

IN RE: Regulation Changes)
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Pursuant to 16 *Del. C.* § 6604(1), the Delaware State Fire Prevention Commission proposed to revise Regulation 709 Fire Service Standards (the “Regulations”). The proposed changes to the Regulations included modifying the process of addressing complaints and grievances, detailing conduct that can be considered official misconduct of firefighters and fire companies, adding a process for conducting investigations of firefighter injuries, adding minimum training requirements for firefighters, incorporating and adopting additional National Fire Prevention Association standards, and making other non-substantive changes.

The proposed amendments to the Regulations were published in the Delaware Register of Regulations on February 1, 2023. A written comment period was held open through March 10, 2023. The Commission received written comments from the following individuals and fire companies: (1) Christiana Fire Company; (2) Rehoboth Fire Company (including a separate one-page letter from Warren F. Jones, Vice President and PIO of the Rehoboth Beach Fire Company); (3) the Volunteer Hose Company, Inc.; (4) Roxana Volunteer Fire Company; (5) Claymont Fire Department; (6) Milton Fire Dept., Inc.; and (7) Frankford Volunteer Fire Co. (the “Written Comments”).

On March 14, 2023, a duly-appointed Committee of Commissioners and representation from the Delaware Volunteer Firefighters Association, met, considered and discussed the Written Comments. Following the meeting, which was publicly noticed, the Committee decided not to recommend any further substantive changes to the

Regulations and the proposed amendments, other than to delete Sections 1.4 and 1.5 of Chapter 7, pertaining to minimum training for Crew Leader, Fire Officer 1 and Fire Officer 2.

At the Commission's regularly-scheduled monthly meeting on March 21, 2023, the Commission considered the Committee's recommendation and discussed certain Written Comments further. The Commission also opened the meeting up for public comment on the proposed amendments to the Regulations. Warren Jones provided comment relating to the proposed training standards that are being removed. There were no other public comments or opposition to the proposed amendments.

Summary of the findings of fact

Pursuant to discussions held during the Committee meeting on March 14, 2023, and during the Commission's meeting on March 21, 2023, the Commission voted to approve the amendments to the Regulations as they were proposed with the exception that proposed Sections 1.4 and 1.5 of Chapter 7 shall be deleted, as recommended by the Committee.

Decision of the Commission

Other than technical, non-substantive changes noted during the hearing and with the deletion of Sections 1.4 and 1.5 of Chapter 7, the Commission adopts the proposed amendments to Regulations as set forth above as final, with the deletions and other non-substantive changes set forth in this Order. The final proposed amendments are reflected in Exhibit A.

THESE AMENDMENTS SHALL GO EFFECTIVE May 10, 2023.

IT IS SO ORDERED, this 21st day of March 2023, by the Commission:




Ronald H. Marvel, Chairman



William C. Kelly, Vice Chairman



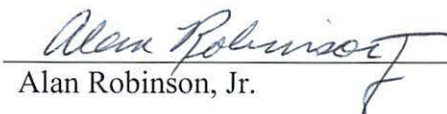
Lynn Truitt




Richard Perillo



Joseph J. Leonetti, Sr.



Alan Robinson, Jr.



Daniel Carrier

3/21/2023