

Scotts Valley Fire Protection District	Policy: 700
Subject: Fire Prevention Division Policies	DATED: March 23, 1998


Policy 700: Fire Prevention Division Policies

1. The Scotts Valley Fire Protection District hereby establishes the Fire Prevention Division for the purpose of safe guarding its citizens through a comprehensive community fire safety and enforcement program. The program shall consist of public education, fire prevention, code enforcement and fire investigation.
2. The fire district's public education, through printed material, electronic media, special programs, and personal contacts shall advise and educate the public on how to prevent, prepare for, and recover from fires, disasters, medical emergencies and hazardous material incidents.
3. The Fire Prevention Division shall be responsible for the enforcement of laws and regulations for the safeguarding of life and property from hazards of fire, explosion and from conditions hazardous to life and property. Fire safety laws, regulations and standards shall be applied to the use, construction, and maintenance of buildings through permit review, plan check and field inspection activities.
4. The fire district shall adopt and maintain a fire prevention code to address local conditions and shall be used in addition to state and county laws and regulations. Authority for adopting said code is found in the California Health And Safety Code.
5. The Fire Prevention Division shall be responsible for the investigation of the cause, origin, and circumstances of fire. Personnel may be called upon to assist in determining the cause, origin, and circumstances of unauthorized hazardous material release, spill or disposal. Training shall be provided and procedures established to ensure that investigative personnel are available to meet the needs of the fire district.
6. The fire chief or his/her authorized representative shall have the authority to issue an order to correct or eliminate a fire or life safety hazard pursuant to the California Health and Safety Code. District employees assigned to the Fire Prevention Division, or acting under the direction of the fire chief, shall have the powers of a peace officer in accordance with the California Health and Safety Code.

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7. A written notice shall be issued whenever a fire code or hazardous material violation is encountered. The notice shall be issued to the persons responsible for the premises or their authorized representatives. The fire district shall regularly adopt ordinances prescribing regulations governing violations of the fire code and providing for designated employees to issue and enforce citations in accordance with the California Penal Code.

8. The fire chief or his/her designated representative may issue directives or implement operating procedures to carry out the fire prevention programs.

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Board Chairperson:  Fire Chief: 