

**FIRE SAFETY ISSUE**  
**January 1991**

**Primary responsibility: Karen Fernicola**

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**Overview**

In accordance with our 1991 fire safety issue plan, we continued to strengthen relationships with fire officials in key states and organizations this month. We also fulfilled a number of grant requests, and moved TriData Corporation's latest research report to its final phase before printing. Meanwhile, the federal government planned the first Technical Advisory Group meeting as per the Fire Safe Cigarette Act of 1990.

**Highlights**

Our first fire safety issue meeting of the year was held in anticipation of the February 1 meeting of the Technical Advisory Group (TAG) of the Fire Safe Cigarette Act of 1990. In response to a request from member companies in preparation for the TAG meeting, we worked with the Information Center to learn more about the recent activities of the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

The blueline for the TriData report Proving Public Fire Education Works entered the final approval process. Printing should be complete in February, with initial distribution completed by mid-March. As per the 1991 plan, promotion of the report has been ongoing. Several presentations on the report will be given at fire conferences in 1991.

As we do each year, we assisted the National Volunteer Fire Council officers and legislative committee in coming to Washington to lobby their Members of Congress on fire issues and set their organizational agenda for 1991.

We also introduced to the officers a candidate for National Volunteer Fire Council publicist. The interview went well, and the NVFC requested a "trial run" article and press release from the candidate.

In line with our strategy of conferring with the fire service in priority states and organizations, we traveled to Oregon and Washington state to inform key fire service officials of The Institute's Fire Safety Education Program and to update them on the "fire-safe" cigarette issue. Included were the new Oregon state fire marshal and his staff, the president of the Oregon Association of Fire Fighters and the executive director of the Washington Fire Chiefs Association.

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We also met with the New Jersey and New York state fire marshals to update them on the "fire-safe" cigarette issue and to determine whether state-level "fire-safe" cigarette legislation was on the agenda of fire groups in either state.

We arranged a meeting with representatives of the National Association of State Fire Marshals and Philip Morris USA to discuss details of a smoke detector campaign proposal.

End-of-year 1990 funds allowed us to fulfill a number of grants to fire departments whose requests we had been holding until the new budget year. With 1991 funds, we were able to address the remainder of our backlogged money requests from 1990.

**Next Month's Goals**

Complete progress report on computerized fire safety grants system.

Obtain approval of distribution and promotion plan for Proving Public Fire Education Works.

Submit for review suggested updates/changes to brochure, "Accidental Fires: Where The Tobacco Institute Stands."

Draft piece on fire safety issue for "In the Public Interest" brochure.