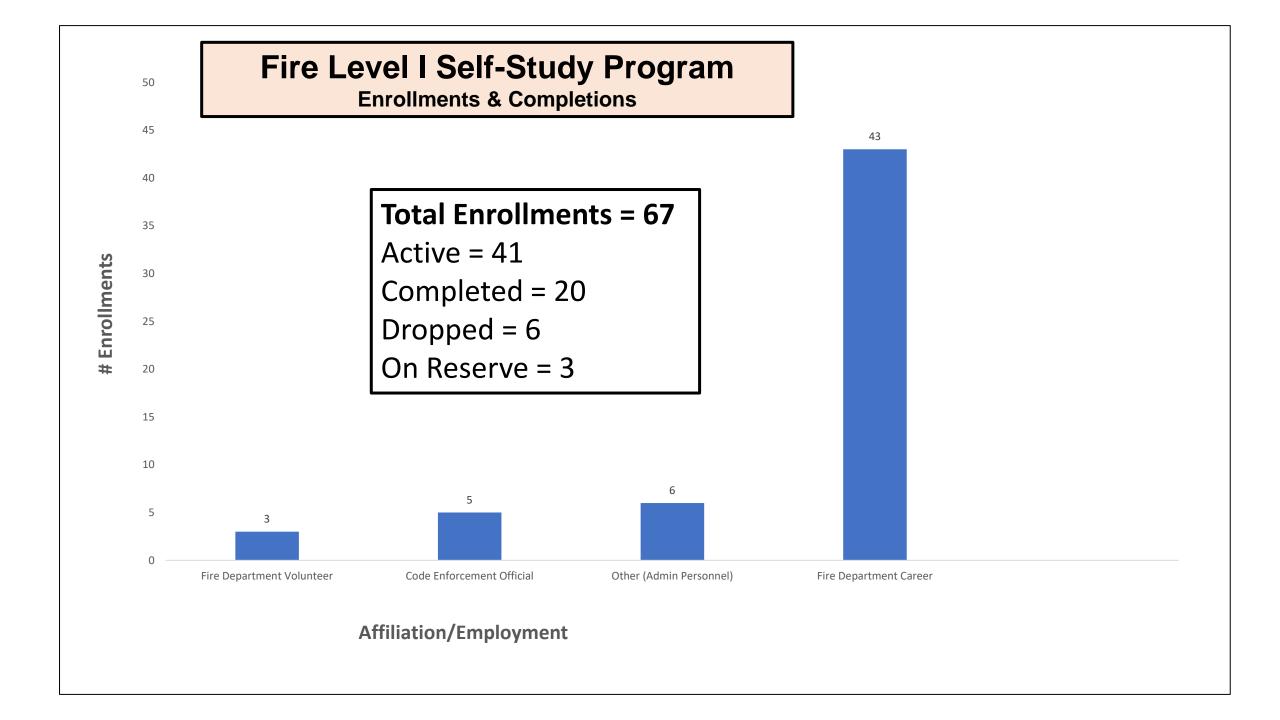
# Examination Rich Hall

# Fire Level I Self-Study Program Self-Study Materials and Phase Exams

We have been contending with low pass rates for all exams for a long time. Using this self-study program and the Fire Code along with multiple Moodle activities, the candidate searches and identifies specific code references to gain the code knowledge needed to complete thorough and professional inspections.







SCORE DISTRIBUTION (Numerically)								
<70 70-79% 80-89% 90> Total								
EOC	0	4	4	14	22			
Self-Study         0         0         8         8								

SCORE DISTRIBUTION (Percentages)								
	<70 70-79% 80-89% 90> Total							
<b>EOC</b> 0% 218 18% 64%					100%			
Self-Study to State Exam								

SCORE DISTRIBUTION BY BOARD RULE (EOC to State Exam)									
Rule	<70	70-79%	80-89%	90>	Total				
47	0	1	1	1	3				
48	0	0	0	0	0				
49	0	0	0	2	2				
51	0	0	0	0	0				
53	0	0	0	4	4				
54	0	3	3	7	13				
55	0	0	0	0	0				
	0	4	4	14	22				

SCORE DISTRIBUTION BY BOARD RULE (Self-Study to State Exam)								
Rule	<70	70-79%	80-89%	90>	Total			
47	0	0	0	0	0			
48	0	0	0	3	3			
49	0	0	0	1	1			
51	0	0	0	0	0			
53	0	0	0	1	1			
54	0	0	0	3	3			
55	0	0	0	0	0			
	0	0	0	8	8			

