

Resolution No. 24

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT: Health & Safety

Re: National Transportation Safety Board Subject Matter Experts

1 WHEREAS, the National Transportation Safety
2 Board (NTSB) is responsible for the investigation of
3 major incidents or accidents involving aviation, rail,
4 marine, and commercial roadways; and

5 WHEREAS, IAFF members are called to respond
6 to respond and operate to mitigate the hazards
7 present at these incidents, often at great risk to
8 themselves; and

9 WHEREAS, IAFF members have sustained
10 injuries and died in the line-of-duty as a result of
11 their response and operations during these incidents;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, the IAFF has supported the NIOSH
14 Fire Fighter Fatality Investigation Program through
15 investigation participation and support, providing a
16 fire fighter perspective; and

17 WHEREAS, the IAFF has recently supported the
18 NTSB investigation at the train derailment and
19 hazardous materials release in East Palestine, OH;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, the IAFF has been invited by the
22 NTSB to be a party to the investigation of the tragic
23 double line-of-duty deaths at the Grande Costa
24 D'Avoria shipboard fire in Newark, NJ; and

25 WHEREAS, the IAFF has provided valuable

26 insight and perspective related to fire service
27 operations which the NTSB does not currently
28 possess; and

29 WHEREAS, this input has enabled the NTSB to
30 incorporate fire fighter safety and operations
31 considerations into their reports; and

32 WHEREAS, the IAFF believes there is a benefit
33 to increased fire service participation in NTSB
34 investigations; and

35 WHEREAS, subject matter experts (SMEs) can
36 speak the fire fighter language and act as a
37 facilitative interpreter between the parties; therefore
38 be it

39 RESOLVED, That the IAFF propose and support
40 that investigations involving fire service response,
41 fire fighter injuries, or fire fighter fatalities at TSB of
42 Canada and NTSB- governed transportation
43 accidents incorporate the IAFF in their investigation;
44 and be it further

45 RESOLVED, That the IAFF will establish a
46 program to identify and assemble work groups of
47 IAFF SMEs to assist in investigating, reviewing, and
48 providing input on TSB of Canada and NTSB
49 investigations; and be it further

50 RESOLVED, That these SMEs should
51 accompany TSB of Canada and NTSB investigators
52 to the department where the fatality occurred to
53 participate in the investigation and to engage the
54 IAFF local involved in the TSB of Canada and
55 NTSB investigation; and be it further

56 RESOLVED, That the SMEs will participate with

57 the TSB of Canada and NTSB or in the role as a
58 party to the investigation to develop
59 recommendations to the TSB of Canada
60 and NTSB to improve fire fighter operations and
61 safety.

Submitted by: IAFF Executive Board

Cost Estimate: **1 cent (\$0.01)**

Annual or Perpetual Designation: **Annual**

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Adopt

CONVENTION ACTION: Adopted as Amended