



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS

NEWS from Fire Fighters

1750 NEW YORK AVE NW WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006 • WWW.IAFF.ORG

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Contact: Tim Burn
202 230-7167

Fire Fighters Respond to John Raese's Attack Ad

Washington, DC – The International Association of Fire Fighters will release an ad over the holiday weekend to respond to the National Republican Senatorial Committee's ham-handed attack ad targeting West Virginia Governor Joe Manchin.

The IAFF ad includes real West Virginia fire fighters and was filmed today in Charleston, WV. It emphasizes the support that Governor Manchin has among real West Virginians in his bid for the U.S. Senate.

By contrast, the NRSC ad was filmed in Philadelphia and used actors. In its casting call, the NRSC wrote: "We are going for a 'Hicky' Blue Collar look." Under a torrent of criticism, the NRSC pulled its ad on Thursday.

"The casting call asking for actors to play West Virginia hicks was offensive to us and to West Virginia fire fighters," IAFF General President Harold Schaitberger said.

"We didn't have to ship in East Coast actors who pretend to support Joe because West Virginia is filled with fire fighters who are proud to support him. West Virginians realize that Joe Manchin has been a fantastic governor, and they also understand that his legacy of service provides evidence that he will be an even better senator," Schaitberger said.

The IAFF, headquartered in Washington, represents more than 298,000 full-time professional fire fighters and paramedics. The IAFF is the leading advocate in North America for the health and safety of first responders. More information is available at www.iaff.org

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