

FIRE PROTECTION LICENSING BOARD

Enabling Laws

Act 18 of 2003

Act 743 of 1977 as amended. See A.C.A. § 20-22-606

History and Organization

The Arkansas Fire Protection Licensing Board was created in 1977. In 1984 the automatic fire sprinkler contracting industry sought licensing legislation and in 1985 Act 702 brought the sprinkler industry under this Board.

The Board is comprised of eleven (11) Board members, appointed by the Governor. The Board employs an Executive Secretary and an Investigator.

The following is a listing of the Arkansas Fire Protection Licensing Board Members:

Diane Hughes, Chairman

Vernon McTeer, Vice Chairman

Ken Dunk

W. A. "Al" Davis

Alan Carlisle

James Thompson

Terry Gray

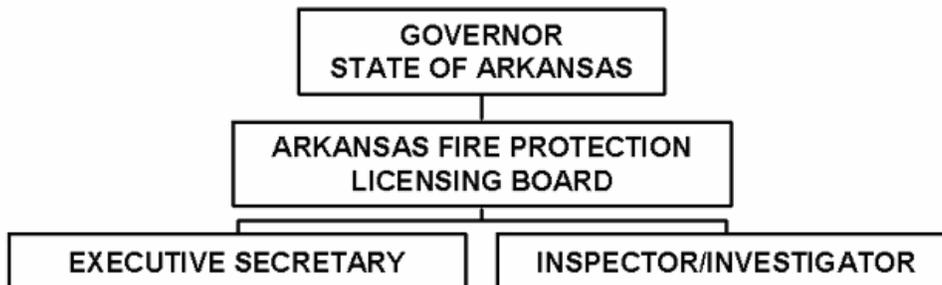
Lori Roach

Charles Gunn

Robert Black

State Fire Marshal

The purpose and intent of Act 743 is to provide monitoring of the servicing of portable fire extinguishers, installation and/or servicing of fixed fire suppression systems and the installation and/or servicing of the sprinkler fire systems. Additionally, Act 743 provides for the registration and licensing of firms and individuals providing such services in order to protect and promote public safety by minimizing injury and property damage which might result from improperly installed and improperly maintained fire protection systems.



Agency Commentary

The Fire Protection Licensing Board will work with licensed firms to assist in understanding the state, local and national fire codes. By aiding in the education of installers and servicing firms, as well as the general public, our agency will provide quality fire protection for a reasonable rate.

The Fire Protection Licensing Board will assist in the protection and promotion of public safety by minimizing personal injury and property damage resulting from improperly installed or maintained fire protection systems. The installation, servicing and maintaining of portable, fixed fire suppression and fire protection sprinkler systems as derived from the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) publications and it is the intent of this industry to provide input to this Association for upgrading and revisions of industry codes and resources. The Board will also provide information to the general public regarding the requirements of the fire protection systems and licensed firms and individuals for use in their fire protection needs.

The Investigator will respond to complaints received regarding company, individual or systems for compliance with Act 743 and the Rules and Regulations of the State of Arkansas. The Board will respond to the complaints by means of Regulatory Hearings.

Fire protection firms working in the State of Arkansas must be licensed with the Arkansas Fire Protection Licensing Board. Employees of respective firms installing, servicing or performing maintenance of the various fire suppression systems must be licensed with this Board. The Arkansas Fire Protection Licensing Board will make random checks of firms to ascertain that company servicing tags are in order, insurance is in effect, licensing and training are current, as well as any other areas which might have an adverse effect to the well being of individuals.

The increase in the budget request for non personnel is based on projected increases in products and/or services.

Audit Findings

DIVISION OF LEGISLATIVE AUDIT
AUDIT OF :
ARKANSAS FIRE PROTECTION LICENSING BOARD
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2003

Findings	Recommendations
None	None

Employment Summary

	Male	Female	Total	%
White Employees	1	1	2	100 %
Black Employees	0	0	0	0 %
Other Racial Minorities	0	0	0	0 %
Total Minorities			0	0 %
Total Employees			2	100 %

Publications

A.C.A 25-1-204

Name	Statutory Authorization	Required for		# Of Copies	Reason (s) for Continued Publication and Distribution
		Governor	General Assembly		
None	N/A	N	N	0	N/A

Analysis of Budget Request

Appropriation / Program: 920 - Fire Protection Operations

Funding Sources: MFP - Fire Protection Licensing Board

Created by Act 743 of 1977, the Arkansas Fire Protection Licensing Board strives to help protect the public through the certification and licensing of individuals and companies that install and service fire extinguishers and sprinkler systems. The Board is funded from examination and renewal fees charged pursuant to Arkansas Code Annotated §20-22-610.

