Dawn Michele Bellis  
Secretary, Standards Council

28 August 2018

To: Interested Parties

Subject:

Standards Council Decision (Final): D#18-10  
Standards Council Agenda Item: SC#18-8-10-a-1  
Date of Decision*: 14 August 2018

NFPA 1001, Standard for Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications, 2019 Edition

Dear Interested Parties:

At its meeting of August 13-15, 2018, the Standards Council considered an appeal on the above referenced matter. The Council’s Final decision is now available and is attached herewith.

Sincerely,

Dawn Michele Bellis  
Secretary, NFPA Standards Council

cc: S. Everett, L. Fuller, S. Gallagher, R. Fash, E. Conlin  
Members, CC Professional Qualifications (PQU-AAC)  
Members, TC Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications (PQU-FFQ)  
Members, NFPA Standards Council (AAD-AAA)  
Individuals Providing Appeal Commentary

*NOTE: Participants in NFPA’s standards development process should know that limited review of this decision may be sought from the NFPA Board of Directors. For the rules describing the available review and the method for petitioning the Board for review, please consult section 1-7 of the Regulations Governing the Development of NFPA Standards and the NFPA Regulations Governing Petitions to the Board of Directors from Decisions of the Standards Council. Notice of the intent to file such a petition must be submitted to the Clerk of the Board of Directors within 15 calendar days of the Date of Decision noted in the subject line of this letter.
SUMMARY OF ACTION (for convenience only; not part of official decision): The Standards Council voted to deny the appeal to overturn the Technical Committee ballot results on CAM 1001-1, which accepts Public Comment No. 66, as passed on the floor of the NFPA Technical Meeting.

DECISION:
At its meeting of August 13-15, 2018, the Standards Council considered an appeal from Nancy Trench, Oklahoma State University. The appeal requests that the Standards Council overturn the Technical Committee amendment ballot results on Certified Amending Motion 1001-1 after it passed on the floor at the NFPA Technical Meeting for inclusion in the 2019 Edition of NFPA 1001, Standard for Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications. Specifically, the appeal requests acceptance of Public Comment No. 66.

As background, for the preceding two revision cycles of NFPA 1001, the Technical Committee on Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications has considered and rejected the inclusion of “community risk reduction” duties and related job performance requirements for “Fire Fighter I”. During the revision cycle for the 2019 edition of NFPA 1001, Ms. Trench submitted Public Comment No. 66 to propose a definition for community risk reduction as it relates to proposed job performance requirements. The Technical Committee rejected Public Comment No. 66 during the Second Draft meeting. Ms. Trench filed a Notice of Intent to Make a Motion (NITMAM) in accordance with the Regulations Governing the Development of NFPA Standards (“Regs”) which was certified as CAM 1001-1, and which passed on the floor of the June 2018 NFPA Technical Meeting by a vote of 270-11. However, the amendment ballot failed to achieve the ⅔ affirmative vote of the Technical Committee necessary to recommend approval of the Association action.

The appeal requests that the Standards Council overturn the recommendation yielded by the standards development process and accept Public Comment No. 66. On appeal, the Council accords great respect and deference to the NFPA standards development process. In conducting its review, the Council will overturn the results of that process only where a clear and substantial basis for doing so is demonstrated.

The Council has reviewed the entire record concerning this matter and has considered all the arguments put forth in this appeal. In the view of the Council, this appeal does not present any clear and substantial basis upon which to overturn the results yielded by the NFPA standards development process. Accordingly, the Council has voted to deny the appeal. The effect of this action is that NFPA 1001, Standard for Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications, 2019 Edition will not include the text of Public Comment No. 66.

The Council notes the overwhelming support for Public Comment No. 66 on the floor at the NFPA Technical Meeting and substantial fire fighter organizational support as evidenced by letters in support of Ms. Trench’s appeal. And although insufficiently supported by the Technical Committee for recommendation, the Council notes that CAM 1001-1 had support from a number of Committee members. In light of the notable support, the Council encourages the Technical Committee’s continued work and attention to this subject. Moreover, and based upon comments from several Technical Committee members,
if the Technical Committee believes that community risk reduction is beyond the scope of NFPA 1001, the Council reminds the Committee that it is within the Technical Committee’s authority to amend the standard’s scope. The Standards Council anticipates that the Technical Committee will consider revising the scope of NFPA 1001, if appropriate, during the next revision cycle.

Council Member Kerry Bell recused himself from the deliberations and vote on the appeal. Council Member Gary Keith wished to be recorded as voting negative.