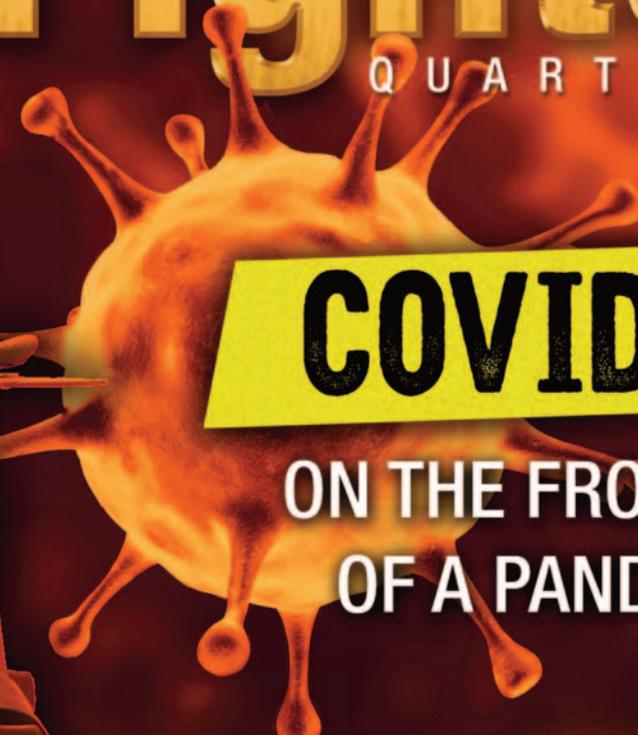


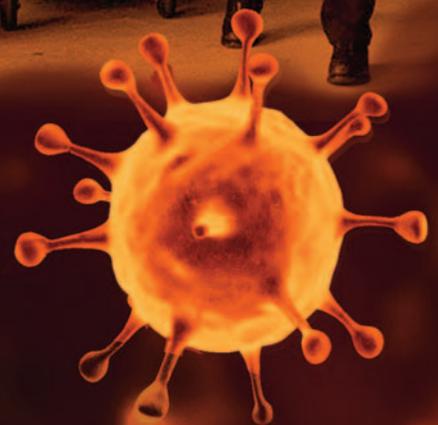
# Fire Fighter

SPRING 2020  
QUARTERLY



**COVID-19**

ON THE FRONTLINE  
OF A PANDEMIC



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- 18 **Rising to the Challenge of COVID-19**  
 Early on and throughout the escalating spread, the IAFF has been at the forefront to protect our members fighting COVID-19 on the frontline.

**On the cover:**  
 EMS photo courtesy of Kirkland, WA Local 2845.

Pictured: Redmond, WA Local 2829 member Kelly Dunn and Kirkland Local 2845 members Hobi Hani and Kyle Jacobson.

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# Fire Fighter

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## Out Front During COVID-19

We are living in an uncharted and unprecedented era. The COVID-19 pandemic has changed the way we all live and work, and that includes how this great union conducts business and serves our more than 320,000 members.

But just like all of you on the frontline, our Executive Board, our staff and I all continue to get up every day and go to work to take care of you — our members who remain on the frontline of COVID-19.

We've all had to change the way we do our work — in Washington and Ottawa, staff have transitioned to remote operations and have adjusted to a fully virtual environment. But while many of us are under stay-at-home orders, you can't work from home. The public counts on you to be there to keep them safe. Despite the risks to you and your loved ones, you've stepped up, adapted to new safety protocols and continue to respond with professionalism and dedication to the job. At the same time, you count on me — as your General President — to lead this union through these tough times to take care of you.

I'm proud to say we haven't missed a beat. We are getting the job done on your behalf.

This edition of Fire Fighter Quarterly is largely focused on this union's response to COVID-19 and our efforts across the union to provide our affiliates with the information and tools they need to represent and protect you — our members. At all levels of this union — we have risen to the challenge, staying ahead of the curve and creating a playbook for a set of circumstances we have never before experienced.

From the beginning, we were on our game. Long before either government in the United States or Canada realized we'd be dealing with a global pandemic, we knew it was likely to be one of the biggest challenges to face this union. Yet, even before the coronavirus reached our homeland, we were already developing tools and resources to prepare and protect you — our members — for whatever was coming.

Early on, before many government agencies — including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) — began issuing guidance, we pushed for the protocols you needed to respond safely to COVID-19. We knew that this emerging pandemic would have a major impact on our profession and that we needed to take a leading role in making sure you, our members on the frontline, had the resources, including personal protective equipment (PPE) and access to testing, to protect yourselves — and your families — from exposure.

We were out front in getting dispatch protocols changed so you could be prepared to respond with the proper PPE. On the legislative front, we 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 your jobs. We began an aggressive media push to make sure that elected officials and other decision-makers understood that fire fighters and emergency medical personnel are the first link in the public health system and that you needed the same level of PPE as other public health workers to keep you safe.

In early March, when only a handful of IAFF members were reporting exposures to COVID-19, we developed a tracker survey for affiliates to document exposures among members in their local/fire department to provide a clear picture to lawmakers and emergency operation centers of the impact of COVID-19 on our members.

We were ready to fight to protect you when the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) supply chain of PPE and other resources weren't reaching fire departments at the local level. I emailed 3M CEO Michael Roman and engaged his top people to

successfully push FEMA to include fire fighters and emergency medical personnel at the same priority level as other healthcare workers in receiving PPE. This effort resulted in us being moved from priority 5 to priority 3, just behind hospitals and nursing homes. I have directed senior staff to continue to push FEMA until we receive the highest priority to protect our members.

While focused on your safety on the job throughout this pandemic, we also knew there would be a significant economic downturn — likely worse than the Great Recession. We quickly began developing critical tools to help affiliates facing cuts to staffing and other vital fire department resources needed to continue to protect your communities.

And I worked with acting Secretary of Homeland Security Chad F. Wolf and the Homeland Security Advisory Council to extend the application deadline for the FY 2019 Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant program and to waive the cost share, position cost limit, supplanting and minimum budget requirements, and to eliminate the need for applicants to request an economic hardship. Meanwhile, I have requested that the FY 2020 SAFER grant program allows departments to use funding to retain fire fighters.

We're also actively working with federal leaders to make sure Congress acts to protect your lives and livelihoods. We worked with Congress to include funding in the HEROES Act to help cash-strapped communities, including \$1 billion for fire departments through the Assistance to Firefighters (FIRE Act) and Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant programs to purchase desperately needed PPE and keep fire fighters on the job, \$500 billion for states and \$375 billion for local governments, and to change Stafford Act rules to reimburse COVID-related expenses at 100 percent (instead of the current 75 percent) so local governments can fully recoup the costs of responding to the pandemic and help communities get on better financial footing. And we're working to provide federal protections and PSOB program benefits to first responders who become sick or die from COVID-19. At the same time, our efforts include working with governors, premiers and our state and provincial affiliates to secure presumptive coverage for COVID-19.

With the loss of tax revenues and other income, the financial future of so many local governments remains uncertain as all sectors of the economy are affected. All divisions within the IAFF are working collectively to arm our affiliates with the tools and resources to navigate these new challenges and protect your jobs. Our Preparing for a COVID-19 Economy toolkit is a robust online resource designed to help affiliates best position themselves during this COVID economy.

This is just some of what your union has done and will continue to do, day in and day out. And I will not stop working on your behalf every single day, staying one step ahead so you and your union are best prepared to emerge on the other side of this pandemic together — stronger than ever, ready for what comes next.



**Harold A. Schaitberger**

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## The Tip of the Spear

Just weeks after the IAFF was chartered on February 28, 1918, a pandemic known as the Spanish Flu gripped the world, killing from 20 to 50 million people and infecting one-third of the earth's population. IAFF members in 1918 were the tip of the spear for that pandemic, just as we are in the war against COVID-19.

Retired New York City firefighter, Uniformed Firefighters Association (UFA) Local 94 member and accomplished author and friend, Dennis Smith, wrote in his acclaimed book, **Report From Engine Company 82**, about his time as a New York City firefighter in the 60s and 70s in the South Bronx: "If you pick up the telephone receiver in this town you may, or may not, get a dial tone. If you get on a subway you may, or may not, get stuck in a tunnel. The city's air may, or may not, be killing you. The only real sure thing in this town is that the firemen come when you pull down the handle on that red box."

We are living in very uncertain times. Many of our societal norms are being fundamentally changed — from our ability to simply interact with each other, educate our children, worship the God of our choosing or mourn our dead. People have very real struggles — economic security, caring for at-risk parents and, of course, the fear that they or a loved one will contract the virus — weighing on them.

The only sure thing they can count on is that when they need help, we are coming.

When we became fire fighters and paramedics, we fully accepted the risk factors associated with this job — knowing that each run could be your last and your body would take a beating from the exposures and stress you endure.

When the reality of this pandemic bore down on us, those risk factors changed. It is one thing to risk yourself and accept the sacrifice that may come with that risk, but the chance that we may force our sacrifice on our loved ones presents a crisis in our calling that our generation has never faced.

That dilemma isn't pretty, nor will it ever have a simple answer. The only rationale I can offer is to rely on the oath we took. At one

point in time, we raised our hand and swore to put others before self. Period. Not for the T-shirt, the medal or even the Holy Grail — the respect of your peers. We need to answer the bell for this pandemic simply because people need us.

We are comfortable taking extreme risks in the chaos of a fire — more like a linebacker filling

the gap than a chess player with time to think about it. One of the few times I've contemplated what went through the minds of fire fighters killed in the line of duty was when I saw the image of 118 Truck traveling over the Brooklyn Bridge on the way to the Trade Center, with both Towers burning in front of it. They would be counted among the greatest sacrifice in the history of the IAFF.

They had time to think about it.

They went anyway.

Courage.



Edward A. Kelly

### Fallen FDNY Members – Truck 118 – 9/11/01

- Vernon Cherry, 49
- Leon Smith, 48
- Robert Regan, 45
- Pete Vega, 36
- Joey Agnello, 35
- Scott Davidson, 33



Courage those of us still pulling our boots on aspire to.

The courage of those IAFF members who came before us inspires us today to answer the bell of this pandemic.

As of this writing, preliminary reports show 17,000 of our members have been exposed to COVID-19, and eight have succumbed to it. We also have at least two members who have lost children to the virus.

The toll of this virus is horrific, and our thoughts and prayers are with the families who have lost loved ones.

The families of our fallen need us to fight for them — we owe it to them. That is the mission of the IAFF, the mission of this union. It is essential that our union functions at all levels for these and all our families.

We have challenging times ahead. The fallout from the economic downturn resulting from the pandemic is already being felt in some municipalities. The fight for safety in our profession is always fought in the political arena and we must be ready for a fight.

Leading authorities in the fight against COVID-19 are predicting one to two years before a vaccine is available, and the potential for this winter to be the darkest in modern history. Mission failure is not an option.

As unions, we must embrace the new reality and find ways to conduct our business. We must engage our members and use technology to communicate, hold meetings virtually and conduct our elections at all levels. Unions including National Education Association (NEA) with more than three million members, the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) with two million members, AFSCME with one million members, and the Carpenters with 500,000 members are conducting their conventions virtually. If unions with millions of members are adapting to survive by using current technology, then you, as a member of a local union, need to find a way to keep your union moving forward for the fights ahead.

Remember, the IAFF isn't just myself or the Executive Board; this union is you! You, as well as your sisters and brothers at the tip of the spear! I'm proud to be able to say I'm one of you!

Be you, be strong, be firefighters!



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## Top Tier Assistance

Dear President Schaitberger:

I am writing on behalf of the members of Lane, OR Local 851 to express the deepest gratitude for the service and leadership demonstrated by you, the IAFF Executive Board and IAFF staff. In the last three years, our local has had to reach out for support from the International on four separate occasions.

Each and every time, the request was met in a prompt and professional manner. In 2017, 9th District Vice President Ray Rahne helped us secure support from the GIS and Communications teams as we engaged in a public fight for more ambulances in the City of Eugene. The result was additional funding and staffing that marked the single biggest investment in our system in over 30 years, changing the work life for our members overnight.

In 2018 and 2019, District Vice President Rahne and the Health and Safety team helped us work through issues with our MSA SCBA. Their review and guidance have helped us pressure the cities to replace those units in the upcoming budget year.

On October 17, 2018, our members were ambushed by a gunman who set his house on fire. District Vice President Rahne was quick to help me understand what my

members would need in the aftermath of such a high-stress event. The IAFF Peer Support team was on the ground within a day of the request for assistance. In the coming days, they made over 300 contacts in our organization.

We have an ongoing public relations issue with a member who was arrested on significant charges. District Vice President Rahne and IAFF Strategic Campaigner Kent Grosse have been valuable assets in our response to media requests and planning for positive public engagement. Their advice was incredibly helpful as I engaged the media in the following days.

The overall accessibility of IAFF officers and staff is always helpful. Whether it is a membership issue or bouncing political ideas off people, the advice is top tier. This IAFF administration, officers and staff have treated our local like it is the most important local in every interaction. We are forever grateful for the support this IAFF gives its members. It is with our greatest appreciation that Local 851 is also making a donation to the IAFF Foundation.

Sincerely,

**Mike Caven**  
President  
Lane, OR Local 851

## Worth the Investment

Dear President Schaitberger:

Thank you and your instructors for a great [Peer Support Training] program. The course covered some heavy topics and provided a critical view into the world of peer support that is needed in this profession.

The instructors were great — topnotch — not only in teaching the content but bringing it home and making it real. The experience they brought to the classroom made the program, in my view, that much better. I received many emails from members who took the class with us in Dover, expressing the sincere gratitude for the instructors, but also for the International investing in these types of programs.

The presentation from the Center of Excellence was also eye-opening and showed many of the students what the IAFF is doing on a day-to-day basis for our members.

I'm happy to say that the program was a huge success. We are all looking forward to the additional programs in the works and having them here, too.

Thank you again to all who were involved in making this program a success.

Fraternally,

**Matt McLean**  
President  
Dover, NH Local 1312

For more information on the IAFF Center of Excellence for Behavioral Health Treatment and Recovery, visit [iaffrecoverycenter.com](http://iaffrecoverycenter.com). For more on IAFF behavioral health resources, visit [www.iaff.org/behavioral-health](http://www.iaff.org/behavioral-health).

## A Big Thank You

Dear President Schaitberger:

I wanted to pass on to you the amazing job the entire team at the IAFF Center of Excellence for Behavioral Health Treatment and Recovery did in our effort to assure that our members have access to the Center through our collective bargaining agreement.

Brother Will Newton was extremely helpful in his coordination and logistical efforts. Kelly Savage has worked tirelessly with

Salem, OR Local 314 Secretary-Treasurer Matt Brozovich on insurance issues and Dr. Abby Morris arguably gave the most compelling testimony during our interest arbitration. While Dr. Morris was not in the room during our hearing, what I can share with you is that the arbitrator listened intently and was not only impressed with her credentials but the authority and passion with which she spoke regarding the Center.

While we will not know the outcome of our

arbitration for about 60 days, I can assure you the effort on behalf of the IAFF and the commitment to our members is greatly appreciated. If we are victorious, just know these individuals played an integral part in our success. Also, management representatives from the City of Salem who participated in this hearing had no rebuttal. I think their silence speaks volumes to the professionalism and compelling information we received.

Finally, just know that the IAFF Center has already made a positive impact on members of Local 314 and their families. For that I will be forever grateful.

All the best,

**Bob Livingston**  
President  
Salem, OR Local 314

## Strong Political Program

General President Schaitberger:

Thank you for the IAFF FIREPAC support here in Oregon. We have followed your lead and our formula is working.

We have prevailed in the Secretary of State race by a razor thin margin, but a win nonetheless. Shamia Fagan rallied from 9,000 down to prevail. IAFF FIREPAC was instrumental in the last minute push to victory.

Fire Fighter Paramedic Dacia Graber crushed it; in a brave new campaign world, she set Oregon ablaze with enthusiasm, vision and a great team of labor leaders. She will be the first woman fire fighter in the Oregon legislature. With the house of labor behind her, she has no limits. She, too, has the IAFF legislative

and FIREPAC teams to thank for their unwavering support of her and her campaign.

Our federal offices were all winners and IAFF FIREPAC-backed candidates, Merkley, Blumenauer, Bonamici and Schrader all prevailed.

Along with Shamia Fagan, a long-time friend of the fire fighters — Treasurer Tobias Reed — prevailed in the primary.

In state Senate races, future Senate Majority Leader Rob Wagner won, along with Oregon State Fire Fighters Council (OSFFC) and IAFF Locals 43, 1062, 1159 and 1660 supported winning campaigns of newcomer Kate Leiber, former House member Chris Gorsek and long-time friend Kathleen Taylor.

With the current democratic majority, most of our races were in this primary.

Paul Evans, Brian Clem and newcomer Wlnsvey Campos (who we worked hard with) were victorious. With the exception of Evans, these other races are all but done barring some unforeseen calamity. Unfortunately, two very good labor and IAFF-supported candidates did not prevail: Christina Stephenson and Laurie Wimmer, widow of Tom Whelan (Salem Local 314 captain and state legislator). They were victim of a three-way race — both against physicians who took advantage of COVID-19 ideas as SMEs and won.

Retired Eugene Springfield Fire Chief and IAFF FIREPAC-supported candidate for Eugene City Council won his race. Unfortunately, North Bend Local option won and now they are faced with a potential layoff. A very well run campaign

with Kent Grosse and the OSFFC Communications team helping Rick Cooper get the message out. Important relationships with UFCW and the Teamsters were made and they will back.

All in all, a great night for the IAFF FIREPAC, OSFFC and all our locals.

We could not do this without the support of you, 9th District Vice President Ray Rahne, IAFF Assistant to the General President Dave Lang and IAFF Political Director Andy LaVigne and our locals banding together.

Sincerely,

**Karl Koenig**  
President  
Oregon State Fire Fighters Council



### Postponement of IAFF Convention

Due to the unprecedented circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic, the IAFF Executive Board has voted to postpone the IAFF 55th Convention until January 25-29, 2021, in Las Vegas, Nevada.

The Executive Board decision is based on its authority in the IAFF Constitution, Article IV, Section 1, which states, "Should extreme or unusual circumstances be such as to prevent the opening of a convention before August 20 in the city selected by the delegates as its

convention site, the Executive Board shall designate a substitute city or substitute date as soon as possible, notification of which shall be promptly sent to all local unions and other subordinate bodies for communication to their delegates."

While a number of decisions on specifics (dates, processes, etc.) are being discussed, we have provided frequently asked questions (FAQs) online at [convention2020.iaff.org](http://convention2020.iaff.org). We will update these as additional decisions are made. ■

### Former 8th District Vice President Daniel Delegato Passes Away

The IAFF is saddened to report the death of former 8th District Vice President Daniel "Danny" Delegato on March 21 at the age of 94.

Delegato spent his life giving to his country, first in the United States Navy and then as a Detroit fire fighter. He served in leadership positions at the local, state, district and International levels, including as: Detroit Local 344 President (1958-1959); Michigan Professional Fire Fighters Union 4th District Vice President (1960-1962); Michigan Professional Fire Fighters Union President (1962-1972); IAFF 8th

District Vice President (1968-1972); and Director of Organizing and Field Services at IAFF headquarters (1972-1988). In 1994, he was bestowed with the title of president emeritus of the Michigan Professional Fire Fighters Union.

Delegato is credited for organizing more than 50 fire departments in Michigan, as well as assisting the IAFF in organizing many fire fighters across the country. His congressional lobbying efforts enhanced training programs, working conditions, bargaining rights and job benefits for fire fighters and other first responders. ■



Daniel Delegato

### New Disaster Response Peer Support Training

Disaster Response Peer Support is a free, online training for IAFF trained peer supporters focused on how disasters can contribute to behavioral health problems, how to intervene effectively and principles for guiding all intervention, including safety, calming, efficacy, connectedness and hope.

The training also provides self-care activities for before, during and after serving in a disaster area, along with IAFF resources for disaster relief.

**Prerequisites:** Students must successfully complete the online Behavioral Health Awareness course and the two-day, in-person IAFF Peer Support Training.

Visit the IAFF Online Learning Center Course Catalog at [https://my.iaff.org/Web/LMS/Course\\_Catalog.aspx](https://my.iaff.org/Web/LMS/Course_Catalog.aspx), then click the Sign In button in the upper right corner and enter your credentials.

