



Firehouse Notes

June
2007

We Are Hiring

The St. George Fire Protection District Civil Service Board has called for the Office of State Examiner to administer civil service exams in September and October. The full spectrum of exams including entry Firefighter/Operator, Fire Captain, District Fire Chief, Assistant Fire Chief, and Chief of Operations is being called for. The Firefighter/Operator is a competitive position. All others are promotional.

Applications will be accepted for the Civil Service Exams from Tuesday, July 10, 2007 until 3:00PM on Friday, August 10, 2007.

The exam schedule is as follows:

Firefighter @ 8:30 a.m. on September 17

Fire Captain @ 9:30 a.m. on September 17

District Fire Chief @ 8:30 a.m. on October 3

Chief of Operations @ 8:30 a.m. on October 3

Assistant Fire Chief @ 1:00 p.m. on October 3

If you have any questions call Patricia Senn, Chief Albert, or Chief Tarleton.

The fire academy which had been tentatively scheduled to begin in late August will be pushed back to later in the year. Hopefully, this round of testing will bring a number of qualified candidates to the hiring pool as we continue to grow with the District.

Final Hurdle Cleared to Baton Rouge / State Firefighter Pension Merger for St. George Employees

The Legislative Joint Retirement Committee met on Monday June 18th and granted approval for the merger of members of the Baton Rouge Retirement System employed by St. George into the State Firefighter Retirement System. Each of the affected employees will exercise an individual option to move to the State Firefighter Retirement System or remain in the City-Parish Retirement System. All that remains to be done is the final actuarial study and the transfer of funds to cover the cost of the moves.

Do You Have Anything You'd Like to Share? ... Graduation, Wedding, or New Addition to The Family? ... Please Share It With Us.

Legislative Session Ended June 28th

The gavel came down in both the House and Senate chambers at 6:00PM June 28th ending the 2007 Regular Legislative Session.

That marked the end of the final scheduled session for two of the state representatives whose districts include part of the St. George Fire Protection District. State Representatives Carl Crane and William Daniel are term limited out of their respective seats. From the Baton Rouge area, Representatives Donald Ray Kennard and Yvonne Dorsey, who have been friends and supporters of the fire service are also term limited. In all, 45 of 105 Representatives and 15 of 39 Senators will be leaving office.

In her opening remarks to the legislature on April 30th, Governor Blanco indicated her support for increased fire and police supplemental pay. That measure passed easily and is awaiting the Governor's signature to become law. It raised state supplemental pay from \$300 to \$425 per month. It is due to become effective on July 1, the beginning of the State's fiscal year.

Another bill which passed this session is a constitutional amendment by Senator Clo Fontenot to prohibit the State from ever lowering or not funding state pay. That item will be on the state-wide ballot on October 20. If it passes the state-wide vote, the effect would be to virtually guarantee the state pay supplement in the future.

Also making it through the process and awaiting the Governor's signature is a bill requiring the sale of cigarettes meeting the New York State Safety Standard for Cigarettes. This standard has been promoted by NFPA for several years and requires cigarettes to self extinguish when put down or to burn at lower temperatures. This would cut down on the number of smoking fires, one of the leading causes of fire deaths in the nation. This measure is already in effect in a number of states.