Base Level for this appropriation includes graduated salary increases of 3% to 1.5% each year over FY05 salary levels, along with related Personal Services Matching costs for two (2) Base Level positions. This includes a \$600 minimum increase for employees earning \$20,000 or below. Included in Personal Services Matching is a \$40 increase in the monthly contribution for State employee's health insurance for a total State match of \$320 per month.

The Board is requesting an increase in the Operating Expenses line item of \$2,104 for FY06 and \$4,829 for FY07. The request is to cover postage and mileage for the investigator due to the increasing number of complaints. The Board is also requesting an increase in Travel of \$200 for FY06 and \$300 for FY07 to attend trainings and seminars. The Board is requesting an increase in Professional Fees each year for ongoing public hearings. The Board is decreasing the Data Processing line item by \$1,000 each year to bring the appropriation more in line with actual expenditures.

The Executive Recommendation provides for the Agency Request in FY06. In FY07, the Executive provides Agency Request for the various Maintenance and General Operation line items except Operating Expenses. The Operating Expenses are to continue at the FY06 recommended amount of \$35,025.

Appropriation / Program Summary

Appropriation / Program: 920 Fire Protection Operations
Funding Sources: MFP - Fire Protection Licensing Board

Commitment Item	Historical Data			Agency Request and Executive Recommendation					
	2003-2004 Actual	2004-2005 Budget	2004-2005 Authorized	2005-2006			2006-2007		
				Base Level	Agency	Executive	Base Level	Agency	Executive
Regular Salaries 5010000	47,351	49,723	49,723	51,214	51,214	51,214	52,749	52,749	52,749
#Positions	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Personal Services Matching 5010003	15,996	16,888	15,339	18,169	18,169	18,169	18,483	18,483	18,483
Operating Expenses 5020002	24,780	32,921	32,921	32,921	35,025	35,025	32,921	37,750	35,025
Travel-Conference Fees 5050009	2,990	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,200	3,200	3,000	3,300	3,300
Professional Fees and Services 5060010	800	965	965	965	1,000	1,000	965	1,000	1,000
Data Processing 5090012	1,406	2,500	2,500	2,500	1,500	1,500	2,500	1,500	1,500
Capital Outlay 5120011	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	93,323	105,997	104,448	108,769	110,108	110,108	110,618	114,782	112,057
Funding Sources									
Fund Balance 4000005	154,425	164,297		188,300	188,300	188,300	208,192	208,192	208,192
Fees 4000245	103,195	130,000		128,661	130,000	130,000	125,836	130,000	127,275
Total Funding	257,620	294,297		316,961	318,300	318,300	334,028	338,192	335,467
Excess Appropriation/(Funding)	(164,297)	(188,300)		(208,192)	(208,192)	(208,192)	(223,410)	(223,410)	(223,410)
Grand Total	93,323	105,997		108,769	110,108	110,108	110,618	114,782	112,057

The FY05 Budgeted amount in Personal Services Matching exceeds the authorized amount due to matching rate adjustments during the 2003-05 biennium.

Change Level by Appropriation

Appropriation / Program: 920-Fire Protection Operations

Funding Sources: MFP - Fire Protection Licensing Board

Agency Request

Change Level		2005-2006	Pos	Cumulative	% of BL	2006-2007	Pos	Cumulative	% of BL
BL	Base Level	108,769	2	108,769	100.0	110,618	2	110,618	100.0
C01	Existing Program	3,573	0	112,342	103.2	6,398	0	117,016	105.7
C03	Discontinue Program	(2,234)	0	110,108	101.2	(2,234)	0	114,782	103.7

Executive Recommendation

Change Level		2005-2006	Pos	Cumulative	% of BL	2006-2007	Pos	Cumulative	% of BL
BL	Base Level	108,769	2	108,769	100.0	110,618	2	110,618	100.0
C01	Existing Program	3,573	0	112,342	103.2	3,673	0	114,291	103.3
C03	Discontinue Program	(2,234)	0	110,108	101.2	(2,234)	0	112,057	101.3

Justification

C01	The increases are needed for mileage for the investigator due to the increase in number of complaints, postage, seminars, trainings, and ongoing public hearings.
C03	There are decreases in Operating Expenses for \$1,234 for DP equipment and other services and also in Data Processing for \$1,000.