If you have met the above prerequisite requirements, click **Advanced Training** in the top navigation, then **Register** next to the Disaster Response Peer Support Training. ■

**Questions?** Contact [behavioralhealth@iaff.org](mailto:behavioralhealth@iaff.org).

### IAFF Mourns Loss of PFANJ President Dominick Marino

The IAFF is deeply saddened by the untimely passing of Professional Firefighters Association of New Jersey (PFANJ) President Dominick Marino on April 14.

Marino was a tireless and passionate advocate for New Jersey's fire fighters, paramedics and EMTs. He spent his last moments fighting to make sure PFANJ members stayed safe during the COVID-19 pandemic. Marino and his contributions will never be forgotten.

He began his fire service career in 1986 when he joined the North Bergen Fire Department and became a member of North Bergen Local 1387. In 1992, he was elected president. In 1999, the North Bergen, West New York, Guttenberg, Weehawken and Union City fire departments merged to become North Hudson Regional Fire Rescue. Marino became a member of and was elected vice president of the newly formed North Hudson Local 3950. After eight years in that position, he was elected



Dominick Marino

Local 3950 president in 2007. He retired from active duty in 2010; his last assignment was Engine 13. However, he remained local president until the following year.

Meanwhile, Marino was already serving his fellow New Jersey fire fighters and paramedics at the state level. He served for many years as the treasurer and vice president of the PFANJ before being elected president in 2008.

He and his wife, Ellen, have three children: Amy, Thomas, and Rachel. Marino was also the proud grandfather to two grand-daughters, Taylor and Madison. ■

### Shawinigan Local Wins Major Advances After Joining IAFF

Shawinigan, QC Local 5209 is celebrating a round of major victories, including a new collective agreement, a safer workplace and a pension plan for its members following a hard-fought three-year battle.

Local 5209, which joined the IAFF in March 2019, is also facing the prospect of a better relationship with their employer after dozens of grievances, 25 complaints to the province's workplace safety board and discipline against Local 5209 President Benoit Ferland, who was suspended for two weeks after acting to address safety issues at the scene of a fire in which two fire fighters almost died in a structural collapse.

On May 1, Shawinigan fire fighters ratified a contract that introduces a unique new salary scale, adds eight new full-time positions and puts the city's 32 full-time fire fighters in the pension plan other city workers belong to. The contract, which is in place until 2025, also improves health benefits. The negotiations also resolved the disciplinary action against Ferland, who has worked hard on behalf of his members to advance their needs and who tirelessly raised the local's profile. Along the way, Local 5209 also secured proper high-rise response resources and improvements to an outdated municipal fire safety plan.

"These victories are making a real improvement on the working



Local 5209 President Benoit Ferland

conditions of our members, and this seems to be the beginning of a welcome new era in labour relations between our association and the city," Ferland says.

Ferland credits the IAFF for its support in the past year, including during his suspension, which was handled under the IAFF's Legal Guardian Policy. "The IAFF has been very supportive of our association," he says. "This support and the continued support of our members gave us the strength to continue fighting for all Shawinigan's fire fighters and to make sure they continue to be treated with respect by the employer."

General President Harold Schaitberger says, "This is a great example of effective leadership backed by the strength and solidarity of the IAFF and our 320,000 members across Canada and the United States. I'm proud of what's been accomplished in Shawinigan and proud to have them as part of the IAFF family." ■

PHOTO CREDIT: SLY REYANI

## VPFF Wins Three Major Legislative Priorities

The Virginia Professional Fire Fighters (VPFF) has made great progress on three major legislative priorities, including added protections for members diagnosed with certain cancers and post-traumatic stress. Legislation also passed to allow for collective bargaining.

“Our membership was fully invested in our lobbying efforts this session,” says VPFF President Robert Bragg. “They put in the work and it paid off. I am very proud of all their efforts.”

Local governments can now pass ordinances or resolutions that expressly allow collective bargaining beginning May 1, 2021. Until this legislation passed, Virginia was one of three states to ban it entirely.

Other hold-out states are North Carolina and South Carolina.

The VPFF also won improved occupational cancer protections to add more types of cancer to the list of occupational diseases and to remove language requiring fire fighters to link a specific exposure to the cancer. The new law adds brain, colon and testicular cancer to the list that includes Leukemia, pancreatic,

prostate, rectal, throat, ovarian and breast cancer.

The VPFF was also successful in passing legislation that defines post-traumatic stress disorder

(PTSD) as a job-related injury, making fire fighters eligible for workers’ compensation and treatment. ■



The Virginia Professional Fire Fighters (VPFF) celebrates key legislative victories, including added protections for PTSD and certain cancers, as well as the right to collectively bargain.

## Colorado Strengthens Fire and Police Death and Disability and Pension Plans

The Colorado Professional Fire Fighters (CPFF) has successfully lobbied to ensure the fiscal health of the fire and police disability and retirement plans. The Colorado General Assembly passed and the governor signed legislation that allows the plans to continue to pay benefits.

“I congratulate the CPFF and President Michael Frainier and his legislative team for their tireless efforts in getting this important legislation passed,” says 9th District Vice President Ray Rahne.

CPFF President Michael Frainier says, “We are grateful that Governor Jared Polis and our



Colorado General Assembly

friends in the House and Senate stood by us on these important issues.”

In 1998, the state decided it no longer wanted to manage the death/disability plan, and the Fire and Police Pension Association (FPPA) took over. After the downturns of 2001 and 2008, the plan required additional funding of about \$58 million.

The final bill calls for an increase in employer contributions at a rate of .5 percent per year for the pension plan until it reaches a total of 13 percent (currently 8 percent) and to the death and disability plan at a rate of .2 percent per year. ■



## IAFF Welcomes New Locals

The new IAFF affiliates listed below joined the International January through March 2020.

### Local 5247

Waynesville Professional Fire Fighters Association  
President Ricky Mehaffey, Jr  
13 members  
Waynesville, NC

### Local 5250

Melissa Professional Fire Fighters Association  
President Joseph Martello  
9 members  
Melissa, TX

### Local 5251

Inver Grove Heights Professional Fire Fighters  
President Paul Rank  
5 members  
Inver Grove Heights, MN

### Local 5252

Marshall County Professional EMS Association  
President David Jones  
13 members  
Moundsville, WV

### Local 5253

Bexar- Wilson Professional Fire Fighters Association  
President Carl Downer  
8 members  
St. Hedwig, TX

### Local 5254

Professional Fire Fighters of Albany  
President James Gibney  
80 members  
Albany, GA

### Local 5255

Garrett County Dept. of Emergency Services  
President Matthew Krause  
18 members  
McHenry, MD

### Local 5256

Professional Fire Fighters of Whetstone  
President Daniel Speer  
12 members  
Huachuca City, AZ

### Local 5259

Southwest Fire Fighters  
President John Zwickl  
15 members  
South Bend, IN

### Local 5260

North Central Professional Fire Fighters  
President Jonathan McManus  
36 members  
Biola, CA

### Local 5264

River Oaks Professional Fire Fighters Association  
President Greg Stockton  
9 members  
River Oaks, TX



# LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE: Putting Fire Fighters First

The 2020 Alfred K. Whitehead Legislative Conference featured numerous prominent national leaders who addressed hundreds of affiliate leaders from across the United States on issues affecting fire fighters' lives and careers.

In addition, the conference featured a timely briefing on coronavirus (COVID-19) just days after dozens of members in Washington state were put in quarantine after responding to a COVID-19 positive patient in a nursing home. Washington State Council of Fire Fighters President Dennis Lawson provided an update on measures to protect members, critical on-the-ground updates and lessons learned. Other subject matter experts also provided information on COVID-19 protocols and guidance.

General President Harold Schaitberger kicked off the conference outlining the necessary and valued impact affiliate leaders have on strengthening the fire service and protecting members' lives and livelihoods.

"It's your efforts that impact the work our members around the country do every day," he said, "including securing their retirement and ability to provide for their family. Your commitment today helps provide the equipment, staffing and training that our members rely on to protect their communities, and we do it together."

Attendees also heard from former presumptive Democratic presidential nominee Joe Biden via video. Biden gave thanks for all



Washington State Council of Fire Fighters President Dennis Lawson spoke about his members' response to COVID-19.

their hard work, noting, "Because you embody the qualities we teach our children — courage, resilience, resolve and decency," he said.

Speakers from both sides of the aisle, including governors, mayors, members of Congress and leaders inside the Trump administration, provided valuable insight into legislative issues and administrative



General President Schaitberger told delegates that it is their efforts and work advocating for fire fighter issues that help strengthen and protect members' lives and livelihoods.

policies. Issues addressed from the stage included some of the IAFF's most important legislative priorities, including collective bargaining, mental health, presumptive disability for federal fire fighters and early Medicare buy-in.

Speaker of the Virginia House of Delegates Eileen Filler-Corn highlighted Virginia's successful passage of the state's collective bargaining legislation, amplifying the need to pass HR 1154, the Public Safety Employer-Employee Cooperation Act at the national level.

Members of the U.S. Senate, including Senators Roy Blunt (R-MO), Dick Durbin (D-IL), Pat Toomey (R-PA) and Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH) spoke about the benefits of working together and lauded fire fighters for embodying an attitude of common sense solutions to solve our hardest problems.

Representative Debbie Dingell (D-MI) told a heartwarming story about her late husband, John Dingell, when fire fighters responded to their house. Representative Ann Wagner (R-MO) highlighted her support for efforts to

**"It's your efforts that impact the work our members around the country do every day including securing their retirement and ability to provide for their family. Your commitment today helps provide the equipment, staffing and training that our members rely on to protect their communities, and we do it together."**

— General President Schaitberger



Eileen Filler-Corn,  
Speaker of the Virginia  
House of Delegates



Senator Roy Blunt (R-MO)



Senator Dick Durbin (D-IL)



Los Angeles City Council President Nury Martinez



Representative Anne Wagner (R-MO)



Representative Debbie Dingell (D-MI)



Representative Annie Craig (D-MN)



El Paso Mayor Dee Margo



Senator Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH)



Senator Pat Toomey (R-PA)

repeal the Cadillac Tax and the necessity to protect employer-provided healthcare, while Representative Angie Craig (D-MN) spoke on the need for more mental healthcare in the fire service and shared her insights from touring the IAFF Center of Excellence for Behavioral Health Treatment and Recovery.

Speaking from the local government perspective, Mayor Dee Margo of El Paso, Texas, showed his support for a strong retirement security benefit for fire fighters in his city, while Los Angeles City Council President Nury Martinez discussed how Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grants helped hire 50 fire fighters and reopen several closed fire stations.

Continued on Page 14

### Canadian Legislative Conference Postponed

Canadian IAFF members' federal legislative priorities will be brought forward in a rescheduled version of the 27th Canadian Legislative Conference, which will take place after restrictions made necessary by the COVID-19 pandemic are lifted.

The conference, originally set for March, is tentatively scheduled for mid-November 2020, but the IAFF will evaluate the timing of the event based on guidance from Canadian health authorities.

In the meantime, the IAFF has been in communication with the Canadian government on issues related to the pandemic, including access to personal protective equipment (PPE), mental health resources and other issues affecting professional fire fighters and paramedics.

Earlier this year, the IAFF determined that curtailing on-duty violence against fire fighters and paramedics, strengthening airport firefighting regulations and banning chemical flame retardants in upholstered furniture would constitute the Canadian legislative agenda and be lobbied by delegates. This agenda may be reviewed again to possibly add federal lobby items related to pandemic issues and the protection of first

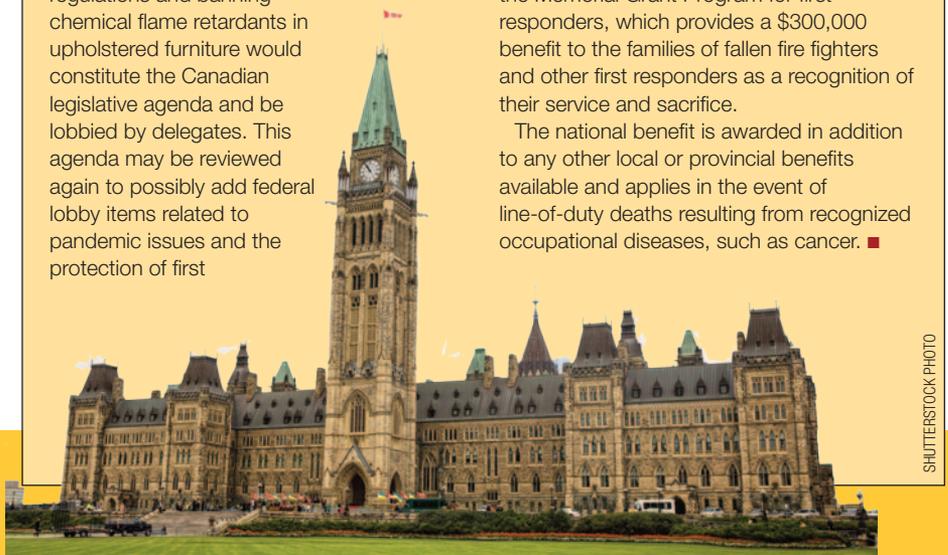
responders.

The IAFF understands that COVID-19 response is an over-arching priority for the federal government right now, as it should be. "But when the time is right, when the government is ready for us and it's safe to conduct a legislative conference, the IAFF will boldly bring our legislative priorities forward as we always do," says IAFF Assistant to the General President for Canadian Operations Scott Marks.

The next Canadian Legislative Conference will be the first under the Liberal minority government elected in October. The IAFF, which is non-partisan, welcomes the minority parliament and the increased influence of opposition parties.

In the previous session of parliament, the Liberal government acted decisively on a number of IAFF priorities, including the establishment of a National Action Plan on Post-Traumatic Stress and the creation of the Memorial Grant Program for first responders, which provides a \$300,000 benefit to the families of fallen fire fighters and other first responders as a recognition of their service and sacrifice.

The national benefit is awarded in addition to any other local or provincial benefits available and applies in the event of line-of-duty deaths resulting from recognized occupational diseases, such as cancer. ■



PHOTOS BY JOCELYN AUGUSTINO

SHUTTERSTOCK PHOTO

Continued from Page 13

A duo of governors — Michelle Lujan Grisham (D-NM) and Larry Hogan (R-MD) — talked about the importance of funding for local fire departments given the vital role fire fighters play in serving and protecting communities.

In addition to hearing from a range of elected officials, attendees also heard from speakers serving inside the current administration. Federal Communications Commissioner Ajit Pai spoke on the adoption of Z access metrics, its groundbreaking impact on the ability of fire fighters to have accurate information when responding to incidents and the IAFF's key role in bringing the reform to the public. Dr. Kenneth Fent of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) gave updates on his work developing and implementing the National Firefighter Cancer Registry.

On day two of the conference, affiliate leaders — armed with resource materials to advocate on priority legislative issues — took to Capitol Hill to meet directly with their congressional representatives. ■



Maryland Governor Larry Hogan



Senator Sherrod Brown (D-OH)



A delegation representing the Florida Professional Firefighters met with their congressional leaders.

Watch video of all speakers and the COVID-19 Briefing at [www.youtube.com/IAFFTV](http://www.youtube.com/IAFFTV).



Members from Missouri met with Senator Roy Blunt (R-MO) on lobby day.



Hawaii Local 1463 President Robert Lee and 10th District Vice President Frank Lima joined members from Hawaii on Capitol Hill.



The U.S. Legislative Conference included a Federal Fire Fighter Roundtable attended by President Schaitberger and 16th District Vice President Jim Johnson.



4th District Vice President Andrew Pantelis and members from his district met with Representative Steny Hoyer (D-MD).

PHOTOS BY JOCELYN AUGUSTINO

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# IAFF Gold and Black Brings Strong Support for Biden

Now that Joe Biden is the presumed Democratic presidential nominee, this union's efforts will be integral in electing him the next president of the United States.

"In a primary where many of our counterparts in labor were reluctant to enter the fray, our active support for Joe stood out, especially when times were tough in Iowa and New Hampshire," says General President Harold Schaitberger. "We made a statement for the political world to see — when you stand with the gold and black of the IAFF and fire fighters, we stand with you, no matter what."

Biden emerged from those early struggles and Super Tuesday with a modest delegate lead and a field of just three contenders (Biden, Elizabeth Warren and Bernie Sanders). Our members were highly visible as Biden embarked on a lightning round of rallies around the country targeting states with March 10 and March 17 primaries.

**"In a primary where many of our counterparts in labor were reluctant to enter the fray, our active support for Joe stood out, especially when times were tough in Iowa and New Hampshire."**

— General President Schaitberger

IAFF leaders met in Washington, DC, for the 2020 Legislative Conference as the March 10 primaries took place. Biden won Missouri and Mississippi as expected and captured decisive victories in Michigan and Washington state.

But just as the campaign was ramping up for Florida, Illinois, Arizona and Ohio, the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic upended the race with rallies cancelled and some primaries delayed. But in states where primaries took place — Illinois, Arizona and Florida — Biden prevailed.

Despite a gap in the election calendar, Wisconsin held its April 7 primary, after which Bernie Sanders withdrew from the race, conceding that Biden's lead was insurmountable.

The campaign is now operating in a virtual environment, where Biden has used his digital platform to raise issues vital to IAFF members — the need for personal protective equipment (PPE), priority testing for COVID-19 and support from the federal government to ensure



The IAFF gold and black was out in force for Joe Biden at a rally in Kansas City.



In St. Louis, IAFF members turned out in gold and black in support of Biden.

that fire fighters exposed to this virus get the protections they need.

While the summer and fall election season may not look like a typical presidential race, the IAFF, as we have done in other areas, will be adapting our efforts to meet the challenge and continue our work to put a true fire fighter supporter in the White House.

Schaitberger says, "This year will be no different in terms of our commitment. We will continue our support of Joe's campaign into November, and I truly believe our efforts will be integral in electing him the next president of the United States." ■



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# AGGRESSIVE RESPONSE TO

# COVID-19 PANDEMIC

**N**ot since the 1918 Spanish flu pandemic has a virus had such a globally devastating impact as the coronavirus (COVID-19). Early on and throughout the escalating spread, the IAFF has been at the forefront developing guidelines and protocols and working with all levels of government to protect our members fighting COVID-19 on the frontlines and ensure they have the resources to safely respond while putting their own and their families' safety on the line. Despite stay-at-home orders, members risk exposure with every call. More than 1,725 members have tested positive for COVID-19 and eight have died.

“Hearing early reports of the probability of a global pandemic, we stayed ahead of most federal organizations in pushing out guidance and resources to prepare members to respond and stay safe on the job,” says General President Harold Schaitberger.

“Our members have displayed a valiant show of professionalism and dedication to the job while putting their lives on the line to respond and slow the spread,” says General Secretary-Treasurer Kelly.

The World Health Organization (WHO) issued alerts about a new virus coming from China in December 2019. By late January 2020, the WHO had declared a public health emergency of international concern.

Knowing it was not a matter of if — but when — the coronavirus would reach the United States and Canada, the IAFF went to work developing a coronavirus toolkit of resources to provide members with the latest guidance, recommendations and protocols for responding and protecting against exposure. The impact of COVID-19 was and continues to be greater than other infectious disease epidemics, including SARS, MERS, H1N1 and Ebola.

On February 28, members of three Washington state locals — Kirkland Local 2545, Redmond Local 2829 and Woodinville Local 2950 — who responded to a call at Kirkland’s Life Center, a nursing home and rehabilitation center where the patient later died — would be the first members put in quarantine.

Immediately, President Schaitberger and headquarters staff were on a call with 7th District Vice President Ricky Walsh, Washington State Council of Fire Fighters (WSCFF) President Dennis Lawson and members from the affected Washington state locals.



Mario Araujo  
Chicago, IL Local 2



Billy W. Birmingham  
Kansas City, MO Local 42



Richard P. Campbell  
Edison Fire Officers, NJ  
Local 2883



Edward Singleton  
Chicago, IL Local 2



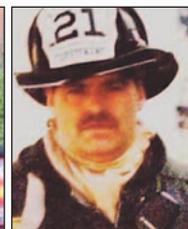
Franklin D. Williams  
Detroit, MI Local 344



John Schoffstall  
Terre Haute, IN  
Local 758



Edward J. Ciocca  
White Plains, NY  
Local 274



Andrew DiMaggio  
New Rochelle, NY  
Local 273

“A great deal of intel came out of that first call,” says Walsh. “We needed to establish COVID-19 specific protocols for dispatch, quarantines, personal protective equipment (PPE), firehouse safety and a litany of other guidelines for minimizing exposure as our members respond to this virus.”

