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IAFF Support Team Heads South to Assist Florida Fire Fighters in Ian's Path

(Journalists: This is a developing event. As conditions evolve and more is learned, fire fighters will likely be available for interviews to discuss conditions on the ground, and the brave work of professional fire fighters and paramedics.)

WASHINGTON, DC – Several officials from the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) headquarters departed this morning for a mission to assist fire fighters and paramedics in the path of Hurricane Ian, a massive storm cutting a destructive swath across Florida.

"This is a powerful and dangerous storm. As we pray for the safety of our brothers and sisters, their families, and the communities they serve, we are setting up a command center to offer our full support during and after this disaster," said IAFF General President Edward Kelly.

Professional Fire Fighters and paramedics are always prepared to respond to emergency calls, including during hurricanes. These first responders will spend countless grueling hours in the days to come conducting countless rescues from water and rooftops, delivering people to safety, treating, and transporting those injured.

All the while, these fire fighters and paramedics will be concerned about the safety of their own families and property stuck in the path of this destructive hurricane.

The IAFF stands ready to assist its members working through Hurricane Ian as it spins across Florida and then likely north threatening Atlantic coastal communities. Members working during hurricanes may need assistance with housing if their homes are damaged, they may need food and other supplies, and they may need cash. The <u>IAFF</u>, and the <u>IAFF Foundation</u> will be there for them in days and weeks to come.