

Fire Fighter

WINTER 2021
QUARTERLY



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GENERAL PRESIDENT

IAFF
UNION ON THE
RISE

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Union on the Rise

Brothers and Sisters,

After 45 years of service to our great union, this is the last column I will write as your General President.

It's truly been a privilege and an honor to work on behalf of the men and women of this IAFF — especially as your General President for the last 20 years.

In 1970, after just four years on the job with the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department, I heard the union calling. That's when I began to organize and charter Fairfax County Local 2068, serving as its first elected union president. Six years later, I was given an opportunity of a lifetime to come to our International and begin my service to our union across two great countries. I have spent the last four decades working to improve the lives of those I care about — all of you, our more than 324,000 members across the United States and Canada.

It's my life's work — the path I chose to improve our profession and protect the most courageous men and women society has to offer. It's been a journey of joy, pride and accomplishments.

My term in office comes to a close on April 8 following our historic virtual Convention, which capped a year that presented one of the most challenging events in our union's history — the COVID-19 pandemic. With 3,641 registered delegates and alternates representing 1,891 affiliates, the 55th Convention was by far our union's largest. It also marks the beginning of a new era for our great union. Our new General President Ed Kelly and General Secretary-Treasurer Frank Lima have been sworn in and will take office on April 9. I am confident they, and our elected district vice presidents, will represent our members and affiliates in an outstanding manner, continue the important work of this union, act on challenges and lead the way — just as we have for more than a century.

Early in the life of our union, our forefathers rose up against unbelievable odds, working continuous duty for weeks on end with virtually no rights on the job or anyone concerned for their safety and health. They battled for the right to organize and for a voice in making their job a career worthy of the risk.

It's a tradition we continue today. This IAFF rose up against those who fail to share our commitment of working in the best interests of our members. And in response to our efforts, the numbers of fire fighters, paramedics and EMTs joining our union continues to grow each and every month, even during this pandemic year.

When I was first elected as General President, the IAFF had just over 205,000 members. Today, more than 324,000 of the best men and women our two great nations have to offer have joined our ranks as proud IAFF members.

This incredible membership growth is a direct response to the loud and clear recognition that this IAFF is the trusted leader for fire fighters, paramedics and EMTs. Your union has been on the frontlines on every issue important to our profession — behavioral health, physical wellness, political and legislative action, the best education and training programs in the industry, providing legal defense to our affiliate leaders unfairly disciplined, creating the tools to communicate and win over the public, the media and decision-makers, and opening our profession to greater diversity so that we better reflect the communities we serve — and has led the way.

Our incredible growth is due to the hard work and diligence of our great affiliate leaders, our 16 district vice presidents and the dedication of our skilled, hard-working professional staff in Washington, DC, and Ottawa. Our union's profile continues to rise as a major force in the fire service at the forefront of every advancement in fire fighter health and safety, working every day on every topic important to making sure you return home safe and healthy at the end of each shift.

For far too long, our members have dealt with the scourge of occupational cancer. We are dedicated to reversing this trend. We are taking the big bold steps to give local leaders the tools and resources to protect our members by reducing on-the-job exposures so that they enjoy long careers and healthy retirements.

Our political action and power were also the driving force behind the enactment and funding of the Firefighter Cancer Registry to provide the data and information that identifies the scope of the cancer crisis our profession is facing.

And we continue our work, partnering with major universities and scientists on multiple studies concerning PFAS in our gear, dust in the fire stations, the effects of diesel exhaust and how we can establish better protocols for donning and doffing gear — all to reduce your exposures.

When it comes to healthcare, our work on both sides of the political aisle was instrumental in repealing the Cadillac Tax that would have seen our members forced to pay tax on their employer-based healthcare plans. This victory allows our locals to continue fighting for the best healthcare programs possible without worrying about unintended tax implications.

Another legislative success was the permanent reauthorization of the 9/11 Victim Compensation Fund established to help those sickened or killed in the aftermath of the attacks on September 11, 2001.

On the political front, this IAFF is on the rise in the federal political arena. We were the first union to endorse our friend, Joe Biden, in his presidential campaign. We stood with him early on in Iowa, New Hampshire and Nevada, showing strong support from a strong union with the toughest members in the world.

The fact is, Joe has done so much so often for our profession throughout his 40+ year career — and so many times without being asked. Kamala Harris is one of the staunchest advocates for our members, making wildfires and protecting fire fighters a priority.

Now, as president and vice president of the United States, we could not ask for two stronger supporters. In a town where relationships are everything, this union can be assured that our relationships in the White House have never been stronger.

In Canada, our ties are just as strong with the Liberal government in power. And with Prime Minister Justin Trudeau leading that nation, realizing the power and importance of the backing of the IAFF gold and black, it is clearer than ever that when elected officials support fire fighters and our issues, we bring it all to the table to support them.

We are also on the frontline in their communities when natural disasters strike and our members experience their own personal loss. That's when the IAFF disaster relief team goes to work, providing for their families, arranging for somewhere to stay if they are displaced, putting some cash in their hands in the early days of loss when it's so desperately needed, cutting away fallen trees, patching damaged roofs or boarding up broken windows — that's what our union does, caring for one another, stepping up when our brothers and sisters need us most.

These last two years — amid a global pandemic and an economic downturn, through racial division, civil and some very uncivil protests, a tough presidential election, along with so many devastating natural disasters — it would have been easy to see it as a tumultuous time; it would have been easy to sit on the sidelines, to stand down and see how things played out.

But that's not the IAFF way; that's not what our members expect.

Our members want strong leadership; they demand innovative ideas; they don't take no for an answer on the job and shouldn't accept that as an answer from their union. You deserve an IAFF that meets every challenge, providing the resources and tools that local leaders need to do their jobs effectively and professionally.

Our work is not done. Rest assured, our members can continue to count on their union. Because they know the IAFF is dedicated to protecting their profession and securing their livelihoods.

The future is bright and our union, this IAFF, is on the rise.

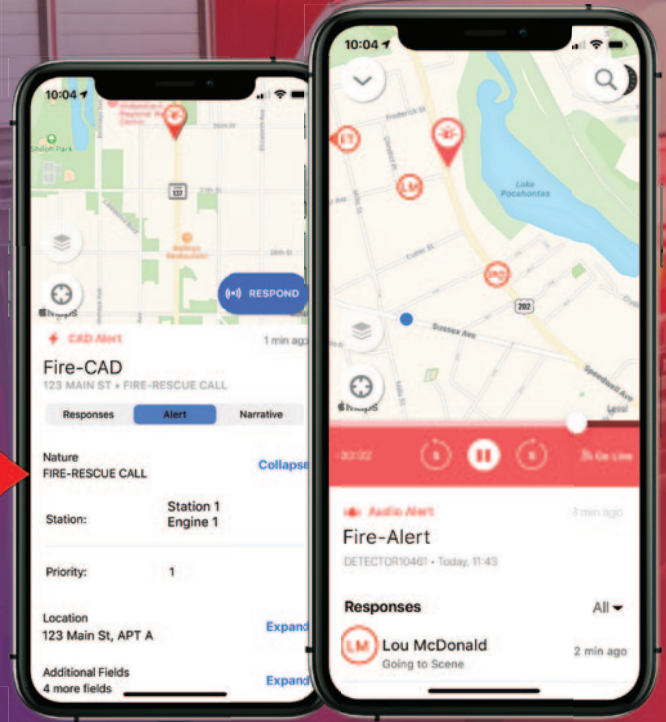
As I take my leave, my thoughts and prayers will be with our union's leadership and all of you.

Take Care and Stay Safe,



Harold A. Schaitberger

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Ready to Lead OUR IAFF

Brothers and Sisters,

I am incredibly honored and humbled to write this column as your next General President. I am ready to get to work on day one — April 9 — to forge the next chapter of our IAFF.

Strength through united action, guided by intelligence, is the hallmark of trade union organization. This is the first sentence in the preamble of our IAFF Constitution and By-Laws, and a guiding principle that I will lead by as your General President. I remain confident that we will emerge as a stronger, united union with a bright future for our proud profession. I will lead our IAFF with honesty and transparency, every day, instilling faith and trust. All of which will strengthen our resolve.

Our union is no stranger to politics or elections, and both are tough business. Democracy is not always easy — but it's worth it. For those of you who were with me in my campaign, I sincerely thank you for your steadfast support. For those who were not, I promise you this: I will be the General President for every member across the United States and Canada, and on April 9, we will move forward as one IAFF. We will answer the call as one team, one union, with a sacred and focused mission. You and your families depend on our mission — a mission that can and will be accomplished together.

“We are ready to get to work on day one to transform our vision into your mission.”

Your voice and your vote were heard during our 55th Convention. The highest number of delegates ever assembled at an IAFF convention passed 25 resolutions and re-elected 12 District Vice Presidents and two Trustees by acclamation. Through our first ever mail-in ballot process, you elected a new General President and General Secretary-Treasurer, four District Vice Presidents and one Trustee. I congratulate all Executive Board members and Trustees on their successful elections and stand ready to rise above and work together to lead our IAFF into a united next chapter.

We are ready to get to work on day one to transform our vision into your mission. I have assembled a bold transition team that represents a cross-section of our two great countries, encompassing all 16 districts, bringing together viewpoints of small and large locals, state and provincial associations and our federal and industrial affiliates. The team's charge is to take a hard look at our programs, services and projects and report back to you, the dues-paying members of our IAFF, on building a more efficient and effective operation in our Washington, DC, and Ottawa offices. The time is now to get our fiscal house in order, and my commitment to

producing a report in the first 90 days is the beginning of a transparent IAFF.

Politics and relationships are critical to our mission. Engaging in the political sphere is the lifeblood of our profession. It can be ugly, and it can be rewarding. It's where all the decisions are made that impact our members, your families and the ability to effectively provide emergency services to the communities we are sworn to serve. My first 90 days will include meetings with the leadership of all political parties in our two great countries. COVID has proved to be challenging to lobby city hall, Parliament and Capitol Hill. However, we will meet these challenges head on and move our agenda forward to protect our members and your families across our two great countries.

I heard loud and clear on the campaign trail, as well as during Convention, that we need to do a better job of listening to our members when it comes to political endorsements. Doing better means using education and technology to listen to the membership first before making any endorsement decisions. As a priority, my transition team will be reviewing our current

practices and will be reporting back on recommendations to establish your voice in our endorsement process.

It's time to move our union forward. Innovation and technology are the future of our profession. As I spoke with thousands of leaders and members during this hard-fought campaign, it became very clear to me that we need to further embrace technology and research in our fast-changing profession. In the coming months, I will be creating the IAFF Think Tank for Innovation, bringing together research, data and academia to harness the intellect of our members and establish our union's innovation hub on the fire service of the future.

The path to putting our members first starts now. I was proud to support Resolution 28, which sent a clear message that we will end our financial relationships and hold manufacturers and distributors accountable to our core values — the health and safety of our members. I will soon be appointing a committee that will be charged with producing a comprehensive, research-based approach to rid our profession of toxic chemicals in our personal protective equipment (PPE).

Fidelity, loyalty, duty, legacy, courage, commitment and sacrifice. The mission of the IAFF is to take care of our families and each other. I will lead every day by those words, our oath and our mission as your General President. Let's get to work — together!

Be you, be strong, be firefighters!

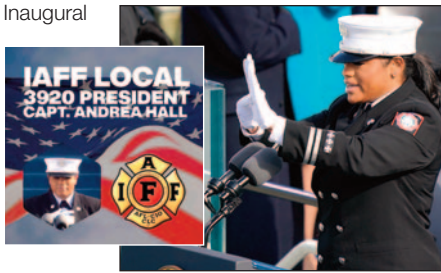


Edward A. Kelly

“The campaigns were hard fought, but they are over. It's time to unite for the mission. We are one IAFF.”

South Fulton Local President Andrea Hall Leads Pledge of Allegiance During Inauguration

Invited by the Presidential Inaugural Committee (PIC), South Fulton, GA Local 3920 President Andrea Hall led the Pledge of Allegiance at the 59th Inaugural Ceremonies on January 20 as Joe Biden and Kamala Harris were sworn in as president and vice president of the United States.



“When the Biden Senior Transition Team asked me to recommend a union leader and rank-and-file fire fighter, my job was easy,” says General President Harold Schaitberger. “President Hall organized her local and then passed an ordinance that afforded collective bargaining rights for her members. That was not an easy thing to do in a right-to-work state.” “Andrea has been an extremely effective leader in the 12th district,” says 12th District Vice President Walt Dix. “I am very proud of her accomplishments. I can think of no one better for this honor.”

President Hall is a career fire fighter with 28 years of dedicated service with the City of South Fulton Fire and Rescue Department. In 2004, she became the first African American woman in the department’s history to be promoted to the rank of fire captain.

“I could never have imagined that I would be asked to participate in such an historical event. I am both humbled and honored,” says Hall. “The entire experience was absolutely fantastic.”

Not only did she recite the Pledge of Allegiance but accompanied the reading with sign language. ■

Register for Center of Excellence Behavioral Health Webinars

The IAFF Center of Excellence for Behavioral Health Treatment and Recovery is hosting an online education series free for IAFF members, other first responders, healthcare providers, clinicians and the community at large. Visit www.iaffrecoverycenter.com/community-education for a complete schedule. ■

The IAFF and Firefighter Cancer Support Network (FCSN)

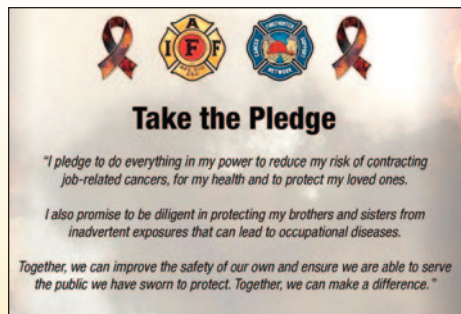
Fire Fighter Cancer Awareness Month in January is over, but our work is far from done.

To further solidify your ongoing commitment to the prevention of fire fighter occupational cancer, we invite you to sign the online pledge

and encourage you to use the Reason for Signing section to honor those we have lost to — or are currently fighting — occupational cancer.

Take the pledge at: www.change.org/FirefighterCancerPledge

Use the I Took the Pledge Photo as your Facebook profile picture or as a post on Instagram or Twitter with the link to our pledge site (and the hashtag #FightFFCancer) to encourage others to sign the pledge! ■



The 2021 John P. Redmond Symposium/Dominick F. Barbera EMS Conference is scheduled for September 6-10, 2021, in New York City. Stay tuned for more details in coming months. ■



Legendary Pittsburgh Local 1 President Joe King Dies

The IAFF is saddened to report that one of its longest-serving leaders and labor champion, former Pittsburgh Local 1 President Joe King, passed away on February 9, 2021.

“Brother King was a tireless advocate for safe working conditions, wages and benefits for Pittsburgh Local 1 members and workers across the state of Pennsylvania. His passing is a tragedy for the entire labor movement,” says General President Harold Schaitberger.

“Joe was an idol of mine, a quintessential IAFF leader,” says General Secretary-Treasurer Ed Kelly. “He was a straight talker, a proud Vietnam veteran whose brother was killed in action. He dedicated his entire life working to make things better for Pittsburgh fire fighters. My condolences to the family, Local 1 members and everyone who knew him well.”

King began his career with the City of Pittsburgh Bureau of Fire in 1974 and quickly joined Pittsburgh Local 1.

He joined the Local 1 Executive Board first as the public relations chair. Recognized quickly for his leadership skills, King was elected as Local 1 Trustee in 1980, began serving on the local’s health and safety committee in 1984 and was elected vice president in 1986. In 1988, he was elected Local 1 president, a position he kept until his retirement 26 years later.

During his tenure, he worked to secure 14 contracts under seven fire chiefs and seven mayors. His accomplishments on behalf of his



Joe King

membership are too numerous to count, but include securing four-person minimum staffing, a no-layoff contract clause,

cancer and infectious disease presumption and other key healthcare contract provisions for fire fighters and their families.

King also kept a regular presence at the state capitol to support legislation benefiting professional fire fighters and to testify against legislation harmful to labor.

He retired at the age of 65 in 2014, succeeded by current Local 1 President Ralph Sicuro.

“Joe displayed immeasurable talent with uniquely special charisma, passion and creativity to his job and protecting our members’ wages, retirement benefits, healthcare and especially our safety,” says Sicuro. “Joe was not only a warrior for our members, but he equally loved and fought to protect the residents of the City of Pittsburgh.”

King was honored twice during IAFF conventions. In 2010 at the 50th Convention in San Diego, King was honored with an IAFF Leadership Award. In 2014 at the 52nd Convention in Cincinnati, delegates passed Resolution 20 honoring his legacy as an advocate for safety and working conditions. ■

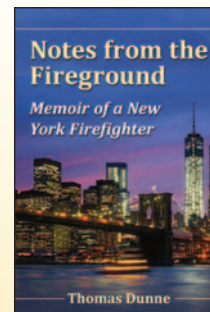
Retired New York Fire Fighter Tells His Story in New Book

Thomas Dunne, a 33-year veteran fire fighter who retired as a deputy fire chief and member of the Uniformed Fire Officers Association (UFOA) Local 854, has published a book about his experiences.

Notes from the Fireground: Memoir of a New York Firefighter details his career from recruit school to becoming a fire officer responding to traumatic emergencies.

“I wanted to write something that would not only help people outside the fire service understand what it is

truly like being a fire fighter, but also prepare new fire fighters for their careers,” says Dunne. “It is my hope that anyone who reads it takes something useful from it.”



Dunne says some of the memorable incidents described in the book include the response to a Bronx fire where 87 people died, the rescue and recovery efforts in the aftermath of 9/11 and response to Super Storm Sandy.

The book is available through McFarland Books, Amazon and Barnes and Noble. ■

Reaching Our Training Goals

General President Schaitberger:

I'd like to start by saying how much I and the department appreciated the opportunity to take part in the IAFF Confined Space Rescue training. There are many local businesses that rely on the Warrensburg Fire Department to provide rescue services for these hazardous emergencies. With the completion of this course, we are the only department within our region with this level of advanced training, making it highly likely that we will be called on to assist other agencies with our newly acquired skills.

As a relatively small organization, funds are always a consideration when it comes to training. Without the IAFF grant, we could never afford to provide this training and, thus, would not be prepared to take on these potentially

dangerous and technical emergencies.

To everyone involved, we give our sincerest gratitude. The IAFF made the process of requesting the course fast and simple, which allows for more time and effort to be put towards training and less on logistics. The coordinator, Ron Hasson, made the onboarding process and other logistics easy for all of us involved. A huge thanks to the instructors, Dan O'Meara of Fresno, CA Local 202, Jeff Young from CAL FIRE Local 2881 and Alex Ragel out of Phoenix Local 493. They were each extremely knowledgeable, but even more, they were kind, thoughtful teachers who encouraged each fire fighter, no matter the rank, to understand the techniques, considerations, risks and realities of confined space rescues.

As an organization, we would be very interested in taking part in more courses

offered by the IAFF, as well as inviting instructors back for refresher courses. Additionally, it would be great to see an increased variety of courses offered, especially those focusing on other areas of technical rescue.

Our goal at the Warrensburg Fire Department is to protect life and property with compassion and integrity, and it is training like the IAFF Confined Space Rescue course that allows us to realize that goal.

Once again, thank you,

Terry Hill

President
Warrensburg, MO Local 3923

Fire Ground Survival Training Saved My Life

General President Schaitberger:

Thank you for your commitment to keeping fire fighters safe and for the Fire Ground Survival (FGS) training program. I was fortunate a few years ago to attend the Train-the-Trainer course taught by IAFF master FGS instructors Stan Brawer (Los Angeles County Local 1014), Kevin Kalmus (Austin, TX Local 975), Coitt Kessler (Austin, TX Local 975), Melissa Kennedy (Seattle, WA Local 27), Geoff Boisseau (Toronto, ON Local 3888) and Andy Ruiz (Los Angeles, CA Local 112).

I was the officer in charge of Engine 19 when, shortly before 5:00 a.m. on February 23, we were dispatched to a house fire with reports of persons trapped. Dispatch notified units of banging noises coming from the basement.

We were assigned primary search upon arrival and proceeded to the main floor. I elected NOT to take a handline. Stairs to the basement were too tight for two lines (fire attack had a 1 3/4" line). We would have obstructed the stairs with two lines if we had to take victims out. We had light smoke on the main floor and

could see clearly through to the rear of the house. One of my fire fighters reported an SCBA problem, so I elected to leave him outside with my engine operator and enter with my other fire fighter, Brother Jonathon Senger, to begin searching, as we had reports of three trapped victims. This was a hoarder house and I noted tires and boxes of aerosol cans as we descended the stairs to the basement.

I notified command of moderate heat and difficulty finding the seat of the fire. I was handling the radio work for the fire attack as the officer was really busy. I was in verbal contact with him in the basement. I had trouble transmitting messages about the hoarder conditions and progress, so I switched to a different channel to inform command. We continued climbing over debris to search for victims and requested ventilation due to zero visibility.

We had half air in our SCBA and crews could not make progress, so we decided to withdraw. I fell and lost contact with the wall and hose line (we took fire attack line as they withdrew). I told my partner I was disoriented and we both tried to locate an exit. My SCBA low air alarm activated and I pressed my



PHOTO CREDIT: DAVID PATTON

emergency alert button (EAB) to call a Mayday, providing my who-what-where to command. My partner found the line as I called the Mayday. He advised me he could get us out. He led us over the pile of debris that we had climbed over to make entry and we encountered another crew who led us up the stairs and directed us out.

Once we were clear of the structure, I radioed command that we had successfully exited the structure on the Charlie side and were uninjured. I drew a map of the basement for command, reported to rehab and was medically evaluated.

I am nearing retirement but still maintain my diligence. My wife, my

crew and Calgary Fire have all been very supportive, and I compiled the incident audio so others can learn from the event. We were risking a lot to save a lot and the FGS training saved my life.

On behalf of myself, Jen and my daughter, Ashlyn, I'd like to send my heartfelt thanks to you and to the FGS instructors who shared their skills and knowledge.

Sincerely,
Grant Rinas
Calgary, AB Local 255



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS

55TH CONVENTION



STRONGER TOGETHER

IAFF Elected Officers Sworn In

Newly elected principal officers General President-Elect Edward Kelly and General Secretary-Treasurer-Elect Frank Lima were sworn in March 10, along with IAFF Executive Board members running in contested races.

Held virtually due to the pandemic, the 55th IAFF Convention reconvened March 10 to officially announce the election results. Delegates cast their votes by secret mail-in ballot conducted by Survey & Ballot Systems (SBS). Per the IAFF Constitution & By-Laws, only registered, seated delegates are eligible to vote in the election. The certified results account for 7,148 ballots cast from 7,245 eligible ballots, yielding a participation rate of 98.66%.

“I want to congratulate all the newly elected officers,” said General President Harold Schaitberger, who is retiring after serving five terms as General President and devoting more than 45 years to the union (see full story on page 18). “It has been my honor to work every day for the last 20 years as General President on behalf of the members of this great union. I am confident that our newly elected officers will continue to build and strengthen this IAFF”

Principal Officers Election

General Secretary-Treasurer Ed Kelly, Professional Fire Fighters of Wisconsin President Mahlon Mitchell and Chicago, IL Local 2 President Jim Tracy declared their candidacies in the IAFF’s first contested election for principal officers since 1988. Tracy suspended his campaign because of unforeseen health reasons, making it a two-way race between Kelly and Mitchell for the top position. With 56.2% of the vote, Kelly was elected General President, the 10th person to hold the office in the union’s 103-year history.

