

INCIDENT SAFETY OFFICER

1733

(November 1991)

The department recognizes the need for a qualified safety officer to provide staff assistance to the incident commander on an emergency incident, such as an extended attack, major fire, or earthquake (see Emergency Incident Management Procedures Handbook, Exhibit 7752 ICS Operational System Descriptions ICS-120-1, and Exhibit 7756 Field Operation Guide ICS-420-1). The duties and responsibilities of the safety officer include:

- Detecting hazardous conditions or operations on the incident site and at the incident base.
- Reducing or eliminating hazardous conditions or operations through management action.
- Investigating accidents that occur within the incident area. (For accidents involving death or serious injury, secure the accident site and preserve evidence for the appointed accident investigation team.)

Upon completing an assignment, the safety officer should submit a report to the local unit chief, the region chief, and the region safety coordinator relating significant safety problems, corrective actions taken, and recommendations for improving fire control operations.

To qualify for assignment as a safety officer, the employee should be qualified at the ICS division/group supervisor level and must complete the Safety Officer I401 course available from the CAL FIRE Academy (see Training Procedures Handbook Section 4043.3.45).

Prior to each fire season, the region safety coordinator will update the list of qualified fire safety officers in each region.

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[\(see Forms or Forms Samples\)](#)