Continued on page 20

## COVID-19 RESPONSE TIMELINE

DECEMBER 31, 2019

China alerts the World Health Organization (WHO) of several cases of unusual pneumonia in Wuhan, a port city of 11 million people in the central Hubei province. The virus is unknown.

JANUARY 7

Officials announce they have identified a new virus, according to the WHO. The novel virus is named 2019-nCoV and identified as belonging to the coronavirus family, which includes SARS and the common cold.

JANUARY 17

A second death is reported in Wuhan. Health authorities in the United States announce that three airports will start screening passengers arriving from the city. Authorities in the United States, Nepal, France, Australia, Malaysia, Singapore, South Korea, Vietnam and Taiwan confirm cases over the following days.

JANUARY 21

IAFF establishes an internal staff pandemic response team.

## COVID-19 IMPACTS CANADIAN IAFF MEMBERS

IAFF members are on duty across Canada protecting their communities in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, backed by a team of local, provincial and international IAFF leaders looking out for their health and safety and their rights in the workplace.

Since COVID-19 was declared a pandemic in mid-March, the IAFF Canadian Office has been working in close contact with the Canadian District Vice Presidents and IAFF headquarters to ensure Canadian affiliates have the latest information on how to respond safely during the pandemic.

The Canadian Office is communicating regularly with Canadian affiliate leaders with updates on emerging COVID-19 issues and with custom assistance as needed on emerging issues, including personal protective equipment (PPE) shortages, employer attempts to modify collective agreements, the imposing of alternate shift schedules and changes to tiered response agreements that determine what calls fire fighters are dispatched to.

As of mid-May, 227 Canadian IAFF members were exposed to the coronavirus, while close to 835 were quarantined, 885 were required to isolate and one was hospitalized.

In the early days of the crisis, Canada's Minister of Public Safety Bill Blair contacted General President Harold Schaitberger to discuss several key issues, such as PPE availability and mental health resources for Canadian first responders.

"The COVID-19 pandemic has been an extraordinary and unprecedented time in Canadian history and an extremely challenging time for our Canadian members and their families," says Schaitberger. "But we're proud of our members' resiliency and the way our local, provincial and district leaders have stepped up to help our affiliates meet those challenges head on."

13th District Vice President Fred LeBlanc has been assisting locals in Ontario and Manitoba with numerous issues. For example, members have been forced into 14-day quarantine by their employer and then required to use their sick time. LeBlanc is hopeful there will be an opportunity to have a larger discussion about solutions for these kinds of issues as the COVID-19 pandemic continues and in preparation for similar crises that may arise in the future.

LeBlanc reports that many locals have expressed praise for the level of response from the IAFF and the resources available since the early days of the outbreak. "I think it's a true example of what our union does in a moment of crisis for our members, better than anyone else," he says.

6th District Vice President Mike Carter notes the pandemic has created a stressful time for his members in western Canada, as their regular duties are compounded by COVID-19 response and protocols. But he says affiliates have done a great job of maintaining their commitment to public safety.

"They're reacting to those situations very well and doing what they have to do in order to protect the citizens we serve," Carter says, adding local leaders have done a fantastic job of working with employers to address operational issues and other unique situations. He says future discussions will be needed to address the new normal for fire fighters and municipalities going forward.

15th District Vice President David Burry reports that, thankfully, locals in Atlantic Canada have so far been minimally impacted by COVID-19 and there is good cooperation from most employers. Locals are credited with spearheading the implementation of proper response protocols and



**Vancouver, BC Local 18 is one of many Canadian locals using social media to assure their citizens that fire fighters are following safety protocols and remain on duty and ready to respond to emergencies.**

preventative measures. Burry notes that many employers in the district recognized and used the resources and advice the IAFF made available at the beginning of the crisis.

"Once we got the protocols in place, things seemed to be okay," Burry says, adding members were not reporting PPE shortages. But he adds that the situation has been more serious for members in Quebec, particularly with Montreal Local 125, which has had 13 members test positive — two as a suspected result of on-duty contact — and a tougher time getting the employer to cooperate on issues related to safe and effective response. For example, Local 125, not the employer, implemented station cleaning and screening protocols that have helped minimize on-duty exposure.

Across Canada, locals are using their social media pages to assure citizens they're still on duty, to remind them to follow the direction of local health authorities and to showcase their community involvement in the form of kids' birthday party drive-bys and processional tributes to hospital staff and other essential frontline workers. Winnipeg, MB Local 867's social media pages captured an emotional moment when local members

suspired retired member Rick Sterzer outside his hospital room window as he recovered from COVID-19.

While it's unknown how long the pandemic will affect everyday life in Canada, the IAFF will continue to maintain operations remotely and to provide assistance to affiliates on COVID-19 and other issues. ■

**Members of Winnipeg, MB Local 867 cheered up retired member Rick Sterzer with a safe hospital visit while he was recovering from COVID-19.**



### JANUARY 30

The WHO declares the COVID-19 outbreak a public health emergency of international concern after identifying that the novel coronavirus is expected to continue to spread internationally.

IAFF launches online coronavirus toolkit.

### JANUARY 31

The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) declares a public health emergency in the United States, giving state, tribal and local health departments the ability to request that DHHS provide funding, supplies and resources to respond to COVID-19.

### FEBRUARY 28

More than 25 members in Washington state are quarantined after exposure to a COVID-19 patient in Life Care nursing home.

### MARCH 1

IAFF encourages all members to refer to online coronavirus resource for information on preparedness and responding to infected individuals.

## OPERATING IN A VIRTUAL ENVIRONMENT

IAFF headquarters staff are continuing to make sure affiliates and members have timely information on COVID-19, as well as services and assistance despite widespread shutdowns and social distancing.

In mid-March, the International began remote operations. Headquarters staff in Washington and Ottawa continue to telework as the IAFF monitors guidance on returning to work from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and other federal agencies in the United State and Canada.

“This IAFF continues to operate at a high level throughout the COVID-19 pandemic,” says General President Harold Schaitberger. “While our members remain on the frontlines of COVID-19, we are here working to keep them safe.”

Headquarters staff have adapted to working remotely, using video conference tools such as Zoom and Microsoft Teams for quick video chats and major top-level meetings involving multiple participants. President Schaitberger continues to participate in weekly video conferences with affiliate leaders in every district, as well as state and provincial associations and district field service representatives to provide updates on IAFF efforts throughout the pandemic to assist affiliates, protect members and keep fire departments fully resourced. In addition, he is in regular contact with the Executive Board, as well as the first virtual Board meeting.

“Though IAFF staff look forward to the end of the pandemic and a return to the office, the virtual environment has not hampered or reduced our ability to do the important work on behalf of our members,” notes Schaitberger.

Many of the IAFF’s upcoming events have had to be postponed, including the Political Training Academy and the Communications Training Academy. However, training and classes are rapidly developing through video conference and other online learning platforms.

While most HazMat training has been canceled, some in-person training for recruits who need to complete classes to graduate and join the ranks on the streets is being offered with safety precautions in place to ensure social distancing and eliminate air travel.

Recognizing that members may be facing financial challenges, the IAFF Financial Corporation (IAFF-FC) is continuing to provide financial services and programs and guidance in a number of areas, including deferral options for mortgages, auto loans and insurance. The IAFF-FC also launched a series of webinars addressing how members can communicate with financial providers on the need to defer payments.

Meanwhile, the IAFF is working to ensure that the important role of fire fighters and emergency medical personnel who are working on the frontlines of COVID-19 is communicated to news media and lawmakers at all levels of government. The IAFF coronavirus toolkit is updated daily, including data on COVID-19 cases among members, guidance and protocols, behavioral health information and other resources for affiliates and members during these challenging times.

In the legislative and political arena, the IAFF has shifted to protecting and shoring up the safety net for fire fighters as state and local revenue streams have disappeared due to the pandemic, including working to make sure Congress provides fire fighters with the equipment and support needed to stay healthy and stay on the job (see page 28). ■

The IAFF quickly reached out to federal experts at the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) and Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) for information to help ensure members stayed informed and followed guidance for responding to potential COVID-19 patients.

During the 2020 Legislative Conference in March, as the COVID-19 pandemic was unfolding, the IAFF held and broadcast live a COVID-19 Briefing featuring General President Schaitberger, WSCFF President Dennis Lawson and other subject matter experts on COVID-19.

“What we noticed right away that was causing unnecessary risk to exposure was the way calls were coming in from dispatch,” says Lawson. “For example, dispatch’s communication to our members who were responding to the Life Center in Kirkland did not include information about flu-like symptoms consistent with COVID-19. They were not asking the right questions.”

**“At its worst, we had 1,000 members in quarantine at one time. But the number of positive cases is steadily going down, thanks to safety policies that worked for our members.”**

— Samuel Fresina, President, New York State Professional Fire Fighters Association (NYPFFA)

Changes to dispatch protocols needed to be made immediately to inform members about what level of PPE to wear to the call. Initially, dispatchers asked about patient travel to China or contact with others who had been in China. But as the virus was now known to be spreading person-to-person, emergency centers needed to also ask about symptoms, which include shortness of breath, fever and cough.

Even as the IAFF was reporting on COVID-19 outbreaks in Washington state, cases were appearing in New York, notably in New Rochelle and New York City, where members of New Rochelle Local 273, the Uniformed Firefighters Association (UFA) Local 94 and Uniformed Fire Officers Association (UFOA) Local 854 were on the frontlines.

“The IAFF COVID-19 briefing was very timely for us, giving us protocols and resources for responding,” says 1st District Vice President James Slevin. “Especially in the beginning, our members had to assume that everyone was infected.”

“At its worst, we had 1,000 members in quarantine at one time,” says New York State Professional Fire Fighters Association (NYPFFA) President Samuel Fresina. “But the number of positive cases is steadily going down, thanks to safety policies that worked for our members.”

On March 13, President Trump declared a national emergency under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief Act, allowing the federal government to provide \$50 billion in disaster relief aid. The IAFF quickly zeroed in to make sure those federal funds and subsequent



## COVID-19 RESPONSE TIMELINE

### MARCH 2

IAFF advises affiliates and their fire departments to inventory available PPE and discuss plans for ordering additional supplies to ensure availability.

### MARCH 6

President Trump signs an \$8.3 billion supplemental appropriation bill to fund the response to coronavirus. A variety of resources are available to fire departments for personal protective equipment (PPE) and medical supplies and to meet overtime and backfill needs.

### MARCH 10

IAFF conducts and broadcasts COVID-19 Briefing at 2020 Legislative Conference. More than 50 members in Washington state are under quarantine for possible exposure to COVID-19.

## LACK OF PRIORITY

When the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) failed to secure, prioritize and deliver adequate supplies of N95 masks and other personal protective equipment (PPE) to fire and EMS departments, General President Harold Schaitberger wrote to 3M Scott, Chairman and CEO Michael F. Roman, who has a seat at the table with FEMA, asking its help to push the agency to put fire fighters and emergency medical personnel at the highest priority with the other healthcare workers in need of PPE.

In the letter, Schaitberger wrote, "We respond to people where they are when they need help. Our members boldly go into these uncontrolled settings including homes, businesses and in the community to save lives. While not minimizing the needs of other healthcare providers, the need for PPE in these close contact, uncontrolled environments is especially important — yet, our members don't have enough PPE."

Despite daily assurances from FEMA, the supply chain for these desperately needed resources were not reaching fire departments at the local level as many affiliates experienced PPE shortages. Fire fighters and EMS personnel were too far down the priority list, leaving our members with no way to protect themselves.

While representatives from FEMA and the Health and Human Services Healthcare Resilience Task Force assured the IAFF that fire and EMS agencies were at the same level of priority for PPE as hospitals and healthcare facilities, Admiral John Polowczyk, head of the COVID-19 Supply Chain Resilience Task Force, made it clear at an April 4 White House briefing that fire and EMS agencies were not at the same level of priority as hospitals.

Immediately, 3M Scott CEO Michael Roman was on the phone with Schaitberger, promising its support and assigning his senior team to meet with IAFF senior staff. True to its word, 3M Scott stepped up, taking an active role in facilitating discussions with FEMA to move fire fighters to the same number-one priority as hospitals. Members have now moved up from a level 5 to level 3 priority, following hospitals and long-term care facilities.

FEMA's plan clearly did not recognize the significant role fire fighters and emergency medical personnel play as the very first point of contact in the public health system. "We had been pushing FEMA to not just say that our members are at the front of the line along with all healthcare workers in receiving available PPE, we want our members to actually be at the front of the line," says Schaitberger. ■

stimulus packages included money earmarked for COVID-19 needs for fire and EMS response.

With President Schaitberger leaning on allies in Congress, the IAFF has since been working on the legislative front to provide funding to states and local governments to shore up the economy to protect our members' jobs (see page 25, Preparing for a COVID-19 Economy).

Meanwhile, PPE and prioritized testing were critical for response efforts, as well as developing specific safety protocols (see page 30). Even a small number of fire fighters in quarantine could cripple response

capabilities. Limiting exposure to the illness was critical for keeping members healthy and on the job to respond. Safety practices had to go beyond safe dispatch protocols and proper PPE.

The IAFF began tracking exposures among members, asking affiliate presidents to complete a tracker survey to provide real-time data showing a clearer picture of the impact of COVID-19 on members and affiliates across the United States and Canada. Because the numbers reported by news and other sources were for the general population, the IAFF needed data to inform the media and legislators of the full impact

Continued on page 24

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## BENEFITS FOR MEMBERS DIAGNOSED WITH COVID-19

COVID-19 is highly contagious and, once contracted, can be fatal, and members responding to suspected cases of this virus are not immune. Because COVID-19 is a new virus, no presumptive law or workers' compensation policies contain language specific to COVID-19.

After dozens of members in Washington state were quarantined in late February, the Washington State Council of Fire Fighters (WSCFF) was the first to successfully lobby the state government to ensure workers' compensation protections.

"We worked with Governor Jay Inslee and the state Labor and Industries (L&I) to provide workers' compensation coverage for our members and all other first responders and healthcare workers who contract this virus," says WSCFF President Dennis Lawson. Changes to the policy include medical testing, treatment expenses and wage-loss coverage.

Other state and local affiliates have also been pushing governments to put protections in place through emergency orders and legislation.

The Michigan Professional Fire Fighters Union (MPFFU) was among the next state and provincial affiliates to win workers' compensation coverage for members.

Governor Gretchen Whitmer issued an emergency rule making fire fighters, paramedics, police officers and healthcare workers eligible for workers' compensation benefits if quarantined after being exposed, diagnosed with COVID-19 by a physician or if they test positive for the disease.

"What has really struck me is how quickly the virus can spread and how fast it can kill," says MPFFU President Mark Docherty. "It's critical that we do all we can to protect our members. We are now working to find ways to increase testing capabilities for first responders. Our goal is to test both symptomatic and asymptomatic personnel."

Missouri State Council of Fire Fighters (MSCFF) President Demetris Alfred says, "We needed immediate workers' compensation protections, but issuing an emergency state rule was not an easy sell to the governor's office. It was a team effort."

With assistance from 2nd District Vice President Mark Woolbright, the MSCFF team included President Alfred, Legislative Director Mark Habbas and Lobbyist John Bardiett. The team contacted friends in the state legislature to help get Governor Mike Parson to act.

Ultimately, Parson agreed to issue an emergency rule to allow fire fighters, police and other first responders to receive workers' compensation if diagnosed with or quarantined because of COVID-19.

"Before presenting our proposal to the governor, we sought the advice of our friends in the state legislature who assisted with the presumptive language," says Professional Fire Fighters of North Dakota President Darren Schimke.

Protections in Arkansas, Florida, Illinois, Kentucky, New Mexico and North Dakota are in place by emergency order from their governors. The province of Ontario made an emergency change to the workers' compensation policy to include coverage for the virus.

Meanwhile, emergency legislation has passed in Alaska, Minnesota and Indiana.

Alaska Professional Fire Fighters Association (APFFA) President Tom Wescott credits the network of IAFF state affiliates for providing language to

### Supplemental Benefits During COVID-19

If your local has received additional benefits during the COVID-19 pandemic, email [laborissues@iaff.org](mailto:laborissues@iaff.org) so we can provide your experience as a guide for other locals.

generate fast approval from Alaska legislators. The wording includes SB 241, an all-encompassing emergency declaration bill similar to that in Michigan's emergency order.

"We were getting very near the end of our state legislative session, but we knew it would be critical during this pandemic to have workers' compensation protections for our members," says Wescott. "We are grateful to our friends in the state legislature for their help in getting this done."

In Minnesota, lobbying was an uphill battle to pass legislation to change the state's workers' compensation law to presume that when a first responder, healthcare worker or others on the frontline contracts COVID-19 it was due to on-the-job exposure.

The Minnesota Professional Fire Fighters (MPFF) joined a coalition of unions to get workers' compensation language included in the multi-million-dollar aid package before a short break in the legislative session.

MPFF members were joined by other first responders on the steps of the Capitol (maintaining a social distance of 6 feet) to explain the importance of having workers' compensation coverage.

"Under the existing rules, we would have had to prove when and where we were exposed to the virus," says MPFF President Chris Parsons. "We knew that would be close to impossible. We also knew, as first responders, our chances of exposure are extremely high. Our members needed a guarantee that they would have coverage if infected."

The state legislature went into recess without an agreement on workers' compensation, but when legislators came back less than two weeks later, a deal was made.

In Indiana, with the passage of SB 237, members will be covered by workers' compensation if the fire fighter's exposure to COVID-19 is officially documented.

In Utah, Salt Lake City Mayor Erin Mendenhall agreed to allow for additional sick time for fire fighters and all other emergency responders.

New York state is also currently offering additional sick time, and extra protections are on the way. The New York State Professional Fire Fighters Association is hard at work lobbying for the passage of Assembly Bill 10239 to cover members who become infected with the virus.

Additionally, at least four cities have secured one-time or temporary hazard pay adjustments for first responders, including Atlanta, Georgia; Birmingham, Alabama; Jackson, Mississippi; and Portland, Maine. ■

### Testing for COVID-19

As attention begins to shift to reopening states and provinces, testing is a key to understanding the COVID-19 pandemic. Until an effective vaccine is available, testing for COVID-19 can help slow the spread of the disease.

The two primary methods are testing for the molecular presence of the disease and testing for antibodies (serological testing). Molecular tests are more capable of informing whether you have the active virus while serological tests inform whether you have been exposed to or have some level of immunity to the virus.

The IAFF supports the recommendation from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) that results from serologic testing alone should not be used to diagnose or exclude COVID-19 infection or to inform infection status; such determinations should also include molecular testing and an evaluation by a healthcare provider.

For detailed information and guidance on testing, see our Testing for COVID-19 Fact Sheet at [www.iaff.org/coronavirus](http://www.iaff.org/coronavirus).

## COVID-19 RESPONSE TIMELINE

### MARCH 11

IAFF sends letter to Alex Azar, Secretary of Health and Human Services condemning the CDC guidance that facemasks are an "acceptable alternative" to N95 respirators, that the guidance was not based on science but rather due to low supply of N95s, and urges Secretary Azar to address the supply shortage. General President Schaitberger alerts staff to prepare for telework.

### MARCH 13

IAFF postpones U.S. Political Training Academy, Canadian Legislative Conference, Non-Collective Bargaining Committee meeting and Southern Federation of Professional Fire Fighters meeting. The IAFF is notified that COVID-19 is not covered under the Ryan White Act.

### MARCH 16

General President Schaitberger reduces staff reporting to headquarters to personnel essential to maintaining business operations.

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Continued from page 21

of COVID-19 on fire fighters and emergency medical personnel and demonstrate the importance of proper PPE and access to testing.

“As the ongoing pandemic continued, we knew the stress of elevated call volumes and risk of exposure made providing behavioral health resources equally important for ensuring members had the tools to deal with the added layer of strain and anxiety amidst COVID-19,” says Schaitberger. (See page 29 for more on behavioral health during COVID-19.)

Using every tool at its disposal, the IAFF made sure affiliates and members had the latest information and guidance, including email

communications, social media, videos and the union’s first podcast series — all of which is posted on the coronavirus webpage ([www.iaff.org/coronavirus](http://www.iaff.org/coronavirus)).