Vying for General Secretary-Treasurer were 10th District Vice President Frank Lima, Washington State Council of Fire Fighters Secretary-Treasurer Greg Markley and Uniformed Fire Officers Association of New York Local 854 President Jake Lemonda. With 68.5% of the vote, Lima will serve as the

ELECTION RESULTS	
GENERAL PRESIDENT:	
Edward A. Kelly:	146,727 votes ✓
Mahlon Mitchell:	114,518 votes
GENERAL SECRETARY-TREASURER:	
Frank Lima:	178,292 votes ✓
James "Jake" Lemonda:	45,603 votes
Greg B. Markley:	36,505 votes
9TH DISTRICT VICE PRESIDENT:	
Michael "Big Mike" Frainier:	8,384 votes ✓
Rusty McAllister:	3,687 votes
10TH DISTRICT VICE PRESIDENT:	
Stephen Gilman:	25,983 votes ✓
Domingo "Alby" Albarran:	15,625 votes
11TH DISTRICT VICE PRESIDENT:	
R.L. "Sandy" McGhee III:	13,784 votes ✓
Patrick M. "Marty" Lancton:	9,730 votes
16TH DISTRICT VICE PRESIDENT:	
James B. Johnson:	2,276 votes ✓
Reid Shimabukoro:	804 votes
REGION 2 TRUSTEE (EASTERN U.S.):	
Mark Ouellette:	69,902 votes ✓
Daniel Fortuna:	58,447 votes

International’s 12th General Secretary-Treasurer. The new leadership team officially takes office April 9.

U.S. Labor Secretary-Designee and Boston Mayor Marty Walsh presided over the swearing in. The IAFF Executive Board voted to make Walsh an honorary member of the IAFF; General President Schaitberger deputized him to conduct the swearing in at Boston’s Ladder

“I want to congratulate all the newly elected officers. It has been my honor to work every day for the last 20 years as General President on behalf of the members of this great union. I am confident that our newly elected officers will continue to build and strengthen this IAFF.”

— General President Harold Schaitberger

17 where both the General President-Elect and former General Secretary-Treasurer Martin Pierce (1980-1982) were assigned as fire fighters.

“I have known Eddie a long, long time,” said Walsh. “He knows how to bring people together; he fights for what he believes in and for his members and his friends. He believes in getting things done. That is the kind of leadership we need in this very historic moment in time. As we come out of this global pandemic, the steps we take now will define our future.”

Closing his remarks, he said, “On behalf of the people of the city of Boston, your union and the people of St. Ann’s Parrish, congratulations.”

General President-Elect Kelly acknowledged all that Mayor Walsh has done for fire fighters, including purchasing much-needed new gear and assisting with cancer prevention efforts.

“I know that as a member of the presidential cabinet, the success you had helping fire fighters and the workers here in Boston will translate into a better, stronger future for our country,” said Kelly. “My first act as General President-Elect is to deliver to you your IAFF membership card. What an honor it is to have you here to swear us all in.”

Kelly also recognized retiring General President Schaitberger and 9th District Vice President Ray Rahne and congratulated all the newly elected board members.

“When I get out of bed every morning, I will endeavor to serve with the same devotion to the oath I took today that our brothers and



General President-Elect Kelly presents Boston Mayor Marty Walsh with his honorary IAFF membership card.

sisters whose names are on the wall at our Fallen Fire Fighter Memorial showed when they lived up to the oath they took by making the ultimate sacrifice,” he said. “God Bless you. God Bless the IAFF. Be you, be strong, be firefighters.”

General Secretary-Treasurer-Elect Lima, who delivered his acceptance speech via Zoom, acknowledged everyone who helped with his campaign and thanked outgoing and incoming IAFF Executive Board members, stating his readiness to work together to build a stronger, united IAFF.

Lima said his priority is to bring everyone together into one IAFF. “My commitment to

“I promise you that I will always do the right thing. I am committed to being a General Secretary-Treasurer for all our members, whether you voted for me or not. Now is the time to come together.”

— General Secretary Treasurer-Elect Frank Lima

“Our members voice was heard in a historic level of participation at our 55th Convention, and I’m honored and excited to be the next General President of our great union.”

— General President-Elect Ed Kelly

you is that I will lead with integrity, transparency and honesty,” he said. “I promise you that I will always do the right thing. I am committed to being a General Secretary-Treasurer for all our members, whether you voted for me or not. Now is the time to come together.”

Prior to serving the last four years as General Secretary-Treasurer, Kelly answered the call to the fire service like so many of his family members, including his grandfather, father, brother, nephew and a cousin. He responded



General President-Elect Kelly and General Secretary-Treasurer-Elect Frank Lima promise to serve all members across the United States and Canada as one IAFF.

not only to emergencies in his hometown of Boston, but also the 1999 Cold Storage Warehouse fire in Worcester, Massachusetts, and the 2001 terrorist attack in New York City. As a union leader, Kelly served as president of Boston Local 718 and the Professional Fire Fighters of Massachusetts.

“Our members voice was heard in a historic level of participation at our 55th Convention, and I’m honored and excited to be the next General President of our great union.” Kelly says. “I congratulate Frank Lima and all our recently elected leaders on their victories, and I look forward to serving with our entire Executive Board to tackle the important work for our members and their families across both countries.”

Lima, a 29-year veteran fire fighter, has served as 10th District Vice President since 2016. During his tenure, he worked to ensure members affected by wildland fires and flooding received disaster relief assistance. He also lobbied to advance legislation benefiting his members, negotiated strong contracts and pushed to protect retirement security. Prior leadership positions include president of Los Angeles City, CA Local 112 and 8th District Vice President for the California Professional Firefighters (CPF).

“I am humbled by the strong amount of support that I received throughout this campaign,” says Lima. “Now, more than ever, is the time that we must unite, fight and organize as a labor union. I am honored to begin work representing and serving our members in Canada and the United States as the next General Secretary-Treasurer of our IAFF.”

Newly Elected Executive Board Members Take Oath of Office

In contested races for Executive Board positions, four district vice presidents and one trustee who faced challengers were also sworn in.

In the 11th District, incumbent Vice President Sandy McGhee was challenged by Houston Local 341 President Marty Lancton. With 58.6% of the vote, McGhee was reelected 11th District Vice President.

“I am excited and energized, and more than anything, I am proud to be reelected as vice president of the Mighty 11th District,” said

Continued on Page 12

U.S. Labor Secretary-Designee and Boston Mayor Marty Walsh presided over the swearing in ceremony at Boston’s Ladder 17.



ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

Chair, Randall W. Wyse
Vice Chair, Frank Ramagnano

District 1 Anthony J. Tarantino	District 9 Joel Helnemann
District 2 David J. Floyd	District 10 John J. Bagala
District 3 Billy Cabral	District 11 James R. McDade
District 4 John J. Gardell, III	District 12 Brian N. Lynch
District 5 Mark Lakosky	District 13 Mark Wilson
District 6 Andrew Spence	District 14 Matthew Tomek
District 7 Dominic Lozano	District 15 Nathan Ashfield
District 8 Michael Whited	District 16 Kyle C. Moser



Thanks goes to the members of the IAFF Elections Committee for their hard work.

Continued from Page 11

McGhee. “I am more than ready to continue the work to ensure that every local matters.”

Incumbent 16th District Vice President James Johnson faced Federal Fire Fighters of Hawaii President Reid Shimabukuro. With 73.9% of the vote, Johnson was reelected 16th District Vice President.

“I want to thank the 16th District delegates on my reelection and the great work they’re doing. We’ve seen some pretty egregious attacks from the past administration, and we fought our way through these,” said Johnson. “I also congratulate our newly elected officers. I am really looking forward to working with everyone.”

In the race for Region 2 Trustee, incumbent Mark Ouellette ran against Associated Fire Fighters of Illinois 1st District Vice President

Daniel Fortuna. With 54.5% of the vote, Ouellette was reelected Region 2 Trustee.

“I promise, along with my fellow trustees, Tony Mejia and Alex Forrest, we will always be diligent to ensure our financial policies are carried out,” said Ouellette. “To the members on the frontlines, thank you for your support. I promise I will be beholden to only you, the dues payers of this union.”

Colorado Professional Fire Fighters (CPFF) President Michael Frainier and Nevada State AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer and past Professional Fire Fighters of Nevada President Rusty McAllister campaigned to fill the seat vacated by 9th District Vice President Ray Rahne. With 69.5% of the vote, Brother Frainier was elected 9th District Vice President.

“I want to thank the members of the 9th District who have put their faith in me,” said Frainier. “We have great leaders in the IAFF, past and present, who have built a strong foundation for us. I will continue that tradition, working together with a unified vision and shared values for our future.”

A 33-year veteran fire fighter, Frainier comes to the IAFF Executive Board with extensive leadership experience. Joining West Metro Fire Rescue in 1987, he became active in West Metro, CO Local 1309, serving as secretary-treasurer (1998-2005) and president (2005-2018). Meanwhile, he was elected Colorado Professional Fire Fighters (CPFF) secretary-treasurer in 2012, serving in that position until he was elected as CPFF president in 2017.

In the race for 10th District Vice President, United Goodyear, AZ Local 4005 President and 10th District Field Service Representative Stephen Gilman faced United Firefighters of Los Angeles City Local 112 Treasurer Domingo Albarran. With 62.4% of the vote, Brother Gilman was elected 10th District Vice President.

“I am absolutely honored and humbled that IAFF 10th District leaders have chosen me to continue the concept we have built as Team 10th,” says Gilman. “We will have a seasoned team ready to hit the ground running so our members can continue to receive top-notch assistance and resources.”

Since 2009, Gilman has served as Local 4005 president and as staff representative for the Professional Fire Fighters of Arizona since 2012. Simultaneously, he has served as an IAFF District Field Service Representative. In these leadership roles, Gilman has responded to multiple wildfires and other disasters, helped numerous locals win collective bargaining rights and pushed for the passage of state legislation benefiting fire fighters. As a fire fighter, he worked his way up through the ranks to become captain.

Reelected by acclamation in January were: Region One Trustee (Canada) Alex Forrest, Region Three Trustee (Western U.S.) Anthony Mejia, 1st District Vice President James Slevin, 2nd District Vice President Mark Woolbright, 3rd District Vice President Jay Colbert, 4th District Vice President Andrew Pantelis, 5th District Vice President Thomas Thornberg, 6th District Vice President Mike Carter, 7th District Vice President Ricky Walsh, 8th District Vice President Mark Sanders, 12th District Vice President Walt Dix, 13th District Vice President Fred LeBlanc, 14th District Vice President Danny Todd and 15th District Vice President David Burry.

The entire new Executive Board is pictured on page 13. ■



General President Harold Schaitberger deputized Mayor Marty Walsh, allowing him to swear in the newly elected IAFF officers.



Edward A. Kelly
General President-Elect



Frank Lima
General Secretary-Treasurer-Elect

IAFF District Vice Presidents and Trustees



James Slevin
1st District Vice President



Mark Woolbright
2nd District Vice President



Jay Colbert
3rd District Vice President



Andrew Pantelis
4th District Vice President



Thomas Thornberg
5th District Vice President



Mike Carter
6th District Vice President



Ricky Walsh
7th District Vice President



Mark Sanders
8th District Vice President



Michael Frainier
9th District Vice President



Stephen Gilman
10th District Vice President



Sandy McGhee
11th District Vice President



Walt Dix
12th District Vice President



Fred LeBlanc
13th District Vice President



Danny Todd
14th District Vice President



David Burry
15th District Vice President



James Johnson
16th District Vice President



Alex Forrest
Region 1 Trustee



Mark Ouellette
Region 2 Trustee



Anthony Mejia
Region 3 Trustee



IAFF 55th Virtual Convention Opens With Record Attendance

The IAFF 55th Convention, with the theme Union on the Rise, kicked off as the first-ever virtual Convention on January 26 with 3,641 registered delegates and alternates, making it the largest in the union's history.

Even in the virtual setting, our union maintained many of the traditional elements of the Opening Ceremony, including an invocation from IAFF Chaplain Thomas Mulcrone, the playing of both national anthems and the introduction of IAFF officers and emeriti. Each IAFF member who died in the line of duty since the last Convention was also honored with a display of their names and photos on the screen with bagpipes, the ringing of the bell, Last Post and Taps.

Because of a complex series of technical issues that delayed the start of the Convention by one day, General President Harold Schaitberger delivered an abbreviated state of the union address, noting it is far more important to get to the important business of the Convention. (Read his entire state of the union address at <https://convention.iaff.org>.)

Before calling the Convention to order, Schaitberger lauded the continued success of the IAFF on behalf of its members, despite the challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, economy and current political climate. In fact, the IAFF is on the rise with more than 324,000 members.

"It's incredible that membership growth is taking place during a time when most union membership has been on the decline," he said. "Our members know the value of working together, unified with the common purpose of defending their livelihoods and protecting our profession."



He also noted the success in helping elect Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and U.S. President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris, all of whom have long track records of supporting issues important to the IAFF and its members.

"Our members know that they can rely on us; that this IAFF is dedicated to protecting their profession and securing their livelihoods, that our work is not done; that the future is bright, and that their union, this IAFF, is on the rise," he said. "It's time to roll up our sleeves. We have resolutions to consider that will chart our course. We have elections to hold that will determine our future."

Highlights from the week include remarks by President Joe Biden — a longtime friend to the IAFF — and Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.

Biden expressed appreciation for the IAFF's unwavering support. "You were not just with me in the last election. You were always with me," he said. "Courage, character, honor, loyalty. That's the fire fighters. I wouldn't be here without you."

Throughout his time as a U.S. senator and vice president, Biden has supported issues important to fire fighters, including the passage of line-of-duty death benefits and the creation

"You were not just with me in the last election. You were always with me. Courage, character, honor, loyalty. That's the fire fighters. I wouldn't be here without you."

— President Joe Biden

Delegates Honor Canadian Leader Jack Jessop and Virginia Leader Tyrone Wisher

Convention delegates adopted two resolutions to honor well-respected IAFF leaders, voting overwhelmingly in favor of Resolution 19 to rename the IAFF Biennial Canadian Policy Conference in honor of Jack Jessop and Resolution 13 honoring Portsmouth, VA Local 539 member Tyrone Wisher.

Jack Jessop joined as a member of Toronto, ON Local 113, which later merged to become Toronto Local 3888. He served in leadership positions for his home local before then-General President Howie McClennan chose him to become the first Canadian Office Director in 1969.

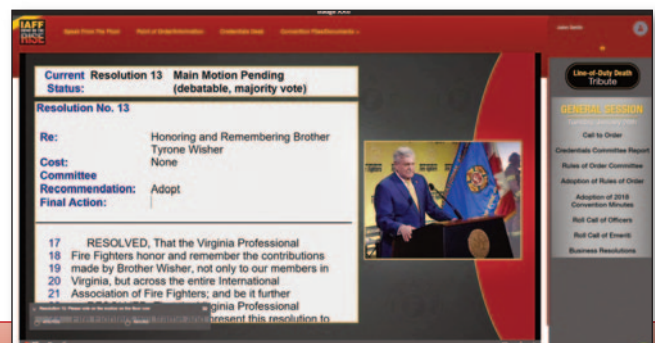
Current and past IAFF district vice presidents and others rose one after another to tell their personal stories about Jessop and

to speak in strong support of the resolution, all crediting him with building the IAFF Canadian Office and establishing an IAFF presence on Parliament Hill.

Jessop, who served as director for 21 years until his retirement in 1990, passed away in 2011. With the passage of this resolution, the conference will now be the Jack Jessop IAFF Biennial Canadian Policy Conference.

Convention delegates also honored the life of Portsmouth, VA Local 539 member Tyrone Wisher. Wisher, who joined Local 539 in 1985

and went on to serve one term as president for his home local beginning in 2005, served on the Human Relations Committee for the Virginia Professional Fire Fighters and the IAFF. Wisher passed away in January 2020; the resolution calls for framing the resolution and presenting it to his family. ■



and funding of the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant program.

The IAFF endorsed Biden in April 2019 and was heavily involved in his campaign for the presidency.

The president is already taking actions to assist IAFF members. On January 22, President Biden repealed three anti-union executive orders that limited collective bargaining and union time for federal fire fighters and eliminated progressive discipline. In addition, Biden has made the executive order waiving the local cost share for Public Assistance grants retroactive to January 2020. Those that received reimbursement at 75% will now automatically be reimbursed up to 100% (see story on page 32).

During his remarks, the president pledged to continue to honor the support the IAFF has consistently given by providing immediate pandemic relief in the form of readily available vaccines and personal protective equipment (PPE) and financial relief for struggling state and local governments to keep fire fighters on the job.

In closing, he said, “I have always protected your right to collectively bargain. Above all, I will always fight for your right to be treated with the respect you deserve.”

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, a leader who truly supports the IAFF and all organized labor, addressed delegates and wished them well as they make important decisions about the future of the union. Speaking in English and in French, Trudeau said, “Every day you put your lives on the line for all of us. It is our duty [as government

leaders] to be there for all of you.”

Trudeau has honored that mission time and time again during his tenure in office. He cited the creation of the Memorial Grant for First Responders, which provides a one-time, lump sum, tax-free direct maximum payment of \$300,000 to the families of first responders who have died in the line of duty.

Additionally, he talked about the creation of Fire Fighter National Memorial Day, which is

held annually on the second Sunday in September in memory of fallen fire fighters. In their honor, the Canadian flag is flown at half-mast on all federal buildings and establishments.

A national action plan on post-traumatic stress injuries was also created to support

Continued on Page 16

Delegates Vote to Raise Per Capita

Delegates carefully considered a series of per capita resolutions, approving Resolutions 1, 17, 29, 33 and 35 for a total of a 36.5 cent per capita increase.

Resolution 1 adjusts the union budget for inflation. As the Consumer Price Index (CPI) increased 1.5 percent between April 1, 2019, and March 31, 2020, a 23-cent per capita increase for active members (12 cents per active-retired member) was approved to maintain IAFF programs and operations.

Resolution 17 calls for the creation of a new program coordinator to assist in the increasing demand for services, including municipal financial analyses, Geographical Information System (GIS) analyses and wage comparisons. Several delegates rose in support of this 9.5 cent increase, noting how these services have helped ensure they have the resources needed to stay safe on the job, stressing the need for expediency in providing these services.

Resolution 29, with a 4.25 cent per capita increase, creates funding for two annual meetings for the 16 IAFF district burn coordinators to provide service and assistance for burn survivors. Delegates

pointed to the inability of many local hospitals to accommodate the unique needs of fire fighters with burn injuries, maintaining that IAFF burn coordinators are best equipped to work with burn centers, offer peer support and work with families to ensure the best care for members suffering burn injuries.

With a 1.25 cent per capita increase, Resolution 33 calls for IAFF members to become more involved with the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) Fire Fighter Fatality Investigation and Prevention Program’s line-of-duty death investigations as subject matter experts (SMEs) and for the IAFF to contribute to the investigation budget to solidify the collaboration. The resolution was adopted as amended to delay its implementation to September 1, 2022.

Finally, delegates approved a .75 cent increase for Resolution 35 to support the IAFF Human Relations Committee and its work.

These actions bring the current total dues to \$15.20 for active members and \$7.60 for active retired members. The per capita increase is effective February 1, 2021, with the exception of Resolution 33, which becomes effective September 1, 2022. ■

Schaitberger Honored With General President Emeritus Status

With the passage of Resolution 18, Convention delegates honored Harold Schaitberger with General President Emeritus status. The IAFF 55th Convention was Schaitberger’s last as General President as he has decided to retire (see story on page 18).

Schaitberger has served 50 years in union leadership roles. In 1970, he organized Fairfax County, VA Local 2068 and through the years took on more responsibility, serving as president of the Virginia Professional Fire Fighters. He came to IAFF headquarters in 1975 to lead the International’s legislative efforts. In 1988, he was named IAFF Chief of Staff and was elected General President in 2000.

As General President, he is credited with growing the membership to more than 324,000 (a 43% increase), elevating the IAFF’s political strength and influence,



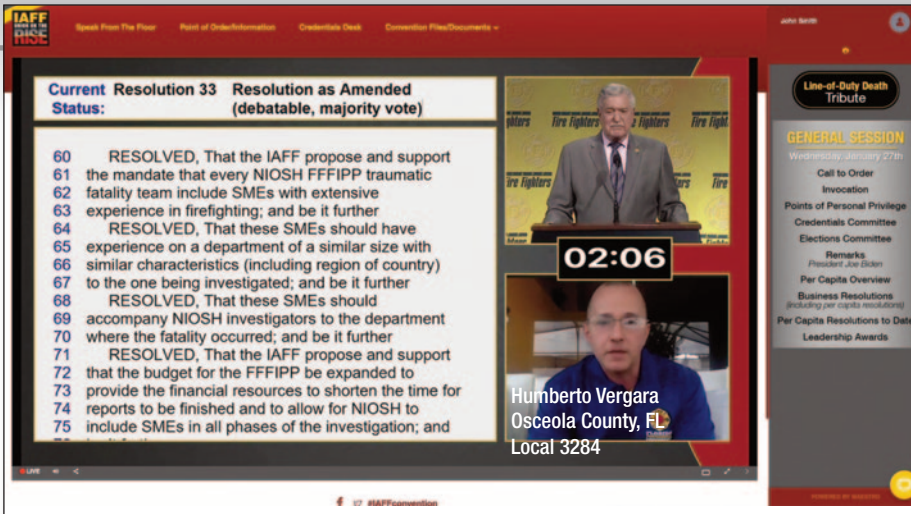
providing critical assistance to members in the aftermath of disasters and implementing countless new programs benefiting the membership. Delegates, including 12th District Vice President Walt Dix, 11th District Vice President Sandy McGhee and 14th District Vice President Danny Todd, rose to support the resolution and to tell their personal stories about Schaitberger’s leadership and the many ways it has benefited the membership and strengthened the union.

In a video honoring Schaitberger, the 13th District presented a special gift — a Gibson Les Paul guitar autographed by Randy Bachman and Fred Turner of the legendary Canadian rock band Bachman-Turner



Tom Bilous
Winnipeg, MB
Local 867

Overdrive, as their hit song “Taking Care of Business,” which has long been Schaitberger’s theme song, played. ■



Continued from Page 15

research, prevention, early intervention, stigma reduction, care and treatment for all types of public safety personnel across the country. Prime Minister Trudeau and the Canadian

government also continue to support the IAFF Canadian HazMat Training initiative, which allows fire fighters across the country to receive the training they need.

Delegates also debated a number of resolutions

addressing members' health and safety.

The IAFF has increasingly focused on assisting members with treatment for post-traumatic stress and other behavioral health issues. Resolutions 26 and 30 further that mission.

With the passage of Resolution 26, affiliates are asked to report suicide deaths to the International for tracking purposes. No current reliable sources track the rate of suicide among fire fighters, but the IAFF has developed a system to track information about member deaths by suicide as part of efforts to help members who may be suicidal. The IAFF will also offer assistance for members dealing with the trauma of the loss of a fellow member.

Resolution 30 calls for development of a Center of Excellence for Behavioral Health Treatment and Recovery in the Midwest.

9th District Vice President Ray Rahne Retiring After 49 Years of Service

After nearly a half century answering the call from his nation, his community and his brothers and sisters in the fire service, 9th District Vice President Ray Rahne is retiring effective April 8, 2021, capping a stellar career that began with the U.S. Marine Corps First Battalion in Vietnam and ending with a legacy of leading the fire service to address post-traumatic stress within its ranks.

Post-traumatic stress followed Rahne home from combat duty in Vietnam in 1969, resurfacing over the course of his decades-long career with the Littleton (Colorado) Fire Department, and increasing leadership roles in the "Best of the West" IAFF 9th District.

It was in the dark days and weeks following the deadly student massacre at Columbine High School in Littleton in 1999 that Rahne realized he was suffering symptoms of post-traumatic stress that threatened not just his career but also his home life.

Rahne served as the incident commander on that fateful day when two high school boys led a deadly attack on their fellow students. "I'd seen a lot up until then, but there was something about seeing teenagers killing teenagers that I could not shake. I went through intense mood swings after that and began to abuse alcohol," Rahne says, adding that his wife, Darlene, finally sat him down and encouraged him to get help.

