

LOS ANGELES FIRE DEPARTMENT



RALPH M. TERRAZAS
FIRE CHIEF

February 20, 2015

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
FILE NO. **15-016**

TO: Board of Fire Commissioners

FROM: Ralph M. Terrazas, Fire Chief

SUBJECT: PROPOSED BATTALION CHIEF EXAM MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

FINAL ACTION:	<input type="checkbox"/> Approved	<input type="checkbox"/> Approved w/Corrections	<input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawn
	<input type="checkbox"/> Denied	<input type="checkbox"/> Received & Filed	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

SUMMARY

On December 16, 2014, the Fire Commission approved a motion to separate the proposed Battalion Chief Exam minimum requirements from the Deputy Chief/Assistant Chief minimum requirements and continue discussions with United Firefighters of Los Angeles City (UFLAC). Pursuant to the Commission's direction, the Department met with UFLAC. This report outlines the recommended minimum testing requirements for the rank of Battalion Chief.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board:

Approve the Battalion Chief Exam minimum requirements.

DISCUSSION

The current minimum testing requirement for Battalion Chief is:

- Four years of full-time paid experience as a Fire Captain

The proposed requirements for the Battalion Chief Exam will be phased in over a two year period. This will allow candidates time to meet the newly implemented requirements.

The proposed changes to the minimum education and experience requirements are as follows:

2015 – Battalion Chief Exam		2017 – Battalion Chief Exam	
Education Requirement:	No Change: Education will be considered "Highly Desirable"	Education Requirement:	Associates Degree
Experience Requirement:	No Change: 4 years	Experience Requirement:	4 Years

At this time, the Department recommends exempting the following employees from the minimum testing requirement: Captain II's with a minimum of 6 years in rank or Captain I's with a minimum of 12 years in rank.

CONCLUSION

The professionalism of the fire service industry has increased the need for both education and experience. Increasing the minimum requirements for the rank of Battalion Chief in the LAFD will allow us to better manage the unique challenges of our Department.

Board report prepared by Graham Everett, Assistant Chief, Chief of Staff.