



South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation

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For Immediate Release:

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State Fire Academy Graduates 15 in December

The South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation's South Carolina Fire Academy graduated 15 students, Friday, December 11, 2009, from its eight-week firefighter candidate school in Columbia. Keynote speaker was Joe Palmer, Executive Director for the South Carolina Firefighters Association.

The firefighters from 13 fire departments across the state and one out-of-country department underwent a 320-hour training program of classroom and hands-on firefighting skills development.

The in-depth training, offered quarterly at the Fire Academy, includes emergency responder first aid training, hazardous materials operations training, auto extrication, flammable liquids and gas firefighting, rescue training, National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Firefighter I and Firefighter II levels.

"This is a very challenging program that requires team work, in-depth study, extensive hands-on training with live fires, eight practical skills evaluations and seven written tests to meet the National Fire Protection Association standards," Fire Academy Superintendent Ed Roper said.

The following students graduated December 11, 2009:

- **Michael Borich**
- **Jacob Gohagan**
- **Joseph Harvin**
- **David Jenkins**
- **Stuart Johnson**
- **Michael Jordan**
- **Charles Long, Jr.**
- **Kevin Long**
- **Logan Misevicz**
- **Raymond Riles, Jr.**
- **Caromi Fire Department**
- **Estill Fire Department**
- **West Florence Fire Department**
- **Tigerville Fire Department**
- **Aiken Department Public Safety**
- **West Columbia Fire Department**
- **Hampton County Fire Rescue**
- **Hampton County Fire Rescue**
- **Montmorenci Volunteer Fire Department**
- **Colleton Fire Rescue**

