



A Message from the State Fire Marshal Chief Daniel Berlant October 2025



Welcome to the October 2025 edition of the CAL FIRE - Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) Newsletter.

As California enters the fall season, CAL FIRE – OSFM continues to lead with innovation, education, and public safety initiatives that reflect its mission to protect people, property, and natural resources. This October, we highlight key developments and reminders that underscore the agency's commitment to both operational excellence and community engagement.

October also marks Fire Prevention Week, observed annually during the week of October 6. This tradition commemorates the Great Chicago Fire of 1871, a devastating event that claimed over 250 lives and destroyed more than 17,500 structures. The tragedy catalyzed the development of modern building codes and fire safety standards across the United States and contributed to the establishment of California's Office of the State Fire Marshal in 1923.

As Halloween approaches, CAL FIRE – OSFM reminds everyone to keep fire safety in mind while celebrating. Choosing flame-resistant costumes, avoiding long, trailing materials, and using battery-operated lights instead of open flames can help ensure a fun and fire-free holiday.

Looking ahead, CAL FIRE – OSFM invites stakeholders to join the next National Emergency Response Information System (NERIS) webinar on October 20 at 1:00 p.m., where Deputy Chief Mike Morlan will provide updates on the NERIS transition, and representatives from Record Management System (RMS) vendors will share how they are preparing their platforms for the change. Questions can be submitted in advance to CalStats@fire.ca.gov. Additionally, a reminder that license renewals for Automatic Fire Extinguishing Systems, as well as Fire Extinguisher Business and Technician licenses, are due between September 1 and November 1. Applications can be submitted through calfire.gov/motus.org, with support available via email for both AES and FE licensing.

From operational enhancements to public education and seasonal safety, CAL FIRE – OSFM continues to lead with purpose and preparedness. Stay safe, stay informed, and thank you for being part of California's fire-resilient future. Thanks for taking the time to catch up on the important work of our team. As always, please have a fire-safe day!

Daniel Berlant
California State Fire Marshal