Rahne was able to get treatment for his condition through the U.S. Veterans Administration, saving his career and personal life. Still, he realized that too many fire fighters who'd borne witness to countless tragedies were simply "cowboying up," rather than addressing debilitating behavioral health issues. Unlike veterans, fire fighters had few resources available to help them.

Confronting his own post-traumatic stress head-on and encouraging his brothers and sisters to do the same, Rahne helped drive a cultural shift in attitude towards behavioral health in the fire service.

"We have all known for a long time that post-traumatic stress and other behavior issues were a hidden hazard in the fire service, but it has taken strong leaders like Ray Rahne, someone who has been there and gotten through it, to help us confront it together as a union," says General President Harold Schaitberger. "We are so proud of his legacy of strong leadership on behavioral health and just about anything put in front of him."

In 2016, Schaitberger tapped Rahne to serve as chair of the Center of Excellence for Behavioral Health Treatment and Recovery Advisory Committee to help in opening the first recovery center designed exclusively for IAFF members. Rahne also joined the effort to build peer support teams to be dispatched swiftly following tragic emergency response incidents, from deadly mass shootings to major natural disasters.

"Whenever he showed up anywhere to talk to members about how it was okay to talk about their stress, everyone would listen and take in what he was saying. He always discussed behavioral health with such compassion and passion. You could see him breaking through," says 9th District Field Service Representative Jeff Hamilton.

"Ray is the greatest utility guy in the game. He is one who steps up and handles whatever gets put in front of him, and that's why he rose so quickly in this union," says President of the Colorado Professional Fire Fighters (CPFF) Michael Frainier.

Rahne shelved his plans for retirement to assume the role of 9th District Vice President in 2012 following the death of then-District Vice President Randy Atkinson. "The 9th needed a leader as strong as Randy, and Ray Rahne was the obvious choice," Frainier says.

Rahne's legacy also includes helping the CPFF enact the Firefighters Public Safety Act, which opened the state of Colorado to collective bargaining for fire fighters. Since that legislation passed eight years ago, 24 new locals have joined the CPFF and membership in the state has increased from 3,900 to 5,200.

"I have always said I would go into combat with Ray Rahne because he is one you can trust and one who will get the job done," says President of the Professional Fire Fighters of Utah Jack Tidrow, himself a combat

veteran who joined Rahne on the Center of Excellence Advisory Board and helped drive the union's cultural shift in confronting behavioral health.

While he is finally retiring, Rahne says he will always be there for his IAFF brothers and sisters to discuss issues between rounds of golf, fishing and touring the continent with Darlene in their Winnebago. ■



Ray Rahne, IAFF 9th District Vice President

IAFF Honors 16 Outstanding Affiliate Leaders

At the IAFF 55th Convention, 16 affiliate leaders, one from each district, were honored with an IAFF Leadership Award for their accomplishments in serving their affiliates and the union.

The 2020 Leadership Award Winners are:



DISTRICT 1
Dominick Marino
 Professional Firefighters
 of New Jersey
 (posthumous)



DISTRICT 2
Bruce Williams
 Saint Louis, MO
 Local 73



DISTRICT 3
Joseph Cantalupa
 Medford, MA
 Local 1032



DISTRICT 4
Brian Jones
 Morgantown, WV
 Local 313



DISTRICT 5
Mike Woodzicka
 Professional Fire Fighters
 of Wisconsin



DISTRICT 6
Greg Holubowich
 Edmonton, AB
 Local 209



DISTRICT 7
Tom Wescott
 Alaska Professional
 Fire Fighters
 Association



DISTRICT 8
Michael O'Neill
 Chicago, IL
 Local 2



DISTRICT 9
Bob Livingston
 Oregon State Council of
 Fire Fighters



DISTRICT 10
Dan Robertson
 Oakland/Alameda
 County
 Local 55



DISTRICT 11
Gordon Ray Carriger
 Professional Fire Fighters
 of Oklahoma



DISTRICT 12
John Keane
 Florida Professional
 Firefighters



DISTRICT 13
Ed Kennedy
 Toronto, ON
 Local 3888
 (posthumous)



DISTRICT 14
Chad Major
 Professional Fire
 Fighters Association
 of Louisiana



DISTRICT 15
James O'Toole
 St. Johns, NF
 Local 1075



District 16
Dale Smith Jr.
 16th District
 Service
 Representative

"The dedication of these 16 members to this union and its members over the years has been incredible," says General President Harold Schaitberger. "I want to personally thank each of them for everything they have done. And to the families of former PFANJ President Dominick Marino and former Toronto, ON Local 3888 President Ed Kennedy, I want to say that both these great men will be sorely missed." ■

Another IAFF treatment facility will be open soon in California. Several delegates rose to speak on the importance of passing the resolution, telling their personal stories of post-traumatic stress recovery or commending the existing facility for saving hundreds of fire fighter lives. All agreed having a Midwest Center of Excellence will make it easier for more members to receive timely treatment.

To further reduce the incidence of cancer in fire fighters, delegates adopted Resolution 27 asking the IAFF to work to ban the binding agent used in Polymethylene Polyphenylisocyanate (PMDI), or Polyurethane foam, during training exercises. The agent is already prohibited under NFPA 1403: Standard on Live Training Evolutions.

For a complete list of resolutions and delegate action, visit convention.iaff.org/resolutions. ■

Delegates Approve 2024 Convention Site

As one of the final pieces of business at the IAFF 55th Convention, delegates approved the site of the 57th IAFF Convention in 2024. Only one local, Boston, MA Local 718, submitted a proposal to hold Convention in its city.

Boston Local 718 President John Soares, joined by several of his members, delivered a presentation to delegates, encouraging them to support Boston as the Convention site. Convention was last held in Boston in 2004.

"Our members are looking forward to hosting 3,000-plus Convention delegates in our great city in 2024," said President Soares. "We look forward to ensuring that the business of the Convention goes smoothly and to showing delegates all the city has to offer." Boston is also General Secretary-Treasurer Ed Kelly's home local. "The people of Boston love fire fighters and will welcome IAFF delegates with open arms. The rich history of the city will be a great attraction for family members who choose to come along," he says.

"On behalf of the 3rd District, I want to thank Convention delegates for supporting Boston Local 718's bid to host the 2024 Convention," says 3rd District Vice President Jay Colbert. "We look forward to making delegates and their families feel welcome and will take the time to explore the great city of Boston at the end of business each day."

As voted on at the 2018 convention, the 56th IAFF Convention will be held August 8-12, 2022, in Ottawa, Ontario. ■



Harold A. Schaitberger:

A LEGACY OF UNION LEADERSHIP



After dedicating almost 50 years to our union, we congratulate General President Harold Schaitberger on his retirement.

“I am proud to have fought on behalf of our members across the United States and Canada,” says Schaitberger. “Being General President never felt like a job because I felt so strongly about the cause.”

Schaitberger began his career as a professional fire fighter in Fairfax County, Virginia. He quickly rose to the rank of lieutenant, organized and served as president of Fairfax County Local 2068, and was elected president of the Virginia Professional Fire Fighters — all before he had even seven years on the job.

“Harold risked his job and career as a fire fighter to form Fairfax County Local 2068 in the anti-union state of Virginia,” says Local 2068 President Ron Kuley. “For him, the IAFF and its members have always come first. From pushing for safe staffing standards and advanced HazMat training, to ensuring members have access to the behavioral resources they need, no one has done more for this union and this profession than Harold Schaitberger.”

Schaitberger left his firefighting career to work at IAFF headquarters on June 1, 1976, and spent the next 12 years building one of the most effective political and legislative operations in the labor movement.

In 1988, General President Alfred K. Whitehead asked Schaitberger to be his chief of staff. In 2000, he was elected the 9th General President in our union’s more than 100-year history. It was also our union’s first unanimous election; he would be re-elected by acclamation four more times.

During his tenure as General President, Schaitberger has demonstrated an unbending commitment to ensure the health, safety and security of members and their families. Since taking office, our union membership has grown 43 percent to a record 324,000, increasing each year, including during the 2008 recession.

“I have always been very impressed by Harold’s intuitiveness and obvious dedication to our members’ needs, regardless of geography,” says 13th District Vice President Fred LeBlanc. “This is just one of many things that sets him apart from other leaders.”

Over 20 years, Schaitberger created the powerful gold and black political brand and program, building FIREPAC into the top 1% of all federal PACs and pushed the boundaries of health and safety beginning with the creation of the IAFF/IAFC Wellness-Fitness Initiative (WFI) and the Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT).

Early on, Schaitberger invested \$1 million to send 1,000 IAFF leaders to the NFPA Convention in Anaheim, California, to control the NFPA rule-making



process and pass the historical NFPA 1710 staffing standard — which continues to increase staffing in fire departments and save lives today.

Under his leadership, Schaitberger has ensured that our union has always been at the forefront in addressing health issues in the fire service, including cancer and behavioral health, devoting resources to preventing and treating cancer, as well as pushing for presumptive protections. His vision and determination led to the creation of the IAFF Center of Excellence for Behavioral Health Treatment and Recovery specifically to address behavioral health issues in the fire service and provide treatment exclusively for members.

“General President Schaitberger had the vision, leadership and fortitude to develop a treatment and recovery center specifically for our members,” says 9th District Vice President Ray Rahne. “More than 1,500 members have received treatment since the Center opened four years ago and been able to move forward in their careers and their personal lives.”

And from the beginning and throughout the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, Schaitberger knew the major impact it would have on this profession and that our union needed to take a leading role in making sure members on the frontline had the resources, including personal protective equipment (PPE) and access to testing and vaccines, to protect them and their families from exposure.

On the legislative front, Schaitberger made sure federal funds and subsequent stimulus packages included money for COVID-19 needs for fire and EMS and funding to state and local governments to help protect members’ jobs. In addition, he successfully pushed for legislation to provide full federal benefits under the Public Safety Officers’ Benefit (PSOB) program for public safety officers who die or become permanently injured from COVID-19.

Since becoming General President, our union’s political influence has increased tremendously.





Achievements include developing a federal grant program — the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) — to hire, rehire and retain fire

fighters, and ensuring funding for the Assistance to Firefighters (FIRE Act) grant program to provide training, equipment and other resources to fire departments across the United States, among many others.

Our union's political principle has been to work on both sides of the political aisle over the years, but there is no elected official in Washington, DC who's worked harder for IAFF issues than Joe Biden. When he announced he was running for president of the United States, the IAFF Executive Board unanimously moved to endorse his campaign. Now as president — along with Vice President Kamala Harris — this union could not ask for two stronger supporters in the White House.

"You are a great friend; you weren't just with me in the last election, you were always with me," says Biden. "And I'll never forget it. I wouldn't be here without you and your colleagues. I wish you well in your retirement."

One of the greatest challenges to face our union came soon after he took the helm — the September 11 terrorist attacks. The IAFF response to the horrific attack in New York City and the Pentagon provided in the very first week a \$10,000 check to the families of every one of our 343 lost that tragic day, ultimately raising \$167 million, with every penny going to the families. Most never knew the IAFF paid for the magnificent memorial service held in Madison Square Garden that honored our fallen because the City of New York wouldn't pay for their own fire fighters to be honored properly.

Schaitberger made sure our union committed its full resources to help members and the families of the fallen, including working tirelessly in the efforts to pass the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act establishing the World Trade Center (WTC) Health Program and the September 11 Victims Compensation Fund to provide health monitoring, treatment and compensation for 9/11 responders and survivors in all 50 states.

In his first term, Schaitberger formed the IAFF Financial Corporation (IAFF-FC) to provide financial services and quality insurance programs at a minimal cost to IAFF members. Today, the IAFF-FC has \$13 billion in assets in its deferred compensation program. This success led to the creation of E-18 Media, a full-fledged media production company ready to assist IAFF affiliates with public safety and community outreach programs and other media projects.

Throughout his 20 years as General President, our union has provided financial support, food, clothing, water, shelter and medical and behavioral health assistance through the IAFF Disaster Relief Fund to members who have suffered catastrophic losses at the hands of major disasters, including hurricanes, tornadoes, wildfires and flooding across the U.S. and Canada.

"There are many programs and ideas that Harold had that had a big impact on the 14th

District — including the District Field Service Representative (DFSFR) program and Legal Guardian policy, but his work developing our disaster relief operations has been especially notable," says 14th District Vice President Danny Todd. "After Hurricane Katrina, he was at our IAFF command center in Baton Rouge visiting affected members. The IAFF has assisted thousands of members in the district. From all members of the 'Fighting 14th,' thanks, Harold."

In August 1992 when Hurricane Andrew devastated South Florida, General President Schaitberger recognized the need for direct disaster relief assistance to members. As hurricanes, tornados, floods, wildland fires and the other natural disasters increased over the years, the IAFF stepped up to help members in need. Following Hurricane Katrina in 2005, the union provided medical monitoring for members who waded in the contaminated flood waters. In 2018, Schaitberger established a four-person Go-Team of experienced IAFF members to be dispatched to disaster scenes to assist members following major disasters, and in 2020, deployed disaster relief trailers equipped with supplies, such as generators, chain saws and tarps.

12th District Vice President Walt Dix says, "There is no doubt that President Schaitberger has continually raised the bar on our ability to provide disaster relief assistance to members in their most vulnerable time. The strength of the IAFF disaster relief program is unrivaled and unmatched by any other labor union."

Our union's charitable efforts have also grown considerably under Schaitberger's administration. He established the IAFF Foundation, which

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provides support and assistance to fire fighters and their families in their time of need. He was also a vice president of the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA), a national charity the IAFF has supported for more than 66 years. The single largest contributor to MDA, IAFF members have raised and donated more than \$650 million since 1954.

“General President Schaitberger has displayed unwavering support for the mission of the Muscular Dystrophy Association year after year, and his work has made a positive impact on all of us,” says MDA CEO and President Donald S. Wood, PhD. “He has championed the cause with the support of IAFF members nationwide. On behalf of all our families, medical teams, scientists and advocates, we are grateful for his service and commitment to our organization, and wish him all the best for a wonderful retirement.”

Under Schaitberger’s leadership, our union has built and expanded programs to promote and help affiliates embrace diversity and welcome everyone into our union and profession as sisters and brothers united in this IAFF. He has been a fierce supporter of the IAFF Human Relations Committee in its work to promote diversity in the workplace and oppose any kind of discrimination or harassment based on race, gender, sexual orientation, creed or disability.

10th District Vice President Frank Lima says, “The 10th District is a very diverse district. Our members appreciate all that he has done to support and enforce policies that make everyone feel welcome on the job.”

Other major highlights of his union leadership include:

- Establishing the Legal Guardian program that has protected more than 1,000 affiliate officers who have been attacked or had adverse actions taken against them for doing their job representing our members.
- Embracing and working to expand fire-based EMS.
- Developing the Partnership Education Program (PEP), growing the Affiliate Leadership Training Summit (ALTS), building the life-saving Fire Ground Survival (FGS) program and expanding the IAFF HazMat training program in the U.S. and Canada.
- Creating national Political Training Academies, as well as state and provincial Political Training Academies, in the U.S. and Canada to train IAFF members in high-level political skills.
- Establishing the Communications Training Academy to empower affiliates to make sure their members’ voices are heard across various platforms and channels.
- Creating the Strategic Campaigns Department to ensure our members could fight back against attacks on their pay, benefits and working conditions.
- Initiating the Peer Support program to help our sisters and brothers in need.
- Creating the District Field Service Representative (DFSR) program to provide field specialists to deliver direct assistance and support to locals.
- Building programs to promote and help affiliates embrace diversity.



General President Harold Schaitberger’s legacy of building our union’s power and programs provides our affiliate leaders with the very best tools, services, resources, education forums and operational structures available to improve our members’ lives and livelihoods today and into the future. ■



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Getting the Facts on COVID-19 Vaccines



As fire fighters and emergency medical personnel who work in confined and uncontrolled environments while treating or transporting patients or interacting with the public, IAFF members are at a greater risk of contracting COVID-19.

With the rollout of the Pfizer, Moderna and Johnson & Johnson vaccines, we advocated that members be given top tier priority for vaccination — for their own protection and the protection of their brothers and sisters, family members, friends and communities.

The IAFF urges all members to be vaccinated to maintain their readiness to respond to COVID-19 and other emergencies, protect their loved ones, stay safe on the job and prevent the spread of the disease.

Despite scientific data that show that the Pfizer and Moderna vaccine are 95% and 94% effective, respectively, and Johnson & Johnson 66% effective, some members are hesitant to get vaccinated, citing concerns about the speed at which the vaccines were developed and approved under emergency use authorization (EUA), among others.

All vaccines, including COVID-19 vaccines, must undergo a rigorous approval process that involves different phases of clinical trials or scientific study. If, at any point, a significant side effect or risk occurs, the study is paused, and the event is investigated before the study can proceed. Clinical trials evaluate investigational COVID-19 vaccines in tens of thousands of study participants to generate the scientific data and other information needed by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to determine safety and effectiveness. These clinical trials are conducted according to the rigorous standards set forth by the FDA, and the data is needed for the vaccine to receive an EUA.

Clinical trials also provide additional information on common short-term side effects and risks, examine the relationship between the dose administered and the immune response, and provide initial information about the effectiveness of the vaccine.

Both the Moderna and Pfizer trials included people in jobs that put them at high risk of exposure to COVID-19. Thousands of Americans participated, including four West Metro, CO Local 1309 fire fighters and a Euclid, OH Local 337 member.

“As soon as I heard about this opportunity, I knew it was the right thing to do,” says Local 1309 member Mike Binney, who was among the four to participate in the clinical trial. “Taking part in this trial was a low risk to us as participants, but the benefit was high. Having

this vaccine means we can stay healthy on the job and we won’t pass the virus to others.”

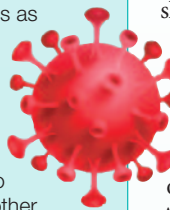
Half of the people were given the real vaccine while others were given a placebo. Both groups were observed for six months before submitting for FDA approval. Participants tracked possible and known COVID-19 exposures through an app and had their blood tested regularly for immune response. Participants will continue to be monitored for 25 months.

Bill Mastroianni, who holds executive board positions with the Ohio Association of

Vaccine Distribution Guidelines

The IAFF supports enlisting fire fighters and emergency medical personnel for vaccine distribution under the following conditions:

- Authorized by state, local or medical directors to provide immunizations
- Compensated at overtime rates as this would be in addition to regular shift work
- Assigning members to provide immunizations does not impact the department’s staffing levels for responding to emergencies and performing other duties
- Remain covered through workers’ compensation and disability
- Have been vaccinated
- Provided the proper training and education in vaccine handling, tracking and administration
- Provided the proper personal protective equipment (PPE) for vaccine distribution
- A safe environment to distribute the vaccine



Professional Fire Fighters (OAPFF) and Euclid, OH Local 337 says, “During this trial, I know I was exposed to the coronavirus, but I did not get sick. Now that I know I received the vaccine instead of the placebo, I am confident that this vaccine works.” He adds, “It is important that our members receive the vaccine because we go into unknown environments every day. The vaccine will protect us in case of exposure.”

Local 1309 member Aaron Johnson, who also participated in the trial, says having this vaccine will give him and others peace of mind. “The vaccine will protect us from the virus and potential long-term effects that could affect our health and ability to do our job,” says Johnson. “It will also be a great relief to know that if we get symptoms, such as fever, that it’s not COVID-19.”

Even with data demonstrating the vaccine works, many are still hesitant to roll up their sleeve. The University of Miami’s Miller School of Medicine’s *COVID-19 Vaccine Acceptability among U.S. Firefighters and Emergency Medical Services Workers: A Cross-Sectional Study* surveyed fire fighters and EMS personnel nationwide. Among the nearly 3,200 responses, only about half were willing to be vaccinated. Approximately 25 percent weren’t sure, and another 25 percent said they did not want the vaccine.

Similarly, a late 2020 poll of Uniformed Firefighters Association (UFA) of New York Local 94 members found that more than half were not

“We realized we needed to increase our efforts to educate our members on the facts about the vaccine. We believe it is helping as more and more get vaccinated.”

— Uniformed Firefighters Association Local 94
President Andrew Ansbro

willing to get the vaccine. Nearly 35 percent of Local 94 members have had COVID-19 and believe that the antibodies will protect them against reinfection. However, it’s not clear how long antibodies remain in the body. While reinfections among the general population are rare, there are documented cases.

General President Harold Schaitberger says, “We know the decision to vaccinate is a personal one. That’s why we want our members to have as much accurate information as possible as they make that decision.”

“We all rose our right hand and swore an oath to do everything we can to protect our community. I believe getting vaccinated is one of those things.”

— California Professional Firefighters
President Brian Rice

“We realized we needed to increase our efforts to educate our members on the facts about the vaccine,” says Local 94 President Andrew Ansbro. “We believe it is helping as more and more get vaccinated.”

Like Ansbro, IAFF leaders at the local, state and provincial levels want to ensure their members have science- and fact-based information about the vaccines.

A joint effort between the California Professional Firefighters (CPF) and the California Fire Chiefs Association to push information out to the state’s fire fighters via virtual town halls and other modes of communication has been successful in convincing more fire fighters to get vaccinated.

“We all rose our right hand and swore an oath to do everything we can to protect our community,” says CPF President Brian Rice. “I believe getting vaccinated is one of those things.”

Once the vaccine became available to fire fighters and EMS personnel, and after receiving their scheduled vaccine, some members coordinated efforts to vaccinate their community’s most vulnerable populations. President Joe Biden’s *National Strategy for the COVID-19 Response and Pandemic* helps provide resources and funding to launch community

vaccination clinics, building on first responders’ critical role and expertise in disaster relief.

“Because Mission Local 3609 members have long been involved in the community, we have built trust with our citizens,” says Local 3609 President Robert Lopez. “We are a natural fit for administering vaccines to approved groups, so we got the training and have been proud to be part of the process.”



Local 3609 members used their training to help with three vaccine clinics for the 65 and older population at the Mission Event Center.

Nearly 100 percent of Local 3609 members have received their vaccines. Lopez reports that

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Vaccine Exemptions

The Fire Service Joint Labor/Management Wellness-Fitness Initiative (WFI) states, “Uniformed personnel must receive or provide documentation of having received vaccinations.” The IAFF and the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) have collectively embraced and promoted this initiative, and continue to advocate, educate and recommend the COVID-19 vaccine for our members.

Under the advisement and guidance of our Johns Hopkins University medical team and WFI doctors, along with NFPA 1581 Standard on Fire Department Infection Control Program and NFPA 1582, Standard on Comprehensive Occupational Medical Program for Fire Departments, the IAFF urges members to be vaccinated for COVID-19.

The IAFF recognizes that under some circumstances, including sincere religious objections or a bona fide medical reason, fire fighters may object to being vaccinated. These members may be able to obtain an exemption or reasonable accommodation from their fire departments.

The IAFF recommends the following guidelines from the NFPA 1581 Standard:

- 4.5.2.5* Members who choose to decline immunizations offered by the department shall be required to sign a written declination.
- 4.5.2.5(a) Members who decline immunizations should be counseled by the fire department physician. If the member persists in refusing vaccination, a signed written declination is required.
- 4.5.2.5.1 The declination shall become part of the member’s confidential health database.
- 4.5.2.5.2 Members shall be allowed to recant a declination at any time and receive the offered immunizations.

In the event the state, provincial or local government or the fire department mandates the vaccine, members may be subject to penalization of workers’ compensation, disability or Public Safety Officers’ Benefit (PSOB). An exemption or preferred accommodation may be difficult to obtain through a lawsuit as employers are only required to offer a reasonable (not preferred) accommodation and will have little difficulty demonstrating that providing an exemption to a COVID-19 vaccination would cause an undue hardship given that public health and safety are at risk. ■

New Vaccine on the Block

Johnson & Johnson (J&J) on February 26, 2021, was granted an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for its COVID-19 vaccine. This is the third COVID-19 vaccine in the United States to receive an EUA, following the Moderna and Pfizer vaccines. The J&J vaccine roll out began in early March 2021.

