



2008 CONVENTION CALL

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS, AFL-CIO,CLC

August 11-15, 2008



TO ALL IAFF AFFILIATES: GREETINGS! You are hereby notified that pursuant to the provisions of the Constitution of the International Association of Fire Fighters, the 49th Convention of the International Association of Fire Fighters will be held at the Rio All-Suite Hotel and Casino, 3700 West Flamingo Road, Las Vegas, Nevada, beginning at 9 a.m., Monday, August 11, 2008, and will remain in session day-to-day until the business of the Convention is completed.

REPRESENTATION: Local unions with a membership of 100 or less shall be entitled to one delegate. Locals with a membership exceeding 100 shall be entitled to delegates as follows:

101 to 250	2	1251 to 1500	7
251 to 500	3	1501 to 1750	8
501 to 750	4	1751 to 2000	9
751 to 1000	5	2001 or more	10
1001 to 1250	6		

To be entitled to representation of its delegates at convention, a local union must pay its per capita tax on its full membership as required by the International Constitution and By-Laws, Article XIII, Section 2, provided, however, that representation and voting strength of the local union shall be allocated on the basis of the average amount of per capita tax paid monthly by the local from April 1, 2007, through March 31, 2008. For new local unions not in existence for the full 12 months preceding March 31, 2008, per capita tax paid will be averaged over the period of their existence on a monthly basis. In the case of locals organized after March 31, 2008, the per capita tax will be averaged on a monthly basis up to and including the month of June 2008. **LOCALS MUST PAY THEIR PER CAPITA TAX ON FULL MEMBERSHIP THROUGH AND INCLUDING June 2008 IN ORDER TO BE ENTITLED TO REPRESENTATION AT THE CONVENTION.** All EDF loan payments must also be paid through and including June 2008 in order to be entitled to representation at the Convention. **ALL ACCOUNTS DUE MUST BE PAID THROUGH June 2008.**

Each state or provincial association or joint council duly chartered by this Association shall be entitled to TWO DELEGATES at International Conventions provided any per capita tax or portion of fees due at the International on individual members admitted to such subordinate unions is current as required by Article XIV, Section 4. In addition, all EDF loan payments must be current and paid through June 2008.

DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES to International Conventions must be members in good standing of the local union or other subordinate body represented.

Local unions are reminded that the International Constitution and By-Laws requires that the credentials presented by the delegates and alternates must certify that they have been elected by secret ballot vote of the members in good standing of the local (Article XIII, Section 15).

In the case of all state or provincial associations or joint councils, an option is provided by the International Constitution and By-Laws (Article IV, Section 4). If the delegates/alternates are elected by secret ballot of the MEMBERS in good standing of all the local unions comprising the state or provincial associations or joint councils, or if the delegates/alternates are elected by secret ballot of the local union delegates to the

state or provincial associations or joint councils, such delegates are entitled to voice and vote in all convention proceedings except the right to participate in the nomination and election of International officers. This is a requirement of law under the Landrum-Griffin Act and also applies to our International officers who are delegates-at-large.

ALL DELEGATE CREDENTIALS MUST CERTIFY BY WHICH METHOD THE DELEGATES WERE ELECTED.

DELEGATE CREDENTIALS: Credentials will be mailed beginning April 1 to all locals who have paid per capita through March 2008. The original credential should be completed and given to the delegate elect. The duplicate delegate credential should be completed and mailed to the IAFF General Secretary-Treasurer, 1750 New York Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20006 by July 9, 2008. The deadline to be considered for committee assignments is June 2, 2008. **The IAFF urges registration payment in advance with credentials.** The fees are \$250 (includes reception) for each delegate or alternate and \$100 for each adult guest. After 5 p.m. on August 11, guest tickets will be \$150. Instructions for prepayment will be included with the credentials. Even with advanced payment, Convention ID badges must be picked up by 5 p.m., Monday, August 11, 2008. **IF NOT, YOU WILL NOT BE SEATED AT CONVENTION.**

ALTERNATE CREDENTIALS: If an affiliate elects to send alternate delegates to the Convention, there shall not be more than one alternate for each delegate. One alternate credential, in duplicate, will be enclosed with each delegate credential.

PROXY CREDENTIALS: Local unions of 100 members or less who do not send a delegate to the Convention may be represented by a delegate by giving its proxy to that delegate. In addition, such local union may also select an alternate delegate to carry the proxy in the event the first delegate is unable to attend. The following conditions must be observed if the proxy method is to be used: (a) A local union granting a proxy, and the delegate from the local union accepting the proxy, must be in the same IAFF district; (b) if a local union granting a proxy also wishes to select an alternate delegate, both the delegate and the alternate delegate must come from the same local union accepting the proxy; and (c) a proxy may be authorized only after nomination and election by secret ballot among the members of the local union granting the proxy.

The procedures for authorizing a proxy apply to the selection of a principal delegate as well as to the selection of a second alternate delegate, (if any). Nominees must be named delegates of another local union in the District which has already elected such delegates to go to the Convention. Nominations may be made at any meeting of the local union but a notice of when nominations will be held must be given, and notice of the date, time, and place of election must be mailed to its membership at least 15 days in advance of such election. Nominations and elections may be held at the same meeting provided the notice has been sent. The election must be conducted by secret ballot, but if only one delegate is nominated to carry the proxy (and if only one delegate is nominated as an alternate delegate to carry the proxy) it is not necessary to conduct the election. No local union delegate may accept proxies to represent membership in excess of 100 and provided, further, that in no event shall the total of proxy votes carried by all delegates within a local union exceed 200. Proxy voting shall be permitted only in a roll call vote and shall be cast by the delegate carrying the proxy (Article IV, Section 2, IAFF Constitution

and By-Laws). ALL PROXY CREDENTIALS MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE OFFICE OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY-TREASURER BY 5 P. M., EDT, JULY 9, 2008, or have a certified or registered U.S. or Canadian mail postmark by that deadline.

