

House Bill 2927 Taskforce Update

Chief Les Hallman



History & OSFM Structure

- 1993 OSFM placed under authority of OSP
- Current Structure places OSFM as a Bureau within OSP
- A few factors in the past 2 decades led to a shift:
 - Population growth
 - Acute increased risk to Oregonians
 - Community changes translating to a need for new codes
- Alignment with other agencies who have dismantled their integrated Public Safety Services model.





The Task Force

- **2017** - Bipartisan work began, seeking a model to allow fire service and law enforcement to focus on individual service deliveries and training.
- **2020** - Pandemic, civil unrest, and devastating wildfires underscored the need for separation.
- **June 26, 2021** - HB 2927 passed with direction for a Task Force on Implementation to recommend whether the SFM should be made an independent agency, and if not, which agency should house the SFM.
- **July 14, 2021** - Implementation Task Force discussed the decision to create an independent agency, affirmed that decision in regular meetings, and began drafting a report of its recommendation.
- **October 2021** - The Task Force prepared and submitted a report to recommend that OSFM should be an independent agency.



Rationale

- **Greater Responsibilities added with new legislation**
- **Staffing has increases in both agencies**
- **Infrastructure needs are different**
- **Equitable representation**
- **Needs for Autonomy**
- **Agency responsibility and accountability**
- **Task force affirmed that OSFM should be an independent agency in October 2021.**