The full effects of COVID-19 are unknown, but the economic impact is almost certain as already states, provinces and localities are facing fiscal crises. To address the threat of cuts to staffing, wages and benefits that are surely coming, the IAFF has developed a new Preparing for a COVID-19 Economy toolkit (see page 25) to help affiliates preserve members’ jobs, benefits and fire department resources and survive the worst economic environment experienced since the Great Depression. ■

## RIISING TO THE CHALLENGE OF COVID-19

IAFF members have been on the frontlines throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, often the first to respond to patients infected with the deadly virus.

The IAFF has been working with affiliates to tell the story that fire fighters and emergency medical personnel are as essential to the public health response to COVID-19 as nurses and doctors.

Affiliates throughout the United States and Canada are communicating this important message at the local level, highlighting the risks members face every day as thousands of fire fighters and paramedics have been isolated or quarantined, nearly 2,000 have tested positive and eight have died from COVID-19.

These efforts have also helped stress the need for priority access to personal protective equipment (PPE) and testing and the critical importance of federal action in protecting state and local budgets to maintain fire department resources.

Media outlets across the United States and Canada were directed to the IAFF COVID-19 resource page for regular updates on the disease and updated protocols to better understand how professional fire fighters and emergency medical personnel have been rising to the challenge, adapting to new protocols to keep their communities, their fire departments and themselves safe and prepared to respond.

In addition, General President Harold Schaitberger and other senior staff have conducted numerous interviews with national media, including FOX News, MSNBC, The Wall St. Journal and others to communicate the dire need for resources and funding for fire departments. ■



## COVID-19 RESPONSE TIMELINE

**MARCH 17**

IAFF deploys member tracker survey.

**MARCH 18**

IAFF appears on FOX News stressing need for PPE. The president declares a national emergency under the Stafford Act.

**MARCH 19**

IAFF releases self-screening guidelines and video and begins framework for surviving the economic impact of COVID-19 for affiliates.

## PREPARING FOR A COVID-19 ECONOMY

IAFF members are on the frontlines protecting their communities while fully aware of the impact of a COVID economy across the United States and Canada.

State, provincial and local governments are already feeling the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, and many affiliates are hearing from their jurisdictions about staffing and other cuts as the economic downturn is expected to hit municipal governments harder than the Great Recession of 2008.

“To help affiliates prepare for and respond to potential pushes by their employers for cuts to staffing, training, resources, wages and benefits, retirement plans and healthcare coverage, we have developed a **comprehensive toolkit** of information and resources — as well as an overview of the broader economic impact on our members’ lives and livelihoods — as we continue to assist you during this challenging time,” says General President Harold Schaitberger.

The **Preparing for a COVID-19 Economy** toolkit includes U.S. and Canadian economic resources and considerations, grant opportunities, behavioral health resources, subsidy and tax break trackers, pension resources, socioeconomic data and more.

“This toolkit will help PREPARE affiliates for the challenges that will come with a weakened economy,” says Schaitberger, who has continued to press Congress to pass legislation to help local and state governments keep fire fighters safe and on the frontlines (see page 28).



- **PLAN** for the potential impact on revenues and operating budgets in cities and towns across the United States and Canada. Tax revenues will likely decrease significantly as a result of the economy being shut almost completely down.
- **RESPOND** by assessing the situation and economic fallout. Find creative solutions to minimize loss in the short term and position your local for success in the long term.
- **EDUCATE** on a range of issues and topics delivered by the IAFF in various formats (webinars, PowerPoints, videos, etc.).
- **PROTECT** your members’ lives and livelihoods — request affiliate assistance from the IAFF through your local president and district vice president.

- **ACTIVATE** members in efforts to protect their careers and livelihoods, including political action, communication and community outreach.
- **REVENUE** is key to your municipality’s budgeting process. Understand how your government’s revenue and budgeting process works.
- **ELECTIONS** matter. Make sure your local is politically active and prepared to work to elect fire fighter-friendly candidates at all levels of government.

Bookmark this toolkit ([www.iaff.org/covid-economy](http://www.iaff.org/covid-economy)) and check back frequently as new resources and guidance are added.

For additional questions or further assistance, contact your district vice president. ■

## PROTECTING YOUR FINANCES IN A PANDEMIC

IAFF members are on the frontlines of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, but many of their spouses may be out of work due to stay-at-home orders. If this is the case for your family and you are under financial stress, below are some financial moves you can make right now:

1. **Write down every monthly bill you have.** Label it essential or non-essential. Rent, mortgage, federal student loans, utilities, insurance, phone and internet are all essentials. In times like these, non-essentials can go unpaid for now. Don’t forget to review your credit card bills and bank statement for monthly subscriptions you don’t need right now or had forgotten to cancel — every dollar counts right now. Cancel those non-essential services.
2. **Call every essential bill provider and ask to defer payment for three months.** Many will. Mortgage interest will continue to accrue but will be added to the back end of the loan. In Canada, payments are skipped for a period of time and interest accrued is added to the mortgage’s outstanding balance. The additional interest is incorporated into future monthly payments when they resume or on renewal at the end of the mortgage’s term.
3. **Use deferred rent/mortgage money to pay the essentials that you cannot defer.** Deposit the rest into your emergency fund. We do not know the extent of this situation, so we must prepare for a long slog.
4. **Call each of your creditors** (credit cards, auto loans, personal loans, etc.) to make temporary arrangements to reduce or pause your payments until your income returns to normal. Do not avoid or ignore them — contact them immediately.
5. **Spouse unemployed? Unemployment benefits are now available to those who were previously exempt:** part-time workers, gig workers and the self-employed are all eligible in this environment. To learn how to apply, start at [careeronestop.org](http://careeronestop.org) and enter your state for the phone number. You will need to

be persistent to get this done. **Do not give up.** In Canada, any spouse who has lost employment due to COVID-19 can apply for the Canada Employment Response Benefit (CERB). The application process is very simple and can be done online on the **Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) website**. Benefits are usually deposited within three business days.

If you are not under financial stress, consider that the long-term economic effects of this pandemic will be far-reaching. We all must prepare for the long haul by strengthening our finances in this time of uncertainty.

1. **Review your credit card bills and bank statement** for monthly subscriptions you don’t need right now or had forgotten to cancel — every dollar counts. Cancel those non-essential services.
2. **Look for additional money to stash away.** That proverbial rainy day is coming. Avoid any new credit card debt.
3. **If possible, eliminate the credit card debt you do have so that if you are in a tight spot later, you’re not using money you need to make payments.** Prioritize your debt balances by the highest to lowest APR (annual percentage rate). Make the minimum payment on the rest and pay as much as you can on the debt with the highest APR. When that debt is gone, do the same for the next highest APR and so on until all credit card debt is paid.
4. **Expand your emergency savings account.** In normal times, it’s smart to keep three to six months of bills and living expenses on hand. With this safety net in place, you can weather short-term unemployment without relying on credit cards or other debt. These are not going to be normal times, so reach a bit further for your safety net. Aim to have six months or more of living expenses on hand to handle the economic uncertainty ahead. ■

### MARCH 20

IAFF appears on MSNBC stressing the need for PPE. The IAFF is successful in updating the Ryan White Act to include COVID-19. The IAFF sends a letter to the National Governors Association (NGA) stressing the importance of testing to fulfill the urgent need for new EMTs and paramedics into the workforce.

### MARCH 21

IAFF produces first podcast on COVID-19 and issues guidance for peer support.

### MARCH 24

IAFF sends a letter to DHHS Secretary Alex Azar requesting the federal government guarantee priority delivery of PPE to fire and EMS as it is obtained and delivered to the states and emails affiliates with information on how to access PPE following FEMA guidance.

## BUYER BEWARE OF COUNTERFEIT MASKS

In April, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) warned West Virginia's top public safety official that 50,000 respirator masks distributed to first responders might be counterfeit.

The model mask known as DTC3X, purportedly from Shanghai Dasheng Health Products Manufacture Co. Ltd. (Dasheng), was misrepresented as approved by the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH). All NIOSH-approved masks manufactured by Dasheng have headbands, not ear loops, like those distributed in West Virginia.

An expert whose guidelines are linked on the state fire marshal's website told county emergency officials in an email that the ear-loop masks "are definitely counterfeit masks and they should not be used for frontline emergency operations."

West Virginia bought 100,000 of the respirators; half the masks were DTC3X models with ear loops.

"Ear loops are an automatic disqualifier," according to Christina Baxter, CEO of Emergency Response Tips, a company that develops support tools and training solutions for emergency response. "These are definitely counterfeit masks and should not be used for frontline emergency operations, especially for anyone dealing directly with a COVID-19 patient."

**COVID-19 Guidance**  
**Buyer Beware: Identifying Counterfeit Respirators**  
Counterfeit respirators are products that are falsely marketed and sold as NIOSH-approved and may not provide appropriate respiratory protection to workers.

**How to Identify a NIOSH-Approved Respirator:**

- NIOSH-approved respirators have an approval label on or within the respirator packaging (on the box itself or within the user instructions)
- An abbreviated approval is on the filtering facepiece respirator (FFR) itself
- Verify the approval number on the [NIOSH Certified Equipment List \(CEL\)](#) or [NIOSH Trusted-Source](#) page to determine if the respirator is approved by NIOSH
- NIOSH-approved FFRs will always have one of the following designations: N95, N99, N100, R95, R99, P95, P99, P100
- Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) masks may not have the C-94A-### on them due to labeling changes made in 2008

**Signs That a Respirator May be Counterfeit:**

- No markings at all on the filtering facepiece respirator (FFR)
- No approval (TC) number on the FFR or headband
- No NIOSH markings
- NIOSH is spelled incorrectly
- The presence of decorative fabric or other decorative add-ons (e.g., sequins)
- Claims that the FFR is approved for children (NIOSH does not approve any type of respiratory protection for children)
- The FFR has ear loops instead of headbands
- Most of the counterfeit masks are usually fake KN95s and FFP2s

**Not Approved Masks**  
Examples of Counterfeit Respirators — These respirators are being sold as if they are NIOSH-approved even though the manufacturer, Anhui Tongcheng Yafu Health Materials, Co., Ltd, is not listed as a NIOSH approval holder or a private label holder. (10/23/2019)

Emergency management officials across the state are concerned that fire fighters, paramedics, police and other first responders are unaware of the risk.

See the IAFF's guidance document on identifying counterfeit respirators, which are being falsely marketed and sold as NIOSH-approved, at [www.iaff.org/coronavirus](http://www.iaff.org/coronavirus). ■

## EVENT POSTPONEMENTS

In addition to the extensive guidance the IAFF has been providing to affiliate leaders and members over the past several months on the COVID-19 pandemic, we have also taken steps to protect the safety and well-being of our instructors, staff, their families and the communities in which they work and live.

The U.S. Political Training Academy, Canadian Legislative Conference, Communications Training Academy and the Southern Federation of Professional Fire Fighters meeting have been postponed to dates to be determined later this year.

Also, due to the unprecedented circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic, the IAFF 55th Convention has been postponed until January 25-29, 2021, in Las Vegas, Nevada (see page 10).

**POSTPONED**

With the significant health concerns related to COVID-19 and all the restrictions across the U.S. and Canada, the IAFF Executive Board approved a motion to conduct the 2020 Fallen Fire Fighter Memorial ceremony without attendees, broadcasting it as a respectful virtual ceremony on September 19, 2020.

Meanwhile, we have also been assessing the viability of holding other upcoming events and training and are making decisions concerning those on an ongoing basis.

Based on recent guidance, IAFF offices in Washington, DC, and Ottawa remain closed but staff have continued to operate in full telework mode.

We continue to monitor federal guidance and updates from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for the latest information and guidance and are regularly updating our coronavirus webpage at [www.iaff.org/coronavirus](http://www.iaff.org/coronavirus). ■

## COVID-19 RESPONSE TIMELINE

MARCH 27

IAFF emails guidance to members to quarantine at home to limit the spread of COVID-19 to family members. Congress completes its work on an economic stimulus package intended to address the response to and impact of the COVID-19 pandemic that includes significant resources for fire and EMS as follows:

- \$45 billion for the Disaster Relief Fund to reimburse fire and EMS departments for expenses related to the response to the

virus, including PPE, overtime and backfill, and operating costs above and beyond the normal cost of business.

- \$100 million in funding through the Assistance to Firefighters (FIRE Act) grant program, earmarked specifically for PPE and related supplies.
- \$100 billion to reimburse healthcare providers, including EMS, for healthcare expenses or lost revenue, including costs

related to medical supplies and equipment, such as PPE, increased workforce expenses and surge capacity.

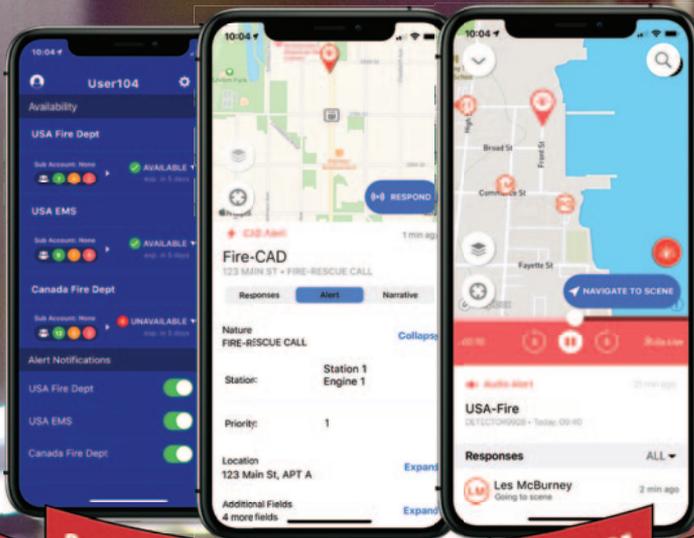
- \$41 million for the National Forest System and Wildland Fire Management for PPE and baseline health testing for first responders, including wildland fire fighters, among other activities.



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## IAFF: ON THE FRONTLINES FOR IAFF MEMBERS

For the past three months, the IAFF has been working closely with Congress and the administration to address the significant needs of IAFF members during the COVID-19 crisis.

From equipment needs — including personal protective equipment (PPE) and cleaning and decontamination materials — to addressing personnel shortages in departments as quarantines sideline significant numbers of fire fighters, to shoring up state and local budgets hit hard by the recession and reduced tax revenues, the IAFF is seeking solutions to problems facing affiliates and their local fire departments.

### CORONAVIRUS AID, RELIEF AND ECONOMIC SECURITY (CARES) ACT

Passed in mid-March, the CARES Act provided a first round of funds to fire fighters and emergency medical personnel, appropriating billions in direct funding and reimbursements to address the response to and impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The IAFF lobbied Congress and the administration to ensure fire and EMS needs were included in the bill, which passed the Senate by a vote of 96-0 and passed the House by voice vote. Specifically, the bill included the following resources for fire and EMS:

- \$45 billion for the Disaster Relief Fund to reimburse fire and EMS departments for expenses related to the response to the virus, including PPE, overtime and backfill, and operating costs above and beyond the normal cost of business.
- \$100 million in funding through the Assistance to Firefighters (FIRE Act) grant program, earmarked specifically for PPE and related supplies.
- \$100 billion to reimburse healthcare providers, including EMS, for healthcare expenses or lost revenue, such as costs related to medical supplies and equipment, increased workforce expenses and surge capacity.
- \$41 million for the National Forest System and Wildland Fire Management for PPE and baseline health testing for first responders, including wildland fire fighters, among other activities.

The bill also included \$150 billion for state and local governments to help address local needs in responding to the pandemic. State and local funds were made available for a wide range of expenses, including excess overtime costs, obtaining PPE and expenses associated with quarantine. Fire departments across the country are incurring significant expenses as the response to the virus continues.

### HEROES ACT

The IAFF also urged Congress in May to pass the Health and Economic Recovery Omnibus Emergency Solutions Act, or HEROES Act, to provide direct assistance to state and local governments, protect critical public safety radio spectrum and fund essential grants for keeping fire fighters on the job, among other provisions.

General President Harold Schaitberger worked directly with Congress, calling on Nancy Pelosi to pass the HEROES Act. “Our members are conducting countless COVID-19 emergency runs and now face the prospect of losing their jobs, leaving their communities less safe,” says Schaitberger. “We urged Congress to move swiftly to pass this essential bill to strengthen public safety. Our members deserve to know that our elected representatives have their backs.”

The Act, which passed the House and is now pending consideration in the U.S. Senate, includes \$1 billion for the Assistance to Firefighters (FIRE Act) and Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant programs to help departments purchase PPE and decontamination materials, and help departments retain and rehire personnel at risk of layoff, while waiving the budgetary requirements under the FIRE Act and

SAFER to allow departments the necessary flexibility to afford necessary equipment and personnel. The bill also includes nearly \$900 billion for state and local governments to address COVID-related expenses and replace lost revenue stemming from the public health emergency.

The HEROES Act also includes numerous provisions to protect the health and safety of fire fighters and other frontline responders, allowing them to continue serving their communities, including provisions extending emergency sick and emergency FMLA leave to first responders and establishing a COVID-19 presumption under federal workers’ compensation, to ensure federal fire fighters who become ill from COVID-19 receive necessary benefits.

The IAFF has also been working diligently to make sure members have necessary benefits to protect themselves and their families if a member is exposed, becomes ill or dies as a result of COVID-19.

Fire fighters across the nation reported in March about the inability to learn if they were exposed to COVID-positive patients during treatment and transport to local hospitals. As a result, the IAFF petitioned the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and National Institutes for Occupational Health and Safety (NIOSH) to update the Ryan White Act, which mandates emergency response employees be notified upon exposure to certain diseases, to include COVID-19. Working closely with the IAFF, CDC/NIOSH quickly promulgated an update to the regulations. Hospitals are now mandated to notify emergency response employees of any exposure to a positive COVID-19 patient.

In addition, the IAFF is seeking to ensure fire fighters who die or are permanently and totally disabled due to COVID-19 receive full federal benefits. In May, the Senate unanimously passed the Safeguarding America’s First Responders (SAFR) Act of 2020 to establish a presumptive benefit for COVID-19 under the Public Safety Officers Benefit (PSOB) program.

“Our members are on the frontlines of the battle against the COVID-19 pandemic,” says Schaitberger. “Those who die in the line of duty shouldn’t have to prove how they contracted COVID-19. We made sure the SAFR Act ensures that the families of the fallen receive deserved benefits quickly.”

Absent the presumptive coverage provided by this bill, fire fighters would be required to show they contracted the virus in the workplace, a nearly impossible task. “Our members are putting their lives on the line. They deserve to know their families will be cared for if they die in the line of duty,” says Schaitberger.

The IAFF is now working with the U.S. House of Representatives to schedule a vote so the bill can be signed into law.

As additional legislation is expected on COVID-19 resources and benefits, the IAFF will continue fighting to ensure its members are protected and have the resources they need as the pandemic continues. ■

### IAFF Wins Extension/Waivers for SAFER Grant Applications

With local jurisdictions and fire departments already facing economic hardships as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, General President Harold Schaitberger worked directly with the acting Secretary of Homeland Security Chad F. Wolf to make changes to the FY 2019 Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant program to extend the deadline for applications from May 15 to May 27 and implement waivers to allow flexibility in applying for SAFER funds.

Specifically, the changes waive the cost share, position cost limit, supplanting and minimum budget requirements and eliminate the need for applicants to request an economic hardship waiver in applications.

Also, in consideration of the economic impact of the pandemic, DHS has also authorized waivers for certain provisions of the FY 2020 SAFER grant program to allow departments to use funding to retain fire fighters, as the IAFF successfully implemented during the Great Recession. The FY 2020 grant application period is expected to open in the fall.

## COVID-19 RESPONSE TIMELINE

MARCH 27

IAFF notifies leaders on Capitol Hill of disappointment that other stakeholders, including law enforcement, received a greater portion of direct spending.

MARCH 31

IAFF discovers more holes in the FEMA supply chain as PPE requests remain unfilled.

APRIL 3

Based on emerging evidence on asymptomatic transmission, IAFF suggests members wear surgical masks on and off duty to protect themselves, their coworkers and their families.

APRIL 6

IAFF appears on Hill TV stressing need for PPE.

APRIL 7

IAFF promotes free telemental health from Warriors Research Institute.

## BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DURING COVID-19

The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic is affecting every aspect of our lives. In these extremely stressful times as our members continue to answer the call during the COVID-19 pandemic, the IAFF continues to ensure affiliates and members have access to behavioral health resources and assistance.

The Warriors Research Institute (WRI) — run by IAFF Behavioral Health partner Dr. Suzy Gulliver — is offering telemental health services at no cost to all IAFF members in the United States. Treatment is provided on a secure web platform by licensed therapists who have experience working with fire fighters. Call in by phone or participate via your personal computer in the comfort of your own home. Treatment can address a range of behavioral health challenges and you do not need a specific diagnosis to participate. Learn more at [www.iaff.org/coronavirus/#behavioral-health-resources](http://www.iaff.org/coronavirus/#behavioral-health-resources).

For members in recovery from an alcohol or substance use disorder, public restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic can pose unique threats and challenges to an established recovery plan. To support continued recovery during these unprecedented times, we are offering IAFF online recovery meetings for members coping with or in recovery from an alcohol or substance use problem.

These peer-led meetings provide a supportive space for individuals to share their experience, strength and hope with other brothers and sisters interested in recovery. Online recovery meetings embrace multiple pathways to recovery, including Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) or Narcotics Anonymous (NA), SMART recovery, harm reduction and medication-assisted treatment.

Meetings are 60 minutes and begin with a review of ground rules. Meetings are delivered in two formats:

**Speaker Meetings** focus on the recovery testimonial of one to three speakers who have agreed to share their story. Speaker meetings are not an opportunity for individual participation and are designed for larger groups.

## Take care of your mental health during this COVID-19 crisis. Reach out for help if you need it:

IAFF Center of Excellence  
for Behavioral Health  
Treatment and Recovery  
(855) 900-8437

Firefighter & Family  
Crisis and Support Line  
(844) 525-FIRE (3473)

National Suicide  
Prevention Lifeline  
(800) 273-8255

Crisis Services  
Canada  
(833) 456-4566

[www.iaff.org/coronavirus](http://www.iaff.org/coronavirus)



**Small Group Meetings** begin with a brief discussion on a specific theme, then individual participants have a time-limited opportunity to share how they relate to the theme or to check in with the group. Small group meetings are designed for 25-50 participants.

Visit [www.iaff.org/coronavirus/#behavioral-health](http://www.iaff.org/coronavirus/#behavioral-health) for more information and additional resources or email [behavioralhealth@iaff.org](mailto:behavioralhealth@iaff.org). ■

### IAFF Center of Excellence

As we continue to navigate through this COVID-19 pandemic, the IAFF Center of Excellence for Behavioral Health Treatment and Recovery remains open and is actively admitting IAFF members. To ensure the safety of all members and staff, the Center continues to adapt to meet COVID-19 infection control protocols as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). For additional details and admission restrictions, visit [www.iaffrecoverycenter.com](http://www.iaffrecoverycenter.com).

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## NEW IAFF PODCASTS ADDRESS COVID-19

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, providing guidance and information to affiliates and members became urgent. In addition to daily updates on the online coronavirus toolkit, regular email communications, aggressive social media efforts, zoom conferences and videos, the IAFF introduced its first IAFF podcasts. To date, five podcasts have been produced:

**Episode 1: COVID-19** provides an overview on the coronavirus and its impact on our members, dispels some of the misinformation circulating and explains low- and high-risk exposure and protocols for staying safe on the job.

**Episode 2: State and Federal Resources During the COVID-19 Outbreak** details the funding and resources available through federal, state and local governments and how affiliates can access these funds.

**Episode 3: Managing Your Retirement Accounts in the Era of COVID-19** addresses how affiliates can protect benefits in the current financial climate and offers best practices for members on protecting their finances during COVID-19.



Listen to these and future IAFF podcasts on the IAFF Radio Network ([www.iaff.org/radio](http://www.iaff.org/radio)).

**Episode 4: Communicating Your Value During COVID-19** highlights the IAFF's efforts to communicate with affiliates and members during the pandemic, as well as external efforts through earned media.

**Episode 5: Tackling Behavioral Health** lets listeners know how members can find resources and get help for behavioral health issues and the steps the IAFF is taking to support members. ■

## REDUCING THE SPREAD OF COVID-19

Interim guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for *Implementing Safety Practices for Critical Infrastructure Workers Who May Have Had Exposure to a Person With Suspected or Confirmed COVID-19* permits essential staff to continue working as long as they remain asymptomatic, even if they've been exposed to a positive COVID-19 patient or symptomatic coworker. **However, the IAFF continues to recommend following our guidelines for high-risk exposure to protect your workforce:**

- For members who wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), any exposure with a positive COVID-19 individual is considered low risk and they can continue to work.
- For members who do not wear appropriate PPE, any close contact exposure with a confirmed or suspected COVID-19 individual is considered a high-risk exposure and they should be placed in quarantine for the recommended 14-day period.

**We are also advising all members to wear masks while on duty, including at the fire station, to reduce high-risk exposures from coworkers who may unknowingly be positive for COVID-19. By wearing masks, we reduce potential high-risk exposures to low-risk exposures, preventing mass quarantines.**

See these and other guidance at [www.iaff.org/coronavirus](http://www.iaff.org/coronavirus). ■



## COVID-19 Awareness and Precautions PREVENT THE SPREAD

**THINK POSITIVE** — Our probability of being exposed and positive is high — do your part to protect your family, coworkers and community.

- Continue self-screening
- Stay six feet from others in the household
- Restrict visitors who do not have to be in the home
- Don't share household items (dishes, cups, towels, etc.)
- Clean counters, tabletops, doorknobs, bathroom fixtures, toilets, phones, keyboards, tablets, etc. every day

[www.iaff.org/coronavirus](http://www.iaff.org/coronavirus)



## COVID-19 RESPONSE TIMELINE

APRIL 8

IAFF works with hotel chains offering special rates and discounts to healthcare workers, including IAFF members, who need a place to stay close to work or to self-quarantine away from home to protect loved ones.

APRIL 9

IAFF releases new episode of the Kitchen Table addressing many of the health and safety issues affecting members on the frontlines, such as preparation and PPE, exposure documentation and quarantine.

APRIL 10

IAFF urges affiliate leaders to tell their stories to the local media about the dire need for supplies in local fire departments as, by his own admission, the head of the COVID-19 Supply Chain Resilience Task Force, Rear Admiral John Polowczyk stated that fire and EMS agencies are not at the same level of priority as other healthcare workers.

APRIL 11

Washington Post story confirms supply chain problems. IAFF issues social distancing guidelines for members to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

## WAHLBURGERS' #WHATEVERYOONEED CAMPAIGN FEEDS FIRE FIGHTERS AND OTHER FRONTLINE WORKERS

As most restaurants are closed or providing limited service due to COVID-19, the Wahlberg family — owners of the Wahlburgers restaurant chain — is giving back to fire fighters and other first responders on the frontlines of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Wahlburgers launched the #WhateverYouNeed campaign to feed frontline workers in the United States and Canada over a period of nine days. The Wahlbergs — including Wahlburgers founders Chef Paul Wahlberg and actors Donnie and Mark Wahlberg — grew up in Boston's Dorchester neighborhood, as did General Secretary-Treasurer Ed Kelly.

"During this COVID-19 pandemic, my family knew we had to step up and make a difference for the people on the frontlines and people in need," says Mark Wahlberg. "So, with my brother Paul's talents, we decided to serve as many meals as we could."

The problem was how to deliver 30,000 meals throughout the United States and Canada.

That's when Wahlberg called on his old pal, Ed Kelly, for assistance.

"I want to thank the Wahlbergs for their generosity," says Kelly. "Our brother and sister fire fighters are working side-by-side with other first responders, serving citizens during this deadly pandemic. We are all in this together. The #WhateverYouNeed campaign is the perfect demonstration of that concept."

Working through their district vice presidents, affiliates in the United States and Canada hosted #WhateverYouNeed events. Wahlburgers provided the meals, and IAFF members distributed the food to their fellow fire fighters, as well as to police stations, medical facilities and locations served by other first responders.

At the first stops in Boston and Hartford, Connecticut, Wahlburgers stopped at Boston, MA Local 718 and Hartford, CT Local 1548 fire stations. Subsequent stops included New York City and Detroit, Michigan.

Over the course of the five days surrounding Mother's Day weekend, members of the United Fire Officers Association Local 854 and United Firefighters Association Local 94 delivered thousands of meals citywide.

"Local 854 President Jake Lemonda and I are proud to host this event benefiting our members and other first responders across the city," says Local 94 President Fitzgerald. "This pandemic has challenged all of us. It's nice to be able to distribute a bit of goodwill."



In Detroit, the #WhateverYouNeed campaign was a two-day event. "Our members have been working hard with other first responders to protect the public during these unprecedented times," says Local 344 President Tom Gehart. "We are thankful for all the hard work from everyone involved to make this event happen."

Cities receiving Wahlburgers meal deliveries include the following:

- New York City
- Northern New Jersey
- Hartford
- Los Angeles
- San Francisco Bay Area
- Detroit
- Orlando
- Pittsburgh
- Milwaukee
- West Des Moines
- Minneapolis
- Kansas City, Kansas
- Toronto

The campaign ran through May 15. ■



1. UFOA Local 854 President Lemonda (not pictured), UFA Local 94 President Fitzgerald (second from left) and their members delivered meals to other first responders throughout the city.

2. Detroit Local 344 members gave the city's first responders a break from the pandemic response with a delivery from Wahlburgers.

3. General Secretary-Treasurer Kelly, 3rd District Vice President Jay Colbert, UPFFA of Connecticut President Pete Carozza and Hartford Local 760 leaders work to distribute burgers to Hartford's first responders.

### APRIL 14

New episode of The Kitchen Table features four affiliate leaders from some of the states hit hardest by COVID-19 who share their experiences.

### APRIL 16

IAFF begins offering online recovery meetings for members coping with or in recovery from an alcohol or substance use problem.

### APRIL 17

IAFF Financial Corporation (IAFF-FC) provides guidance on Protecting Your Finances in a Pandemic.

### APRIL 20

Affiliate leaders from across the United States and Canada discuss how they're using the coronavirus toolkit in the latest episode of The Kitchen Table.

### APRIL 21

IAFF issues guidance on identifying counterfeit respirators falsely marketed and sold as NIOSH-approved.

## ON THE FRONTLINES OF COVID-19

From the first cases of COVID-19 in the United States and Canada, members have been on the frontline working to protect their communities and to reduce the spread among the ranks.

The first hot spots appeared in Washington and New York states.

As the nation watched the news in February about the first reported case in King County, Washington, members from several locals in the area who had responded to a patient at the Life Care Center nursing home in Kirkland learned that patient had died, becoming the first recorded COVID-19 death in the United States.

"Calls from the Life Care Center for respiratory issues were coming in at an increasing rate," says Kirkland Local 2545 President Bryan Vadney. "But none had been tested or flagged for COVID-19."

Because the virus was still relatively unknown, members were responding with the standard personal protective equipment (PPE) for patients with respiratory illnesses, which is considerably less than what would later become the protocol for responding during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Seventeen Kirkland Local 2545 members, seven Redmond Local 2829 members and three Woodinville Local 2950 members were immediately quarantined. At the same time, the IAFF went to work to develop new guidelines and protocols. Local 2545 President Vadney says, "We were down a lot in staffing pretty quickly. Testing, at that time, was very slow. It would not be sustainable."

"The IAFF already had a toolkit loaded with COVID-19 information," says Washington State Council of Fire Fighters (WSCFF) President Dennis Lawson. "That, coupled with the information from the response to the Life Care Center, put us in the right direction. There were a lot of moving parts, but we are now in a good position to protect our members during this pandemic."

As decisions were made at the state and local level, the WSCFF needed to make sure labor had a voice in the process. WSCFF 7th District Representative Craig Soucy and 9th Representative Keven Rojecki worked with King County EMS to make many of the early safety protocol decisions.

Rojecki says, "We needed to establish safeguards quickly, including when to quarantine, when to wear full PPE and how to avoid spreading it to each other."

"The situation was stressful for all members, so it was critical to pay close attention to morale, as well," says Redmond Local 2829 Vice President and Redmond Medical Services Officer Jim Whitney. "Keeping the membership in the loop was key here. As soon as we received new information, we made sure to immediately communicate it to the membership."

New York, New Rochelle and New York City also became new hot spots early on.

"We had all heard that a pandemic may be coming," says New York State Professional Fire Fighters Association (NYSPPFA) President Samuel Fresina, "but nothing prepared us for what it was going to be like once it got here. Securing enough PPE, gaining access to testing and establishing safety protocols that were going to work for us became immediate concerns."

In New Rochelle, the first known cases were reported after local resident Lawrence Garbuz attended services at a local synagogue following a trip to Miami. Soon after, Garbuz tested positive for COVID-19. He was considered patient zero for the surrounding area as several of the synagogue's congregants also tested positive. It is unknown at what point Garbuz contracted the virus, but it spread quickly from there with cases popping up throughout the population.

Establishing safety guidelines, protocols and procedures proved to be a difficult task for New Rochelle Local 273. Because dispatch is handled separately from the fire department, screening of potential patients was based on whether the patient had been outside the country. Local 273 leadership had to push to change the questioning to include flu-like symptoms.

Another challenge was deciding when to put fire fighters in quarantine. Early on, a Local 273 member who tested positive for COVID-19 did not automatically trigger a quarantine. It wasn't long before 20 percent of the membership was infected. Two members were in serious enough condition to be put on ventilators.

**"The IAFF already had a toolkit loaded with COVID-19 information. That, coupled with the information from the response to the Life Care Center, put us in the right direction. There were a lot of moving parts, but we are now in a good position to protect our members during this pandemic."**

— Dennis Lawson, President, Washington State Council of Fire Fighters

"Preventing the spread of the virus among members was a big issue for us," says Local 273 President Sean DeNigris. "Members who were asymptomatic would show up for their shift and inadvertently spread it to others. We had to close the gap by wearing surgical masks and implementing social distancing policies."

At just about the same time of New Rochelle's first COVID-19 cases, infections were popping up all over New York City. The first confirmed case came from a healthcare worker who had just returned from Iran.

While fire and EMS are separate in New York City, the Uniformed Fire Officers Association Local 854 and Uniformed Firefighters Association (UFA) Local 94 members are first to respond to most emergencies. To reduce the potential for exposure, the practice quickly changed to limit the type of medical calls they went on to only the most urgent. Still, due to the large number of COVID-19 cases in the city's five boroughs, the potential for exposure exists on nearly every call.

"The stay-at-home order has been helpful in slowing the spread of the virus," says Local 854 President Jake Lemonda. "But in a densely populated place like New York City, it is difficult to have full compliance. We just keep looking forward for the best ways to continue to protect our members as they respond to this virus."

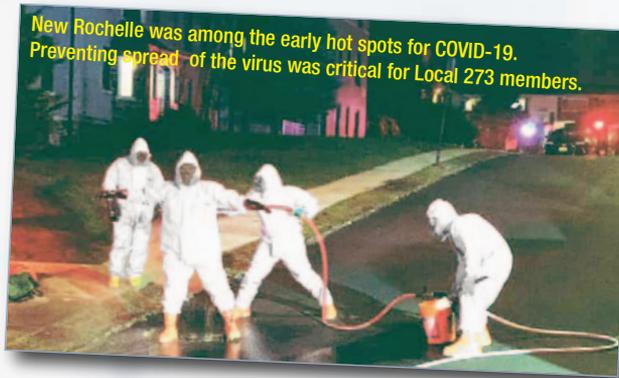
"We have had drills for many large-scale disaster scenarios — from chemical warfare to serious weather events — but we were not prepared for what the pandemic would bring," says Local 94 President Gerard Fitzgerald. "It took time before we had workable protocols in place that would keep our members safe on the job."

Members were advised to wear full PPE, but that raised another issue — they were using up N95 masks very quickly, making a rationing system necessary until supplies were replenished. Another concern was ensuring that members didn't accidentally spread the virus to each other. Firehouses are now regularly sanitized from top to bottom and members are required to go through a self-check protocol.

"Testing is still a challenge," says Fitzgerald. "We can't get tested unless we have symptoms, so it is hard to know where the virus is spreading and to what extent."

The good news is that the number of new cases and the number of members going into quarantine is no longer rising.

In California, exposure was an issue early on in municipal departments, including the San Jose Fire Department.



**New Rochelle was among the early hot spots for COVID-19. Preventing spread of the virus was critical for Local 273 members.**

## COVID-19 RESPONSE TIMELINE

APRIL 23

IAFF provides Testing for COVID-19 Fact Sheet.

APRIL 24

IAFF continues to urge Congress to provide direct funding to fire and EMS to keep members on the frontlines.

APRIL 25

IAFF urges affiliates to apply for the FY 2020 Assistance to Firefighters COVID-19 Supplemental Program, which provides \$100 million in available funding to provide PPE to fire fighters and first responders.

APRIL 28

To help affiliates prepare for and respond to potential pushes by their employers for cuts to staffing, training, resources, wages and benefits, retirement plans and healthcare coverage, IAFF launches a Preparing for a COVID-19 Economy toolkit.

Initial reports indicated the virus was spread from travelers returning to the United States from other countries. But San Jose Local 230 quickly discovered that the virus had been circulating in the surrounding area for some time. One member had been exposed but was unaware he had COVID-19 and remained at work, exposing several others. It was not until more than a month later — well after San Jose Local 230 had up to 15 members testing positive and more than 100 quarantined from multiple patient and crew exposures — that the coroner announced one of America's first COVID-19 deaths occurred in early February near one of San Jose's hardest hit stations.

"This was a threat that was spreading around our community and in our firehouses," says Local 230 President Sean Kaldor, adding that implementing self-screening protocols and working with the city for extra sick time helped keep the number of new infections among members to a minimum.

California Professional Firefighters (CPF) President Brian Rice says one of the largest challenges for municipal departments has been communication.

The CPF has worked with its state legislators to introduce legislation to require hospitals notify fire fighters if they transport in a patient who is later diagnosed with an infectious disease.

Rice is also very concerned about the wildfire season. Social distancing will be logistically difficult in that environment. There is also the question of how fire fighter health will be impacted.

"When you are on the scene of a wildfire, your respiratory system is immediately compromised," says Rice. "What will happen when a fire fighter who has been unknowingly exposed to COVID-19 enters that environment? It's a question that probably cannot be answered until it happens. That is very troubling."

"I am proud of how quickly our members have adapted to keep our citizens and each other safe on the job," says 10th District Vice President Frank Lima. "This wildfire season will certainly bring some unexpected challenges, but I know we will overcome them."

The average daytime population in Washington, DC, of more than one million has been cut in half as workers have moved to teleworking. Still, the number of calls Washington Local 36 members respond to has not gone down, while the DC Department of Health is currently projecting virus cases to peak in the city at the end of June.

Bringing the commuter population back to work is of great concern, says Local 36 President Dabney Hudson. Nearly 100 Local 36 members have tested positive and up to 120 fire fighters are in quarantine.

"From the beginning, Local 36 has been pushing for implementation of stricter safety protocols in the firehouse and on calls," says Hudson. Fortunately, he says, PPE supplies are adequate.

In communities across Illinois, privacy and the flow of information regarding potential COVID-19 patients made it difficult to track exposures.

"Information is critical when it comes to protecting our members and serving the public," says Associated Fire Fighters of Illinois (AFFI) President Chuck Sullivan. "Sometimes our members may not have all the information they need when they respond to calls, so we have urged all members to treat every call as a potential COVID-19 call."

"We know all too well that no one is immune," says 8th District Vice President Mark Sanders. "Our leaders have been on the forefront fighting for access to testing and safer protocols in the firehouse and on the job."

Two members of Chicago Local 2 have died in the line of duty from COVID-19 and many others have tested positive. To reduce exposure and the spread of the virus, Local 2 worked to get all members tested; however, receiving the results in a timely manner became a big issue. Some members reported that it took as long as 10 days for their results.

Accordingly, Local 2 put pressure on the city to shorten the wait time. "If we don't know who is carrying the virus, then we are exposing the public and each other at the firehouse," says Local 2 President Jim Tracy.

In fact, six firehouses were labeled hot spots because of high numbers of positive cases. All shifts at those firehouses have been tested, and those who tested positive are required to stay home for 14 days.

