

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID		Agenda Number	11.
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Meeting Date:	10/20/2011	Department:	Austin Fire Department
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Subject

Approve payment of annual firefighter renewal certification fees to the Texas Commission on Fire Protection from the Austin Fire Department (AFD) in the amount of \$82,195 for Fiscal Year 2011-2012 and for the future annual recurring certification fees not to exceed \$120,000.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding in the amount of \$82,195 is available in the Fiscal Year 2011-2012 Operating Budget of the Austin Fire Department.

Fiscal Note

There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

Purchasing Language:	
Prior Council Action:	
For More Information:	Doug Fowler, Assistant Chief, 974-0136 or Tom Dodds, Division Chief, 974-0130.
Boards and Commission Action:	
MBE / WBE:	
Related Items:	

Additional Backup Information

The Texas Commission on Fire Protection (TCFP) is the governmental regulatory agency established by Chapter 419 of the Texas Government Code. TCFP establishes minimum educational, training, physical, and mental standards for admission to employment as fire protection personnel in a permanent, temporary, or probationary status and for advanced or specialized fire protection personnel positions.

Under Section 419.026 Fees for Certificates, the commission shall set and collect a fee for each certificate that the commission issues or renews under this subchapter, except that if a person holds more than one certificate the commission may collect only one fee each year for the renewal of those certificates. The commission by rule shall set the amount of the fee under this subsection in an amount designed to recover the commission's costs in connection with issuing certificates under this subchapter, including the cost to the commission of obtaining fingerprint-based criminal history record information under Section 419.0325. The employing agency or entity shall pay the fee in a manner prescribed by commission rule. The certificate must be renewed annually.

The fee set by TCFP for 2012 has been increased from \$35.00 to \$85.00 per person. The Fire Department is required

to pay this fee for all uniformed personnel, the Fire Chief and AFD Engineers. If the annual fee is not paid TCFP has the regulatory authority to revoke AFD's status as a Fire Department in the State of Texas. Certification fees are due to the TCFP by October 31st each year to avoid late fees of 50% or more.