This vaccine is a breath of fresh air for many as it differs greatly from the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines.

Immunization for the J&J vaccine requires only one shot — unlike the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines which require two shots — which makes distributing and administering the vaccine easier, especially for at-risk populations. The vaccine also does not require special refrigeration, making it easier to ship and store.

And, unlike the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines, which are messenger RNA



vaccines, the J&J vaccine is a viral vector vaccine developed using a modified harmless version of a different virus that instructs human cells to make the SARS-CoV 2 spike protein, then triggers an immune response.

The J&J vaccine is approximately 66% effective overall in preventing moderate to severe COVID-19 disease, which is lower than the Pfizer (95%) and Moderna vaccines (94%). However, of those who received the J&J vaccine in clinical trials, none has required hospitalization or died once the vaccine took full effect (28 days after immunization).

Neither the viral vector vaccines or the messenger RNA vaccines can cause a COVID-19 infection or modify or affect someone’s DNA. All three vaccines will be critical in ending this pandemic.

Visit www.iaff.org/coronavirus/#vaccines for updated information on the J&J vaccine. ■

some were hesitant at first but seeing their fellow fire fighters and others get the vaccine inspired them to go do the same.

“It is incumbent upon us as fire fighters and paramedics to help the members of our community in need,” says President of Chula Vista, CA Local 2180 Darrell Roberts. “There are people in our communities who cannot leave their homes due to health conditions ... people who cannot physically stand in line or who can’t sign up due to technology issues. We want to make sure those folks get the vaccine.”

Local 2180 members have conducted large vaccination events at area centers and assisted

living facilities and have also made home visits to the extremely vulnerable. Many of these include other family members, so it is important to vaccinate them all to keep the virus from spreading.

Meanwhile, Washington State Council of Fire Fighters (WSCFF) leaders coordinated with the King County Department of Health to develop an interlocal agreement calling for a coordinated effort to vaccinate citizens in the most vulnerable population.

“We all want to return to pre-pandemic life,” says WSCFF Representative Craig Soucy. “For the good of public health, we need to be part of the solution. The first step is to do all we can to get

the vulnerable population vaccinated.”

Divided into three regions — including the Seattle metropolitan area, the northern part of the county and the southern part of the county — IAFF members are working together to get the vaccine to the most vulnerable adults through adult care facility visits, drive-through sites and mobile units.

“Our members are assisting with many of the vaccine sites in Dade County,” says Metro-Dade Local 1403 President Billy McAllister. “But it’s the extremely vulnerable that we really want to focus on.

Local 1403 members joined Broward County Local 4321 and Palm Beach County Local 2928

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COVID-19 Recovery Can Have Lasting Effects

While the COVID-19 mortality rate is 2%, what happens to the other 98% varies widely. Some have mild cases and recover in two or three weeks on average; others take longer to recover and may have life-long damage to their respiratory system or organs.

Initially, medical experts believed that only the elderly and those with co-existing health conditions were at risk for lasting effects. They were proven wrong.

Many patients with mild to moderate COVID-19 can become long haulers, suffering symptoms months after they clear their non-life-threatening infection, new research shows. University of Washington researchers found that about 33% of COVID-19 patients who were never sick enough to require hospitalization continue to complain months later of symptoms, including fatigue, loss of smell or taste and brain fog.

Dade County Local 1403 Raul Perez, 46, was exposed to the virus in early March 2020, a time when not much was known about the virus or how to treat it. The day he began feeling symptoms started out like any other day. “When I left for work, I felt fine. My first symptom, which was this high level of pressure in my head, came on suddenly. It was so bad, I had to leave work,” recalls Perez.

The staff at Urgent Care told Perez he had a 102 temperature and suggested he go to the hospital. He was not admitted on his first trip to the emergency room but was tested for COVID-19. The test would eventually come back negative.

Perez went home and got progressively sicker. He was in extreme pain and his oxygen levels were low. He went to a second hospital where he was immediately admitted. There, he tested positive for COVID-19.

Doctors thought they would need to intubate him, but Perez’s oxygen levels returned to normal before it was necessary. The pain also went away.

“Even after leaving the hospital, I continued to test positive for a really long time. It was the middle of May before I had had enough negative tests to return to work,” says Perez. Today, nearly a year later, Perez says he still occasionally feels residual effects, including fatigue and brain fog.

Fairfax County, VA Local 2068 Secretary-Treasurer Eric Villman, 41, and his wife were training for a 10-mile run when he was exposed to COVID-19 on the job in late August 2020. A few days later, Villman developed a cough and was not feeling well. But the symptoms subsided.

“I thought I was getting better because I felt better for a few days, but then I got very ill,” says Villman. “It felt almost like pneumonia, and I had lost my sense of smell and taste. That was a weird experience because it lasted so long, I began to wonder if I’d ever get those senses back.”

Villman’s doctor diagnosed him with acute, widespread respiratory infection, which was treated with antibiotics. It was November before

“I thought I was getting better because I felt better for a few days, but then I got very ill. It felt almost like pneumonia, and I had lost my sense of smell and taste. That was a weird experience because it lasted so long, I began to wonder if I’d ever get those senses back.”

— Fairfax County, VA Local 2068 Secretary-Treasurer Eric Villman

he was well enough to return to work and longer still before his energy returned.

Sacramento, CA Local 522 member Matt Rogge was exposed to the virus on the job in July 2020. Not long afterward, he developed a fever of 103. That’s when he began to quarantine in his camping trailer.

“The fever went down slightly and stuck around for a few more days before going away, but I continued to feel extreme fatigue and body aches and nausea. I couldn’t eat anything,” says Rogge. “I ended up losing about 25 pounds in two weeks.” Even as the symptoms went away, the extreme fatigue lingered. Just doing normal activities and trying to walk around in his own yard took every ounce of energy he had.

In mid-August, Rogge was cleared to go back to work. After his shifts, he had no energy left and could not workout like he did pre-COVID.

Rogge hoped his energy would continue to improve. But after a month, he still didn’t feel any better. After being assessed by an occupational medicine doctor, he was referred a pulmonologist for respiratory therapy.

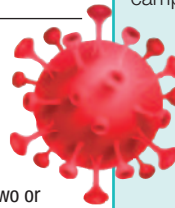
“I am finally starting to feel like I am making progress. I am still not 100 percent, but I do feel better,” he says. “My advice to anyone going through a similar experience is to not try to wait it out. Go to your doctor immediately.”

Overall, nearly 33% of COVID-19 patients in the University of Washington study who suffered through their illness at home and 31% of hospitalized patients reported at least one symptom from the disease that persisted months later, the researchers found. The most persistent symptoms were fatigue (14%) and loss of smell and taste (14%).

It’s not yet clear why COVID-19 causes these lasting effects. Many viruses can create health problems that persist long after the infection has cleared the body. These are typically the result of inflammation or other damage that occurs as the immune system fights off an infection. But there’s evidence that at least some COVID-19 long-haul symptoms might be directly attributable to the coronavirus itself. ■

LONG HAULERS:

People who have recovered from COVID-19 and continue to experience prolonged symptoms one, two or even three months after they were infected.



Number of Members Lost to COVID-19 Rises

Since the beginning of the pandemic, COVID-19 has claimed the lives of 38 IAFF members — 17 of whom died since our last report in the fall issue of Fire Fighter Quarterly.

Fort Worth, TX Local 440 member Randy Robinson, 64, was exposed to COVID-19 on the job on November 15, 2020. After experiencing symptoms, Robinson's condition steadily declined and he was eventually hospitalized, passing away on December 17. Remembered as a leader and mentor, the 39-year veteran fire fighter was a captain assigned to Station 35. He is survived by a son and daughter.

Chicago, IL Local 2 member Robert Truevillian, 55, died due to complications of coronavirus on December 17, 2020. He was a 20-year veteran of the Chicago Fire Department who was serving as paramedic in charge on Ambulance 71. He is remembered as a devoted family man to his wife, Adell, four children and one grandchild.

Oklahoma City, OK Local 157 member Andrew Davis, 45, started showing symptoms on December 11, 2020, including coughing, headaches, fever and fatigue. He was hospitalized, but ultimately lost his battle with COVID-19 on December 24. The 20-year veteran, based at Fire Station 10, comes from a family of fire fighters (father, uncle and brother), and is remembered for his sense of humor. Davis leaves behind a wife and four children.

Scranton, PA Local 60 member Stephen Sunday, 28, had been on the job just 11 months when he was exposed to coronavirus. Sunday became critically ill and was hospitalized. Multiple pulmonary embolisms brought on by COVID-19 caused his death on December 29, 2020. Sunday is remembered for his strong work ethic and positive attitude.

Scranton, PA Local 60 member Stephen Sunday, 28, had been on the job just 11 months when he was exposed to coronavirus. Sunday became critically ill and was hospitalized. Multiple pulmonary embolisms brought on by COVID-19 caused his death on December 29, 2020. Sunday is remembered for his strong work ethic and positive attitude.

Foster Emergency Services (Connecticut) Local 3422 member Patrick Dragon, 50, lost his fight with COVID-19 on January 1. Dragon responded to the Sandy Hook Elementary tragedy in 2012 as a Connecticut state police trooper before he retired in 2018, switching to a career in the fire and emergency services. Dragon is remembered as a man dedicated to public service.

Los Angeles City, CA Local 112 member George Roque, a 37-year veteran fire fighter, died of coronavirus on January 1, 2021. He is remembered as a man with a strong work ethic who loved the outdoors and spending time with his family. Roque, who was assigned to the Laurel Canyon and Mulholland area of Los Angeles, leaves behind a wife and four children.

National Capitol Local F-121 member Bryan Hamilton, 42 died of COVID-19 on January 1, 2021, after an on-the-job exposure in mid-December. Hamilton was an 18-year veteran fire fighter assigned to the Naval Support Facility in Indian Head, Maryland.

Reading, PA Local 1803 member Mark Kulp, 52, was exposed to COVID-19 on the job on December 8 and succumbed to complications of COVID-19 on January 5. Kulp was a 28-year veteran fire fighter and the former treasurer of Local 1803. He is survived by his wife, Wanda, daughter Alyssa and two grandchildren.

Shreveport, LA Local 514 member Leonard Coney, 41, died of complications of COVID-19 on January 6 after being exposed on the job on December 25, 2020. Coney spent his 14-year fire service career assigned to Medic 5 at Fire Station 5, one of the busiest units in the city. He is remembered for his service to the community and his gentle spirit.



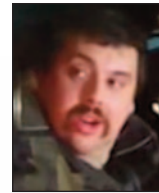
Randal D. Robinson
Fort Worth, TX
Local 440
12/17/2020



Robert Truevillian
Chicago, IL
Local 2
12/17/2020



Andrew Davis
Oklahoma City, OK
Local 157
12/24/2020



Stephen Sunday
Scranton, PA
Local 60
12/29/2020



Patrick Dragon
Foster Emergency
Services, RI Local 3422
1/1/2021



George Roque
Los Angeles City, CA
Local 112
1/1/2021



Bryan P. Hamilton
National Capital Federal
FFs, MD Local F-121
1/1/2021



Mark E. Kulp
Reading, PA
Local 1803
1/5/2021



Leonard L. Coney
Shreveport, LA
Local 514
1/6/2021



William Chris Mertz
Rancho Santa Fe, CA
Local 4349
1/21/2021



Erik Segura
Laredo, TX
Local 872
1/26/2021



Joseph A. Ferrugia
Uniformed FFs
Assoc., NY Local 94
1/30/2021



Brian Ritchie
Weirton, WV
Local 948
2/2/2021



Terry Watts
Shelby County, TN
Local 2585
2/10/2021



Frank J. Lynch
Prof. Emergency Services of
the Fifth Division, NY
Local 4578
2/12/2021



John Evans
Philadelphia, PA
Local 22
2/13/2021



Marty Meyers
Kokomo, IN
Local 396
3/4/2021



After an exposure on the job on December 27, 2020, Rancho Santa Fe, CA Local 4349 member, William Christopher Mertz, 54, developed severe symptoms of COVID-19 and was hospitalized. He died on January 21. Mertz, a 35-year veteran fire fighter, was also a member of Urban Search & Rescue San Diego Task Force 8. He responded to Ground Zero after 9/11 and Hurricane Katrina in 2005. He is survived by a wife and three adult children.

After a two-month battle with COVID-19, Laredo, TX Local 872 member Erik Segura, 45, died on January 26 due to complications of the virus. He was a 25-year veteran fire fighter assigned to EMS Division Fire Station 5. Known for his kindness and generosity, Segura will also be remembered as a dedicated father of two who loved to cook and spend time outdoors.

Uniformed Firefighters Association of New York Local 94 member Joseph Ferrugia, 61, died of COVID-19 on January 30. The 31-year veteran fire fighter was assigned to Ladder Company 142 in Queens. Over the course of his career, he was cited twice for bravery and responded to Ground Zero after 9/11. He is survived by three adult children and three siblings.

Weirton, WV Local 948 member Brian Ritchie, 50, was exposed to COVID-9 on December 18, 2020. He subsequently developed severe symptoms and was put on a ventilator before succumbing to COVID-19 on February 2. Before joining the fire service, Ritchie was in the U.S. Air Force, serving in Iraq during Desert Shield and Desert Storm. He had been a fire fighter for the past 13 years.

Shelby, TN Local 2585 member Terry Watts, 51, died of COVID-19 on February 10, three weeks after testing positive. The 16-year veteran fire fighter was known for his compassion and his willingness to serve as a mentor to others. He is survived by his spouse and three children.

Professional Emergency Services of the Fifth Division, NY Local 4578 member Frank Lynch, 74, lost his battle with COVID-19 on February 12. He is remembered as a man dedicated to the fire and emergency service, previously serving as a fire captain and as a dispatcher.

Philadelphia, PA Local 22 member John Evans, 63, passed away from complications of coronavirus on February 13. The 37-year veteran fire fighter spent most of his career on Ladder 18 in Nicetown-Tioga, but his most recent assignment was as a fire boat pilot for Marine Unit 1. He is remembered as a devoted family man to his wife, stepchildren and extended family.

Kokomo, IN Local 396 member Marty Meyers, 50, died from complications of COVID-19 on March 4 after a month-long battle. Meyers is remembered as a family man who loved spending time outdoors. He is survived by his wife, Rebecca, three children, four grandchildren and many extended family members. ■

members to give vaccines to hundreds of Holocaust survivors as part of a larger effort to vaccinate all homebound residents in the area.

These are just a few examples of the many IAFF affiliates that are helping their communities administer the vaccine to those most in need.

Infectious disease experts estimate that 75-80 percent of the U.S. population will need to be vaccinated to reach the herd immunity threshold necessary to return to pre-pandemic life. At the current rate of distribution, public health experts estimate it will be end of the summer at the earliest before this occurs.

For more information on COVID-19 vaccines, visit www.iaff.org/coronavirus/#vaccines.

COVID-19 Vaccination Is Focus for IAFF in Canada

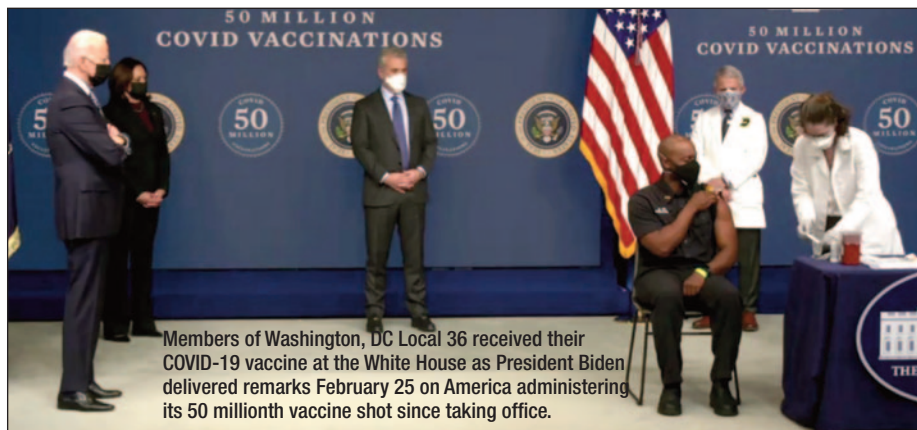
Since the first doses of COVID-19 vaccines arrived in Canada in late 2020, the IAFF has been working with local and provincial affiliates to ensure those making important decisions about vaccine eligibility are aware that vaccinating fire fighters is an important step in ensuring public safety.

While a small number of Canadian IAFF members were included in early vaccinations — before an interruption in national vaccine supply — more widespread vaccination of fire fighters will take place after the doses are again available and the most vulnerable have been protected.

In a COVID-19 vaccine guidance issued to provincial and local health officials in December, the Canadian government identified fire fighters as workers “who are needed to maintain services essential for the functioning of society.” The IAFF also asserts that fire fighters who perform emergency medical response should be prioritized with other frontline healthcare workers. The IAFF Canadian Office has helped local and provincial associations bring that message forward.

Working closely with Canadian District Vice Presidents and IAFF headquarters, the Canadian Office has been helping Canadian affiliates address safety, labour, operational and other issues arising from the pandemic since it was first declared almost a year ago. While many Canadian IAFF members have been affected by COVID-19 through either infection or isolation, only one hospitalization has occurred and all those infected have thankfully recovered.

In January, the Ontario Professional Fire Fighters Association (OPFFA) successfully lobbied the province’s government to ensure fire fighters are included in Phase 1 for vaccinations, beginning with those who have medical roles. In addition, the provincial government authorized emergency vaccinations for fire fighters in one large



Ontario fire department that was hit with a large number of isolations and had to take trucks out of service, which affected public safety capabilities.

In Alberta, IAFF members who work in

New COVID-19 Variants

It is common for a virus to change through mutation, resulting in new variants emerging. Currently, multiple variants of the virus that causes COVID-19 are circulating globally:

- **United Kingdom (UK) variant - B.1.1.7**
First detected in December 2020, this variant spreads more easily and quickly than other variants. In January 2021, experts in the UK reported that this variant may be associated with an increased risk of death compared to other variant viruses, but more studies are needed to confirm this finding.
- **South Africa variant - B.1.351**
Originally detected in October 2020 and emerging independently of B.1.1.7, this variant shares some mutations with B.1.1.7. Cases of this variant were reported in the United States in January 2021.
- **Brazil variant - P.1**
Originally detected in January 2021 in Japan and the United States, this variant contains a set of additional mutations that may affect its ability to be recognized by antibodies.

All three variants seem to spread more easily and more rapidly than other variants, which may lead to more cases of COVID-19. Research is underway to better understand these variants.

Studies so far on the currently approved COVID-19 vaccines suggest that antibodies generated through vaccination do recognize these variants. This is being closely investigated and monitored.

To prevent the spread of COVID-19 and the identified variants, it is important to practice public health mitigation strategies, including vaccination, physical distancing, use of masks, hand hygiene, monitoring of signs and symptoms and, if exposed, quarantine and isolation.



seven integrated fire-EMS departments were successfully added to the first phase of vaccinations, while the Alberta Fire Fighters Association (AFFA) is also lobbying to ensure fire fighters in non-integrated departments are considered for prioritization for public safety reasons, says AFFA President Brad Readman. In Manitoba, the Manitoba Professional Fire Fighters Association (MPFFA) has lobbied successfully to get fire fighters and fire fighter-paramedics born in 1990 or earlier included in the first group. The MPFFA is also lobbying for the rest to be included, says President Alex Forrest.

British Columbia Professional Fire Fighters Association (BCPFFA) President Gord Ditchburn says vaccinations for fire fighters are dependent on age-based groupings recently announced by the province, and that members could be vaccinated in early spring. He is proud of the way his members have followed protocols and kept duty-related infections to an absolute minimum. “We’re doing everything right when we’re responding to calls,” he says.

In Nova Scotia, personnel in fire departments formally listed as medical first responders are being vaccinated, while fire fighters in Newfoundland and Labrador are close to being prioritized, says Atlantic Provinces Professional Fire Fighters Association (APFFA) President Glenn Sullivan. Fire fighters in New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island are currently slated for vaccination in April, but it’s hoped they can be moved forward in the process to ensure they’re available to properly protect the communities they serve.

Montreal, QC Local 125 members who are medical first responders have been added to a second priority group, but the group is large and the details about when vaccinations will take place are vague so far, says Local 125 President Chris Ross. Fire fighters in Shawinigan, QC Local 5209 are also awaiting information on when they’ll be eligible for vaccines.

In Saskatchewan, all members of Saskatoon Ambulance Local 3270 have been vaccinated, and the province’s fire fighters are expecting to be vaccinated in May pending vaccine

availability, according to Saskatchewan Professional Fire Fighters and Paramedics Association (SPFFPA) President Lloyd Zwack.

“Fire Fighters need to be on the frontlines protecting Canadians, not sidelined due to infections and isolations,” says Assistant to the General President for Canadian Operations Scott Marks. “Our message is that vaccinating

fire fighters against COVID-19 is an important public safety protection, especially if those fire fighters also respond to medical emergencies.”

In 2017, as a direct result of IAFF lobbying, fire fighters were identified as a priority vaccination group in the Canada Influenza Pandemic Plan, in recognition of the need to maintain the vital services provided by fire

departments. At the 27th Canadian Legislative Conference in November 2020, delegates lobbied members of Parliament and senators to ensure fire fighters and their important roles in society were considered in any vaccine guidances drafted for provincial and local health authorities. ■

MYTH: You can contract COVID-19 from the vaccine.

FACT: None of the COVID-19 vaccines currently used in the United States or Canada uses a live virus. These vaccines teach our immune systems to recognize and fight the virus that causes COVID-19. Sometimes, this process can cause symptoms, such as fever. These symptoms are normal and are a sign that the body is building immunity but are not symptoms of COVID-19. **However, you can still contract COVID-19 post vaccination until the antibodies rise to a sufficient level, which science suggests occurs 10-14 days after the second dose.**

MYTH: COVID-19 vaccines alter your DNA.

FACT: According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the first COVID-19 vaccines are messenger RNA, or mRNA, vaccines. Messenger RNA vaccines instruct cells in the body to have an immune response; they do not interact or change your DNA. Human cells break down and rid themselves of the messenger RNA soon after they have finished using the instructions.

MYTH: If I've already had COVID-19, I don't need a vaccine.

FACT: Even if you've had COVID-19, you should still be vaccinated as it's not yet known how long you are protected from becoming sick again after recovering from COVID-19. The length and strength of the natural immunity you get from having COVID-19 varies from person to person and are based on the severity of your disease. Reinfection with COVID-19 is possible and has been documented in individuals in North America; however, not enough information is currently available to determine if or for how long you are protected (natural immunity) from getting COVID-19 after you have had it. More studies are needed to better understand this. Currently, it is also unclear how long immunity produced by vaccination lasts as vaccines are still being evaluated, but **both natural immunity and vaccine-induced immunity are important to stopping the pandemic.**

MYTH: The COVID-19 vaccine will not protect me from getting sick with COVID-19.

FACT: The COVID-19 vaccine works by teaching your immune system to recognize and fight the virus that causes COVID-19. When your body recognizes the virus, your immune system can fight back to protect you from getting COVID-19 or at least minimize the COVID-19 symptoms. Vaccines must undergo rigorous, multi-step scientific trials to show they work. During that process, scientists measure whether individuals who receive the vaccine acquire immunity when compared to those who do not receive the vaccine. The Pfizer vaccine was reported to have 95% efficacy and the Moderna vaccine was reported to have 94% efficacy at preventing the COVID-19 disease. Efficacy is the percent reduction of disease cases in the vaccinated group compared to the unvaccinated. In other words, the Pfizer vaccine reduced the number of expected COVID cases by 95% and Moderna by 94% when compared to those who did not get the vaccine in the trials. Being protected from COVID-19 is important because even though many people with COVID-19 have only a mild illness, there is still the

risk of developing severe symptoms or having long-hauler effects. There is no way to know how COVID-19 will affect you, but the vaccine will either prevent you from developing COVID-19 or it will minimize the symptoms you develop.