Chicago members are also now required to wear surgical masks on every run and use N95 masks when encountering possible COVID-19 patients.



**Kirkland Local 2545 members were among the dozens of fire fighters quarantined after exposure to a COVID-19 positive patient at the Life Care Center nursing home.**

More testing centers are expected to open to help reduce the testing backlog. The testing rate in Michigan is on the rise as the positivity rate continues to drop. In early April, positivity was 40 percent and by early May, it had dropped to less than 10 percent.

"What struck me from the beginning was how fast this virus could kill people," says Michigan Professional Fire Fighters Union (MPFFU) President Mark Docherty. "As such, the MPFFU has been laser-focused on protecting the members by ensuring workers' compensation for any member contracting the virus and having adequate protective gear."

In Detroit, Local 344 member Franklin Williams is among the eight IAFF members who have died from COVID-19. At least 100 Local 344 members, including President Thomas Gehart and Vice President William Harp, have tested positive. In mid-April, President Gehart was hospitalized. Both Gehart and Harp have since recovered and are back to the job and union business.

Local 344 member Eddie Herbert, whose wife is also a first responder, lost his five-year-old daughter, Skylar, to the virus. Detroit member Najuma Fulton lost his mother, Josephine Sampson, before Fulton and his wife also contracted COVID-19. Both Fulton and his wife have since recovered. Father and son members Kevin and Will Flowers also lost a family member to the virus when Kevin's daughter (Will's sister), Aron, contracted the virus and died. She was 22.

If Local 344 members are not battling the virus themselves, they remain on the job, but worry that they may be exposed and bring it home to their families. Hotel rooms are available for those who want or need to self-quarantine.

On the job, Local 344 has been working to implement protocols that will better protect members from exposure, including using the scout method to triage calls on scene. One fire fighter in full PPE enters a dwelling first to assess if there are COVID-19 patients. If so, all don full PPE before entering.

"These are unprecedented times," says Gehart.

"Our affiliates in Louisiana and throughout the 14th District have done an impressive job of advocating for their members to protect them against this virus," says 14th District Vice President Danny Todd.

Louisiana's most populated city, New Orleans, is another COVID-19 hot spot. Cases of the virus began appearing with increasing frequency following Mardi Gras on February 25.

To date, more than 50 Local 632 members have tested positive for COVID-19, including Local 632 President Aaron Mischler, but his case did not warrant hospitalization.

Fire and EMS remain separate in New Orleans and the city has established protocols preventing fire fighters from responding to EMS calls. However, Mischler reports that fire department management has not released the numbers of fire fighters who have been exposed and under what circumstances; therefore, Local 632 is doing its own tracking.

Professional Fire Fighters Association (PFFA) of Louisiana President Chad Major says, "At first, we didn't have the protocols and sufficient PPE on hand, but that has improved significantly." Many Louisiana departments have successfully implemented safety protocols, resulting in fewer members testing positive. In some areas, departments are using COVID-19 calls-only strike teams to reduce potential exposures.

While some areas have seen a leveling off or reduction in COVID-19 cases, the reality is that as long as COVID-19 remains a threat, members will continue to be on the frontlines. ■

#### APRIL 29

IAFF develops Guidance for Fire Department and Union Operations to assist affiliates and their fire departments in accordance with federal, state and local guidance as communities begin to prematurely reopen to maintain the health and safety of our workforce.

#### MAY 3

IAFF provides affiliates with resources to share to keep communities safe as people are working from home, which can increase the risk of household accidents.

#### MAY 4

IAFF postpones 2020 Convention originally scheduled for August 2020.

#### MAY 5

IAFF advises affiliate leaders of new Treasury Department FAQs on Relief Funding available to state and local governments.

## MIAMI BEACH ACTIVATES FIRST DEDICATED COVID-19 RESPONSE TEAM

To reduce exposure and slow the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19), IAFF members and the entire emergency response community are quickly developing new protocols and response strategies. One example is Miami Beach Fire Rescue, in cooperation with Miami Beach, FL Local 1510, which created a dedicated COVID-19 response unit.

“During this crisis, our members are working outside the box,” says 12th District Vice President Walt Dix. “I am very proud of the smart ideas they are developing to keep our members safe while responding to these emergencies.”

Heeding the concerns expressed by the IAFF and national health officials, Local 1510 President Adonis Garcia and Miami Beach Fire Chief Virgil Fernandez met to discuss how best to respond to people

who have been potentially exposed to the virus. Both agreed that a dedicated COVID-19 unit would be the best way to limit exposure.

As an added layer of protection, the three-member unit wears an increased level of protective gear and responds from and returns to the Mount Sinai Hospital.

“As safety is our top priority. We think it’s best not to respond from fire stations,” says Garcia. “This keeps us from returning to the station and unintentionally exposing other Local 1510 members to the virus.”

Decontamination areas have been established at the hospital where Local 1510 members undergo a full decontamination after every call. ■



## IAFF AND FIRSTNET: COMMITTED TO PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS DURING COVID-19

The IAFF and FirstNet Built with AT&T, in a public-private partnership with the First Responder Network Authority, are committed to educating fire fighters and paramedics about the benefits of FirstNet and the impact it can have on public safety communications during these critical times.

As IAFF members continue to respond to the COVID-19 spread nationwide, AT&T has significantly reduced its retail footprint to protect communities and employees during the COVID-19 response but continues to support IAFF members.

FirstNet-eligible members can subscribe online. Use the Association Referral Code IAFF123 during sign-up. This option supports new

activations, new number or number port from a different carrier, AT&T to FirstNet migration, device upgrades and add-a-line.

Email IAFF-FirstNet@att.com with your name, location and IAFF local number to be connected to a local representative who can deliver equipment and provide on-the-spot sign up. Local representatives will take appropriate preventative measures, including social distancing and increased sanitizing.

FirstNet offers mission-critical communications services to fire departments and to active IAFF members with priority preemption, ensuring that whether members are on an official device or personal phone, their phone calls and texts receive priority routing.

For additional information, contact Amy Huston at (615) 830-4340 or ah1087@att.com. ■

## DEVELOPING A VIRTUAL FILL THE BOOT CAMPAIGN DURING COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent lockdowns and stay-at-home orders have dramatically affected everyday aspects of life, including IAFF members’ efforts to Fill the Boot for MDA.

However, the crucial fundraising to help find a cure for neuromuscular disease and address the needs of those served by MDA continues. With traditional boot drives on hiatus this year, the IAFF and MDA are working on an alternative campaign to raise money to support MDA during these challenging times.

“The IAFF has been committed to helping MDA for 66 years,” says General President Harold Schaitberger. “Even in these

uncertain times, our dedication to supporting and helping MDA remains consistent.”

Currently still in the planning phases, a digital or virtual Fill the Boot campaign will be released soon to allow IAFF affiliates to continue their efforts to support their local MDA offices and maintain the community goodwill associated with the Fill the Boot program. ■



**“The IAFF has been committed to helping MDA for 66 years. Even in these uncertain times, our dedication to service and helping MDA remains consistent.”**

— General President Schaitberger

## COVID-19 RESPONSE TIMELINE

MAY 14

FEMA extends deadline for applications for FY 2019 SAFER grant funding to May 27, waiving the cost share, position cost limit, supplanting and minimum budget requirements and eliminating the need for applicants to request an economic hardship waiver.

Legislation to ensure fire fighters who die or are permanently and totally disabled due to COVID-19 receive full federal benefits passes the U.S. Senate.

MAY 15

U.S. House of Representatives is expected to pass bill repealing mandate requiring the FCC to hold T-band auction; the IAFF urges the Senate to stop auction and reserve its use for public safety agencies.

U.S. House passes HEROES Act to provide direct assistance to state and local governments, protect critical public safety radio spectrum, fund essential grants and provide resources for families of first responders who die due to COVID-19.

# IAFF Retirees

## *A Salute to Dedication, Service and Courage*

**ALABAMA** L0117 Birmingham — Summer Danzer, David Kiker, L1349 Mobile — Julius Agnell, Kenneth Newman, Steven Reed, L1437 Decatur — Janice Johnson, Allen Tapscott, L1833 Huntsville — Timothy Barnack, David Bradford, Kevin Cassidy, Terry Hester, Ronnie Looser, John McNeal, Tracy Neely, Jonathan Reed, William Shelton, L2087 Vestavia Hills Professional Fire Fighters Association — Scott Key, L2949 Scottsboro Professional Fire Fighters Association — David Jones, Alvie Roberts, L4035 Hoover — Randall Wiggins, L4566 Madison Professional Fire Fighters Association — Jeffrey Herrin, L4568 North Shelby Professional Fire Fighters Association — James Miller

**ALBERTA** L0255 Calgary — Roy Kloemper, James Magwood, Chris McCallum, Edward Miller, Edward Newton, Gordon Stuart, L0263 Medicine Hat — Robert Cote, L1190 Red Deer — Lyn Brown, Gary Engebretson, Mike Godwin, Todd Learn, Wes Van Bavel, Douglas Vesely, L4794 Rocky View County Fire Fighters Union — Alfred Schmidtk

**ARIZONA** I0060 United Emergency Medical Professionals Of Arizona — Adam Lizardi, L0479 Tucson — Steve Anderson, Scott Billings, Demosthenes Chantengco, Brian Cobb, James Cosmas, Arned Hernandez, Russell Krueger, Jeffrey Langejans, L0493 Phoenix — Jabez Barajas, Timothy Cordon, John Dooley, Mark Faulkner, Douglas Graham, Scott Grane, William Hahn, Elizabeth Hendel, Jeff Herbert, Richard Horne, Lisa Jones, Ross Kafer, Todd Lunn, Scott Meyer, Michael Millan, Scott Miller, Martha Mixon, John Webb, L1505 Flagstaff — Mike Boehm, Todd Dobbs, L2260 Mesa — Paul Bourgeois, Jimmy Deutsch, Larissa Dvorak, Bruce McGregor, Kris Osterhoudt, Donna Ziegler, L2273 Globe — Scott Cameron, L3066 United Yavapai — Jack Dale, Donald Devendorf, Charlie Reyes, L3572 Northwest Fire Fighters — Phil Breton, Sean Culliney, Tony Franz, Ryder Hartley, Steven Noble, L3647 Colorado River Professional Fire Fighters — Joey Cornell, Duane Leisle, Richard Lohran, L3690 Sedona-Verde — Bruce Hagberg, Roland Wagenbach, Paul Winton, L3832 North Tucson Fire Fighters — William Hennings, L4005 United Goodyear Fire Fighters — Damien Morrison, L4125 Green Valley — Kevin Malaney, L4135 Northern Gila County — Gary Vohs, Toby Waugh, L4217 White Mountain — Larry Bentley, Anthony Cantarella, Kristy Coffman, Dewey Ray, L4311 United Buckeye — Dean Palmer, L4324 Fort Mojave — Steve West, L4492 Professional Fire Fighters of Sierra Vista — Thomas Hilb, L4729 United Fire Fighters Of Page — Dan O'Connor, L4913 Fry Fire District — Michael Labrecque, L4944 Old Pueblo Fire Fighters Association — Kurt Oberdries

**ARKANSAS** F0099 Fort Roots Fire Fighters Association — David Dropkin, John Schmidt, L0014 Pine Bluff Fire Fighters Association — David Johnson, Gerald White, L0033 Fort Smith — John LeFlore, Daniel Sullins, L0034 Little Rock — Thomas Hensley, Jerry Thornton, L1373 Camden Professional Fire Fighters Association — Tim Sharp, L2866 Fayetteville Fire Fighters Association — Matthew Allen, L2995 Harrison — Michael Atkinson, Roger Edwards, Tony Harp, L4016 Conway — Randy Crowell, L5014 Blytheville Professional Fire Fighters — Rodney Duncan

**BRITISH COLUMBIA** F0003 Esquimalt — Greg McKenzie, L0018 Vancouver — Martyn Evans,

Michael McKinnon, L0256 New Westminster — Peter Loss, Ray McCullough, L0730 Victoria — Gary Birtwistle, Oscar Pohl, L0913 Kamloops — Stephen Butchart, L0967 Saanich — Paul Smith, L1183 District Of North Vancouver — Jeff Mayer, L1271 Surrey — Robert Harrison, Hassem Slamang, L1286 Richmond — William Heng, L1372 Prince George — Dale Froescul, L1525 West Vancouver — Mark Fonseca, Barney Lang, Mike Mullin, L1763 Delta Firefighters — Charles James, Gary Nylund, Brent Thomas, L1941 Port Coquitlam — Stewart Novak, L2826 Chilliwack Professional Fire Fighters Association — Tim Bolan, L2864 Abbotsford Fire Fighters Association — Joe Bleakley, Terry Dancy, Jim Durvin, John Markwat, Riley Thirsk, L4550 Township of Langley Professional Fire Fighters Association — Mike Dougherty

**CALIFORNIA** F0033 San Diego — Frederick Branne, John Hoots, F0309 Concord Federal Professional Fire Fighters — Robert Ashburn, I0061 Burbank Airport — Ruben Mercado, L0055 Oakland/Alameda County Fire Fighters — Shenah Groom, Jacob Holmes, Lawrence Hom, David Rocha, John Walsh, James Watkins, L0112 Los Angeles City — Gary Alexander, Donald Batiste, Mario Carreto, Janet Cline, Alvin Dawes, Douglas Dilks, Steve Encinias, Alfred Flores, Dale Grottko, Jeffray Haas, Charles Herrera, John Hicks, William Holland, Sean Hughes, Robert Keay, David Leal, Steven Martinez, Michael McDonough, Brett Merrell, David Navarro, Andre Raya, Jerry Robles, Mark Rojas, Christopher Schnitker, Gary Smith, David Stanley, Kurt Tietze, Anthony Valdez, Adam Zimmerman, L0145 San Diego — Karl Becker, Adrian Blackson, Gregory George, Shannon Mueller, John Tanaka, Raymond Tong, L0188 Richmond — Sauncie Quillin, L0230 San Jose — Joseph Abasolo, Daniel Gamban, Robert Gutierrez, George King, Charles Miller, Victor Polverino, Jeffrey Una Dia, Dennis Wheeler, Eleazar Zamora, L0372 Long Beach — Lance Hiraga, L0456 Stockton — Anthony Costa, John Loverin, Javier Martinez, Michael Smith, Steve Stewart, Christopher Wright, L0522 Sacramento — James Bedal, Mark Dezord, Erick Eakles, Joseph Evans, Brian Evers, David Farrell, Michael Feyh, Anthony Fink, Lisa Giblin, Michael Giles, James Haggard, Richard Hudson, Lynn Hunter, Paul Isaacson, Gary Lascelles, Bruce Lytle, Curtis Mata, Sean McCormick, Donald McCoy, James Mrozinski, Phillip Nagel, Tracy Olcese, Matthew Randazzo, Anthony Roberts, Kenneth Roderick, Joshua Rubinstein, John Schanzenbach, Craig Von Chance Stutler, Darren Zimmerman, L0525 Santa Barbara City — Steve Berman, Michael Mudgett, Anthony Pighetti, Brian Walsh, L0652 Humboldt Bay Professional Fire Fighters — Jim Andresen, Carl Gossien, L0689 Alameda — Darren Brown, Scott West, L0753 Fresno — Mark Harvey, Kendrick Mehrmann, L0776 Glendale Craig Young, L0798 San Francisco — Brian Chalmers, Martin Spalka, L0935 San Bernardino County — Michael Jones, Adam Kovacovich, Richard Lentine, David Mathis, Kelvin McElfish, Michael Neufeld, Jonathan Wiseman, L1014 Los Angeles County Fire Fighters — Richard Baligad, Michael Beran, Steven Cabrera, Kohi Dao, Steven Egger, Ben Frascaona, Jack Haynes, Timothy Knorr, Douglas La Count, Richard Leuck, Michael McHargue, Michael Mireles, John Williams, L1067 Riverside City — Robert Gabler, Dennis Hunt, Thomas Jay, David Olivas, Jeffrey Rowe, Frank Smith, Michael Weatherbie, L1165 Santa Clara

County — Kathleen Baker, Wallace Finck, Kenneth Radliff, George Tsivikas, James Werner, L1171 Santa Clara — Craig Anderson, Jeff Lopez, L1186 Fire Fighters Local 1186 — Charles Ford, Eric Strom, L1225 Lodi Professional Fire Fighters — Brian Jungeblut, L1227 Berkeley — Richard Diaz, Dennis Foley, John Snell, Chuck Wong, L1270 Salinas — Ted Koch, L1272 Watsonville — Lawrence Chin, L1301 Kern County — Jeffrey Cram, Aaron Duncan, Sean Fraley, Gary Killian, Rodger McDonald, Corey Regan, Chad Saeler, David Schultz, L1319 Palo Alto — Charles Stewart, L1364 Ventura County — Mark Acevedo, Edward Johnston, Brendan Ripley, Olaf Schuett, Sheri Wyche, L1430 Ontario — Kevin Anastasi, Robert Tormey, L1479 Merced City — John McMillen, Kevin Ploog, L1578 Alhambra — Mark Kolb, L1592 Roseville Fire Fighters — Patrick Chew, Jim Giblin, Steven Minnich, L1775 Marin Professional Fire Fighters — Alex Bowlds, Chris Brown, Chris Donohue, Dean Raffaini, L1934 Redding — Lance Beatty, L1974 Livermore-Pleasanton — George Derby, L2046 Santa Barbara County — Jay Erwin, L2274 Rancho Cucamonga — Brenton Roberts, Cheryl Roberts, Lance Snider, L2384 Orange City — Joseph Grant, Steve Wenglein, L2400 San Mateo County — Marc Bernal, David Cowan, Scott Lipperd, Steven Martin, Brian Schindler, Matthew Sullivan, Gregory Wilson, L2404 Oroville — Erik King, L2434 Turlock — Scott Wejmar, L2606 Monterey County Regional Fire Protection District — Kurtis Calender, L2683 Piedmont — Michael Pavao, L2744 National City — Derek Jones, Mike Shoemaker, L2787 Redondo Beach — Gary Treskes, L2805 Gilroy Fire Fighters Association — Paul Butler, L2881 Cal Fire Local 2881 — Peter Munoa, Tim Stewart, L3354 Huntington Beach — Eric McCoy, L3395 Hollister — Dennis McNight, Dave Young, L3399 Stanislaus Consolidated Fire Fighters — Daniel Cummins, Nicholas Meigs, L3440 Arcadia — Donald Smith, Mike Stratton, John Twitchell, L3577 Scotts Valley — Nick Owens, L3631 Orange County Professional Fire Fighters Association — John Clinkinbeard, Todd Mitchell, David Orr, Michael Perry, William Sterling, L3636 Ceres Fire Fighters — Thomas Beyer, L3707 Monterey — Fred McAlister, David Reade, Roger Reed, Larry Sands, Arthur Webb, L3716 Selma — Scott Sanders, L3730 Carlsbad — Jeffrey Chumbley, Chris Lawrence, Ken Sugahara, L3734 Newport Beach — Alan Baker, L3757 Corona Fire Fighters Association — Christopher Cox, Steve McCabe, Kevin Schurb, L3776 Brea — Tim Williams, L3788 El Centro — Craig Morris, L3793 Yuba City — Gary Gonzales, Rob Ivanisevich, L3847 Rocklin Fire Fighters Association — Paul Grenier, L4115 Lake County — George Murch, L4188 Kelseyville — Paul Scott, L4291 Kingsburg — Robert McGee, L4488 Lakeside Fire Fighters Association — Jerry Daoust, L4594 West Covina Fire Management Association — Vincent Capelle, L4742 Apple Valley Professional Fire Fighters Association — Darrell Herington

**COLORADO** L0005 Colorado Springs — John Aker, Russel Renck, Steven Riker, L0858 Denver — Steven Ellis, Jack Finley, Nicholas Krosky, Daniel Lind, Jeff Sullivan, L0888 Greeley — Doyle Schaeffer, Zachery Sullivan, L0900 Boulder — Nathaniel Hayes, Matthew Ruggeri, Joseph Savino, L1309 West Metro Fire Fighters — Kenneth Walker, L1806 Longmont — Jack Davis, L1945 Poudre Fire Authority — James Houck, Sharon McNeil, Gary Nuckols, Cory Younie, L2086 IAFF Local 2086 South Metro Fire Rescue — Steve Allen, L2203 North Metro — Michael Bushman, Michael Dufford, Donald Wiercinski, L2403 Adams County Professional Fire Fighters — Tony Rosa, L4056 Arvada — Matthew Osier, L4123 Frederick-Firestone — Jeremy Futrell, L4341 Glenwood Springs Professional Fire Fighters — Dan Walsh

