ASRC Conference Training Officer Report

2/3 – 2/5 2012 – ASRC Board of Directors Meeting

Prepared by Chris Ruch, ASRC CTO

ASRC v7.0 Training Standards Update

The ASRC v7.0 Training Standards were approved by electronic vote of the ASRC Board in early January. An implementation plan was also approved that set an effective date for the new training standards as 90 day from the vote approving them or the next ASRC Board meeting, whichever comes first. Since the vote was held electronically and off-cycle this created a situation where the training standards are going into effect as of this Board meeting, only 3 weeks after they were approved. This has not provided enough time for the Conference Training Officer to coordinate implementation with the Groups. Additionally, it is clear that additional motions for modification to the standards will be made at this meeting, making it difficult to begin the implementation process. Therefore, it is recommended that the implementation date be extended until the next regularly scheduled Board meeting, to allow for the CTO and the Groups to review the final training standards and create the appropriate checklists, position books, and communication.

About NIMS Standards and the v7.0 Training Standards

The main driving focus behind the update to the training standards was to ensure they met NIMS compliance standards and to remove any specific requirements for classes that are not widely available across the ASRC's entire operating area. This particularly impacted the CQ, FTM, FTL, and IS/SM4 levels since they are covered and defined in the NIMS standards. Many of our other ASRC certifications exceed or are more detailed than NIMS defined positions (which is a fine and good thing). The CTO *strongly* discourages modifying the requirements for the IS/SM4 level. Specifically, several officers/Board members have proposed increasing the educational requirements at this level. The currently requirements (ICS-300 and a 40 hours class equivalent to MSO/MLPI) are based on NIMS requirements. If additional education hours are required at this level the ASRC will return to the old state where members meeting the recognized NIMS national standard for a search manager would still only be considered at most an FTL by the ASRC. IS/SM4 requirements should remain at the NIMS required level. The higher level SM3, SM2, and SM1 are the appropriate place for additional requirement exceeding the NIMS national standards.

Incident Staff/Incident Commander to Search Manager Change

Some Board members have expressed some confusion about members that were certified as IS, IC-III, IC-II, and IC-I under the v6.3 training standards now that the new v7.0 standards are in place. Some have said that the Board may need to vote to recognize some conversion of their certification status v6.3 to v7.0. This is unnecessary. The ASRC v7.0 Training Standard as approved by the ASRC Board of Directors *clearly* states that the Incident Commander and Incident Staff certifications have been **renamed** (See page 2 of the Summary of Major Changes notes that are part of the approved document). SM4, SM3, SM2, SM1 are not new certification levels, they have simply been renamed and updated. Further, the approved Implementation Plan makes it clear that the title change from Incident Commander to Search Manager will go into effect as of the effective date of the training standards. If confusion about this remains, I suggest the Board specifically approve the title change for all existing IS/IC/SM. It should be made clear this title change in no way impacts the recertification dates for the effected members.

IS/SM Promotions:

- Andrew Hower and Chris Ruch (the CTO) both repeated submitted applications for Incident Staff under the v6.3 Training Standards without the Board taking action on them for Incident Staff. Both have updated their applications to reflect how their compliance with the new v7.0 training standard. Both have applied for IS/SM4 and SM3. The CTO has reviewed these applications and found them to be complete, which both candidates meeting all of the required standards for SM3 and all of the required certification levels below that (note that for several years AMRG has already required FTMs and FTLs to have the classes required that are now included the new ASRC v7.0 Training Standards, so the AMRG FTM and FTLs are already fully compliant with the new ASRC Training Standards). The complete applications and supporting documents have been forwarded to the Board separately.

IS/IC/MS Recertifications

A number of IS/IC members are up for renewal in on 1 January 2012. All members up for renewal were contacted in October 2011 and provided with the renewal check sheet to be completed before the next board meeting. The members up for renewal at the beginning of 2012 include:

- Dawn Smith, IS/SM4 – Has submitted a checklist showing that she meets the recertification requirements. However, not all supporting material has been received. It is recommended that the Board grant recertification at the IS/SM4 level pending receive of all supporting material. The CTO will confirm receipt of the supporting documentation by the next regularly schedule ASRC Board Meeting.

- Robert Koester, IC/SM-I -- Has stated his intent to recertify, but has not submitted a recertification checklist yet. The CTO recommends a 3 month extension be granted to allow additional time to complete the recertification checklist.

- Rita Krenz, IS/SM4 -- Has stated her intent to recertify, but has not submitted a recertification checklist yet. The CTO recommends a 3 month extension be granted to allow additional time to complete the recertification checklist.

- Pepper Broad, IS/SM4 -- Has stated his intent to recertify, but has not submitted a recertification checklist yet and has requested a 6 months extension. The CTO recommends a 3 month extension be granted to allow additional time to complete the recertification checklist.

- Dan Patterson, IS/SM4 – Has not replied to the recertification reminder sent in October.

- Andrew Dorsett, IC/SM-III – Has not replied to the recertification reminder sent in October.