MYTH: The development of the COVID-19 vaccine was rushed, so its effectiveness and safety cannot be trusted.

FACT: The vaccines currently being distributed in the United States have been fully tested and vetted for safety. The process was expedited because the COVID-19 vaccines from Pfizer and Moderna were created using a method that has been in development for years; these companies used this already-established research to start the vaccine development process early in the pandemic. Additionally, in order to speed the process, vaccine developers didn't skip any testing steps, but conducted some of the steps on an overlapping schedule to gather data more quickly. For any COVID-19 vaccine to receive an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA), it must be deemed safe by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) based on safety data accumulated from phase 1, phase 2 and phase 3 studies.

The vaccines currently approved and on the market recruited thousands of individuals who were monitored/analyzed for more than six months.

Moderna recruited 30,000 volunteers, while Pfizer recruited 44,000 volunteers. These vaccines have since been administered to more than 30 million Americans with minimal side effects. Additionally, these vaccines continue to undergo long-term evaluations to determine how long the vaccine will provide immunity.

MYTH: Getting vaccinated for COVID-19 means I can stop wearing my mask and taking other mitigation precautions.


FACT: Individuals who receive the COVID-19 vaccination still need to practice infection prevention precautions. The CDC recommends everyone still wear a mask, social distance, practice hand hygiene and monitor for signs and symptoms because it is unclear if a vaccinated individual can still be a carrier and spread COVID-19 to an unvaccinated individual, even if they do not get sick themselves.

MYTH: The side effects of the COVID-19 vaccine are dangerous.

FACT: The COVID-19 vaccine can have side effects, but the vast majority are very short term and similar to cold symptoms. These symptoms usually will last a day or two and can include pain at the injection site, body aches, headaches or fever. These are normal and are a sign that the vaccine is working to activate your immune system. If symptoms persist beyond two days, call your doctor. If you have allergies — especially severe allergies that require you to carry an EpiPen — discuss the COVID-19 vaccine with your doctor.

MYTH: The COVID-19 vaccine was developed with or contains controversial substances.

FACT: Both the Moderna and Pfizer vaccines contain mRNA and other routine vaccine ingredients, such as fats (which protect the mRNA), salts and a small amount of sugar. These COVID-19 vaccines were not developed using fetal tissue, and they do not contain any material, such as implants, microchips or tracking devices.



COVID-19 Vaccine Myths vs. Facts

The Fight for Fair Wages

Jeremy Hinton doesn't have much time for ball games, social gatherings or anything else outside of work. That's because he's working two jobs totaling more than 82 hours a week just to make ends meet.

His first job — his calling — is as a fire fighter in the City of Monroe in northeastern Louisiana. The other, the one he begins in the morning after his 24/48 station shift, is with a fire extinguisher company.

Like all fire fighters in Monroe, and an alarming number across the southern states, Hinton began his career in the fire service with a base salary barely above the federal minimum wage of \$7.25 per hour. Even with pay differentials for training, Hinton and his Local 629 brothers and sisters often must work second jobs just to cover the basic necessities of life.

The result is not just exhaustion and a lifetime of missed moments with family. Public safety is compromised in Monroe and dozens of towns as fire departments struggle with chronic staffing shortages and retention problems. Hinton says fire fighters may begin their careers in Monroe, getting advanced certifications for EMS and other skills, and then leave for better paying jobs at other fire departments.

Hinton, president of Monroe Local 629, is stepping up calls for a more equitable pay scale, one that reflects the work his brothers and sisters do each shift and pay that approaches parity with the city's police force.

"Our call volume and on-the-job risks have increased over the years, but the last raise we received was from a dedicated sales tax passed by the citizens in 2004 for fire and police," Hinton says. "We've met with the mayor and made our case, but the money just doesn't seem to be there. In my opinion, we seem to be more of a cost than an asset."

Hinton and numerous other affiliates across the South are launching fresh campaigns to educate elected officials and the public on the value of the work they do every day. These efforts are emerging as the national labor campaign to increase the federal minimum wage to \$15 per hour gains momentum. President Joe Biden and Democratic leaders in Congress have included a minimum wage increase as part of the massive COVID-19 relief package, although it's unclear if the provision for \$15/hour would remain part of the bill.

Affiliate leaders face a real challenge in getting local elected leaders to respect public safety and open the purse strings. Difficult enough in any given budget year, now, amid a dramatic economic downturn spurred on by the COVID-19 pandemic, affiliate leaders must work even harder to educate their communities about public safety and work with local leaders to find money in the budget.

"Fire fighters always answer the call, regardless



Tallahassee Local 2339 member Matt Hartsfield speaks during a local press conference about working two jobs and having little time with his newborn.

"Our call volume and on-the-job risks have increased over the years, but the last raise we received was from a dedicated sales tax passed by the citizens in 2004 for fire and police. We've met with the mayor and made our case, but the money just doesn't seem to be there. In my opinion, we seem to be more of a cost than an asset."

— Jeremy Hinton, President, Monroe, LA Local 629

of the danger, in good times and bad. They deserve the respect of their elected leaders and they most certainly deserve a livable wage," says General President Harold Schaitberger. "Now is not the time to shortchange fire fighters; now is the time for communities to invest in public safety."

Too often, local elected leaders and the public they serve don't understand the long shifts fire fighters work, the risks they take on the job and the long-term toll a career in the fire service can have, including occupational cancers or post-traumatic stress.

That lack of understanding is often reflected in municipal budgets. Last year, the City of Asheville, North Carolina, increased the wages of all city employees to \$15 per hour — all except 77 professional fire fighters.

The members of Asheville Local 332 launched a campaign last spring to make the public more aware of the work they do and to call out the local government for their budget decision.

"Every shift your fire fighters are going out and risking their lives to protect this great community 24 hours a day, 365 days a year," Local 332 President

Scott Mullins said at a boisterous rally in downtown Asheville last September. "Council says they appreciate us; they don't. They don't care about you or your families. Enough is enough."

Surrounding Mullins were fire fighters, their friends and supporters hoisting homemade signs, including the social media hashtag #FightFor15ForFireFighters. Mullins notes that starting pay for a fire fighter in Asheville is under \$12 per hour, making it nearly impossible for Local 332 members to live inside the fast-growing City of Asheville.

Asheville fire fighters work 56 hours per week, 2,912 hours per year. That adds up to 364 eight-hour days per year. Still, at \$12 per hour, most Asheville fire fighters must take second jobs.

Mullins says Asheville Mayor Esther Manheimer agreed last fall to conduct a study of fire fighters' work schedules and pay scales with results expected in the winter of 2021. "We will just have to see what the study says. But we will not stop our fight to get Asheville fire fighters the pay they deserve," says Mullins.

The story is similar to the east, in Spartanburg, South Carolina, where members of Local 369, who haven't seen a raise in 15 years, watched as the city's police officers received a pay raise.

"We have been lobbying the city all along for better pay, and it appears everyone is getting raises, including the police and the fire chiefs, except us. Our members are just fed up," says Local 369 President Jared Van Ek.

Van Ek says the city doesn't want to recognize the local because it is a union in the middle of South Carolina, one of the 27 U.S. states that does not recognize collective bargaining.

The International hopes to accelerate its push to enact national collective bargaining legislation for fire fighters with the support of the Biden administration. In the meantime, affiliates are striving to make their cases to local elected

officials and their communities.

The IAFF is assisting Van Ek and Local 369 to convince the City of Spartanburg that fire fighters and police officers should have pay parity, using social media to make sure career fire fighters are a visible and positive presence in the community and considered trusted experts on public safety matters.

Career fire fighters in Tallahassee, Florida, face similar pay issues and stubborn skepticism among their local elected officials. Tallahassee Local 2339 last year kicked off its own strategic communications campaign that is showing signs of breaking a contract logjam with the city.

Local 2339 President Joey Davis says his local has been lobbying city officials to boost fire fighter pay in Tallahassee as part of negotiations for a contract that expired last year. Starting pay for Tallahassee fire fighters is just \$440 per week, the lowest take-home pay for all first responders in the county. Not surprisingly, this low pay has made fire fighters leave for jobs in better-paying municipalities. Davis says Tallahassee has lost 6% of fire fighters in just the last three years.

Despite the bleeding, city negotiators have shown little interest in bargaining in good faith with Local 2339. "We have put a number of offers on the table and they have rejected them without offering any counters," Davis says.

That stance shifted slightly in mid-January amid an aggressive media push by Local 2339 that included emails to targeted voters in the county directing them to an information website (www.standwithfirefighters.com). The effort,

which included a Facebook page, a video and a press conference in front of Tallahassee City Hall, piqued the interest of local media and goosed the city into contacting the local and offering to meet.

The campaign was designed in collaboration with Florida affiliate leaders and the IAFF. 12th District Service Representative Mike Bellamy, who developed the website, is also a graduate of the IAFF Communications Training Academy, which he said was a gamechanger for his efforts to help 12th District affiliates.

"Before I attended the Communications Training Academy, I was thinking tactically, just messaging whenever an issue cropped up," Bellamy says. "The Communications Training Academy taught me to think strategically and develop campaigns with long-term plans and objectives, as well as define our audiences and stakeholders."

The final result of the Tallahassee campaign remains to be seen, though Bellamy is already sharing techniques with Jayson French, president of West Palm Beach Local 727, another affiliate willing to do what it takes to get elected leaders to stand up and respect fire

fighters and public safety.

Fire fighters deserve a competitive wage that accounts for the training, the commitment and the risks associated with the job. Communities deserve a stable fire department not compromised by low morale and retention problems.

The International stands committed to helping affiliates build and implement a strong and steady campaign to improve pay. Affiliate leaders interested in receiving assistance from the International are encouraged to contact their district vice presidents. ■



Asheville Local 332 President Scott Mullins says at a downtown rally that the city boosted wages for all municipal workers to \$15 per hour, except fire fighters.



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PAPER 2021

Alberta Member in World's Longest Hockey Game

Andrew Buchanan, a fire fighter/paramedic with Strathcona County, AB Local 2461, is one of 40 brave people who laced up and endured frigid temperatures in February to participate in a fun and record-setting initiative while raising money for a great cause. Buchanan participated in the 7th edition of the World's Longest Hockey Game, which took place over 252 hours February 4-15 in Sherwood Park, Alberta.

Participants took to the ice in shifts spanning up to eight hours while braving temperatures that plummeted below -50C (-58F) with windchill during the game cold enough to break pucks. The initiative raised funds for the Cure Cancer Foundation, a charity that supports a local clinical study in lymphoma and tumor patients, with a fundraising goal of \$1.5 million.

Buchanan, a goalie, is fundraising toward his own goal of \$100,000 in direct pledges. Buchanan has challenged IAFF locals to donate to his personal amount. He has dedicated his participation in the match to all first responders across Canada who are affected by



cancer. A video about the event was played at the recent IAFF 55th Convention, and numerous IAFF locals from Canada and the U.S. generously donated.

In an interview during the match, Buchanan described the multiple layers of clothing he wore, the battery-powered socks that were a "game saver" and the firefighting balaclava he wore over his helmet. He also described other players with their eyes frozen open and who couldn't blink. But he said that while the bitter cold conditions players endured during the game were a challenge, they were nothing compared to the struggles faced by those coping with cancer.

Strathcona County Local 2461 President Andrew Spence says he is proud of Buchanan and his role in the game. "In an industry that's going through hard times with COVID, this initiative has really been great at raising morale and focusing on a cause other than COVID. Being able to have support from locals across the IAFF has been pretty cool."

In a final score, Team Hope came out on top with 2,649 goals to Team Cure's 2,528. ■

DONATE:

<https://worldslongestgame.ualberta.ca/o/worlds-longest-game/i/wlhg2021/s/andrew-buchanan>

Stamford, CT Local 786 Reaffiliates With UPFFA of Connecticut

The Uniformed Professional Fire Fighters Association (UPFFA) of Connecticut is proud to announce Stamford, CT Local 786 is reaffiliating with the state association after a 12-year absence.

"I was proud to work with Local 786 President David Davis and his 243 members to bring the local back into the state association," says UPFFA President Peter Carozza. "Having Local 786 back in the fold will be a tremendous asset as we fight for issues important to all Connecticut fire fighters."

Local 786 President Davis says he and his members saw how hard the UPFFA had been working on behalf of all fire fighters and paramedics. They knew the time was right to reaffiliate.

"We are stronger together," says Davis. "We look forward to standing alongside our UPFFA leaders as they fight for better protections for fire fighters and paramedics across the state."

Stamford Local 786 is now united with 70 other UPFFA locals. ■

"We are stronger together. We look forward to standing alongside our UPFFA leaders as they fight for better protections for fire fighters and paramedics across the state."

— David Davis, President, Stamford, CT Local 786



The Season Of Giving

IAFF locals across Canada celebrated the holiday season with numerous charitable initiatives in the communities they serve. Members of Ottawa, ON Local 162 dressed as Santa and his elves delighted young patients by rappelling down the side of the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario, culminating with a \$10,000 donation to the hospital. Vancouver, BC Local 18 members delivered meals to 150 needy families on December 24. And members of Halifax, NS Local 268 conducted a toy drive for children in their communities.



Florida Member Named Fire Fighter of the Year for IAFF Disaster Relief Efforts

The Lee County Port Authority Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF) Department bestowed the department's 2020 Firefighter of the Year Award to Southwest Florida Professional Fire Fighters Local 1826 member David Syvret for his work assisting the IAFF disaster relief efforts and his response to a serious fire near the Southwest Florida International Airport (RSW).

"Brother Syvret is dedicated to helping others, whether it's as a fire fighter or as a union member," says Southwest Florida Professional Fire Fighters Local 1826 President John Duncan. "I commend his department for honoring his accomplishments with its Firefighter of the Year Award."

"I am honored and humbled to receive this award," says Syvret, who serves as an ARFF technician for his department. "Everything I did as part of the IAFF disaster relief response and the RSW fire, I did as part of a crew. Those were both tough situations that could not have been accomplished alone."

2020 included a very active hurricane season. In response, IAFF disaster relief operations



Florida member David Syvret was honored by his department for going beyond the call of duty in response to four hurricanes and a serious airport fire.

provided assistance to members in the affected regions. Syvret was part of the IAFF response to Hurricanes Laura, Sally, Delta and Zeta.

"The hurricanes came one right after another this season and Brother Syvret answered the call every time we needed him," says 12th District Vice President Walt Dix. "He was a great asset to us in the field and very deserving of his department's Firefighter of the Year Award."

"From tarping leaky roofs to removing downed trees from the yards, I was proud to be part of that response and plan to continue to be a part of the disaster relief efforts," says Syvret.

Syvret's department also recognized him for his dedication to duty when thousands of rental cars ignited at RSW in April 2020. Due to the pandemic, some 6,000 rental cars were sitting unused in an open area near the airport.

One of the first fire fighters to arrive on scene, his department members say Syvret spent hours discharging thousands of gallons of water and foam on the fire at RSW.

The fire was difficult to get under control as wind continued to fuel the blaze, but Syvret did not back down until the job was done. When the fire was out, about half the cars had sustained damage.

Syvret completed his Fire Officer I certification in 2019 and is currently working on his Airport Master Firefighter certification from the American Association of Airport Executives (AAAE). ■



IAFF Welcomes New Locals

The new IAFF affiliates listed below joined the International October through December 2020.

Local F0315

Special Operations of Professional Fire Fighters
President Steven Gibbons
5 members
Oklahoma City, OK

Local 2994

North Charleston Professional Fire Fighters Association
President Richard Dube
110 members
North Charleston, SC

Local 5203

Central Ohio Joint Fire District Professional Fire Fighters
President Brett Holt
8 members
Centerburg, OH

Local 5281

Truro Fire Fighters
President Sean Ferguson
8 members
Truro, MA

Local 5284

Chestermere Professional Fire Fighters Association
President Kimball Vorston
19 members
Chestermere, AB

Local 5290

Charlotte Fire Fighters
President Daniel Daly, Jr
6 members
Charlotte, MI

Local 5291

Saugatuck Area Professional Fire Fighters
President Michael Betts
5 members
Saugatuck, MI

Local 5293

Apopka Professional Fire Fighters Association
President Matthew Gurgone
74 members
Apopka, FL

Local 5295

White Lake Township Professional Fire Fighters
President Jason Hanifen
17 members
White Lake Township, MI

Local 5297

Tyngsborough Professional Fire Fighters
President Tom Geoffroy
15 members
Tyngsborough, MA

Local 5298

Berlin Fire and EMS
President Jonathan Paulino
10 members
Berlin, MA

Local 5299

Professional Fire Fighters of Georgetown
President Brian Belfiore
4 members
Georgetown, MA

Local 5300

Smith County Professional Fire Fighters Association
President Rodney Bates
25 members
Smith County, TX

Local 5302

Public Safety Professionals of Talbot County
President William Foster
20 members
Easton, MD

Local 5303

Toms River Fire Prevention Inspectors
President Matt Janora
7 members
Toms River, NJ

Local 5304

Clarke County Professional Fire Fighters and Paramedics
President Wade Wilson
10 members
Clarke County, VA

Local 5305

Professional Fire Fighters of Boxford
President David Blake
4 members
Boxford, MA

Local 5306

Falmouth Professional Fire Fighters
President Dustin Barry
7 members
Falmouth, ME

Local 5307

West Fargo Fire Fighters Association
President Joseph Johnson
14 members
West Fargo, ND

Local 5308

Running Springs Professional Fire Fighters
President Michael Scotti
6 members
Running Springs, CA

Local 5309

Lyon Township Professional Fire Fighters
President Alan Hamilton
9 members
Lyon Township, MI

Local 5310

Shoshone County Fire Fighters
President Cyle Hanan
6 members
Osburn, ID

Local 5311

Professional Fire Fighters of Templeton
President Lorenzo J. Sordoni, III
4 members
Templeton, MA

Local 5312

Newbury Professional Fire Fighters
President Keith Grant
4 members
Newbury, MA

Local 5313

Professional Fire Fighters of Sumter County
President Adam Langley
67 members
Bushnell, FL

Local 5314

Gleneagle Professional Fire Fighters Association
President Charles Ragland
18 members
Colorado Springs, CO

Local 5316

Atascocita Fire Fighters Association
President Keith Sagray
30 members
Atascocita, TX

Local 5317

Professional Fire Fighters of Chester, CA
President Matthew Maumoynier
4 members
Chester, CA

UL Studies PPE Protection for Neck and Head

Personal protective equipment (PPE) is designed to protect you from an array of hazards. Protecting the neck and head areas is particularly challenging, as thin dermal layers and vasculature may be subject to elevated thermal conditions.

The Underwriters Laboratories Firefighter Safety Research Institute (UL-FSRI) has made available online (via Ergonomics) the article, “Effects of firefighting hood design, laundering and doffing on smoke protection, heat stress and wearability.”

The study assessed the impact of hood design, repeated laundering and hood removal on protection from contamination on the neck, physiological responses and fire fighters’ self-reported perceptions of wearability.

Fire fighters who used a controlled overhead doffing method to avoid cross-contamination had significantly lower neck skin polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon (PAH) levels compared to those using a traditional method.



This study design provides the first opportunity to quantify the impact of an administrative control intervention designed to reduce cross-contamination from the outside of PPE to the skin.

For each of the hood designs studied, the mean contamination level measured from neck skin dropped when using the overhead doffing method compared to the traditional doffing method. It is important to note that teaching new hood doffing techniques can be implemented with any type of hood, resulting in as much as a 90% reduction in neck skin contamination.

Overall, PAH levels measured from neck skin were lower when wearing the particulate-blocking hoods compared to knit hoods, but contamination reaching the skin was not eliminated.

Read more about the study here:

<https://s.ul.org/3r8stVg> ■

UL FSRI partnered with Illinois Fire Service Institute (IFSI Research), the National Institute for Occupational Safety & Health (NIOSH), North Carolina State University (NC State) and Globe fire suits (now MSA) to conduct this research. Funding for this project was provided by the Department of Homeland Security Fire Prevention and Safety Grant #EMW-2015-FP-00646.

FSPPPF Holds Officer Elections

The Federation of State and Provincial Professional Fire Fighters (FSPPPF) held its officer elections by mail-in ballot and virtual submission in December.

Two officers — Chair Pete Carozza (Uniformed Professional Fire Fighters Association of Connecticut) and Vice Chair Bobby Lee (Hawaii State Fire Fighters Association) were re-elected to their positions. Texas State Association of Fire Fighters (TSAFF) Secretary-Treasurer Brandon Day was elected FSPPPF Secretary-Treasurer, a position left vacant by Associated Fire Fighters of Illinois Secretary-Treasurer Tom Roate who decided not to run for reelection.

“Brother Day comes to our executive board with a wealth of knowledge and experience,”

says Carozza. “I know he will be a great asset and am looking forward to working with him.”

Day also serves as 11th District Field Service Representative and Garland, TX Local 1293 vice president. He is also a member of the IAFF Disaster Relief Go-Team.

“The FSPPPF has served as a great resource for all of us to stay informed about issues affecting the fire service and how those can best be addressed,” says Day. “I am looking forward to being a part of the process.”

The FSPPPF meets periodically to exchange ideas on legislative, political action



Pete Carozza



Bobby Lee



Brandon Day

and current issues affecting fire fighters in states and provinces and to provide a means for a stronger relationship and coordination between state and provincial associations.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 2021 in Oklahoma City. ■

IAFF-FC Launches Financial Fitness Toolkit

The IAFF Financial Corporation (IAFF-FC), in conjunction with the IAFF, has created a set of Financial Fitness modules to assist members and affiliate leaders on their path to financial success.

The five modules are part of a planned series covering financial topics relevant for members. Whether just starting a career in the fire service or nearing retirement, this information will help provide a solid foundation for financial well-being now and into the future.

The modules are meant to be used as a tool to help members, recruit classes and affiliate leaders become financially fit. In addition, the toolkit includes webinars on financial topics and helpful resources.

For more information, visit iaff.org/toolkits/financial-fitness.

For additional timely articles on staying financially fit and to register for ongoing webinars on a variety of financial topics, visit www.iaff-fc.com. ■



FIT TO THRIVE: Helping Every Fire Fighter Be Physically Active

More Active. More Often.

We know we need to be active. Spending just 10 minutes a day being physically active tends to make you happier, healthier and more productive.

But we also know we're not active enough. Although most fire fighters would likely agree that physical (in)activity is a serious health issue, the majority are not meeting the recommended 150 minutes of moderate to vigorous activity per week. Whether this stems from constraints of time, limited access to resources, lack of social support or otherwise, innovative solutions are needed to help every fire fighter make active choices more obvious, attractive, easy and satisfying.

Innovative, comprehensive and accessible solutions are needed to accommodate diverse needs. And positive strategies — not threats — are much more effective for changing behavior.

The upcoming launch of the IAFF Fit To Thrive (F2T) program highlights our commitment to making exercise accessible, relevant and appealing for every member.

Focused On Accessibility

While the benefits of regular exercise encompass improved mood, sleep, fitness and resilience, as well as reduced risk of cancer, diabetes, depression, injury and feelings of isolation, the type of exercise for achieving these benefits can (and perhaps should) vary from fire fighter to fire fighter. Yoga, weight training, running, swimming and CrossFit can each provide value, as can a 10-minute bodyweight circuit at home.

The IAFF's commitment to helping members be physically active includes acknowledging that there is no one single best way to be active. In fact, the most effective form of exercise is arguably the one that a fire fighter will use today, tomorrow and long into retirement.

The F2T program will leverage the benefits of in-person and online environments to better understand members' needs, provide access to resources and facilitate learning. Multiple platforms help engage members, share content and build an F2T community that is welcoming of all fire fighters.