**CONNECTICUT** I0068 Sikorsky Aircraft — Thomas Ermini, Michael Malerba, Patrick McCarty, Russell

Tortora, Alexander Wilson, **L0773 Bristol** — Eugene Szalapski, **L0786 Stamford Professional Fire Fighters Association** — Allen Byrne, **L0801 Danbury** — Lorinda Arconti, Reed Boullianne, John Osborne, **L0834 Bridgeport** — Kyle Gardiner, Tyler Moraes, **L0892 Norwich** — Scott Suplita, **L0992 New Britain** — Kevin Godomski, **L1042 Greenwich** — Michael Gomes, **L1148 Meriden** — Russell Donovan, **L1198 West Haven** — Louis Faugno, Brian Molster, **L1241 West Hartford** — John Kupernik, **L1326 Wallingford** — Joseph Mule, **L1339 Waterbury** — Alexander Cruz, Miguel Cruz, Alexander Romanzi, Kurt Schramek, Jeffrey Sheehan, **L1579 Manchester** — Eric Diaz, **L2704 Poquonnock Bridge** — John Stanford, **L4177 Guilford** — Paul Fazzino, **L4419 Litchfield County Fire/EMS Dispatchers Union** — Douglas Tillotson, **L5146 Northwest Telecommunicators Union** — Christopher Casey  
**DELAWARE F0135 Dover Air Force Base** — Jeffrey McCombs, **L1590 Wilmington** — Kevin Crews, Stephen Merced, Joseph Ryan  
**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA L0036 Washington** — Edgar Alvear, Michael Capps, Robert Cooper, Kurt Hoffman, Kevin Logan, Norita Matthews, Leighton Pitter, Thomas Rine, Michael Rogers, Henry Romero, Scott Smith, Dean Smothers, David Spalding, Joseph Speakes, John Spencer, Eric Waddy, Kenneth Wilson, **L3217 Metropolitan Washington Airport Authority** — Kimberly Allen, James Lonas, Robert Mott  
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**Association Of Fire Fighters** — John Donahue, Patrick Flynn, Rene Gonzalez, Theresa Hall, **L1158 Clearwater Fire Fighters Association** — Stephen Coward, **L1210 Coral Gables Professional Fire Fighters Association** — Jesus Acevedo, Michael Chickillo, Philip Lopez, Jeff Stone, **L1365 Orlando Professional Fire Fighters** — Joe Brown, Edward Griffin, Mitchell Peavey, **L1375 Hollywood Professional Fire Fighters, Inc.** — Marc Croteau, James Cummins, Juan Lana, Anthony Liddell, Thomas Price, Wayne Reese, Jon Rieschl, Anthony Vinas, **L1377 Professional Fire Fighters & Paramedics Of Saint Lucie County** — Stephen Beane, Laura Brown, Stacie Cantaline, Lewis Clanton, Renee Forbes, Joe Lowry, Julie Marlow, Travis Martin, Dave Noble, Randy Warnack, **L1403 Metropolitan Dade County Association Of Fire Fighters** — Nidia Anderson, Pedro Bas, Roberto Betancourt, Brett Biller, Jim Eades, Carl Eloi, Allison Fontana, Elvin Gonzalez, Preston Graves, Alvin Guthery, Almeata Hilton, Karen Joseph, Colette Mara, James Moore, David Moreland, Carla Nash Al- Imam, Mario Puentes, Sarah Rowsey, Joseph Sollecito, Donald Titman, Giovannie Ulloa, **L1510 Fire Fighters Of Miami Beach** — George Barreiro, Stanley Garvin, Robert Quintana, Enrique Roque, Efrain Valdes, **L1560 Fire Fighters Of Boca Raton** — Jeffery Matheson, **L1560** Don West, **L1826 Southwest Florida Professional Fire Fighters** — Jeffery Brann, Daniel Duncan, David Hart, Charles Houser, William Simpson, **L1842 Professional Fire Fighters Of Delray Beach** — Mark Dorsett, **L1891 Boynton Beach Fire Fighters and Paramedics** — Michael Sidaway, **L2057 Orange County Fire Fighters Association** — Raymond Cardona, Kenneth Henderson, Terry Nolz, Daniel Riggs, William Stanley Jr., Kenneth Ward, Scott Yaeger, Julie Yaeger, **L2174**

**Professional Fire Fighters Of Naples** — Erick Baltodano, **L2292 Professional Fire Fighters Of Pembroke Pines** — Robert Austin, Adam Cabeza, Andrew Teixeira, **L2294 Hillsborough County Fire Fighters** — Rafael Almirola, Walter Andrews, Larry Anthony, Marlane Ausley, Gregory Barsumian, Richard Benitez, John Calderoni, Clay Cunningham, Nelson Diez, Phillip Lindquist, Gilbert Lopez, Raymond Lopez, Michael Manning, John Perez, Larry Ramos, Thomas Scher, Douglas Shirlley, Jerry Smith, William Watson, **L2297 North Collier Professional Fire Fighters and Paramedics Local 2297** — James Cunningham, Barry Liebowitz, **L2339 Tallahassee Professional Fire Fighters** — Byron Whitaker, **L2396 Collier Professional Fire Fighters and Paramedics** — Dale Chapman, **L2411 Professional Fire Fighters Of Stuart** — George Blum, **L2424 Cape Coral Professional Fire Fighters** — John Hauff, **L2546 Suncoast Professional Fire Fighters & Paramedics** — Robert Bennett, David Gentry, Rick Roussey, **L2820 Professional Fire Fighters Of Miramar** — Richard Hofberg, Gina Hudson, **L2928 Professional Fire Fighters & Paramedics Of Palm Beach County** — Kelley Denson, Victoria Donechie, Tim Jarrell, Patrick Licata, Kevin Mahady, Thomas Murphy, Edwin O'Berry, Deroy Olliff, Michael Ovdienko, Reginal Pickens, Richard Raynor, Gregory Timmer, **L2959 Professional Fire Fighters and Paramedics of Martin County** — Keith Colodny, Terry Donaho, John Moore, **L2969 Brevard County Professional Fire Fighters** — William Wall, **L3158 Destin Professional Fire Fighters Association** — Donny Watson, Matthew Winkler, **L3254 Seminole County Professional Fire Fighters Association** — Daniel Holder, John Thomas, **L3470 Professional Fire Fighters Of Holly Hill** — William Kimmy, **L3516 South Walton Professional**



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**GEORGIA L0134 Atlanta** — Dan Branan, Matthew Brown, William Richardson, **L1492 Dekalb County** — John Donoghue, **L3357 Augusta-Richmond County Fire Fighters Association** — Stephen Trivelpiece, **L4052 Henry County Professional Fire Fighters Association** — Wes Hollingsworth

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Sullivan, Patrick Trudeau, Tony Van Munsteren, Lionel Winch, **L0193 Thunder Bay** — Craig Venables, Douglas Westlake, **L0455 Windsor Professional Fire Fighters** — Nancy Christ, Maureen Nicholls, Robert Papineau, **L0465 Oshawa** — Steve Eymann, Rodney Kane, Gary Pascoe, **L0467 Guelph** — Norm McColl, Scott McDonald, Glen Morrison, **L0477 Woodstock** — Robert Tabor, **L0481 Welland** — Mark Belcastro, Cheri Busch, **L0485 St. Catharines** — Glen Cookson, Kevin Tait, **L0486 Chatham Kent** — Dan Kennedy, Kevin Langlois, **L0492 Sarnia** — Christopher Palmer, William Sheane, **L0498 Kingston** — Moe Leroux, Tim Restoule, **L0499 Cambridge** — Blake Morrison, Brad Schmidt, **L0527 Sudbury** — Troy Mallette, Donald McMillan, Louie Petrone, Chris Stokes, Michel Valiquette, Daniel Wendler, **L0528 Niagara Falls** — Roger Pigeon, **L0536 Brockville** — Peter Jonker, Greg Watt, **L0791 Waterloo** — Scott McLaren, **L0938 Collingwood** — Robert Bolt, **L0943 Kenora** — Larry Cottam, John Martin, **L1068 Brampton** — Doug Comeau, Gary Jarrett, Doug Nishimura, Dan Thistle, **L1212 Mississauga** — Ernesto Acuna, Tim Camilleri, Jacques Lehoux, Ted Mendrek, Robert Snow, **L1595 Vaughan Professional Fire Fighters** — John Bondrager, C. Walter Bottiglione, Vito Colucci, Kenneth LaGrandeur, Holly Stacey, Patricia Swainson, Donald Wagg, Roger Will, **L1632 Pickering** — Doug McKinnon, **L1732 Cobourg** — Christopher Brown, **L1957 Richmond Hill** — Eric Taverner, **L2307 Port Colborne** — Terry Czerlau, **L2511 Central York** — Ken Gibb, **L2727 Markham** — Ken Fisher, Joe Hill, Keith McGuckin, **L3888 Toronto Professional Fire Fighters** — Frank Blasi, David Boyko, Robert Cater, Alan Cauchon, Christian Cauchon, Shawn Collins, Norman Crawford, Jeffery David, Stephen Davies, David Deraiche, Paul Dodds, Gerry Draper, Taylor Fisher, William Foley, Andrew Foulkes, Paul Greenhalgh, Hoi Nang Li, James Macaskill, Allan Manderla, Dale Markham, Peter McCullagh, John McGouran, Bruce Munday, Ashley Munro, Eugene Nakatsu, Keith Nicholson, Kim Ormond, Michael Rainforth, Jean-Paul Riberdy, Robin Rutherford, Daryl Savoie, Michael Sippel, Larry Surdyka, Douglas Taylor, Rayner Volney, Jonathan Warden, Doug Wright, **L3940 Bradford Professional Fire Fighters** — Garth Bray  
**OREGON** **L0227 Bend** — Mike Baxter, Tom Edwards, Scott Seaton, Steve Stenkamp, Paul Swaggerty, Scott Wyman, **L0824 Medford** — Brian Farber, **L0851 Lane Professional Fire Fighters Association** — Stuart Sabatka, Kevin Sundholm, James Walter, **L1159 Professional Fire Fighters Association of Clackamas County** — Sean Brown, Karl Koenig, Steven Sherman, **L1660 Tualatin Valley** — Timothy Buchanan, Keegan Carey, **L2091 Douglas County Professional Fire Fighters** — Marc Nichols, **L2296 Pendleton** — Mark Lewis, John Richardson  
**PENNSYLVANIA** **F0246 Tobyhanna** — James George, Ryan Lentz, **I0017 Boeing-Vertol Professional Fire Fighters** — Richard Fauce, Dave Montana, **L0001 Pittsburgh** — Keith Bobbs, Brian Kosanovich, Todd McFeeley, Joseph Mulvihill, Donald Newham, Michael Quinn, David Raleigh, John Russell, Gregory Vogel, **L0010 McKeesport** — Christopher Cerci, **L0022 Philadelphia** — Carl Broll, Robert Conn, Peter Di Lauqua, Alfred Hoppe, Christopher Loredo, Joseph Montague, Anthony Sneider, **L0060 Scranton** — Thomas Morgan, David Schreiber, **L0104 Wilkes Barre** — William Dayton, William Murtha, Joseph Polacheck, **L0160 New Castle** — Lawrence Coyne, C. David Joseph, **L0293 Erie** — Michael Balliett, James Bowe, Frederick Dronney, Gary Eicher, Ross Gaertner, Richard Greene, John Haddix, Steven Reichert, Sean Russo, Andrew Stinely, John Widomski, **L0319 Lancaster** — Kenneth Barton, Bradley Ditzler, Timothy Erb, Andre Kelley, John Rathvon, **L0417 Sharon** — George Beckley, **L0428 Harrisburg** — Grover Cliatt, **L0627 York** — Bryan Smallwood, **L0736 Williamsport** — Todd Arthur, Craig Bierly, Vince Rundio, David Weaver, **L0802 Aliquippa** — Timothy

McFarland, **L1038 Allegheny County** — Elliott Hampton, Tammy Judy, Edward Kelemen, **L4837 Bensalem Township Career Fire Fighters Association** — Nicholas Weaver, **L4890 Montgomery Township Professional Fire Fighters** — Robert Hedden

**QUÉBEC L0125 Association des Pompiers de Montréal Inc.** — Jean-Francois Alie, Alfredo Bernola, Sylvain Boutet, Francois Chenier, Benoit Corbeil, Yves Dussault, Stephane Fyfe, Pierre Godbout, Christian Grimard, Martin Grise, Luc Harvey, Sylvain Lahaise, Alain Lemay, Sylvain Levesque, Pierre Meilleur, Martin Messier, Francois Prefontaine, Simon Proteau, Mathieu Raby, Jocelyn Richer, Richard Soucy, Yannick Vachon

**RHODE ISLAND F0100 N.E.T.C. Naval Base - Newport** — Ethan Scott, William Tiedeman, **L0732 Woonsocket** — Luke Morin, **L0799 Providence** — David Bertoncini, Garrett Murphy, Stephen Nunes, Glenn Phillips, **L0850 East Providence** — Jeffrey Church, Michael Farrell, Patrick Gendreau, Jody Greco, Richard MacDonald, **L1363 Cranston** — Paul DeLisi, Frank Ennis, Joseph Gavlik, Harold Hunt, Matthew Knowles, Todd McGill, **L1651 North Kingstown** — Jeff Field, Michael Gledhill, **L1703 Tiverton** — Joseph Plocica, **L2725 Cumberland Rescue Service** — Robert Shields, **L2748 Warwick** — Daniel Turco

**SASKATCHEWAN L0080 Saskatoon** — Greg Gowda, Kevin Lucas, David Seymour, **L0181 Regina Professional Fire Fighters Association** — Len Antonini, Darren Boyer, Jeff Pelletier, Jerry Shull, **L0510 Prince Albert** — Keith Boyer

**SOUTH CAROLINA L0061 Charleston Fire Fighters Association** — Stacy Robinson, **L3883 St. John's Professional Fire Fighters** — Douglas Ramsey

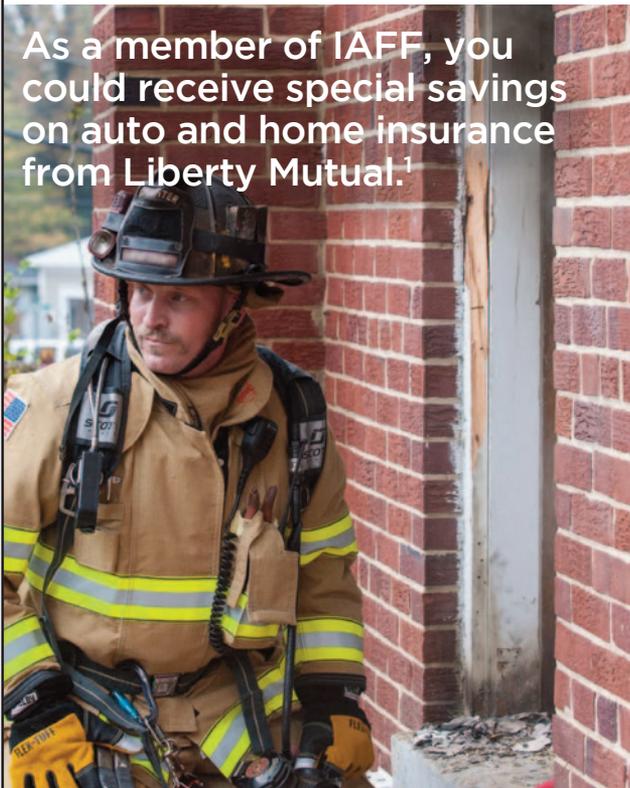
**SOUTH DAKOTA L0814 Sioux Falls** — Heather Carlson, **L1040 Rapid City Fire Fighters Union** — Dan Alfson, Kelly Gunderson

**TENNESSEE I0002 X-10 Industrial Fire Fighters** —

Jeffrey Redwine, **L0065 Knoxville** — Christopher Dyer, Jeffrey Levy, Brian Osterman, John Rodgers, Bryan Sharpe, Damon Underwood, Marcus Yarbrough, **L0140 Nashville** — Christopher Cotter, Walter and Demonbreun, Deborah Kennedy, Edward Lewis, Eric McEwen, Bobby Murray, George Owen, James Pollard, Joel Saunders, Michael Sullivan, Cynthia Walker, **L1784 Memphis** — Kenneth Brown, Andrew Hardaway, Chris Howard, Trevor Kelley, Stephen Koulogianes, Otto Luhm, Scott Miller, James Neal, Felecia Nunn, Donald Parker, Paul Pittman, Russell Sesley, Steven Smith, Michael Stallings, Robert Sullivan, Julian Wilson, **L1791 Johnson City** — Thomas Verran, **L2270 Kingsport** — Sean Broyles, **L3758 Franklin Fire Fighters** — Eddie House, James Jennings, James Miller

**TEXAS L0058 Dallas** — Brad Allen, Gregory Clark, Edward Foster, John Fulgham, Stephen Gouse, Marcus Mack, Ted Padgett, Steven Wise, **L0069 Denison** — Keith Davis, **L0341 Houston** — Lary Batiste, Curtis Blackman, Arthur Burns, Morgan Burton, Darrel Bush, James Eli, Larry Gomez, Byron Hayes, Dale Jenkins, Craig Kreger, John Lacy, Charles Medina, Paul Moser, Michael Niemann, Samuel Norvick, Donald Parrish, Kenneth Payne, Ennio Ponte, Jonathan Rochon, Vincent Rodriguez, Michael Sangl, Kevin Story, Curtis Williams, Dwayne Wyble, Eric Zapata, **L0367 Texarkana** — Marty Lawrence, **L0397 Port Arthur** — Michael Free, George Turpen, Willie White, **L0432 Wichita Falls** — J. J. Awtry, Darren Baber, Bobby Mataska, Jon Reese, **L0440 Fort Worth** — Craig Cox, Lesley Russell, J.R. Sullivan, Don Westmoreland, **L0478 Waco** — Dennis Schroeder, **L0542 Amarillo** — Randy Adams, Leslie Albright, William Banks, Brenton Clark, Larry Davis, Roy Deupree, Dennis Eaves, Clay Gibson, Chad Higgins, Keith Horton, Darrell Johnson, Michael Jones, Jeffrey Kimbrell, Eugene Lofgren, Gregory Mayes, James McGaha, Joe Neely, William Nolan, Mikal Orr, Ronald Powers, Barry Robinson, Robert Sherrill, Joseph Ward,

**L0624 San Antonio** — Donald Bissaro, Michael Burns, William Cooper, Kristy Crenshaw, William Davidson, Todd Dutson, Adolfo Flores, Douglas Johnston, Reynaldo Juarez, Edward Martinez, Robert Mikel, Roger Mora, Rudolph Rangel, Charles Savers, Carl Wedige, **L0846 Temple Professional Fire Fighters** — Mark Spivey, **L0872 Laredo** — Luis Cadena, Gustavo Gonzalez, Arnoldo Puente, Paulo Rodriguez, **L0883 Tyler** — Morgan Herron, Dwayne Parrish, **L0936 Corpus Christi** — Keith Terry, **L0972 Lubbock** — Warren Britt, James Butcher, Bruce Butler, Stephen Cook, Steve Holland, William McGinnis, Emery Meunier, Scott Nesbitt, **L0975 Austin** — Greg Barker, Jon Jaimas, Ritchie May, Rodger Miller, Doyle Noffsinger, James Richardson, Robert Richey, Roger Scarcliff, Scott VanHorn, **L0997 Greenville** — Jerry Rodgers, **L1044 Abilene** — Robert Coffin, Charles Sherrill, **L1293 Garland** — Steven Polk, John Pollard, Bryan Ray, **L1329 Arlington** — Scott Roland, **L1665 Odessa** — James Ornelas, Wende Ramos, **L2002 Sherman** — Jerry Fuller, **L2073 Irving** — Tom Bittelbergher, Paul Laney, Jon Porter, **L2661 Professional Fire Fighters of McKinney** — Melissa Currie, **L2731 Conroe** — Bill Hart, Gary Morrison, **L3113 Grapevine** — Frank Clewis, Patrick Lindsey, Traci McGill, **L3207 Weslaco** — Richard Stubbs, **L3293 Pampa Professional Fire Fighters** — Richard Littlefield, **L3358 Rowlett** — Bryan Beckner, Jeremy Morphis, **L3404 Harlingen** — Robert Benavidez, Roberto Campos, David Lompra, Sam Williams, **L3606 Lewisville** — Robert Jander, **L3649 Flower Mound** — Chad Edgar, **L3991 Georgetown** — Lane Mills, **L4234 Rosenberg** — Justin Jurek, **L4255 Sugar Land Professional Fire Fighters** — Steven Gore, **L4405 Professional Fire Fighters Association of Midland** — Robert Beggs, Noel Bingham, Kenneth Collins, Tommy Cook, Michael Evans, Manuel Heredia, William Hogan, Tim Owens, Tony Ramos, **L4612**