# **Candidate Information Bulletin**

Fire Le	vel I		Number of Questions: 150 Time Allowed: 3.5 Hours
	Content Area	% of Items	Approved references allowed in the examination site
	Administrative Code and Policies	9	
Ch. 1	Scope and Administration	13	2018 North Carolina Fire Code
Ch. 2	Definitions	6	2018 Administrative Code & Policies*
Ch. 3	General Requirements	13	2020 NC COQB Board Rules
Ch. 4	Emergency Planning and Preparedness	5	*Note: North Carolina's General Statutes and
Ch. 5	Fire Service Features	6	Agency Rules pertaining to Code Enforcement
Ch. 6	Building Services and Systems	9	Officials are also Law and Administration
Ch. 7	,		references for each technical exam that must be
Ch. 8	Interior Finish, Decorative Materials and Furnishings	5	downloaded and printed from the NC Code Officials  Qualification Board website and inserted into the
Ch. 9	Fire Protection Systems	22	NC Administrative Code and Policies, Ch. 3.
Ch. 10	Means of Egress	23	No Administrative code and Folicies, citi 5:
Ch. 23	Motor Fuel-dispensing Facilities and Repair Garages	6	*https://www.ncosfm.gov/administrative/general-
Ch. 28	Lumber Yards & Agro-industrial, Solid Biomass & Woodworking	2	statutes- pertaining-code-enforcement-officials-
Ch. 31	Tents and Other Membrane Structures	6	complete/download
Ch. 32	High-piled Combustible Storage	5	*https://www.ncosfm.gov/links-general-statutes-
Ch. 36	Marinas	2	printing-and- inserting-your-administrative-code-
Ch. 50	Hazardous Materials—General Provisions	7	book/download
Ch. 57	Flammable and Combustible Liquids	6	
Ch. 61	Liquefied Petroleum Gases	1	*https://www.ncosfm.gov/coqb-board-rules
Ch. 80	Referenced Standards	1	

# What the Participants Think

- ❖ "I feel so much more confident after completing Phase 1 than from the course alone."
- "It takes quite a bit of time, but in the end, it is well worth it."
- ❖ "As much of a pain as it is, it is worth the effort.
- ❖ "At first, I was skeptical about the Moodle idea, but I think it will be a great method for learning and retention of the Codes."

"I have seen many changes to the certification classes and frankly they have seemed to make it harder with every change for the volunteer side. ... I was expecting a one-week class ... and then take my exam. I was not expecting the three months online but this time the state got it right... .putting your nose into the book ... the online modules made the student do just that. The exercises really made the student go through the book and learn where the different chapters are and how to reference them correctly. I felt very confident when I arrived at the testing center... and finished with time to spare. That was from being made to learn the book in a productive manner that relates to the real world. I passed the exam and feel that the online module truly helped me. I know this system ... will help so many more upcoming inspectors... I really hope that OSFM will eventually try to do similar changes to other firefighter classes... Thank you for all your help"

# Summer Intern – Elena Tsai, UNC Chapel Hill

# COQB Exam: Cohort Comparison

Summer Intern - Elena Tsai (UNC-CH)

FIRE LEVEL I

	TINC CEVEET						
	Cert. Rules	Avg. Score	Median Score	Std. Dev C	riteria # of Passes	Criteria # of Fails	Passing Rate (%)
	Level I ONLY	70.088	71	9.433 Y	9.	3 N 6	7 58.125
	One Year Diploma	70.833	71	8.589 Y		5 N	1 83.333
EDUCATION	Two Year Degree						
	Four Year Degree	74.786	75.5	6.784 Y	1	2 N	2 85.714
	Probationary						
	Six Months	74.133	76	8.442 Y	1	1 N	4 73.333
	One Year	69.000	68	4.583 Y		1N :	2 33.333
	Two Years	68.000	67	9.570 Y		7N 1	35.000
EXPERIENCE	Three Years						
LXI EKILIVEL	Four Years	69.532	. 71	9.544 Y	7.	3 N 5	1 58.871
	Five Years						
	Third Party						
	Military						
	License						

	Fire Level I
avg. course	82.477
course stdev	14.972
course std. error	1.078
avg. exam	70.523
% diff course & exam	14.493
exam stdev	9.994
exam std. error	0.719
exam skew	-0.541
exam kurt	1.502
avg. la score	91.447
la stdev	7.592
la stderror	0.280
# people	193

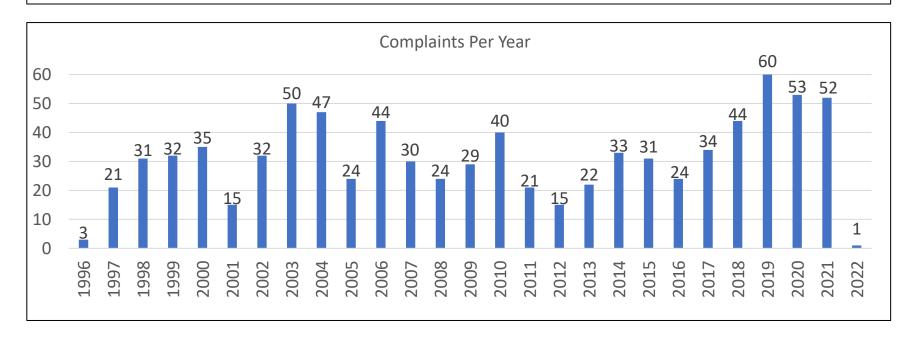
# Investigations Sam Whittington

#### FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022 CALENDAR YEAR 2021

Complaints Received Investigations Completed

0

Oldest case under active investigation was received Average time to investigate complaints



## **Election of Officers**

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# Bylaws – nominations?

- Chairman Bill Thunberg
- Vice-Chair Fleming El-Amin
- Secretary Rob Roegner
- P&P Richard White
- Q&E Tom Bender
- E&R Karen Tikkanen

# Adjournment

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