Focused On Behavior Change

Although improving your 5k time, losing 20 pounds and lowering cholesterol are accomplishments to be celebrated, it is the underlying habits and processes that are established to achieve these outcomes that will influence your health and wellness in the long term.

In other words, finishing a marathon won't help a fire fighter stay physically active unless it sparks an intrinsic desire to continue running (or be active) after the race has finished. The behaviors required to live a healthy and active lifestyle must be prioritized. Set small goals



that can help create momentum. Instead of trying to lose 30 pounds, commit to being active for five minutes every day. Be specific with your intentions and embed new actions into your daily routine.

Motivation will waiver, so commit to being active. State your intentions publicly and make yourself accountable to others. We are more likely to follow through on our commitments if they are tied to someone else.

The F2T program will provide strategies to assess, accommodate and address the reasons why fire fighters are (or are not) currently active, as well as a range of interventions and policies that are attractive, easy to implement and satisfying.

Contact the IAFF at F2T@iaff.org for more information about the F2T program, and look for the first F2T resources, including a series of free webinars, in spring 2021. ■

Tricks and Tips for Better Portion Control

For long-term health and happiness, you don't need to count calories to measure portions for your needs — just use your hand to measure.

Portion sizes differ depending on whether you're active or sedentary, male or female, and age and stress levels, to name a few.

It's important to understand the difference between a serving and a portion. A serving is a standard unit of measure for food or beverages, while a portion is the amount you actually consume. A portion may contain several servings.



Tips for better portion control:

- Before you go out to eat, have a healthy snack or drink 8 ounces of water.
- Focus on eating whole foods. Avoid pre-packaged, food-like substances as much as possible.
- Include protein, healthy fats and vegetables until you are satiated.
- Don't deprive yourself since this always backfires, causing you to eat more food later in the day.
- Include healthy fats in your diet to help you feel full longer, which may help avoid overeating. Healthy fats also allow your body to absorb the fat-soluble vitamins your body needs. Ideas include avocado, nuts, seeds, olive oil and grass-fed butter.
- Eat from smaller plates. When you put food on a large plate, you almost automatically want to fill it up and finish it all. By using smaller plates (and bowls) you eat less but still feel comfortably full.
- Many restaurants have large portions. Ask for a to-go box right away and plan to take part of your meal home for leftovers.
- Place snacks on a plate (or bowl) rather than eating right out of the bag or container. You'll be more aware of how much you are eating and can better manage portions.
- Plan ahead and have snacks that are portable, visible and readily accessible. Portion them into a small, single-serve-size container or Ziploc.
- Be mindful and slow down. Pay close attention to the way you (and your body) feel before, during and after a meal or snack. By slowing down and enjoying your food more, you end up eating less. ■

Visit www.iaff.org/nutrition for more on fire fighter nutrition.

In First Days, Biden Delivers on Issues Important to Fire Fighters

President Joe Biden is keeping his promise to America's fire fighters and emergency medical personnel and is already beginning to deliver important actions on our members' behalf.

In his first three days in office, President Biden issued executive orders that repeal dangerous anti-union actions of the previous administration (which negatively impacted our 16th District members); ordered a review of regulations on flame retardants and hazardous materials transportation that had failed to take fire fighter safety into account; and issued orders related to the pandemic that will provide our members with additional resources and establish stronger worker standards.

"I have been in direct contact with the Biden team over the past few months advocating for these actions," says General President Harold Schaitberger. "Their issuance in the first three days of the new administration is a testament to the importance this union and our members will enjoy in the coming four years."

On January 22, 2021, President Biden repealed three anti-union executive orders that limited collective bargaining and union time for federal fire fighters, and eliminated progressive discipline:

- Executive Order 13836 of May 25, 2018 (Developing Efficient, Effective, and Cost-Reducing Approaches to Federal Sector Collective Bargaining)
- Executive Order 13837 of May 25, 2018 (Ensuring Transparency, Accountability, and Efficiency in Taxpayer-Funded Union Time Use)
- Executive Order 13839 of May 25, 2018 (Promoting Accountability and Streamlining Removal Procedures Consistent with Merit System Principles)

Biden's executive order also instructs agencies to engage in collective bargaining with federal employees and eliminates Schedule F, which threatened protections of career employees.

"Biden revoked the egregious executive orders made by the last administration," says 16th District Vice President Jim Johnson. "He even took it a step further, granting the federal sector unions' request to expand the scope of bargaining to topics that previously could only be bargained if the agency allowed it, including numbers, types and grades of positions. It's great news."

On January 20, 2021, President Biden directed federal agencies to review and take appropriate action to address regulations that are harmful to the public health, including a number of regulations related to toxic flame retardants — regulations that the IAFF opposed because they did not fully take the health and safety of fire fighters and their unique exposure to such chemicals into account. Also subject to review is a regulation governing the transportation of liquefied natural gas by rail, which the IAFF also opposed as it put the safety of fire fighters and the public at risk.

On January 20 and January 21, 2021, President Biden signed a series of executive orders that will

provide fire fighters with additional resources and protections as we continue to serve on the frontlines of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Biden executive orders will:

- Require revised guidance to employers on workplace safety during the pandemic.
- Review issuing an emergency temporary worker safety standard on COVID-19.
- Enact the Defense Production Act to secure supplies necessary for responding to the pandemic and make sure those supplies are available to federal, state and local governments.
- Eliminate the local cost share for FEMA Public Assistance grants that provide funding to local governments for emergency protective measures, including fire department personal protective equipment (PPE), overtime and backfill needs and advance funding and expedited reimbursement for eligible expenses. Biden later issued a directive making this order retroactive to January 2020, meaning anyone who previously received reimbursement at 75% will

have their awards automatically adjusted upwards to 100%.

- Create the position of COVID-19 Response Coordinator responsible for coordinating all elements of the COVID-19 response across government, including managing efforts to produce, supply and distribute PPE, vaccines and tests. This level of coordination was lacking in the previous administration and undermined fire fighters' ability to procure resources and receive appropriate guidance as it relates to the pandemic.

Biden also fired the National Labor Relations Board's (NLRB) general counsel, Peter Robb, who carried out the Trump administration's anti-worker, anti-union policies.

Biden will need to nominate a replacement for this position responsible for prosecuting cases in front of the NLRB.

Meanwhile, Biden has nominated Boston Mayor Marty Walsh — a long-time advocate of fire fighters and organized labor and a former union member himself — to serve as Secretary of Labor. ■

American Recovery and Rescue Act Includes Significant Funding For FIRE/EMS

Significant funding and benefits for fire fighters and emergency medical personnel are included in the American Recovery and Rescue Act, HR 1319, which passed the U.S. Senate by a vote of 50-49 on March 6 and passed the U.S. House March 10 by a vote of 220-211. The bill was signed into law by President Biden on March 11.

- \$200 million in supplemental funding for the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant program to retain fire fighters at risk of layoff and rehire laid off fire fighters.
- \$100 million in supplemental funding for the Assistance to Firefighters (AFG) grant program.
- \$195.3 billion in funding to states and \$130.2 billion to cities and counties to address a variety of needs, including budgetary shortfalls for fire departments and other government services and premium pay for essential workers:
 - \$60.1 billion to counties
 - \$45.57 billion for cities of 50,000 or more
 - \$19.53 billion for cities of less than 50,000
- Authorizes Medicare to reimburse ground ambulance providers and suppliers for Treatment in Place (TIP) without transport for the duration of the public health emergency when community EMS protocols dictate the patient not be transported to a medical facility.
- Provides \$80 million to state and local governments and other entities for training to address suicide, burnout and behavioral health conditions, including substance abuse among public safety officers and healthcare professionals.
- Provides an additional \$50 billion for the Disaster Relief Fund to reimburse fire departments and other government entities for COVID-related activities and purchases at 100%.

- Establishes a COVID-19 presumption under federal workers' compensation to ensure federal fire fighters who become ill from COVID-19 receive necessary benefits.

- Guarantees paid emergency leave for civilian federal employees, including federal fire fighters who must quarantine or are ill, or to care for family members, including children who participate in remote learning during COVID.

Affiliate leaders should be prepared to ensure members benefit from the newly available funds. Unlike previously allocated funding under the CARES Act, state and local funding will be limited to funding government services that were reduced due to revenue reductions resulting from the pandemic. The U.S. Treasury will release guidance on eligible uses, but affiliate leaders should identify any departmental budget cuts incurred or pending, and approach their mayors or governors about receiving a portion of these funds to address these cuts.

Additional dollars allocated through the Disaster Relief Fund continue to be available to reimburse fire departments for costs related to the pandemic through the Public Assistance Grant Program. These expenses, previously reimbursable at 75%, are now reimbursable in full due to an executive order signed by President Biden last month.

Further guidance on how locals can access the supplemental SAFER and AFG funding, TIP reimbursement and mental health dollars is forthcoming, and the IAFF will update affiliate leaders when it becomes available.

The bill, which originally passed the U.S. House of Representatives in February, was significantly improved in the Senate by the addition of provisions that fund SAFER and AFG and the TIP authorization. The IAFF worked closely with Senator Chuck Schumer (D-NY) to include the SAFER and AFG funding and with Senator Cortez Masto (D-NV) to include the TIP authorization. ■

American Red Cross: A Partner in Disaster Response

In just the first few months of the COVID-19 pandemic, the American Red Cross had seen a nearly 16% decrease in calls from fire departments — more than 1,500 fewer calls for assistance across the country.

While it's hard to know the exact reasons for the decrease, it is important that our members, particularly those who serve as incident commanders, continue to consider the Red Cross as a partner to help residents whose homes have been damaged or destroyed in a fire.

“About every eight minutes, the Red Cross responds to a disaster somewhere in the country.”

Since 1964, the American Red Cross has assisted community members when they need them most. Red Cross Disaster Action Teams respond to home fires nearly 60,000 times a year.

“About every eight minutes, the Red Cross responds to a disaster somewhere in the country,” says Senior Director for American Red Cross Response Services Katherine Galifianakis. “The majority of these are to help

a family suffering from a personal loss after a home fire. The partnership with our local fire departments makes all the difference, giving hope and making this critical help in communities possible.”

IAFF members have worked with these teams in their communities to provide assistance to families who have lost everything after a home fire, but the Red Cross is also available to help following all types of disasters and can offer services regardless of the level of damage to a family's home.

The Red Cross provides emergency lodging, financial assistance, medications, pet accommodations and one-on-one help with the recovery process. Mental healthcare and spiritual care support are also provided to families in the wake of disasters, including home fires.

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the Red Cross has continued to stand ready to respond when IAFF members call for assistance during an emergency, following modified protocols to keep everyone safe while still delivering support.

Galifianakis adds that local fire departments can help by continuing to alert the Red Cross

and their volunteers of the needs so they can connect virtually with affected residents through a phone or video call. When necessary, the Red Cross can also be safely on the scene of a home fire to meet with affected families while following public health guidelines for COVID-19. ■

Host an IAFF-Red Cross Blood Drive

The IAFF has partnered with the American Red Cross to host blood drives — an easy way for affiliates to give back to their communities and engage members in supporting a lifesaving cause. Our IAFF-Red Cross toolkit has all the materials and resources your local needs for a successful blood drive. Learn more at www.redcrossblood.org/hosting-a-blood-drive/key/iaff.



American Red Cross



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Nationwide is the IAFF's premier retirement plans provider. To help you achieve your retirement goals and spend more time focusing on what matters to you most, Nationwide is making enhancements to support your retirement readiness.

Soon, you will be able to access a newly redesigned website focused on delivering a more intuitive and personalized experience.

The new online features will also give you more control over your retirement planning.

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better experiences and a better partner to support your retirement readiness.

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- ✓ Access to live and on-demand webinars
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- ✓ Easier ways to contact Nationwide or schedule an appointment

Retirement Specialists are registered representatives of Nationwide Investment Services Corporation, member FINRA. Nationwide, through its affiliated retirement plan service and product providers, has an endorsement relationship with the International Association of Fire Fighters-Financial

Corporation. More information about this endorsement relationship may be found online at www.FrontLinePlan.com. Nationwide, the Nationwide N and Eagle are service marks of Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company. © 2021 Nationwide NRM-19358AO (01/21)

Online PEP Deliveries Coming in Spring 2021

The IAFF will offer Partnership Education Program (PEP) online opportunities for affiliate leaders who otherwise may not have the ability to attend in-person IAFF events due to COVID restrictions or fiscal, geographical or staffing hardships.

PEP Online opportunities for state and provincial affiliates will be announced in June.

Delivered in two, three-week time periods for a total of six weeks per fiscal year, the first three-week event is scheduled in mid-May; registration will be open in the coming weeks.

The curricula and each workshop track will be a minimum of two hours and a maximum of four hours of instruction. Registration is \$20 per attendee per day for four hours of online education.

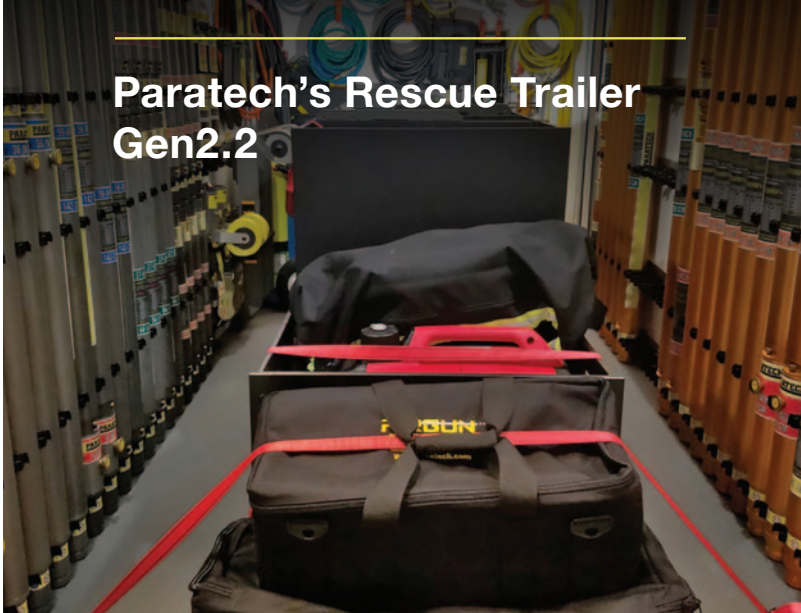
Stay tuned for a PEP Online course catalog of available online training. ■



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Virtual Fill the Boot Program Raises More Than \$1.6 Million for MDA

Like so many programs and services moving to virtual platforms during the COVID-19 pandemic, affiliates turned to online fundraising to conduct their annual IAFF-MDA Fill the Boot campaigns in order to continue to support MDA and its important mission.



The Virtual Fill the Boot campaign was designed to recreate the excitement and enthusiasm of traditional boot drives. Although challenging, affiliates found creative and compelling ways to collect donations online, surpassing the 2020 goal of \$1 million.

The IAFF-MDA Virtual Fill the Boot program provided affiliates with everything needed to promote and conduct online fundraising drives in their local communities, including a robust online giving platform, social media assets, digital images and public service announcements, as well as tips on how to engage members and the public and boost donations.

For more than six decades, IAFF members have collected donations at street intersections to support MDA and fund research for new treatments and summer camps for children with muscular dystrophy, among other services.

In 2020, MDA supported 182 research projects worldwide, representing a funding commitment of more than \$51 million. In addition, in August 2002, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved Vitolarsen for treatment of Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy and Risdiplan for the treatment of Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA) for pediatric and adult patients.

2020 Virtual Fill the Boot

BY THE NUMBERS

912 Participating Locals

292 Self Donations

\$1,656,910 Raised

2020 Top Fundraising Locals

Suncoast, FL Local 2546	\$113,707.54
Jacksonville, FL Local 122	\$102,337.44
North Collier, FL 2297	\$51,441.33
Corpus Christi, TX Local 936	\$41,092.77
Ventura County, CA Local 1364	\$40,834.92
Bonita Springs, FL 3444	\$39,190.85
Roanoke County, VA Local 3194	\$32,790.62
Dallas, TX Local 58	\$24,880.00
Anchorage, AK Local 1264	\$20,578.02
Bloomfield Township, MI Local 3045	\$18,912.00
Colorado Professional Fire Fighters	\$18,210.00
Louisville, KY Local 345	\$18,205.00
Grand Forks, ND Local 242	\$17,895.27
Mountain View, CO Local 3214	\$16,480.36
Phoenix, AZ Local 493	\$15,344.00
Ontario, OR Local 3464	\$14,750.00
Collier, FL Local 2396	\$13,637.79
Boynton Beach, FL Local 1891	\$13,605.27
Galesburg, IL Local 555	\$15,459.91
Belvidere, IL Local 1569	\$12,830.96
Cottleville, MO Local 2665	\$12,785.00
Santa Fe Springs, CA Local 3507	\$12,275.00
Southern El Paso County, CO Local 4369	\$12,519.00
Fargo, ND Local 642	\$11,975.00
Palm Beach County, FL Local 2928	\$11,325.00
Hamilton, OH Local 20	\$10,641.47
Knoxville, TN Local 65	\$11,125.00
Ohio Association of Professional Fire Fighters	\$10,199.95

Return of the MDA Telethon

The MDA Kevin Hart Kids Telethon, a two-hour special airing October 24, raised more than \$10 million in support of the essential work of MDA. The IAFF was excited to be part of this event, which included a message from General President Harold Schaitberger on the IAFF's support for MDA for the past 67+ years and featured top Fill the Boot fundraising locals Fairfax County, VA Local 2068, Jacksonville, FL Local 122 and Los Angeles County, CA Local 1014. ■

Fill the Boot for MDA Group on Facebook

The Fill the Boot for MDA Facebook group is for fire fighters supporting the IAFF's charity of choice for more than 67 years and a forum for sharing ideas and best practices, as well as to learn more about MDA and celebrate all things Fill the Boot.

Request to join at

www.facebook.com/groups/mdafillthebootcoordinators/

MDA Summer Camp Will Be Virtual in 2021

MDA's top priority is the health and safety of campers, volunteers and staff. After much consideration of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and discussion with trusted medical professionals, MDA has made the difficult decision to not hold in-person summer camp programs in 2021.

MDA remains dedicated to bringing fun to campers while helping them stay connected through virtual programming. Virtual programming in 2020 for those who participated was a great experience, and MDA plans to expand programming for 2021 beyond just the summer months and is hoping to resume planning for in-person camp as soon as it is safe to do so. ■



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- (1) Thermacell Portable Repeller
- \$250 Carhartt Gift Card
- 1-year Subscription to Huntstand
- Plano Sportsman Net 17" X 19" TD
- Plano E-Series 3600 Tackle Backpack - Red
- (2) Plano Let's Fish Satchels (green & pink)
- Plano Frost Cooler - 32qt.
- (2) USA Mesh Back Hats



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IAFF Retirees

A Salute to Dedication, Service and Courage

ALABAMA L0117 Birmingham—David Bradford, Frederick Chatman, Edward Faulkner, Torres Marshall, Richard Shrader, Terry Williams, L0454 Gadsden—Nate Davenport, Lee Dye, Micah Phillips, L0980 Bessemer—Hoyt Wallace, L1349 Mobile—Bruce Cannella, Raymond McCarron, L1437 Decatur—Craig Corum, Danny Engle, Carlos Haraway, Roger Richardson, L1833 Huntsville—Greg Braswell, Mike Robertson, L2644 Cullman—Billy Barnett, L3948 Jacksonville Professional Fire Fighters—Christopher Roberts, L4035 Hoover—Tony Conville

ALASKA L1264 Anchorage—John Borland, William Burgh, Ronald Burns, Danny Cobb, Robert Fuller, David Gerken, Randall Gilmore, Joseph Hall, Brad Hanson, Don Hunley, Yeriya Israel, Dennis Ives, Gordon Jaynes, Blake Lindsoe, Michael Murphy, Francis Nolan, John Paff, Richard Parry, Clinton Powell, Jonathan Ross, Douglas Schrage, Wayne Shutt, Wade Strahan, James Veatch, Kevin Wallace, William Wepler, James Wolcott, L1324 Fairbanks—Gregory Taylor, L4303 Juneau Career—Roy Johnston

ALBERTA L0209 Edmonton Fire Fighters Union—Daniel Blackburn, Robert Clark, Peter Gadoury, Rocque Goudreau, Frank Matovinovic, Terry Myatt, Martin Prins, John Protz, Darcy Stawniczy, John Struik, L0237 Lethbridge—Dennis Gulevich, Doug Hunchak, L0255 Calgary—Mike Henson, Mike Manchulenko, Kenneth Mason, L0263 Medicine Hat—Ben Suranko, L2130 St. Albert—Rob Bonner, Tim Hawirko, Bill Nelson

ARIZONA I0060 United Emergency Medical Professionals Of Arizona—Kevin Burkhart, L0479 Tucson—Jennifer LaCoss, L0493 Phoenix—Richard Gal, Jemmie Granger, Bryan Holland, Scott Hollingsworth, Tony Mure, C Terraciano, L1505 Flagstaff—Marc Goldberg, Brian Wood, L2260 Mesa—Ruben Briones, Mark Keough, Jaye Kreuzer, Paul Perkins, John Schaar, John Suniga, William Tavares, L3066 United Yavapai—Bryan Dalton, Jared Fiori, Dan Gnagey, Laura Mowrer, Jeff Polacek, Michael Sims, Debbie Spingola, L3572 Northwest Fire Fighters—Brent Mobbly, Jeff Plant, L3573 United Sun Cities Fire Fighters—Patrick Mifsud, Brian Moreni, L3752 Professional Fire Fighters of Casa Grande—Byron Mays, L3832 North Tucson Fire Fighters—Michael Lamanda, Walter Schmidt, L3878 United Maricopa County Fire Fighters Association—Brian Keith, L4135 Northern Gila County—Julie Swanson, L4311 United Buckeye—Bill Van Gotum, L4944 Old Pueblo

Fire Fighters Association—Richard Nebeker

ARKANSAS L0014 Pine Bluff Fire Fighters Association—James Hipp, L0034 Little Rock—Cassius Kelleybrew, Charles Phillips, Bradley Tubbs, L0879 Hot Springs—Randy Greathouse, Carl Hawthorn, Gary Hunt, Phillip Martin, L2030 Jacksonville—James Amerine, L2765 Benton—Wade Goodwin, L3007 Springdale—Jerry Reid

BRITISH COLUMBIA L0018 Vancouver—Daryle Van Horn, L0256 New Westminster—Quinn Knutson, Tony MacInnes, L0296 North Vancouver—Darren Beckett, L0905 Nanaimo—Ennis Mond, L0913 Kamloops—Neil Campbell, L1253 Cranbrook—Thomas Kennelly, L1271 Surrey—Rob Best, Ralston Carnegie, Stan Jonski, Paul Mahil, Gordon Minaker, Manjit Sandhu, L1286 Richmond—Darrell Dunn, L1343 Nelson—Bob Patton, L1372 Prince George—Brad Crossan, Simon Gould, James Gunn, Leroy Manning, Kevin Scobie, L1399 Penticton—William Simpson, L1763 Delta Firefighters—Thomas McQuade, Bill Taylor, L1941 Port Coquitlam—Dieter Kulhanek, Shaun Neighbour, Tony Speiss, L2399 Port Moody—Doug Stewart, L4550 Township of Langley Professional Fire Fighters Association—Andrew Hewitson, Luke Johannesson, Gary Proznick, Morley Sagert, Dale Steeple

CALIFORNIA F0033 San Diego—Michael Massone, F0053 Edwards Air Force Base—Bryan Copeland, Joseph Haresky, Klaus Koepp, L0055 Oakland/Alameda County Fire Fighters—Michael Barry, Eric Holmgren, John Skokan, Emmanuel Watson, John Whiting, L0112 Los Angeles City—Denise Alvarado, Jeffrey Ambarian, Ruthie Bernal, Jon Bowers, Christopher Carpenter, Michael Cunningham, Leah Fleischmann, Preston Fountain, Oscar Gutierrez, Gregory Loya, Ernst Morgan, Steven Phillips, Rick Reubens, Anthony Sheen, Scott Tanner, John Vigil, Michael Westhoff, L0145 San Diego—Sara Alfaro, James Azevedo, Neil Barlow, David Connor, Lawrence Gordon, Joseph Hand, Eric Kelley, Buz Miller, Scott Pearson, Michael Reid, Steve Salaz, Pamela Thomas, Grace Yamane, L0230 San Jose—Jon Friesell, Martin Lomeli, Douglas McLeod, Tim Pedemonte, Peter Roman, L0372 Long Beach—Steven Roberts, L0456 Stockton—Edward Montemayor, Brad Palmer, Jeff Smeenk, L0522 Sacramento—Jim Edmiston, Paul Garrett, Russell Van Vuren, L0525 Santa Barbara City—Gilbert Cash, Robert Hazel, Brian Porter, L0689 Alameda—Armando Baldizan,

Jason Edwards, Robert Hales, Justin Hearn, Jeffrey Orthman, Cleveland Ross, Gayle Thomas, Joseph Wade, Michael Williams, L0776 Glendale—Ted Huber, L0798 San Francisco—Charles Crane, Victor Hurtado, Lance Martin, Michael Orlando, Victor Wyrtsch, L0809 Pasadena—Kevin Ambler, Karl Armbrust, Scott Austin, Richard Clark, Robert Crain, Michael Jerome, Daniel Kidd, Steven Lawhorn, L0935 San Bernardino County—Jerry Abshier, Constantino Cendejas, Mark Machal, L1014 Los Angeles County Fire Fighters—Brittany Apodaca, Don Damann, Domonic Finks, Michael Garofano, Guy Giffin, Phillip Najemnik, Glen Stratton, Franklin Vogel, L1067 Riverside City—Greg Arias, Roger Cutshall, Thomas Irwin, Rodney Nash, L1109 Santa Monica—Brendt Noon, L1165 Santa Clara County—Lori Gutierrez, Robert Hecoeks, Tuan Lam, Jeff Sadler, Tracy Staiger, Heather Zuckswert, L1186 Fire Fighters Local 1186—David Pierson, L1225 Lodi Professional Fire Fighters—Brandon Barbero, L1230 Contra Costa County—Daniel Baio, Michael Boehmer, Janin Campbell, Gillian Graham, Rick Stratton, Jo'ee Young, L1289 Modesto—Vincent Bowman, L1301 Kern County—Stephen Abenoja, John Pfennig, L1401 Santa Rosa—Rachelle Brooke, Matthew Dacunha, Rick Kerrigan, Michael Lellis, Gregory McCollum, Giulietta Miller, Larry Petersen, Raymond Spradlin, Brian White, L1430 Ontario—Ronald Alvarez, James Ary, Gilbert Ayon, Richard Baker, Ronald Beck, James Boulgarides, Mark Hoier, Jeffrey Horner, Jason Miller, Kevin Okamura, Brian Pelletier, Manny Rincon, Daniel Simeon, John Sitar, Keith Smith, David Stewart, Bart Yoder, L1465 Costa Mesa Fire Fighters Association, Inc—Doug Prochnow, L1475 Coronado Fire Fighters Association—James Lynch, L1479 Merced City—Jeff Cole, L1507 South San Francisco—Heath Kelly, Craig Silliman, Ken Wilkerson, L1689 Fremont—Ronald Chaney, Charles Simms, L1699 Milpitas—Brian Bruce, L1775 Marin Professional Fire Fighters—Scott Barnes, Mark Brown, Scott Michalik, Steve White, L1909 Hayward—David Barrow, Bryan Parker, L1927 Culver City—David White, L1974 Livermore-Pleasanton—Ronald Bell, Kurtis Dickey, Greg Huver, Gregory Kurtz, Chet Melnarik, Anthony Naples, L2020 Santa Maria City Fire Fighters—John LaFramboise, Mark Schnorf, L2180 Chula Vista Fire Fighters—Mark McDonald, L2312 Vernon Firemen's Association—Dean Richens, Andrew Smith, L2384 Orange City—David Hoff, Gregory Lewin, David Sherman, Charles Stein, Robert Stuart, Jeff Tiqui, L2400 San Mateo County—Daniel Strambi, L2734 Chico—Adrian Leung, David Main, Thorin Rice, Ethan Rowe, L2881 Cal Fire Local 2881—John Korupp, Ernest Marugg, L3058 North Monterey County—Erin Bigler, L3226 West Covina—Alan Sams, L3354 Huntington Beach—Ray Casillas, Phillip Dimento, Kent Light, Jeff Nelson, L3355 Tracy City—John Thompson,

L3399 Stanislaus Consolidated Fire Fighters—Buck Condit, Louie Morua, Les Porter, David Wason, **L3522 Chino Valley Professional Fire Fighters, Inc.**—Harry Freidman, William Heitmann, Keith Stroup, **L3546 San Ramon Valley**—Lisa Blackburn-Cranston, **L3631 Orange County Professional Fire Fighters Association**—Darryl Barbee, Michael Belshe, Steven Chafe, John Lamb, Bryan Swartz, **L3682 El Segundo**—Richard Towne, **L3684 Laguna Beach Fire Fighters Association, Inc.**—Joe Maxon, **L3707 Monterey**—John Caniglia, **L3736 Oceanside**—Scott Blawusch, Mark Finstuen, Todd Hunt, Scott Thomas, **L3776 Brea**—Carey Parro, **L3922 Poway Fire Fighters Association**—Michael Geddes, **L3925 Manhattan Beach Fire Fighters Association**—Matthew Simkins, **L4757 Tulare County Professional Fire Fighters**—Hank Sequin

COLORADO L0005 Colorado Springs—Carol Scheideman, **L0858 Denver**—Michael Berlin, Shannon Berumen, Russel Bray, Dwaine Davis, Daniel Doyle, Thomas Jones, Louis Keller, Charles Leuthauser, Richard Riedel, Jonathan Riggenbach, Floyd Schiller, **L1309 West Metro Fire Fighters**—Anthony Wilkins, David Yarwood, **L1945 Poudre Fire Authority**—Teri Hergenreder, Derek MacArthur, **L2086 IAFF Local 2086 South Metro Fire Rescue**—J. Michael Butterfield, David Carrigan, Robert Dufficy, Nick Latsis, Darwin Mace, **L2203 North Metro**—Dennis Eulberg, **L4056 Arvada**—Robert Roome, **L4502 Pikes Peak Professional Fire Fighters**—Daniel Olson, **L5220 Rocky Mountain Professional Fire Fighters**—Wayne Ichiyasu, John Stewart

CONNECTICUT L0760 Hartford—Celestino Jimenez, **L0786 Stamford Professional Fire Fighters Association**—Kenneth Riordan, **L0825 New Haven**—Dawud Amin, Jason Balletto, James Bohan, Gregory Boivin, Timothy Borer, Jonathan Brown, Michael Ciaburro, Gary Cole, Felipe Cordero, Robert Crisco, Kyle Daniels, Kenneth Davis, Charles Donaruma, Robert Doyle, Tyrone Ewing, Palmer Gaines, Raul Ginebra, Ezra Goodwin, Kenyatta Harris, James Hynek, David Iezzi, Sean Lockwood, Richard Lynch, Pedro Martinez, Pablo Melendez, Isaias Miranda, Reginald Morton, Ronald Nardini, Michael Neal, Kenneth Nolan, Cesar Ojeda, Kenneth Oliver, Robert Ortiz, Jose Osorio, Julio Padilla, Joseph Proto, Frank Ricci, Nicole Sampietro, Joseph Sullivan, Kevin Sylvia, Venson Taylor, Leverett Torgerson, Jose Vargas, Aurelious Woolfolk, **L0834 Bridgeport**—Frank Bridge, **L0992 New Britain**—Kevin Cloukey, **L1042 Greenwich**—Anthony Gianpoalo, Andrew Hill, **L1073 Middletown**—Lewis Luster, Robert Quale, Joseph Salafia, Mark Tine, **L1219 Naugatuck**—Dave Hardt, **L1241 West Hartford**—Paula Kenahan, JamesPeter Matthews, Richard Shea, **L1339 Waterbury**—Glenn Bradley, Gene Steneck, **L1522 New London**—Thomas Buckholt, **L1579 Manchester**—Paul Petersen, **L1739 Ridgefield**—Michael Drake, R Nobes,

Nicholas Paproski, **L2033 Southington**—John Solury, **L2687 Hamden Professional Fire Fighters**—Michael Battick, **L3059 Thompsonville Fire Department**—Paul Vendetta, **L3377 East Lyme**—David Connolly, Edward Waido, **L4284 Somers**—Matthew Atwood, **S0015 Connecticut Police and Fire Union**—Jason Caron, Kristin Kelley, Jill Miller, Michael Rufus

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA L0036 Washington—Timothy Barksdale, Aaron Blucker, Teres Boone, Charles Buscavage, Jeffrey Carroll, Wayne Chapman, Lawrence Chapman, Joseph Chisholm, Daryl Clark, Beatrix Diggs, Jerome Draper, Matthew Foster, John Hayman, Donald Hicks, Robert Hottinger, Clifton Humphries, Larry Lewis, Daniel Lewis, Anthony Lloyd, Paul Lucas, Gala McDougal, Steven Mills, Hubert Mims, Milton Olinger, Gerald Pennington, Anthony Prince, Darren Puifory, Trevor Reed, George Robey, Calvin Walden, Jerry Wilhelm

FLORIDA L0754 Tampa—Michael Diaz, Douglas Woods, **L1158 Clearwater Fire Fighters Association**—Michele Williams, **L1162 Daytona Beach Fire/Rescue**—Michael Harvey, **L1210 Coral Gables Professional Fire Fighters Association**—Thomas Harley, Timothy McAlister, Tim Mungovan, George Valladares, John Zipse, **L1365 Orlando Professional Fire Fighters**—Al Castanon, Alvin Chambers, John Lampe, Dayna Moudy, Mark Pilla, **L1375 Hollywood Professional Fire Fighters, Inc.**—Rodolfo Jurado, Victor Monette, **L1377 Professional Fire Fighters & Paramedics Of Saint Lucie County**—Mark Cristaldi, Bradley Dashner, William French, Donalan Hamrick, David Hoilman, Chris Karns, Paul Langel, Mike LoPresti, Christine Selph, Aaron Shaw, Robert Tearle, Sonny Walls, **L1403 Metropolitan Dade County Association Of Fire Fighters**—Rhiannon Almague, Muncko Kruize, Richard Ramirez, Steven Scrop, Debra Swensson, Jack Swerdloff, Ray Williams, **L1510 Fire Fighters Of Miami Beach**—Robert Bedell, Russell Chisholm, Christopher D'Angelo, Rolando Hernandez, **L1826 Southwest Florida Professional Fire Fighters**—Michael Endersbee, Thomas Grow, J. Patrick Isherwood, Roberto Medina, Lisa Scott, David Tyrrell, Kenneth Veltman, Christopher White, **L2117 Reedy Creek Professional Fire Fighters Association Local 2117 Inc.**—Curtis Brown, Christopher Jenkins, James Olsen, Gil Rogers, George Vail, **L2157 Gainesville Professional Fire Fighters**—Chad Belger, Paula Buckholz, **L2174 Professional Fire Fighters Of Naples**—Michael Moore, **L2292 Professional Fire Fighters Of Pembroke Pines**—Jennifer Millen, **L2297 North Collier Professional Fire Fighters and Paramedics Local 2297**—Joseph Rivard, **L2339 Tallahassee Professional Fire Fighters**—Shane Hopkins, William Spencer, **L2446 Palm Bay Professional Fire Fighters**—Steven Zades, **L2546 Suncoast Professional Fire Fighters & Paramedics**—Gene Gardy, Wendy Norman, **L2820**

Professional Fire Fighters Of Miramar—Robert Gendreau, William Huff, Wilfredo Plasencia, **L2928 Professional Fire Fighters & Paramedics Of Palm Beach County**—Nils Bertelson, Albert Borroto, Matthew Conner, Leigh Cottrell, Ronald MacLeod, Ronald Nichols, Donald Nowacki, Joseph Schultz, Anthony Steinbuck, Winston Thomas, Erica Weston, Andrew Wilkes, **L2959 Professional Fire Fighters and Paramedics of Martin County**—Patrick Arena, Terrance Beauford, Matthew Fenex, Bryan Fields, Scott Grady, Colin Hayhurst, Brian McGlothlin, Karl Oneyear, Lamar Shell, Thomas Shimanek, David Silverberg, David Simmons, Randy Spiegelhalter, Kathleen Von Esslinger, James Worley, Doug Young, **L2969 Brevard County Professional Fire Fighters**—Bridget Ports, Thomas Uzel, **L2980 Palm Harbor/Oldsmar Professional Fire Fighters**—Michael Albenze, **L3080 Metro-Broward Professional Fire Fighters**—Bill Hopper, Hugo Reyes, Raul Santana, Jorge Sardinias, Steven Sircus, **L3120 Professional Fire Fighters Of Starke**—Gerald Waters, **L3169 Professional Fire Fighters Of Marion County**—Ernest Eubanks, Misti Mattingly, Michael Rodoski, Rose Teetsell, **L3254 Seminole County Professional Fire Fighters Association**—Mike Lee, —Edward Pando, Tracy Rogers, **L3499 Ormond Beach Fire Fighters Association**—Karie French, **L3531 Polk County Professional Fire Fighters**—David Davis, **L3590 Maitland Professional Fire Fighters**—Courtney Neisler, **L3990 Professional Fire Fighters Of Lake County**—Benson Hartle, **L4153 Saint Cloud**—Keith Christ, James Grenus, Lewis Tydings, **L4173 Lakeland**—Troy Deines, Zachary Duncan, Michael Thomas, **L4192 Midway Professional Fire Fighters**—Louis Jones, **L4208 Kissimmee Professional Fire Fighters**—Robert Bartlett, Mark Besser, **L4315 Bradford County EMS**—Michael McKenzie, **L4321 Broward County**—Gregory Blue, Joseph Costanzo, Cole Morgan, Doug Watler, **L4420 Pasco County Professional Fire Fighters**—Robert Baker, Frank McBee, **L4575 Edgewater Professional Fire Fighters**—Herbert Epstein

GEORGIA L1492 Dekalb County—Joseph Tinsley, **L3357 Augusta-Richmond County Fire Fighters Association**—Karl Butler, Frank Laurence

HAWAII L1463 Hawaiian Islands—Andrew Bisch, Dwayne Dunaway, Destry Flores, Valeriano Martin, Bradlee Okemura, Thomas Reppuhn, Frank Sanchez, Mark Sue, Scot Suiso, Daniel Yamashiro, Brian Yee

IDAHO L1556 Twin Falls—Tom McCully, **L2856 Kootenai County Fire & Rescue**—Jeryl Archer

ILLINOIS L0002 Chicago—Anthony Allegretti, Thomas Caplis, Grace Flores-Pachowicz, Keith Garr, Paul Gesiakowski, John Golen, Robert Gonzalez, Karla Harkness, Dean Hoefler, Yli Kacija, Joseph Kainer, Richard Kerley, David Koch, Alan Lehnert, Edward McCarty, James McDermott, Dennis

McGrath, Edward McVicker, Robert Neylon, Robert Olmstead, Robert Panatera, Richard Poklacki, Catherine Renar, Francisco Rosa, Noel Ruiz, Wilson Santiago, Adam Swartz, Michael Walters, Bernard Warrington, Rory Williams, **L0044**

Joliet—Christopher Bay, Michael Hibler, **L0049**
Bloomington—Brian Day, Jeffery Emmert, Steven Giusti, Eric Leman, Brian Mohr, **L0050**

Peoria—Herman Crayton, Jon Davis, Paul Edwards, Roger Haywood, James McCoy, Mark Montoya, Derrick Parker, Todd Prentiss, Marvin Roderick, John Schnibben, Franklin Smith, Scott Stockman, **L0099 Aurora**—Bob Campbell, Jeffrey Smitley, **L0253 Granite City**—Nelson Hagnauer, John Koskie, Larry LeMaster, Vincent Martinez, Danny Shurtz, **L0413 Rockford**—Curtis Beifuss, Sonny Chanthaphone, **L0439 Elgin**—Cherif Fortin, Richard Hanks, Eric Hopp, Brian McCloud, **L0441 Freeport**—Jack Heitz, Mike McKenna, **L0473 Waukegan**—Jeremy Brown, Gregg Paiser, **L0506 Berwyn**—Ray Fron, Brian Tokarczyk, **L0513 Kewanee**—Phillip Wall, **L0637**

Jacksonville—Brian Nyberg, **L0653**

Kankakee—Dale Meyer, **L0742 Evanston**—Guy Boliaux, Michael Goldman, David Lipp, Timothy Taylor, **L1147 Urbana**—Tom Long, William Morfey, **L1255 Alton**—Paul Billeau, Craig Green, **L1498 East Peoria**—Charles Melton, **L1526 Franklin Park**—Thomas Corso, Gary Liganowski, **L1999 Zion Professional Fire Fighters Association**—Mark Klamut, **L2061 Hoffman Estates**—Colin Padal, **L2301 Sterling**—Timothy Wright, **L2442 Normal**—Kevin Henderson, Darrell Reeps, **L2714 North Riverside**—Richard Gray, **L2753 Forest Park**—Tom Janopoulos, **L2968 Bensenville Professional Fire Fighters Union**—Richard Tam, **L3042**

Murphysboro—Ronald Clark, **L3105 Arlington Heights**—Joseph Skalski, **L3165**
Tri-State—Mark Reynolds, **L3177 Buffalo Grove**—Richard Schiradelly, **L3191 Professional Fire Fighters of Lake Zurich**—David Bartoli, Samuel Ritchie, **L3234 Downers Grove**—John Christenson, **L3405 Oak Lawn**—Dan Rooney, **L4092 Schaumburg**—Nicholas Digiolo, Neal Jones, John Niemann, Robert Niemiec, **L4186 Glenview**—Stephen Swiatkiewicz, **L4681 Channahon Professional Fire Fighters Association**—Ryan Jandura, **L4749 Elburn Professional Fire Fighters Association**—Paul Malinowski, **L4786 Mundelein Professional Fire Fighters**—Dave Myers, **L4806 Beach Park Professional Fire Fighters**—Bruce Willett

INDIANA L0124 Fort Wayne—James Garrison, Keith Oberlin, **L0338 Elkhart**—Cary Dygert, Jeffrey Gill, Robin Williams, **L0470 Logansport**—Bernard Mittica, **L0577 Seymour**—Bernard Campbell, **L1348 Muncie**—Mark Adams, James Clevenger, Steven Ervin, Jerry Garrett, Philip Granger, Kelley Marsh, **L1630 Clay Fire Fighters**—James Williams, **L2594 Clarksville**—Brian Leake, **L4406 Hendricks County Professional Fire Fighters**—Richard Figg, Eric Gibson, Neil Sullivan, **L4416 Hamilton County Professional Fire**

Fighters Union—Tim Bruner, Derrick Cameron, Micheal McVey, Max Pauker, **L4444 Carmel Professional Fire Fighters Union**—Michael Marsh

IOWA L0004 Des Moines—Danielle Edwards, Bryan Fousek, Nadine Sechovec, Paul Yarges, **L0011 Cedar Rapids**—Richard Halleran, Joseph Heyer, Dennis Langguth, Curtis Walser, **L0015 Council Bluffs**—Martin Ahmann, James Maaske, Robert Martin, Laura Roberts, **L0025 Dubuque**—David Beaves, Samuel Janecke, Brian Klinkner, Kevin Schmitt, **L0610 Iowa City**—Tina Humston, **L4127 Dallas County**—Curtis Crawford, **L4814 Ankeny Career Fire Fighters**—Al Abbott

KANSAS L0083 Topeka—Kelly Adams, Joseph Hubbard, **L0135 Wichita**—Randall Currie, James Fromme, **L0179 Hutchinson**—Jeffery Miller, Gerald Wiens, **L1596 Lawrence**—Robin Leach, **L2275 Manhattan**—Douglas Parker

KENTUCKY F0291 Blue Grass Army Depot Fire Dept.—Dwight Hamilton, **L0045 Newport**—Joe Strange, **L0345 Louisville**—Thomas Campbell, Americo Cruz, Casey Hennessy, Travis Jones, Mark Mims, Alan Smith, Anthony Smith, Dennis Wilson, **L0526 Lexington**—Steven Mohr, **L1017 Frankfort Professional Fire Fighters**—Edward Gilchrist, **L1807 Winchester Professional Fire Fighters**—Steven Hardy, Gary Henry, **L4431 Shelbyville Fire Department**—Adam Brown

LOUISIANA L0557 Baton Rouge—Fred Ball, **L0629 Monroe**—Patrick Telano, **L0632 New Orleans**—Adam Campbell, Joseph Margin, Timothy McConnell, **L0687 Bogalusa**—Frederick Godbolt, **L1405 Houma**—Albert Swan, **L1694 Ouachita Parish**—Ronald Daily, **L2455 Slidell**—David Kuhn, David Pellerin, James Rhyce, **L3704 Mandeville**—Robert Fischer, William Gorrondona, **L3810 Abbeville**—Allen Hebert

MAINE L0740 Portland—Joseph Murphy, David Petruccelli, Randy Stewart, **L1624 Sanford**—Eric Neubert, **L1650 Augusta**—Kevin Curry, **L2303 Gardiner**—Ronald Evans, **L4618 Skowhegan Professional Fire Fighters**—Michael Savage

MANITOBA I0160 Whiteshell Professional Fire Fighters Association—Jimmy Hladki, **L0867 Winnipeg**—David Belza, Peggy Kotchon, Jacques Turenne

MARYLAND F0267 Aberdeen Proving Ground—M. Funk, **F0281 Professional Fire Fighters Of Fort Meade**—Eric Holzberger, **L0734 Baltimore**—Michael Adamczyk, Johnnie Booker, Michael Clark, **L0964 Baltimore Fire Officers Association**—Michael Evans, Frank Farrell, Timothy Hamilton, William Hoffman, Thomas Nosek, **L1311 Baltimore County**—Gary Bull, Eric Endryas, Russell English, Charles Evans, Michael Fox, Dale Hess, Charles Leonard, Duane Ludwig, John Meyers, Timothy Mooney, Charles Nickoles, Gary Rickrode, Stephen Steinberg, Alvin Stewart, Paul Thayer, Stephen Thompson, Philip Tirabassi, William Ullrich, **L1563 Anne Arundel County**—Steven Ambrozewicz, Sarah Hayakawa,

Robin Kernan, Timothy Runkles, **L1619 Prince George's County**—Regina Bartholomew, Jeffery Burton, Alan Doubleday, George Flanagan, Joseph Ford, Steward Fowler, Brian Gibson, Lauren King, Anthony McCormick, Jerome Parker, Nicholas Roozen, Diana Spears, Christine Wrzesinski, **L1664 Montgomery County**—Steven Alderton, Christopher Bishop, John Blough, Don Boyd, William Chambers, Barry Cooper, Karen Ely, David Fikar, George Gale, John Gallo, Bruce Gibbs, Brian Jefferson, O'Neal Johnson, Andrew Johnson, Linwood Joyner, David Kalt, Charles Lee, Robert Lindsey, Ryan Linville, Pedro Meneses, Roland Moore, Matthew Prince, Lawrence Simmons, Nickolas Stannos, Gregory Stevens, Margaret Stottlemeyer, **L3666 Frederick County**—Kathleen Harne, Michael Smith

MASSACHUSETTS F0078 Hanscom Air Force Base—Chad Harmon, **L0030 Cambridge**—Charles Anderson, William Brathwaite, James Desrosiers, Richard Thorne, **L0076 Somerville**—Steven Cheimets, **L0718 Boston**—Frank Clines, John Gallagher, Joseph Mahoney, Joseph McDonough, Kevin Morrissey, William O'Brien, Robert Quinn, Timothy Roach, Edgar Rodriguez, Arthur Strickland, Edward White, **L0792 Quincy**—Russell Nord, **L0866 Waltham**—Thomas Ferrick, **L0902 Malden**—Steve Almeida, **L0926 Revere**—Domenic Lasala, Richard Laurano, Kenneth McDonald, William Petrilli, Edward Russell, Virginia Segee, Anthony Vinciarelli, Michael Viviano, **L1009 Worcester**—Douglas Armev, Jerald Diorio, John Elliott, Stephen Mita, Robert O'Connor, **L1111 Westfield**—Greg Heath, **L1314 Fall River**—Brian Platt, **L1370 Wilmington**—Walter Daley, Charles Taylor, **L1637 Belmont**—Thomas Biondo, Kenneth Gardiner, Thomas O'Brien, Christian Tocci, Steven Whalen, **L1647 Tewksbury**—Robert Calistro, **L1657 Hull**—Kevin Coughlin, **L1714 Marlborough**—Joseph Arsenault, Daniel Chaousis, **L1769 Whitman**—Joseph Fenney, **L1802 Westport**—Raymond Benoit, Dennis Pelland, Michael Silvia, **L1820 Mansfield**—John Peri, **L1992 North Attleboro**—Jeff Badger, **L2023 Sudbury**—Robert Beer, Michael Desjardins, John Salmi, **L2043 Marblehead**—Timothy Doane, Robert McKay, **L2140 Milford**—David Covino, **L2346 Centerville-Osterville**—Thomas Miskiv, Andrew Reed, Richard Sargent, **L2464 Walpole**—David Jenks, **L2568 Marshfield**—Grover Hensley, **L2586 Dracut**—Leo McMahon, **L2637 Franklin**—Richard Bravoco, Michael Carter, Stephen Geer, Brian Hagan, **L2726 Professional Fire Fighters Of Hanover**—Robert Kenney, **L2975 Eastham**—William Piltzecker, **L3057 Northborough**—Michael Gaudette, **L3772 Hopkinton**—Robert Clark, Norman Seymour, **L4342 Wellfleet Permanent Fire Fighters**—Holly Kuhn, **L4694 Salisbury Fire Fighters**—Robert Wolcik

MICHIGAN L0335 Battle Creek—Brian Bartzen, Clifford Hill, **L0344 Detroit**—Gary Bettin,

Claude Evans, Kelvin Harris, Douglas Masta, Ronald Wiles, **L0370 Muskegon**—Chad Horn, Jim Mathews, Michael McGahan, **L0412 Dearborn**—Jeff Bond, **L0421 Lansing**—Sheila Platner, **L0693 Ann Arbor**—Craig Ferris, William Gamble, Craig Sidelinger, **L0741 Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport**—GREG GLOWACKI, Brian LaPointe, **L1029 Southfield**—Stephen LaDouceur, Kenneth Polk, Trent Rettschlag, Andrew Skierski, **L1206 Redford Township**—Kevin Obeirne, **L1306 Summit/Jackson Professional Fire Fighters Union**—Richard Terrell, Todd Weaver, **L1315 Midland**—Steven Shinske, **L1335 Waterford Township**—Mark Trager, **L1355 Dearborn Heights**—William Herman, **L1467 Portage**—Timothy Foley, James Snowden, **L1496 Plymouth Township**—William Conroy, **L1562 Benton Township**—Steven Knuth, **L1614 Roseville**—Brian Kanigowski, Bradley Little, **L1859 Alpena Township**—John Clements, Bruce Honeycutt, Thomas Tolen, **L2289 Canton**—Steve Borgelt, Kevin Henderson, Mark Price, **L3045 Bloomfield Township**—James Valigura, **L3233 Frenchtown Township**—Mark Liedel, **L4827 Suttons Bay- Bingham Professional Fire Fighters**—Gary McGhee

MINNESOTA L0021 Saint Paul—David Benson, David Berger, Robert Dubois, Mark O'Dell, Patricia Pierre, Richard Ritter, **L0101 Duluth**—Ben Gasner,

L0520 Rochester—Chris Ford, **L2910 Burnsville Professional Fire Fighters**—Michael Klarich, **S0006 Minneapolis-Saint Paul International Airport**—William Wilfong

MISSOURI F0108 Fort Leonard Wood—Edward Parker, **L0042 Kansas City**—Joseph Alvarez, John Donnelly, Jason Ekis, Michael Lambert, Brian Lynch, Thomas Marinan, Bryan Smith, Joshua Starkey, Michael Van Horn, Kevin Vasalinda, **L1084 Cape Girardeau**—David Bell, Jeffery Crites, Quentin Gaither, Vicki Moldenhauer, **L1211 Hannibal**—Christopher Comer, Ryan Sparks,

L2195 Lee's Summit—Craig Armstrong, Jack Chapman, Richard Crabb, John Davis, Daniel Dempsey, Terry Drehle, Rod Gravitt, Michael Lancaster, Larry Pickard, David Smith, Lester Weston, **L2665 Professional Fire Fighters of Eastern Missouri**—Dan Aubuchon, Dana Buckley, Mathew Burkemper, Dean Everett, Michael Martin, John O'Laughlin, Twila Payne, Mark Stratman, Ken Wenk, Jeff Wilburn, **L3112 Cass County Professional Fire Fighters**—Johnny Coday, **L3133 Central Jack**—Chris Beck, Terry Bernhardt, **L3705 Saint Francois County Emergency Service**—Thomas Bergner, Tom Harris, **L3739 Callaway County EMS**—Michael ShROUT

MONTANA L0008 Great Falls—Michael McIntosh, Robert Shupe, David Van Son, **L0448 Helena**—Brian Roberts, **L0547 Kalispell**—Kyle

Gully, **L2457 Missoula-Rural**—Hector Gaytan, **L4939 Central Valley Fire Fighters**—Rich Whitaker

NEBRASKA L0385 Omaha—Chris Fisher, Christopher Langlois, Ryan Nelson, Kirt Soll, **L0644 Lincoln**—Tiffany Koestner, Stephen Novak, Shawn Podraza, Debbie Staberg, **L0647 Grand Island**—John Mayer, Lynn Sevenker

NEVADA L0731 Reno—Jeff Carver, Trevor Hall, Jeff House, Benjamin Rupert, Catherine Sullivan, **L2251 Carson City**—Thomas Raw, **L2487 Truckee Meadows Fire Fighters Association**—Wayne Cirone

NEW BRUNSWICK L0771 Saint John—Daniel Walker, **L0999 Moncton**—Leonard Cassidy, **L1053 Fredericton Fire Fighters Association**—Gary Charters, Mark Dunphy, Ken Jenkins, Michael Mizner, Larry Seymour

NEW HAMPSHIRE L1153 Laconia—Meghann Hempel, **L2847 Seabrook Permanent Fire Fighters Association**—Barry Sargent, **L2892 Salem**—Timothy Kenney, **L3160 Londonderry**—Michael Walsh, **L3264 Hooksett Permanent Fire Fighters Association**—Daniel Silva, **L3517 Gilford Professional Fire Fighters**—Nathaniel Hanson, **L3820 Manchester Association Of Fire Supervisors**—James Michael, **L4411 Professional Fire Fighters Association of Rye**—Scott Hirtle



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L1441 Franklin Township—Charles Adams,

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L0002	Leroy Kowalski	Chicago	IL	L0140	John Brittain	Nashville	TN
L0002	Jeremiah McCarthy	Chicago	IL	L0140	Daniel Hunley	Nashville	TN
L0002	Denise McCormick	Chicago	IL	L0140	Ruben Najarro	Nashville	TN
L0002	Edwin Nelson	Chicago	IL	L0145	Ryan Ferrara	San Diego	CA
L0002	John Nokes	Chicago	IL	L0157	Clarence Alberts	Oklahoma City	OK
L0002	John O'Boyle	Chicago	IL	L0157	Huston Bibb	Oklahoma City	OK
L0002	Joseph O'Brien	Chicago	IL	L0157	Donald Covey	Oklahoma City	OK
L0002	William Sharp	Chicago	IL	L0157	Jerry Ferguson	Oklahoma City	OK
L0002	Robert Smith	Chicago	IL	L0157	George Imhoff	Oklahoma City	OK
L0002	Andrew Sopko	Chicago	IL	L0157	Dennis Paige	Oklahoma City	OK
L0002	John Steinmetz	Chicago	IL	L0157	Clark Robinson	Oklahoma City	OK
L0002	John Stender	Chicago	IL	L0209	B. K. Henry	Edmonton Fire Fighters Union	AB
L0002	Richard Temple	Chicago	IL	L0215	John Bitzke	Milwaukee	WI
L0002	Richard Van Swol	Chicago	IL	L0215	Gerald Frank	Milwaukee	WI
L0002	William Wojcik	Chicago	IL	L0215	Thomas Hinsenkamp	Milwaukee	WI
L0002	Marvin Zabilka	Chicago	IL	L0215	James Jackson	Milwaukee	WI
L0002	Robert Zolna	Chicago	IL	L0215	Erwin Rohde	Milwaukee	WI
L0012	John Anders	Wheeling	WV	L0215	Joseph Ruditys	Milwaukee	WI
L0022	Israel Bells	Philadelphia	PA	L0215	Raymond Sutter	Milwaukee	WI
L0022	Joseph Clark	Philadelphia	PA	L0291	Kevin Watts	Lancaster	OH
L0022	Louis Cole	Philadelphia	PA	L0311	Duane Neitzel	Madison	WI
L0022	John Conaway	Philadelphia	PA	L0311	Robert Ringelstetter	Madison	WI
L0022	John Deluisi	Philadelphia	PA	L0317	Harold Ball	Charleston	WV
L0022	Michael Dolbow	Philadelphia	PA	L0317	French Matherly	Charleston	WV
L0022	James Farrell	Philadelphia	PA	L0321	Michael Langlois	Racine	WI
L0022	Robert Kuczynski	Philadelphia	PA	L0344	Steven Finn	Detroit	MI
L0022	Charles Leggerie	Philadelphia	PA	L0344	Jason Nance	Detroit	MI
L0022	Robert Lignore	Philadelphia	PA	L0416	William Comer	Indianapolis	IN
L0022	Alan Maccari	Philadelphia	PA	L0416	Larry Comporet-Helms	Indianapolis	IN
L0022	Howard McLaughlin	Philadelphia	PA	L0416	Robert McCarthy	Indianapolis	IN
L0022	Joseph Murphy	Philadelphia	PA	L0416	Steven Moore	Indianapolis	IN
L0022	James Naples	Philadelphia	PA	L0416	Jack Thomas	Indianapolis	IN
L0022	William Nolan	Philadelphia	PA	L0416	James Whitaker	Indianapolis	IN
L0022	Milton Peak	Philadelphia	PA	L0452	Doug Murray	Vancouver Fire Fighters	WA
L0022	Stanley Ratay	Philadelphia	PA	L0468	Rob Johnson	Olympia	WA
L0022	John Sawyer	Philadelphia	PA	L0479	Eugene Fowler	Tucson	AZ
L0022	Thomas Sodesky	Philadelphia	PA	L0479	Harry Schaefer	Tucson	AZ
L0022	William Sweeney	Philadelphia	PA	L0494	William Tompkin	Cuyahoga Falls	OH
L0022	Enrico Tini	Philadelphia	PA	L0522	Forrest Adams	Sacramento	CA
L0022	Richard Winnals	Philadelphia	PA	L0522	William Ries	Sacramento	CA
L0022	John Zack	Philadelphia	PA	L0522	Edward Smith	Sacramento	CA

NEVER FORGET

In Memoriam of Those Who Have Served

Local	Name	Local Name	State	Local	Name	Local Name	State
L0556	Leonard Hoyda	Hammond	IN	L1463	Nelson Tsuji	Hawaiian Islands	HI
L0556	Robert Lund	Hammond	IN	L1568	Henry Childress	Henrico County	VA
L0556	Steve Mattes	Hammond	IN	L1619	Hugh Clower	Prince George's County	MD
L0556	Ronald Palucki	Hammond	IN	L1619	Thomas Cooksey	Prince George's County	MD
L0556	Jerry Zajac	Hammond	IN	L1619	Allen Ellis	Prince George's County	MD
L0595	Joseph Hester	Urbana	OH	L1619	Lawrence Hill	Prince George's County	MD
L0627	Robert Anderson	York	PA	L1619	Roy O'Dwyer	Prince George's County	MD
L0632	Harold Ball	New Orleans	LA	L1619	John VanNess	Prince George's County	MD
L0632	Donald Brown	New Orleans	LA	L1632	Jacob Webster	Pickering	ON
L0632	Michael Burke	New Orleans	LA	L1660	Michael Jennings	Tualatin Valley	OR
L0632	Robert Fernandez	New Orleans	LA	L1664	Cornelius Hightower	Montgomery County	MD
L0660	H. G. Stanford	Charlotte	NC	L1664	Brienna Lux	Montgomery County	MD
L0664	Robert Boyer	Vincennes	IN	L1783	Robert Gatcomb	Amesbury	MA
L0718	Edward Cusack	Boston	MA	L1784	William Bledsoe	Memphis	TN
L0718	Francis Feeney	Boston	MA	L1784	Samuel Bragg	Memphis	TN
L0718	John Force	Boston	MA	L1784	Richard Coggins	Memphis	TN
L0718	Thomas Goodwin	Boston	MA	L1784	George Hale	Memphis	TN
L0718	John Hillery	Boston	MA	L1784	James Parham	Memphis	TN
L0718	Paul Hoban	Boston	MA	L1784	Thomas Smith	Memphis	TN
L0718	John Hullum	Boston	MA	L2043	John Doane	Marblehead	MA
L0718	John Joyce	Boston	MA	L2068	Charles Rose	Fairfax County Professional Fire Fighters And Paramedics	VA
L0718	Edward Kenney	Boston	MA	L2068	Thomas Simcoe	Fairfax County Professional Fire Fighters And Paramedics	VA
L0718	Eddie Rodgers	Boston	MA	L2130	Les Mroz	St. Albert	AB
L0718	Richard Woods	Boston	MA	L2149	Phillipe Talley	Plano	TX
L0740	Timothy Flynn	Portland	ME	L2157	Victor Jackson	Gainesville Professional Fire Fighters	FL
L0765	Herbert Blabon	Fort Lauderdale	FL	L2546	Leonard Alpaugh	Suncoast Professional Fire Fighters And Paramedics	FL
L0798	Gary Altenberg	San Francisco	CA	L2568	Gerard Cashman	Marshfield	MA
L0825	George Browne	New Haven	CT	L2665	Mel Emge	Professional Fire Fighters of Eastern Missouri	MO
L0856	James McNeil	Manchester	NH	L2927	Michael Weissman	Green Township Professional Fire Fighters Union	OH
L0858	Frank Anderson	Denver	CO	L2928	Thomas Frederick	Professional Fire Fighters & Paramedics Of Palm Beach County	FL
L0858	Robert Bendixen	Denver	CO	L2928	James Gilliard	Professional Fire Fighters & Paramedics Of Palm Beach County	FL
L0867	George Bedwell	Winnipeg	MB	L2928	Ronald Jarriel	Professional Fire Fighters & Paramedics Of Palm Beach County	FL
L0867	Richard Glass	Winnipeg	MB	L2968	Kenneth Duda	Bensenville Professional Fire Fighters Union	IL
L0867	Charlie Greeley	Winnipeg	MB	L2968	Rick Furguele	Bensenville Professional Fire Fighters Union	IL
L0867	Murray Jones	Winnipeg	MB	L3233	Ron Whipple	Frenchtown Township	MI
L0867	Victor Lobo	Winnipeg	MB	L3261	Glen Gasvoda	Great Falls Airport	MT
L0867	Daniel Makarchuk	Winnipeg	MB	L3500	B. Baker	Bergen County	NJ
L0867	William Robertson	Winnipeg	MB	L3766	Harry Fuller	Dolton	IL
L0867	Bill Savage	Winnipeg	MB	L3888	Ed Kennedy	Toronto Professional Fire Fighters	ON
L0867	Larry Sterzer	Winnipeg	MB	L3950	Raul Mier	North Hudson	NJ
L0872	Guadalupe De Luna	Laredo	TX	L4765	Matthew Mark	Professional Fire Fighters of Pueblo West	CO
L0964	Richard Griffiths	Baltimore Fire Officers Association	MD	L5108	Gregory Hickok	County of Grande Prairie Professional Fire Fighters	AB
L0964	Billy Wagner	Baltimore Fire Officers Association	MD				
L0964	Keturah Wyatt	Baltimore Fire Officers Association	MD				
L0975	Justin Hunt	Austin	TX				
L0975	Mark Saldana	Austin	TX				
L1212	Paul Smyth	Mississauga	ON				
L1257	Edward Horstman	Port of Seattle Fire Fighters	WA				
L1311	Joseph Grusch	Baltimore County	MD				
L1311	Diane McDonald	Baltimore County	MD				
L1311	Melissa Schuler	Baltimore County	MD				
L1348	Robert Moore	Muncie	IN				
L1363	Jason Kornberg	Cranston	RI				
L1403	William Keppel	Metropolitan Dade County Association Of Fire Fighters	FL				
L1403	John Moser	Metropolitan Dade County Association Of Fire Fighters	FL				
L1403	Samuel Schwartzmann	Metropolitan Dade County Association Of Fire Fighters	FL				
L1463	Albert Salvador	Hawaiian Islands	HI				

LAST ALARM



We Honor Those Who Lost Their Lives in the Line of Duty

L0498 Vincent E. DavisKingston, ON08/23/1976	L0125 Robert DupréMontréal, QC12/06/2019
L0293 Willie BlakelyErie, PA10/24/1982	L0018 William A. AndersonVancouver, BC12/13/2019
L3888 Brian KirbyToronto, ON11/17/1991	L0018 Kenneth W. SwanVancouver, BC12/16/2019
L0125 Jean Guy DaigleMontréal, QC02/19/1994	L0125 Roland HouleMontréal, QC12/31/2019
L3888 James MillerToronto, ON11/04/1999	L3888 Wayne ElfordToronto, ON01/16/2020
L3888 Robert L. BlairToronto, ON11/20/2014	L0018 Ronald A. FyffeVancouver, BC01/20/2020
L0125 André BertrandMontréal, QC11/22/2016	L0854 Paul W. Deo, Jr.New York, NY02/07/2020
L1595 Timothy McFaddenVaughan, ON03/25/2018	L3888 William R. HawkinsToronto, ON02/11/2020
L0734 Andrew J. DouglasBaltimore, MD02/24/2019	L0125 Bernard TremblayMontréal, QC02/23/2020
L0018 James B. BlundellVancouver, BC03/31/2019	L0854 Dennis J. MoynihanNew York, NY03/21/2020
L2881 Stanley F. CraigCal Fire Sacramento04/08/2019	L0854 Donald FranzNew York, NY03/23/2020
L0125 Marcel L. Charbonneau ..Montréal, QC04/10/2019	L0255 Harry William Skakum ...Calgary, AB04/09/2020
L0125 Raymond CharleboisMontréal, QC04/12/2019	L0323 Robert A. BruceBurnaby, BC04/12/2020
L0125 Joseph OrtusoMontréal, QC04/22/2019	L2883 Richard P. CampbellEdison, NJ04/16/2020
L0125 Yvon CoupalMontréal, QC05/05/2019	L3888 Patrick Victor KellyToronto, ON04/25/2020
L0854 Robert E. CollisNew York, NY05/11/2019	L0112 Ray E. Van BlarcomLos Angeles, CA05/01/2020
L0125 Serge BuronMontréal, QC06/07/2019	L3888 Glenn GrieveToronto, ON05/04/2020
L2829 Scott ElyRedmond, WA07/22/2019	L0255 John C. DohertyCalgary, AB05/05/2020
L0125 Remi NeveuMontréal, QC08/24/2019	L0854 Kevin C. DunnNew York, NY05/06/2020
L0854 John J. NykielNew York, NY09/14/2019	L0255 Roger K. ThompsonCalgary, AB05/20/2020
L0142 Arthur W. OrdishLondon, ON11/05/2019	L0018 Thomas Keith McMillan ..Vancouver, BC05/21/2020
L0854 Dennis M. GilhoolyNew York, NY11/30/2019	F0121 George W. TaylorAnnapolis, MD05/25/2020

NOTE: Children of IAFF members killed in the line of duty are eligible to receive the W.H. "Howie" McClennan scholarship, which provides financial assistance to attend a university accredited college or other institution of higher learning. For more information, contact the IAFF Department of Education at (202) 824-1533.

LAST ALARM



We Honor Those Who Lost Their Lives in the Line of Duty

L0255	Donald G. Taylor	Calgary, AB	05/26/2020	L3164	Brandon T. Peterson	Lancaster, TX	12/29/2020
L0080	Robert D. Read	Saskatoon, SK	06/14/2020	L0060	Stephen Sunday	Scranton, PA	12/29/2020
L3010	Jonathan Q. Wilson	Waxahachie, TX	08/09/2020	L2881	Mark S. Roedel	Cal Fire Sacramento	12/30/2020
L3888	Gary E. Campbell	Toronto, ON	08/11/2020	F0121	Bryan P. Hamilton	Annapolis, MD	01/01/2021
L0018	Brian A. Oxenbury	Vancouver, BC	08/29/2020	L0112	George A. Roque	Los Angeles, CA	01/01/2021
L1696	J. Chris Cage	Salt Lake Co., UT	08/29/2020	L3422	Patrick Dragon	Foster, RI	01/02/2021
L0244	Jeffrey T. Elks	Albuquerque, NM	09/21/2020	L1803	Mark E. Kulp	Reading, PA	01/05/2021
L1329	Jeff Saal	Arlington, TX	09/28/2020	L0514	Leonard L. Coney	Shreveport, LA	01/06/2021
L0455	Robert J. Rowse	Windsor, ON	10/04/2020	L0936	Timothy Allen Smith	Corpus Christi, TX	01/08/2021
L0854	John P. Poulos	New York, NY	11/01/2020	L0493	David J. Rehnke	Phoenix, AZ	01/11/2021
L2130	David Wayne Kerr	St. Albert, AB	11/03/2020	L2810	David C. Wahlstrom	Wareham, MA	01/22/2021
L0341	Chester G. Kimbrell	Houston, TX	11/13/2020	L2889	David Sagel	Westminster, CO	01/24/2021
L1557	Christopher R. Slezak	Sterling Heights, MI	11/25/2020	L0094	Joseph A. Ferrugia	New York, NY	01/31/2021
L0858	David L. Novotny	Denver, CO	11/27/2020	L1171	Troy Buzzell	Santa Clara, CA	02/01/2021
L0485	Alex Lobsinger	St. Catharines, ON	11/28/2020	L0948	Brian H. Ritchie	Weirton, WV	02/02/2021
L1080	David P. Murphy	Newport, RI	11/30/2020	L2585	Terry L. Watts	Shelby County, TN	02/10/2021
L3369	Jeff Guernsey	Washington Twp, OH	12/03/2020	L1715	Matthew Mark Blacker	Cumberland, MD	02/11/2021
L0718	Raymond C. Johnson	Boston, MA	12/06/2020	L4875	Frank J. Lynch	Port Jefferson Station, NY	02/12/2021
L0136	Robert O'Grady	Dayton, OH	12/10/2020	L0022	John Evans	Philadelphia, PA	02/13/2021
L3748	Dustin Samples	Cleveland, TN	12/11/2020	L3888	Glenn Sherwood	Toronto, ON	02/20/2021
L2409	Darlene G. Raffelson	Tumwater, WA	12/17/2020				
L0002	Robert Truevillian	Chicago, IL	12/17/2020				
L0440	Randal D. Robinson	Fort Worth, TX	12/17/2020				

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Fire Fighter

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F1312 - \$57.00



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