FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Harvard Fellowship Award Recipients Are Announced

STILLWATER, Oklahoma (May 1, 2012) - United States Fire Administration announced today that four senior fire officials were selected for fellowships to attend the Harvard University's Senior Executives in State and Local Government Program this summer at the John F. Kennedy School of Government. The 19-day program includes other state and local government leaders from across the country and focuses on exploring the interrelationships between citizens and government, analyzing policy options, and examining the ethical and professional responsibilities of leadership.

United States Fire Administration (USFA) and its funding partners Fire Protection Publications/International Fire Service Training Association (IFSTA), International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC), and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) work together each year with Harvard University to make the benefits of this prestigious program available to senior fire and emergency services leaders. The fellowships were awarded by Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government's Admission Committee based upon recommendations of a nominating panel that included representatives of the sponsoring organizations and former program participants. The final element of the competitive selection process was held at USFA’s National Emergency Training Center in Emmitsburg, Maryland, on April 27, 2012.

The following individuals were selected to attend the 2012 Harvard Fellowship Program:

Claude Beauchamp, Director of Operations, Quebec National Fire Academy
Martha Ellis, Division Chief, Salt Lake City (UT) Corporation Fire Department
Matthew James Fratus, Fire Chief, City of Rialto (CA) Fire Department
Bertral Washington, Fire Chief, Clark County (NV) Fire Department

IFSTA Executive Director Mike Wieder commented “IFSTA and Fire Protection Publications at Oklahoma State University are delighted to support the Harvard Fellowship Program. Many of the past selectees have also been active members of the IFSTA organization. Their participation in this program not only benefits their own organizations, but also IFSTA and the people who use our materials.”

Formed by a group of state fire training directors in 1934, IFSTA’s mission is to develop and validate high-quality training materials for the fire service. Since their inception, IFSTA has worked with Fire Protection Publications (FPP) at Oklahoma State University (OSU) to produce and distribute these materials. IFSTA/FPP is the largest publisher of fire training materials in North America and their products are used worldwide. FPP is an outreach program of the College of Engineering, Architecture, and Technology at OSU in Stillwater, Oklahoma.

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