



## AFFILIATE LOCALS

Anchorage Fire Fighters Union  
*Local 1264*

Fairbanks Fire Fighters Association  
*Local 1324*

Ketchikan Fire Fighters Association  
*Local 2761*

Juneau Career Firefighters Assoc.  
*Local 4303*

North Pole Fire Fighters  
*Local 4505*

*Visit our Website . . .*  
*alaskapffa.org*



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International Fire Fighter Magazine  
and AKPFFA Newsletter

# ALASKA PROFESSIONAL FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION



*affiliated with the*

**International Association  
of  
Fire Fighters  
AFL-CIO, CLC**

*Respecting Tradition . . .*  
*. . . Embracing the Future*

# ALASKA PROFESSIONAL FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

The Alaska Professional Fire Fighters Association was chartered by the International Association of Fire Fighters in 2004, bringing together nearly 500 professional, career fire fighters into a statewide organization.

Though our State Association is relatively new, our goals and objectives have been in place for many years with Anchorage Local 1264 and Fairbanks Local 1324 being chartered when Alaska was still a territory, 1957 and 1959 respectively. By uniting our efforts with Ketchikan Local 2761, Juneau Local 4303, and recently North Pole Local 4505 we present a united voice for professional fire fighters throughout the state. Our members respond to 75% of fire and EMS 911 calls in Alaska.

By combining forces we have already had an impact on the legislature in Juneau. This led to the recent passage of Alaska's Presumptive Disability Law, providing the presumption of job related illness for certain cancers and heart and lung disease contracted by fire fighters. We will actively work for legislation that supports the needs of career fire fighters and will fiercely oppose any proposed legislation that negatively affects the safety or welfare of our members.

To be effective in Juneau we must be active in the election process. We identify candidates for the House, Senate and Governor offices that support the goals and objectives of career fire fighters. We reach across party line and support candidates solely on their positions on issues that affect career fire fighters and their families.

The AKPFFA works with other state and provincial associations through our membership in the Federation of State and Provincial Professional Fire Fighters and in May 2008 hosted a conference in Anchorage for the federation.

We work with our International Association to provide training for our affiliate locals and provide leadership assistance when requested. Our annual convention provides an opportunity for professional fire fighters from across Alaska to meet and share information important to our future.



## The International Association of Fire Fighters IAFF

The IAFF was established on Feb. 28, 1918, for the sole benefit of rank-and-file fire fighters in the United States and Canada. It was on this date that 36 fire fighter delegates attended the first IAFF Convention and adopted the IAFF Constitution and By-Laws. The objectives incorporated into that Constitution remain in its preamble to this day.

Throughout the last 90 years, the members and staff of the IAFF have worked tirelessly to fulfill each of these charges. As a result of their work, the IAFF was the driving force behind nearly every advance in the fire and emergency services in the twentieth century, from the introduction of shift schedules early in the century to the enactment of the 2-in/2-out safety regulation near its close. With extremely active political and legislative programs, and with recognized experts in the fields of occupational health and safety, fire-based emergency medical services and hazardous materials training, the IAFF has long occupied a special place in the North American fire service.

Today, the IAFF is the primary advocate for providing fire fighters and paramedics with the tools

they need to perform their jobs. The union also provides a strong voice in the development and implementation of new training and equipment, and has worked hard to advance the proper staffing of fire and EMS departments.

At the founding meeting in 1918, the delegates decided to dedicate their union to the following objectives (modified only slightly over time):

- To organize all fire fighters and emergency medical or rescue workers;
- To secure just compensation for their services and equitable settlement of their grievances;
- To promote as safe and healthy a working environment for fire fighters as is possible through modern technology;
- To promote the establishment of just and reasonable working conditions;
- To place the members of the Association on a higher plane of skill and efficiency;
- To promote harmonious relations between fire fighters and their employers;
- To encourage the formation of local unions, state and provincial associations and joint councils;
- To encourage the formation of sick and death benefit funds;
- To promote the research and treatment of burns and other related health problems common to fire fighters;
- To encourage the establishment of schools of instruction for imparting knowledge of modern and improved methods of fire fighting and prevention; and
- To cultivate friendship and fellowship among its members.

From the Preamble of the Constitution and By-Laws of the International Association of Fire Fighters



Delegates to the 1918 Founding Convention