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**UTAH L0081 Salt Lake City** — Michael Berry, Donald Little, Thomas Riddle, Tom Schmucker, **L0552 Ogden** — Kent Anderson, **L0593 Provo** — Eric Neil Brazell, Chad Frisby, Dean York, **L2970 West Valley City** — Bruce Myler, **L4624 West Jordan Fire Fighters** — Matt Birch, Paris Napoli, Joseph Terry, Bradley Wardle

**VERMONT L2323 Rutland City Fire Fighters** — Mike Kane, Brendon LaFaso, **L2905 Hartford Career Fire Fighters Association** — David Shropshire

**VIRGINIA F0025 Tidewater Federal Fire Fighters** — John Hewitt, George Seemann, Harry Slaughter, **F0173 Fort Eustis** — Walter Williams, **L1132 Roanoke** — Brian Alford, Timothy Brown, Kevin Weeks, **L1146 Lynchburg Fire Fighters Association** — Adam Davis, Timothy Staton, **L1568 Henrico County** — Andrew Shelton, Marcus Winfree, **L2068 Fairfax County Professional Fire Fighters And Paramedics** — Lillie Allen-Peyton, **L2141 Alexandria** — Byron Andrews, **L2449 Chesapeake** — Joseph Gibbs, Mary Morton, **L2598 Prince William Professional Fire Fighters, Inc.** — Michael LaSalle, **L2598 Douglas McCabe, L2800 Arlington County** — Douglas Bennett, Juan Cano, Peter Corbino, Caryn Cozzolino, Stuart Inasley, Thomas Shamblyn, Michael Woodson, **L2801 Suffolk Professional Fire And Rescue** — Cody Baines, **L3194 Roanoke County P.F.F. And Paramedics** — Andrew Amos, **L4202 Hanover** — Keith Buchanan, Timothy Harless, Jason Kerrick, Terry McCann, Edward Walker, **L4902 Bedford County Professional Fire Fighters and Paramedics** — Mark Place, **L4994 Prince George Fire and EMS** — Donald Blake

**WASHINGTON F0283 Fort Lewis** — Jacob Sawyer, **L0027 Seattle** — Todd Aicher, William Collins, Roberto

Jourdan, Aaron Karls, Frank Lee, Monteith McQuade, David Pagan, Eric Peterson, Christopher Quiles, Stephanie Reid, Steven Roberts, Douglass Smart, **L0031 Tacoma** — Gerald Stephenson, **L0046 Everett** — R. Chad Harris, Arthur White, **L0106 Bellingham** — Robert Wilson, **L0452 Vancouver Fire Fighters** — Kenneth Cochran, Mark Owens, **L0453 Wenatchee Valley Fire Fighters Union** — Dave Noble, **L0468 Olympia** — Cathy Larson-Moe, **L0469 Yakima** — Mark Frey, **L0726 Pierce County Professional Fire Fighters** — Danial Baublits, William Dicken, Richard Hernan, Myra Merdian-Drake, **L0828 Longview** — Alan Basso, Derek Stabell, **L0864 Renton** — Fred Heistuman, Stephen Rawson, Mark Seaver, **L0876 Spokane Valley** — Steve Ferrette, Jeff Powell, **L1052 Richland** — Tracia Nunnally, **L1257 Port of Seattle Fire Fighters** — Dale Hornung, Randy Krause, Thomas Sanchez, Todd Starkey, **L1296 Kennewick** — Tracy Rutledge, **L1461 Burien** — Jerry Blaylock, Steve Ott, **L1488 West Pierce Fire Fighters** — Scott Adams, **L1604 Bellevue** — Greg Clifford, David Swart, Max Williams, **L1758 Ellensburg** — Jonathan Fowler, **L1828 South County Union Fire Fighters** — Randal Hills, Kelly Sateren, **L1919 Cheney Fire Fighters** — Kenneth Johnson, **L2099 Bothell Professional Fire Fighters** — Steven Craig, Steven Scott, John Vaaga, **L2409 Tumwater** — Karl Kohlstadt, **L2444 Camas** — Dale McKenzie, Joseph Scheer, Gregory Weisser, Allen Wolk, **L2597 Paine field** — Michael Bergstrom, **L2876 South Kitsap** — Daniel Eastlick, Robert Grant, Lynn Jewell, **L3152 Key Peninsula** — Scott Campbell, **L3828 Cowlitz 2 Fire & Rescue Career Fire Fighters Association** — Jeff Fix, Michael Turner, **L4033 North Snohomish County Union Fire Fighters** — Kerry Willmasher, **L4075 Grays Harbor Fire Fighters** — Adam Fulbright, **L4111 Burlington** — Danny Laine, **L5212 South Whidbey Fire Fighters Union** — Anthony McNair

**WEST VIRGINIA L0012 Wheeling** — Christopher Kreitzer, **L0091 Parkersburg** — Jeffery Burdette, Jimmy Harper, Eric Poole, **L0313 Morgantown** — Jimmy Lipscomb, Timothy Trentini, **L0317 Charleston** — Robert Fisher, Allen Holder, Walter Johnson, Brian Stull, **L0805 Martinsburg** — Brian Nadenbousch, Mark Stroop, Daniel Thomas, **L0948 Weirton** — Jerry Shumate, **L4889 130th Professional Fire Fighters** — Joseph Ertl

**WISCONSIN L0074 Superior** — David Johnson, **L0141 Green Bay** — John Lawler, **L0215 Milwaukee** — Thomas Halbur, David Harris, Kyle Moss, Michael Saskowski, David Voeltner, **L0311 Madison** — Michael Grumke, Peter Kienitz, Daniel McCosky, Tammy Nelson, Margaret O'Malley, Thomas Schaller, **L0316 Oshkosh** — Peter Fahrenkrug, Rory Moxon, **L0321 Racine** — Richard Jarvis, Shane Johansen, **L0342 West Allis** — Craig Pitman, **L0400 Fond Du Lac** — Peter Dutkiewicz, **L0407 Waukesha** — Jesus Alba, David Mack, James Melka, **L0414 Kenosha Professional Fire Fighters** — James Schuppe, **L0483 Sheboygan** — Roger Saeger, Patrick Toth, **L0484 Stevens Point** — Ryan Monaghan, **L0583 Beloit** — Gary Schenck, **L1021 Marshfield** — David Patton, **L1440 North Shore** — John Mayer, **L1848 Oak Creek** — Laura Wing, **L1923 Wauwatosa** — James George, Michael Liebherr, Christopher Schultz, Gary Webb, **L2682 Sturgeon Bay** — Ken Doell, **L2717 Saint Francis** — John Boyd, **L2760 Franklin** — Thomas Hensiak, **L2939 South Shore Fire Fighters** — Kevin Banse, Lawrence DeRosier, Henry Jones, **L4854 Germantown Fire Fighters Association** — Steven Smith

**WYOMING L0904 Casper** — Ryan Neff, **L0904 Cameron Siplon, L1499 Rock Springs** — Richard Cozad



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*In Memoriam of Those Who Have Served*

Local	Name	Local Name	State	Local	Name	Local Name	State
L0002	Michael Bauer	Chicago	IL	L0122	David Ebersole	Jacksonville Association of Fire Fighters	FL
L0002	Walter Bednarz	Chicago	IL	L0124	Paul Allen	Fort Wayne	IN
L0002	Donald Cipriani	Chicago	IL	L0124	Darvin Kritzman	Fort Wayne	IN
L0002	Anthony Cook	Chicago	IL	L0124	Jerome Smith	Fort Wayne	IN
L0002	Lewis Daniel	Chicago	IL	L0140	Nicholas Campanali	Nashville	TN
L0002	Timothy Dobczyk	Chicago	IL	L0140	Cecil Casto	Nashville	TN
L0002	Lance Fairbanks	Chicago	IL	L0140	Emmitt Flair	Nashville	TN
L0002	Mark Garza	Chicago	IL	L0140	Milton Fuqua	Nashville	TN
L0002	Edward Grendahl	Chicago	IL	L0140	Laura Hoffman	Nashville	TN
L0002	Gerald Hanlon	Chicago	IL	L0140	John Lawrence	Nashville	TN
L0002	Daniel Kelly	Chicago	IL	L0140	Melvin Paul	Nashville	TN
L0002	John Kowalczyk	Chicago	IL	L0140	Michael Wilkerson	Nashville	TN
L0002	Gino Lazzarotto	Chicago	IL	L0140	Charles Wilson	Nashville	TN
L0002	Howard Lyon	Chicago	IL	L0157	Clinton Merrick	Oklahoma City	OK
L0002	Albert Majdanowski	Chicago	IL	L0157	Kellie Sawyers	Oklahoma City	OK
L0002	Anthony Martello	Chicago	IL	L0157	Gerald Wallace	Oklahoma City	OK
L0002	James McInnes	Chicago	IL	L0176	David Croslin	Tulsa	OK
L0002	Frank Para	Chicago	IL	L0209	Kim Bennett	Edmonton Fire Fighters Union	AB
L0002	Edwin Perkins	Chicago	IL	L0209	Don Goldsmith	Edmonton Fire Fighters Union	AB
L0002	Grant Raymond	Chicago	IL	L0209	Emil Gulayets	Edmonton Fire Fighters Union	AB
L0002	Russell Reinke	Chicago	IL	L0209	Gordon Kilert	Edmonton Fire Fighters Union	AB
L0002	William Scott	Chicago	IL	L0209	Lawrie Kvist	Edmonton Fire Fighters Union	AB
L0002	Charles Selinka	Chicago	IL	L0209	Todd Oulton	Edmonton Fire Fighters Union	AB
L0002	Bernard Strickler	Chicago	IL	L0291	George Miller	Lancaster	OH
L0002	Richard Strothers	Chicago	IL	L0302	Rodney Groller	Allentown	PA
L0002	Harold Swanson	Chicago	IL	L0311	Michael Jawson	Madison	WI
L0002	Allen Wilde	Chicago	IL	L0317	Raymond Felix	Charleston	WV
L0002	Melvin Wilson	Chicago	IL	L0341	Scott Kelly	Houston	TX
L0022	John Bottinger	Philadelphia	PA	L0344	Daniel Delegato	Detroit	MI
L0022	Gregory Browne	Philadelphia	PA	L0345	Lesley Prather	Louisville	KY
L0022	David Cowden	Philadelphia	PA	L0399	Lester Hall	Beaumont	TX
L0022	Charles Hettinger	Philadelphia	PA	L0416	Mark Ackelmire	Indianapolis	IN
L0022	Michael Kopecki	Philadelphia	PA	L0416	William Bannon	Indianapolis	IN
L0022	Joseph Laskowski	Philadelphia	PA	L0416	Samuel Baskerville	Indianapolis	IN
L0022	Huston Lewis	Philadelphia	PA	L0416	Andrew Borton	Indianapolis	IN
L0022	Martin Mansfield	Philadelphia	PA	L0416	Paul Wilson	Indianapolis	IN
L0022	Patrick Matthews	Philadelphia	PA	L0439	Richard Wilkening	Elgin	IL
L0022	Willard Miller	Philadelphia	PA	L0479	Herbert Russell	Tucson	AZ
L0022	Emil Muller	Philadelphia	PA	L0479	Bruce Wilder	Tucson	AZ
L0022	Joseph Russell	Philadelphia	PA	L0506	William Straff	Berwyn	IL
L0022	Joseph Smolczynski	Philadelphia	PA	L0522	George Austin	Sacramento	CA
L0022	John Tomson	Philadelphia	PA	L0522	Steven Beck	Sacramento	CA
L0022	Joseph Vassallo	Philadelphia	PA	L0522	Gerald Gaines	Sacramento	CA
L0029	Kenneth Strong	Spokane	WA	L0522	David Ogden	Sacramento	CA
L0042	Rudy Chuning	Kansas City	MO	L0522	George Piercy	Sacramento	CA
L0042	George Pittman	Kansas City	MO	L0522	Allan Snider	Sacramento	CA
L0042	Ronald Turrell	Kansas City	MO	L0539	Tyrone Wisher	Portsmouth	VA
L0064	Robert Logan	Kansas City	KS	L0542	Frank Watts	Amarillo	TX
L0122	Bobby DeWitte	Jacksonville Association of Fire Fighters	FL	L0556	Tony Chochelek	Hammond	IN

# NEVER FORGET

*In Memoriam of Those Who Have Served*

Local	Name	Local Name	State	Local	Name	Local Name	State
L0556	Jeffrey Czerniak	Hammond	IN	L1403	Thomas Carter	Metropolitan Dade County Association Of Fire Fighters	FL
L0556	Leonard Kolisz	Hammond	IN	L1403	David Melton	Metropolitan Dade County Association Of Fire Fighters	FL
L0556	Robert Prendergast	Hammond	IN	L1403	Robert Pepper	Metropolitan Dade County Association Of Fire Fighters	FL
L0556	Michael Sanders	Hammond	IN	L1403	Robert Thrasher	Metropolitan Dade County Association Of Fire Fighters	FL
L0556	Mike Wimmer	Hammond	IN	L1463	Theodore Keiper	Hawaiian Islands	HI
L0558	Scotty Conrad	Jeffersonville	IN	L1463	Kevin Miller	Hawaiian Islands	HI
L0632	Glenn Barras	New Orleans	LA	L1463	Gordon Tom	Hawaiian Islands	HI
L0632	Robert Burger	New Orleans	LA	L1463	Dennis Yamada	Hawaiian Islands	HI
L0632	R. J. Daly	New Orleans	LA	L1557	Lorne Farrell	Sterling Heights	MI
L0632	Norman Davis	New Orleans	LA	L1590	Richard Hall	Wilmington	DE
L0632	B. Gilmore	New Orleans	LA	L1624	Leo Mauzerolle	Sanford	ME
L0632	H. F. Hahn	New Orleans	LA	L1660	John Schwarzin	Tualatin Valley	OR
L0632	Richard LaCour	New Orleans	LA	L1689	Ed Hauser	Fremont	CA
L0632	Joseph Mack	New Orleans	LA	L1775	Steve Braun	Marin Professional Fire Fighters	CA
L0632	Joseph Manale	New Orleans	LA	L1784	William Bompreszi	Memphis	TN
L0632	Harry Trepagnier	New Orleans	LA	L1784	Charles Chaillet	Memphis	TN
L0632	W. R. Winchester	New Orleans	LA	L1784	William Chitwood	Memphis	TN
L0718	Gerald Cahill	Boston	MA	L1784	Danny Hudson	Memphis	TN
L0718	John Curran	Boston	MA	L1784	Ryan Jones	Memphis	TN
L0718	Walter Kearney	Boston	MA	L1784	Kelsey Malone	Memphis	TN
L0718	Timothy McGillicuddy	Boston	MA	L1784	Lonnie McKenzie	Memphis	TN
L0718	William Mitchell	Boston	MA	L1784	James Presley	Memphis	TN
L0718	Leonard Pearson	Boston	MA	L1784	Harry Sanders	Memphis	TN
L0718	Frank Piazza	Boston	MA	L1784	Gerald Shaw	Memphis	TN
L0718	Michael Scanlan	Boston	MA	L1784	David Stonecipher	Memphis	TN
L0718	Gerard Yanovitch	Boston	MA	L1813	Richard Vaughn	Greater Chambersburg	PA
L0734	Frank Kuhn	Baltimore	MD	L1908	Paul Calabrese	Clark County	NV
L0734	Edward McCarthy	Baltimore	MD	L1926	Joshua Snyder	Annapolis	MD
L0734	Christopher Montgomery	Baltimore	MD	L2068	Roger Ludlow	Fairfax County Professional Fire Fighters Paramedics	VA
L0734	Joseph Schwing	Baltimore	MD	L2140	Patrick Evans	Milford	MA
L0734	Nicholas Stasuk	Baltimore	MD	L2343	James Ferris	Peekskill	NY
L0734	Henry Wiedefeld	Baltimore	MD	L2400	John Cronin	San Mateo County	CA
L0792	Jonathan O'Driscoll	Quincy	MA	L2455	Jason Theriot	Slidell	LA
L0841	Paul Lestage	New Bedford	MA	L2478	Patricia Bissonette	Hamburg	NY
L0858	Phil Apodaca	Denver	CO	L2701	Ronald Murdock	Trenton	MI
L0867	Ron Demedash	Winnipeg	MB	L2727	Alexander Marshall	Markham	ON
L0867	Ron Hamel	Winnipeg	MB	L2881	Samuel Davis	Cal Fire Local 2881	CA
L0936	Rodolfo DeLeon	Corpus Christi	TX	L3180	Gary Lewis	Clarksville	TN
L0964	Douglas Bayne	Baltimore Fire Officers Association	MD	L3630	Demetrius Butler	Twinsburg	OH
L0964	Stephen Ferragamo	Baltimore Fire Officers Association	MD	L3878	Joshua Greenleaf	United Maricopa County Fire Fighters Association	AZ
L0964	Clarence Pitz	Baltimore Fire Officers Association	MD	L3966	Fred Heller	Lemont Professional Fire Fighters Union	IL
L0964	Earl Russell	Baltimore Fire Officers Association	MD				
L0964	James Sappe	Baltimore Fire Officers Association	MD				
L0964	Donald Webb	Baltimore Fire Officers Association	MD				
L0975	Christopher Lafferre	Austin	TX				
L1044	Bobby Densman	Abilene	TX				
L1053	Roger Carnahan	Fredericton Fire Fighters Association	NB				
L1276	Lindsay Meilleur	Deep River	ON				
L1343	Hans Lehrke	Nelson	BC				

# LAST ALARM



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

L0274	Bernard Callahan	White Plains, NY	07/31/1954
L0274	Salvatore Galasso	White Plains, NY	07/31/1954
L0274	Christopher Harmon	White Plains, NY	05/30/1962
L0288	Albert Barrett	Hamilton, ON	05/04/1989
L1363	Peter M. Panosian	Cranston, RI	08/29/2000
L1363	Andrew B. Lang	Cranston, RI	06/24/2002
L0753	David M. Taylor	Fresno, CA	05/23/2018
L0753	Oney Durney, Jr.	Fresno, CA	07/20/2018
L0753	Sandra C. Johanns	Fresno, CA	07/27/2018
L1582	Clifford Goodale	Oakville, ON	11/27/2018
L0753	Gregory A. Crawford, Sr.	Fresno, CA	02/14/2019
L1014	Mark A. Tolbert	Los Angeles County, CA	05/19/2019
L1945	Charles H. Albrandt	Fort Collins, CO	07/29/2019
L0995	Joseph A. Mary	Richmond, VA	09/18/2019
L0345	John B. Martin	Louisville, KY	10/12/2019
L0854	James J. McGowan, Sr.	New York, NY	10/19/2019
L1014	William L. Knott	Los Angeles County, CA	11/29/2019
L0858	George M. Helfer	Denver, CO	12/21/2019
L0209	Robert L. Weiss	Edmonton, AB	01/11/2020
L2924	Sean H. Land	Virginia Beach, VA	02/05/2020
L1309	Dan Moran	West Metro, CO	02/07/2020
L1363	Gregory J. Coleman	Cranston, RI	02/10/2020
L3888	Roger K. Martin	Toronto, ON	02/21/2020
L1014	Samuel Christian Neubauer	Los Angeles County, CA	03/02/2020
L0493	Tommy Arriaga	Phoenix, AZ	03/06/2020
L0718	Anthony Thompson	Boston, MA	03/10/2020
L0338	Travis B. Mahoney	Elkhart, IN	03/11/2020
L2149	Gerald Becker	Plano, TX	03/12/2020
L1652	Bradford S. Smith	Framingham, MA	04/01/2020

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.

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