

# Regional Fire Training Center Organizational Chart

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## **Executive Committee**

**YCCD Chancellor  
Modesto City Manager  
Stanislaus County CEO**

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## **Management Committee**

**MJC Vice President  
Modesto Fire Chief  
Stanislaus Fire Warden**

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## **Operations Committee**

**RFTC Program Director  
Modesto Training Officer  
Stanislaus Training Officer**

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## **RFTC Staff**

**RFTC Facility Technician  
RFTC Secretary  
Modesto Captain  
Stanislaus Captain**

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### **SCOPE OF PROJECT**

By pooling our resources, benefits of the Partnership Approach allowed for effective use of tax dollars that provided for much more facility to be purchased, and strengthened relationships. The Regional Fire Training Center includes features that would have been difficult to obtain had it not been for the partnership and includes:

### **CLASSROOM FACILITIES**

12,147 sq. ft. classroom and office building, including three state-of-the-art classrooms fully equipped with audio visual equipment, sound systems, and rear projection screens. We also offer video-taping capabilities and a satellite system for teleconferencing. Also included is a library consisting of books, periodicals, videos, and other training aids, including resources for the Stanislaus County Fire Chiefs' Library.

## **SIX STORY TRAINING TOWER**

5,816 sq. ft. six story concrete tower, including 2 computerized propane fired burn rooms, smoke capability through out, interior "high-rise" stairwell, exterior stairwell, high angle rescue area, confined space rescue props, Fire Department connection, standpipe, and sprinkler systems, and full basement.

## **TRAINING GROUNDS**

The training grounds have been designed with the space and features necessary to meet today's training needs including, a full NFPA and D.M.V. driving course, vehicle extrication area, flammable liquids prop, canal prop/drafting pit, and pump test area.

## **STRENGTHENED RELATIONSHIPS**

Working as partners, interaction between neighboring agencies are more common and relationships are better established with joint training more easily accomplished.

# **History of the RFTC Project**

In the early 1970's, Modesto Junior College/Yosemite Community College District acquired a large parcel of property that was formerly a state hospital. A public advisory panel recommended a portion of the site be set aside to develop a fire training center.

## **ACQUISITION**

Modesto Junior College/Yosemite Community College District acquired a large parcel of property that was formerly a state hospital and a portion was reserved for a fire training center. The City of Modesto was given a lease on part of the property to develop a fire station to support a training center.

## **PLANNING**

In 1984-1985, a research paper was developed concerning regional fire training, justification for a training center, and possible funding mechanisms. This paper, along with a presentation including video of other training facilities was given to Modesto Junior College, local Fire Chiefs and Training Officers.

Soon after this presentation, the Chancellor of MJC/YCCD formed a planning committee including college and fire service officials. This committee developed a site plan and cost estimates.

## **FUNDING**

The MJC/YCCD Chancellor gained the support of the Governor and State Chancellor for this project. Part of the motivation for their support was to encourage regional concepts. The local

fire services also agreed to provide one million dollars for construction costs. MJC/YCCD applied to the State for funding. The State Chancellor, the Legislature and the Governor approved the project and provided the funding.

## **CONSTRUCTION**

Construction began in 1992. A "Partnering" concept was used during construction. Contractors met each week with a college official and planning committee members to discuss construction issues and to keep the project on track. Construction was completed in December 1993.

## **SUCCESS**

In January of 1994, the college and fire service partners moved into the training center and fire courses began immediately. The State Fire Marshal recognition of Regional Training Center status was received. Approximately thirty fire service agencies and Modesto Junior College began working to improve fire education in the region. Classes are offered to the public, pre-service, and in-service students.

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## **OPERATIONS**

The partners share the costs for operating the training center on a formula based on relative use.

### **FACILITY OPERATING EXPENSES**

The partners share the costs for operating the training center on a formula based on relative use:

Modesto Junior College	55%
City of Modesto	20%
Stanislaus Fire Districts	20%
Other Users	5%

Estimated total operating expenses for the current year are \$131,616 reduced by income from marketing of approximately \$10,000. The training center staff prepares an annual billing for each partner for actual expenses incurred.

## **TRAINING PROGRAMS**

Each agency plans and pays for their own training programs. However, an educational advisory committee works to present as many fire training courses through the college system as practical. College courses are funded through normal educational sources.

## **BUDGET**

The training center staff prepares an annual operating budget for submission to the Management Committee. The Management Committee authorizes the budget that provides for

shared staff salaries, supplies, maintenance, utilities and equipment.

## **MARKETING**

The training center provides fee-based education for the public and private businesses. The funds received from these programs are used to reduce the operating expenses of all partners.

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