INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS

NEWS from Fire Fighters

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

For Immediate Release January 7, 2013

Contact: Bill Glanz 202 824-1506 202 329-5856 (cell)

International Association of Fire Fighters Support President Obama's Nomination of Chuck Hagel for Defense Secretary

Washington, DC – The International Association of Fire Fighters today made clear its support for former Senator Chuck Hagel to become our nation's next Secretary of Defense.

In letters to President Obama and to Senators Carl Levin and John McCain, the chairman and ranking member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, respectively, IAFF General President Harold Schaitberger applauded Hagel's nomination and urged quick Senate confirmation.

"Senator Hagel is ideally qualified and suited for this important position. He is the right man at the right time to head the Pentagon and our national defense strategy," Schaitberger wrote. "As a young man, Senator Hagel proudly served as a non-commissioned officer in Vietnam earning several commendations, including two Purple Hearts and a Combat Infantryman's Badge. He will instantly have the support of our women and men in uniform because he understands firsthand the gravity of committing our nation's military to armed conflicts abroad."

The full text of the letters can be viewed here: http://www.iaff.org/Comm/PDFs/ObamaHagel.pdf

http://www.iaff.org/Comm/PDFs/Levin_Hagel.pdf

The International Association of Fire Fighters, headquartered in Washington, DC, represents more than 300,000 full-time professional fire fighters and paramedics and is the leading advocate for the health and safety of first responders in North America. More information is available at www.iaff.org

####