

Resolution No. 30

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT: Resolutions

Re: Ricky J. Walsh District Vice President Emeritus

1 WHEREAS, Brother Ricky J. Walsh began his
2 distinguished service to organized labor when he
3 joined Hermiston Oregon Local 2752, in 1983,
4 where he served as Local Secretary-Treasurer; and

5 WHEREAS, in 1986 Brother Walsh became a
6 proud member of the Richland, Washington, Fire
7 Department and IAFF Local 1052 and quickly
8 emerged as a leader serving Local 1052 in multiple
9 capacities and in various elected positions; and

10 WHEREAS, during his time with Local 1052,
11 Brother Walsh became actively engaged in the
12 Washington State Council of Fire Fighters (WSCFF)
13 events, where his leadership abilities were
14 recognized, and he took the opportunity to lead and
15 serve others; and

16 WHEREAS, in 1993 Brother Walsh was elected
17 and served as the WSCFF 2nd District representative
18 followed by his appointment to WSCFF Vice
19 President in 1995; and

20 WHEREAS, Brother Walsh's service and
21 leadership at the WSCFF level led to his 2004
22 election to the IAFF Executive Board as IAFF 7th
23 District Vice President and his proud service of the
24 IAFF Magnificent 7th District; and

25 WHEREAS, Brother Ricky J. Walsh has
26 faithfully and honorably served the members of the

27 IAFF's 7th District – encompassing Alaska, Idaho,
28 Montana, and Washington – with exemplary
29 tenacity, commitment, and steadfast support of labor
30 and the working class; and

31 WHEREAS, through his leadership, Brother
32 Walsh consistently elevated the dignity of the
33 working class, standing firm in the belief that
34 organized labor is the backbone of our profession
35 and the communities we protect; and

36 WHEREAS, Brother Walsh has created and
37 implemented innovative programs within the 7th
38 District that strengthens understanding, solidarity,
39 and leadership including:

- 40 • Fire Ops 101 which builds bridges and
41 advances the cause of firefighters with
42 stakeholders, elected officials, and decision-
43 makers by bringing them into direct contact
44 with the challenges and realities of firefighting;
- 45 • IAFF 7th District New Members Conference
46 which introduces newer IAFF members in the
47 7th District with their first formal introduction
48 to organized labor, the IAFF, their state
49 associations, and the values of unionism and
50 service;
- 51 • IAFF 7th District Executive Leadership Series,
52 a year-long, in-depth program that prepares and
53 develops our next generation of local and state
54 union leaders, ensuring the future of our
55 movement is strong, capable, and inspired; and

56 WHEREAS, Brother Walsh has mentored and
57 influenced generations of IAFF members and

58 leaders, leaving a lasting impact on the strength,
59 unity and future of the 7th District; and

60 WHEREAS, Brother Walsh has persistently
61 challenged all local officers, state leaders, and
62 district representatives to be better, more responsive,
63 and prepared for the demands and responsibilities of
64 leadership; and

65 WHEREAS, Brother Walsh has served with
66 distinction as chair and member of numerous IAFF
67 standing and convention committees, bringing his
68 insight, integrity, and passion for service to the
69 highest levels of the IAFF; and

70 WHEREAS, Brother Walsh arrived at this level
71 of leadership through growth, self-reflection, and
72 evolution as a leader and a person, embracing the
73 belief that we are all “humans under construction”,
74 demonstrating that humility, perseverance, and
75 personal growth defines true leadership; and

76 WHEREAS, Brother Walsh has represented all
77 locals within the Magnificent 7th District with honor
78 while collaborating closely with the leadership and
79 boards of Alaska, Idaho, Montana, and Washington,
80 and advancing our collective mission and
81 strengthening our labor movement; therefore be it

82 RESOLVED, That the delegates assembled at
83 the 58th Convention of the International Association
84 of Fire Fighters in Arlington, Texas, do hereby
85 bestow upon Ricky J. Walsh the office of District
86 Vice President Emeritus of the International
87 Association of Fire Fighters with all honors, duties
88 and responsibilities commensurate with the position

89 in accordance with the Constitution & By-Laws of
90 this great IAFF.

Submitted by: Alaska Professional Fire Fighters Association,
Professional Fire Fighters of Idaho,
Montana State Council of Professional Fire
Fighters,
Washington State Council of Fire Fighters

Cost Estimate: **Minimal**

Annual or Perpetual Designation: **Perpetual**

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

CONVENTION ACTION: