

**FIP 152**  
**FIRE PROTECTION LAW**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

This course covers fire protection law. Topics include torts, legal terms, contracts, liability, review of case histories, and other related topics. Upon completion, students should be able to discuss laws, codes, and ordinances as they relate to fire protection. Class, 3. Semester Hours Credit, 3.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- a. Explain how the law functions in society.
- b. Differentiate between civil actions and criminal actions.
- c. Explain the judicial system.
- d. Discuss the organization and legal structure of the fire department.
- e. Interpret E.E.O.C. regulations.
- f. Identify the major types of department liability.
- g. Interpret laws regarding fire inspection and regulation.
- h. Distinguish the major principles of employment selection laws.
- i. Design a legal selection process.
- j. Interpret the rights of employees.
- k. Determine the conditions for termination.
- l. Explain the duty owed by the public to members of the fire department.
- m. Define the liabilities of fire fighters.
- n. Recognize legal duties of department members.

**OUTLINE OF INSTRUCTION:**

- I. Introduction to the law
  - a. Meaning
  - b. Sources
  - c. Constitutional
  - d. Statutory
  - e. Common
  
- II. Civil action
  - a. Lawsuits
  - b. Differences in civil and criminal actions
  - c. Parties involved

- III. Criminal actions
  - a. Criminal law
  - b. What is a crime
  - c. Parties to and types of crime
  - d. Punishments
  
- IV. Judicial system
  - a. Municipal courts
  - b. State courts
  - c. NC General Courts of Justice
  - d. Federal judicial system
  - e. US Supreme Court
  - f. Specialized federal courts
  - g. Courts procedures
  - h. Civil vs. criminal procedures
  
- V. Municipal fire protection
  - a. Fire department
  - b. Contracting for fire protection
  - c. Fire prevention codes
  - d. Fire limits
  - e. Annexation of rural fire districts
  
- VI. County fire protection
  - a. County fire departments
  - b. County fire marshals
  - c. Fire prevention codes
  
- VII. Rural fire protection districts
  - a. Insurance districts
  - b. Tax supported districts
  - c. County service districts
  
- VIII. Volunteer fire departments
  - a. Incorporation
  - b. Organization
  - c. Dissolution
  - d. State assistance
  
- IX. Investigation and inspections
  - a. Investigations
  - b. Inspections and warrants
  - c. School and day-care facilities
  
- X. Fire prevention codes

- XI. Mutual aid and hazardous materials
- XII. Fire department vehicles
- XIII. Civil liability for negligence
  - a. Governmental liability
  - b. Rural fire department liability
  - c. Liability of the individual fire fighter
- XIV. Benefits for fire fighters
  - a. Local relief fund
  - b. State relief fund
  - c. Fire fighter's pension fund
  - d. Worker's compensation
  - e. Death benefits
- XV. Insurance classifications
- XVI. Arson and unlawful burning

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND MATERIALS:**

Textbooks to be selected by instructor.

**STATEMENT FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:**

Students who require academic accommodations due to any physical, psychological, or learning disability are encouraged to request assistance from a disability services counselor within the first two weeks of class. Likewise, students who potentially require emergency medical attention due to any chronic health condition are encouraged to disclose this information to a disability services counselor within the first two weeks of class. Counselors can be contacted by calling 686-3652 or by visiting the Student Development Office in the Phail Wynn Jr. Student Services Center, room 1309.