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Since our last CSLSA meeting in April of 2004, the CLTOA has met three times to discuss various training issues. We had a meeting in May in Seal Beach, in September at Camp Pendelton, and this month (October 2004) in San Clemente. Terry Murphy is currently the chairman of the association. A brief general account of items discussed at our previous meetings is as follows:

1. College lifesaving degree program
2. ICS Training
3. Incident Command Guidelines
4. Curriculum review
5. Mutual aid dive training

COLLEGE DEGREE PROGRAM

One of the long-term interests of the association is to establish an accredited 2-year college degree program in lifesaving to be offered at specific California Community Colleges. Currently, a wide variety of lifeguard classes are already being conducted through various junior colleges in California, and Miramar College has the first lifesaving AA degree program, similar to a Fire Technology degree for firefighters. The goal is to bring all counties together to form a standardized college curriculum. A standardized curriculum offered at various colleges would create legitimate State industry standards, increase professional credibility, and also provide a sound basis of education for a full-time lifeguard or officer. This will require, however, standards and curriculum to be researched and developed for specialized courses such as lifeguard ICS training, IRB training, cliff rescue, PWC, Rescue Boat, Beach Driving, etc.

ICS TRAINING

A college accredited lifeguard Incident Command System 200 and 300 courses are soon to be offered by the California State Fire Marshall. The ICS 200 course is 16 hours, and the ICS 300 course is 24 hours. If you have ever taken an ICS class you probably know that they are usually taught to fire students by firefighters. This course, however, will be designed for lifeguards, specifically to meet our needs for an ICS course. Once the curriculum is completed and reviewed by the Training Committee, classes will be scheduled accordingly.

INCIDENT COMMAND GUIDELINES

One focus of our discussions has been to establish an ICS outline/Template that can be used by any agency for a mutual response aquatic incident. Additionally, we anticipate the outline to become part of a future college curriculum. Our goal is to take the State Fire Marshal ICS deployment model and use it to develop our own *Regional Dive Training Guidelines*, and insert a flip chart or simple user-friendly outline. Our intention is to have something that all departments can follow that puts us all on the same page with other public service agencies, and with each other. The idea is that if you are called out to respond to a multi-agency mutual aid incident, everyone is familiar with the same terminology, and is clear on how things are going to be structured. Right now it seems that many departments have their own ICS protocols that they follow (and they are all probably pretty similar). The goal is to come up with a standardized aquatic format that follows the same structure and terms used by Fire, EMS, Sheriffs, Coast Guard, etc.

CURRICULUM REVIEW

Another focus of our meetings has been to evaluate certain curriculum for lifeguard courses. For example, most agencies use Red Cross or AHA CPR books and courses for their lifeguard training. But, what material is used for your IRB training? Well, in that regard, one of our goals is to look at the curriculum from Miramar and the other departments that teach these specialized subjects, and to establish certain minimum standards for these courses. There are certain courses that are already recognized by the colleges, such as Naui and Padi SCUBA courses, CPR courses, and so forth. Specifically, we have already identified nine books and courses that meet this criterion. They are as follows:

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| 1) NAUI- Open Water Scuba Diver | 2) NAUI- Advanced Scuba Diver |
| 3) NAUI- Scuba Rescue Diver | 4) USLA Manual |
| 5) PC 832 | 6) EMT- State Fire Marshal |
| 7) AHA- BLS CPR for Healthcare Provider /AED Manual | |
| 8) ARC- Emergency Responder | 9) US DOT- First Responder Manual. |

TRAINING/ NEXT MEETING

Our next meeting is scheduled for December 2, 2004, at 1000 in Laguna Beach. All training officers are welcome! A multi-agency ICS functional exercise will be scheduled after the first of the year. Tentative locations discussed were Laguna Beach or Lake Mission Viejo. If you have any questions about curriculum or courses being offered please call Terry Murphy at (949) 378-4720, or David Peden at (949) 770-1313 ext. 220. Hope to see you at the next meeting!