

**GEORGE DALE**  
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State Fire Marshal

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Mississippi Insurance Department  
Jackson, Mississippi  
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## **State Fire Academy Breaks Ground on New Fire and Research Building**

Jackson -Commissioner of Insurance and State Fire Marshal George Dale, and State Fire Academy Director Terry Ishee today joined a group of invited guests and dignitaries in a ground breaking ceremony for a new, Fire & Research Burn building on the grounds of the State Fire Academy in Pearl, Mississippi.

Construction will be completed by July and the state-of-the-art training facility will be fully operational by September of this year. The building will be used to offer instruction in extinguishing interior fires, search and rescue and high angle rescue/rappelling. It will be one of only a handful of training buildings in the country to feature a computerized burn system.

“Our State Fire Academy is one of the finest training facilities in the country, and with the addition of the new burn building we will be able to offer even more specialized training to firefighters across the country, “said Dale.

An average of 15,000 firefighters a year go through training at the State Fire Academy.

Funds for the building were appropriated by the Mississippi Legislature in 2004.

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