VOTES: In compliance with the recommendation of the Constitution and By-Laws Committee, the number of votes to which a local union is entitled will be placed on the proxy and delegate credential.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: In accordance with Article IV, Section 5, of the IAFF Constitution and By-Laws, credentials shall be registered with the Credentials Committee no later than 5 p. m. on the first day of the Convention in order to qualify as an accredited delegate. This applies even if registration fees are paid in advance.

REGISTRATION FEES: *Payment in advance* is encouraged and may be paid when returning the duplicate credentials to the IAFF office or at Convention site when registering. Under Resolution 106 adopted at the 32nd Convention, and the policy of the Executive Board, the following charges will be levied as registration fees:

- \$250 (U.S.) Each Delegate and Alternate Delegate
- \$100 (U.S.) Each adult guest
- \$150 (U.S.) Guest tickets purchased after 5 p.m., August 11
- \$30 (U.S.) Children under the age of 12

AMENDMENTS AND CONVENTION RESOLUTIONS: Amendments to the International Constitution and By-Laws or resolutions for convention action may be submitted only by local unions, state and provincial associations or joint councils of this Association, or by its International officers or the Executive Board, or by the delegates at International Conventions as hereafter provided.

Amendments or resolutions proposed by a local union, state, provincial association, joint council or by International officers or by the Executive Board shall be subject to adoption by a majority vote of the delegates present and voting at a biennial convention. All such amendments or resolutions to be considered at any Convention of this Association must be received by the International General Secretary-Treasurer no later than **50 days** (Monday, June 23, 2008) immediately preceding the opening of the Convention. All such amendments and resolutions, accompanied by a summary statement prepared by the International General Secretary-Treasurer of the estimated costs for any resolution, which in his judgment involves cost factors, must be printed in the Association's official publication for distribution to the membership preceding said Convention. In addition, resolutions will be posted on the website. However, in emergency situations, herein defined as a situation occurring between the 50-day period immediately preceding the Convention and the

Convention itself, including the days during which it is in session, such emergency resolutions may be received upon unanimous consent of the Convention delegates. Any resolution that seeks to censure, condemn or otherwise criticize any person, including fire department personnel, or entity, must be submitted in draft form 60 days (Friday, June 13, 2008) prior to the Convention for review by the General President, who shall, if deemed necessary, rewrite the draft resolution to remove any language therein that may be considered defamatory or libelous and, who shall return the resolution as modified to the affiliate for its review and approval, and any resolution that is modified in this manner shall be submitted for consideration and action by the Convention delegates only if the sponsoring affiliate first approves of the resolution in its modified form. A certain time is to be set aside at the convention for discussion and voting by the Convention delegates on the censure motion, and this time shall be included in the Rules of Order. All amendments shall become operative immediately upon their adoption by the delegates unless otherwise expressly provided.

Resolution 16, adopted at the 2000 Convention, also allows affiliates to submit copies of resolutions by fax or email by Monday, June 23, 2008. However, the signed, original resolution must be received by 5 p.m. EDT, Thursday, July 3, 2008 (40 days preceding convention). Any resolution received by mail, including **any** overnight mail service, after 5 p.m. EDT, on July 3, 2008, that has not previously been received by fax or email will be returned to sender. If you wish to email your resolution, please forward to gst@iaff.org. Fax copies can be sent to 202-637-0840 or 202-737-8418.

HEADQUARTERS AND HOTEL RESERVATIONS: The Rio All- Suite Hotel and Casino has been selected as the Convention Headquarters Hotel. The standard suite room rate charge is \$152 per night and the luxury suites range from \$450-700 plus occupancy tax. There is an additional person charge of \$30 for third and fourth persons, with a maximum of four per guest room. Please refer to the housing form for information on reservations. To guarantee your hotel room, reservations must be received by the hotel by June 19, 2008. Any requests for reservations made after that date will be subject to availability. It is imperative that you make your reservations early. **Housing forms will be enclosed with the credentials mailing in April.** One form for each room is required if paying by check (additional forms may be photocopied) and mailed to the hotel. Hotel rooms will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis. **The IAFF will not be assigning rooms to delegates, alternates and guests.** All early committees will be meeting at the Rio All-Suite Hotel and Casino. The IAFF office must receive credentials no later than June 2, 2008, to be considered for committee assignments.

FRATERNALLY,



HAROLD A. SCHAITBERGER
General President



VINCENT J. BOLLON
General Secretary-Treasurer

KEVIN GALLAGHER, 1st District Vice President
LOUIE A. WRIGHT, 2nd District Vice President
A. MICHAEL MULLANE, 3rd District Vice President
WILLIAM V. TAYLOR, 4th District Vice President
JOSEPH M. CONWAY, 5th District Vice President
LORNE WEST, 6th District Vice President
RICKY J. WALSH, 7th District Vice President
THOMAS H. MILLER, 8th District Vice President

RANDALL ATKINSON, 9th District Vice President
JAMES T. FERGUSON, 10th District Vice President
ROY L. "SANDY" MCGHEE, 11th District Vice President
LAWRENCE OSBORNE, 12th District Vice President
BRUCE CARPENTER, 13th District Vice President
DANNY TODD, 14th District Vice President
JAMES A. FENNELL, 15th District Vice President
JAMES B. JOHNSON, 16th District Vice President