



**Budget Amendment
CITY OF AUSTIN
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

AGENDA ITEM NO.: 4
AGENDA DATE: Thu 01/13/2005
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SUBJECT: Adopt an ordinance to establish classifications and positions in the classified service of the Austin Fire Department and repeal Ordinance No. 040913-06.

AMOUNT & SOURCE OF FUNDING: N/A

FISCAL NOTE: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

**REQUESTING Fire
DEPARTMENT:**

**DIRECTOR'S
AUTHORIZATION:** Jim Evans

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Jim Evans, 974-4100; Amy Singer, 974-4120

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION: Classification Ordinance No. 040913-06 adopted by Council on 09/13/04.

BOARD AND COMMISSION ACTION: N/A

This ordinance repeals the classification ordinance adopted by Council on September 13, 2004. The number of Fire Department Civil Service positions within five classifications are changed.

The classification ordinance changes are required to facilitate the staffing of the Del Valle fire station to open January, 2005; the reduction of one Assistant Chief position due to a retirement; and the implementation of the Field Training Officer program which increases the number of captains.

To establish a Field Training Officer program to support the Battalion Chief Safety program, three firefighter positions will be converted to the rank of Captain. The Captain Field Training Officer (FTO) program, similar to the existing FTO programs of APD and ATC/EMS, promotes uniformity to the professional development of newly promoted Operations officers. It allows the department to take advantage of "non-traditional" training times (weekends/evenings) for further officer development and provides a backup for the shift Safety Officers as well.

The result of all these changes is reflected as follows:

- Decrease the number of Assistant Chiefs by 1 from 4 to 3.
- Increase the number of Captains by 3 from 64 to 67.
- Increase the number of Lieutenants by 3 from 164 to 167.
- Increase the number of Fire Specialists by 3 from 184 to 187.
- Decrease the number of Firefighters by 9 from 583 to 574.