

# Minnesota Department of Public Safety State Fire Marshal Division

## SFMD at a glance

### What we do

The State Fire Marshal Division provides the following services intended to increase fire and life safety for Minnesota residents and to support local fire departments and law enforcement agencies, other government entities, and the public:

- Conduct investigations into fire origins and causes.
- Perform fire and life safety inspections for schools, health care facilities, hotels/motels, day cares, fire protection systems, etc.
- Provide fire and life safety education resources.
- Adopt and interpret the Minnesota State Fire Code.
- Collect and analyze fire data from Minnesota fire departments.
- Develop and deliver fire investigation, fire inspection, fire code enforcement, fire and life safety education, and fire loss data training programs.
- Provide specialized resources for fire departments.

### Our teams

#### Fire investigations

There are 11 fire investigators and a chief investigator to help local authorities determine fire cause and origin. Investigators can provide consultation services and assist with investigations. Fire departments can call the State Duty Officer 800-422-0798 or 651-649-5451 to request an investigator.

#### Residential care and lodging inspections

In addition to providing fire code training to child care providers and conducting complaint inspections, the Residential Care and Lodging Team inspects:

- Hotels (three-year cycle)
- Day care facilities
- Family child care facilities
- Adult day care facilities
- Foster care facilities

#### Schools inspections

The School Team inspects each of Minnesota's roughly 1,750 public and charter school buildings on a three-year cycle to identify and correct fire and life safety violations that have historically contributed to disastrous events in schools.



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## Health care inspections

The Health Care Team inspects all the health care facilities licensed by the Minnesota Department of Health and those federally certified by the Federal Centers for Medicare/Medicaid Services for federal reimbursement. Inspections include:

- Nursing homes
- Boarding care homes
- Hospitals
- Supervised living facilities

As required by the Minnesota Department of Corrections (DOC), the team also inspects prisons, jails and detention centers.

## Fire protection/code enforcement/fire data

This team's mission is to save lives and property, reduce business interruption, collect and analyze fire-loss data, and minimize the environmental impact from fire and hazardous materials. The team:

- Collects and analyzes statewide fire data.
- Guides development of state fire code.
- Provides fire code information.
- Licenses and certifies fire protection personnel.
- Conducts fire protection system plan reviews and inspections, and issues permits.

## State services and support

The State Services and Support Team includes SFMD fire service specialists, public educators and the State Emergency Response Teams.

The fire service specialists are liaisons to fire departments who provide resources for department management, training and grants.

The SFMD public educators provide training and resources for fire and life safety, promote fire-safe behavior, and assist with youth fire intervention.

The SFMD State Emergency Response Teams staff coordinate the State Response Teams, assist with training and resources, and provide on-call services to deploy teams.

## **Contact us**

State Fire Marshal Jim Smith: 651-201-7201

Chief Deputy State Fire Marshal Amanda Swenson: 651-201-7202

Learn more about the SFMD at [sfm.dps.mn.gov](http://sfm.dps.mn.gov). Reach the SFMD by phone at 651-201-7200.

