



# CALIFORNIA CUPA FORUM

"An Association of Certified Unified Program Agencies"

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## 10<sup>th</sup> California Unified Program Annual Training Conference Summary and Evaluation Report February 4-7, 2008 "A Decade of Excellence" Hyatt Regency, Burlingame, San Mateo County

The 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary conference was brought together by a conference committee of ten people. The conference chairs from the CUPA Forum Board were Bill Lent and Bill Jones and John Paine from CalEPA. The others were Lisa Brown at CalEPA, Matt Peterson at DTSC, Fred Mehr at OES, Francis Mateo at State Fire Marshal, Terry Brazell at SWRCB and conference facilitator Sheryl Baldwin. This special anniversary conference theme was "A Decade of Excellence" and a special 10 year logo was designed. Special Anniversary flash drives were handed out to the speakers as a thank you for presenting at the conference.

The conference is for local, State, federal, environmental health, HAZMAT and fire HAZMAT agencies, industry, environmental consultants and organizations, academia, students, public officials and exhibitors. The conference is sponsored by the California CUPA Forum, California Environmental Protection Agency and its Boards, Departments and Office, the State Fire Marshal and the Office of Emergency Services.

This conference had more registered participants (890) and exhibitors (48) than it has ever had. There were 85 classes to choose from which is 20 more classes than last year. We had 187 speakers that presented at the 85 classes. With all the participants, exhibitors, students, academia, speakers, various committee meetings and registration staff there were almost a total of **1200** people that attended the conference during the week. There were 400 scholarships provided this year for participants.

As part of your Outreach Plan, the committee invited students from California universities to participate on Wednesday all day for "Student Day". The CUPA Forum and CalEPA had a booth with resumes for them and a career guide and 15 students participated. This was the first year that the CUPA Forum Board offered special \$1,500 scholarships to students and 4 were awarded on February 6. It was also the first year we organized an Academia Roundtable to speak with the universities on how we can develop a relationship with them to promote this field as a career choice. The students participated in the class "Being the Employer of Choice Today for Tomorrow's Employees". The students really enjoyed being apart of the group.

The registration desk was staffed by three CAEHA staff, two San Bernardino Fire Department staff, one Riverside County staff and one from the Anaheim Fire Department. We also had full time security support staff from CAEHA, Santa Clara City Fire Department, Sonoma County and Headsburg Fire Departments, and many other volunteers.

VAE from the Hyatt was hired to do the AV and 4 video camera staff from “Stick it in your Eye” were there to video tape classes. Thirty classes were video taped and will be posted to the website at [www.calcupa.net](http://www.calcupa.net) by June 2008.

For the Pre-Registration set up on Sunday we had 20 volunteers helping during the day to help get us ready for early registration from 2:30-7:30pm. We had almost 200 people register early for Super Bowl Sunday.

A full conference evaluation report is attached and will be posted to the website.

Most evaluations came in at a rating of 5 which is most satisfied. Comments are attached for your review and planning for future conferences. This year at the Opening Ceremony we invited Matt Bogoshian to provide CalEPA’s perspective on environmental enforcement and we recognized the key leaders from our State and local partners and key players from CCDEH, CalEPA, Cal Chiefs, DTSC, OES, SFM and SWRCB who have been part of achieving this “DECADE of EXCELLENCE”!

The conference was a huge SUCCESS!

Bill Jones  
Bill Lent  
CAL CUPA Forum board Co-Conference Chairs

Sheryl Baldwin  
Conference Facilitator