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October 3, 2005

Mr. Pat Marlatt, Assistant Director
Maryland Fire Rescue Institute
University of Maryland-College Park
4500 Paint Branch Parkway
College Park, MD 20742

Dear Pat:

Thank you for taking time out of your busy schedule to speak at the North American Fire Training Directors (NAFTD) annual conference in Murfreesboro, Tennessee. The purpose of this letter is to provide you an official position from NAFTD regarding the new edition of NFPA 1001, *Standard for Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications*.

NAFTD does not support a level of competency below Fire Fighter I. It is the belief of our membership that Fire Fighter I is the minimum national standard for firefighters. Providing a competency level less than Fire Fighter I will only reduce the minimum competency and allow firefighters an option of reducing the training and competencies needed to work safely.

Again, thank you for allowing us an opportunity to provide input in to the new edition of the standard. Please feel free to solicit comments and input from our organization in the future.

Best Regards,

Gary Wilson, President
North American Fire Training Directors