

# National Association of State Fire Marshals News Release

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## National Association of State Fire Marshals Testify Before Congress on Pipeline Emergencies Program

**Washington, DC, July 21, 2010** – The [National Association of State Fire Marshals](#) (NASFM) was invited by the Honorable Corrine Brown (D-FL-3) to testify before the [U.S. House of Representative's Transportation and Infrastructure's Railroads, Pipelines and Hazardous Materials Subcommittee](#) on Wednesday, July 21, 2010.

Mr. Peter O'Rourke, representing NASFM, joined a distinguished panel of guests who spoke on pipeline safety and education. Highlighting the [Pipeline Emergencies](#) program, O'Rourke informed the subcommittee members of an "unambiguous priority" for NASFM: firefighter safety and education. The Pipeline Emergencies program, developed in 2002 when NASFM entered into a Partnership for Excellence in Pipeline Safety with the U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT) now-Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, has distributed almost 45,000 training packages and trained more than 1000 certified fire trainers through a series of Train the Trainer classes across the nation.

As the senior fire officials in each state and the District of Columbia, NASFM testified about their recently renewed partnership with DOT to create a second edition of the Pipeline Emergencies program. In addition to content updates, the program will move from the standard textbook and training delivery package to an electronic format. This new curriculum enhancement will allow for faster, more efficient distribution of the comprehensive program to career and volunteer firefighters, particularly those in rural areas who are unable to attend classes regularly at fire training academies. A possible

online portal for pipeline companies is also being considered to include measurable communication and educational delivery capabilities between operators and emergency responders.

For a copy of the official testimony, please visit [www.firemarshals.org](http://www.firemarshals.org).

### **About NASFM**

NASFM principal members are the most senior fire officials of the United States. NASFM's mission is to protect lives, property, resources and the environment from fire with the primary focus on preventing fires from occurring in the first place. To do this, NASFM encourages manufacturers to make consumer products as fire-safe as they can be, and work to educate citizens and first responders. For learn more about NASFM, the Excellence in Transportation Award, and other initiatives aimed at protecting human life, property, resources, and the environment from fire, please visit [www.firemarshals.org](http://www.firemarshals.org).

### **About The Pipeline Emergencies program**

Pipeline Emergencies is a comprehensive training curriculum with a textbook covering everything from pipeline identification to incident command and response techniques. The program includes an Instructor's Guide to help certified fire trainers educate rank and file firefighters on the curriculum. There is also a training DVD and dedicated program website, [www.pipelineemergencies.com](http://www.pipelineemergencies.com). The PE program has trained thousands of firefighters across the country.

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