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## **Governor's Blue Ribbon Fire Commission**

### **ANNOUNCEMENT** -----

In November 2003, Governor Gray Davis and then Governor-elect Arnold Schwarzenegger appointed retired-Senator William Campbell, as chair of the Governor's Blue Ribbon Fire Commission. The Commission was established to review the state's efforts to combat the devastating October/November 2003 fire siege that destroyed over 3,500 homes, killed 22 individuals, and damaged vast wildlands throughout Southern California.

Senator William Campbell was the former chair of the California State Legislature's Select Committees on Fire Services, as well as, chair of the Legislature's Joint Committee on Fire, Police, Emergency and Disaster Services for approximately sixteen years. Known for his leadership and vision in improving California's emergency response and preparedness, the Governor's Office of Emergency Services building was dedicated and named in his honor.

"I am honored that both Governor Davis and Governor-elect Schwarzenegger have selected me to lead this important effort", Senator Campbell said. "It is a prestigious Commission with a very serious challenge. Knowing most of my fellow Commissioners well, I am confident it is a challenge we will meet."

To help guide him and the Commission in the review of the state's response to the Southern California Fire Siege, Senator Campbell asked the firm of SERGEANT MAJOR ASSOCIATES, INC. (<http://www.sgtmaj.com/>) to act as counsel to the chair. Jerry M. Haleva, President, a well-known and respected governmental consultant with an extensive background, experience and knowledge in public safety and emergency services public policies and programs, volunteered to serve as Chief Counsel without compensation.

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