



16th District

September 2021

Legislative & Information Update

Events.

District Training Event. The District had a PEP scheduled for November 8 and 9, 2021 in Baltimore. You should have received a flyer from the IAFF via email. The event was to be held at the Royal Sonesta in Baltimore Maryland. **Due to the pandemic situation the event has been postponed until a later date.**

Affiliate Leadership Training Summit. The 2021 ALTS is scheduled for January 2021 in Orlando Florida. **Please note that the IAFF will continue to monitor the COVID situation and there is always the possibility that we may need to postpone the event due to the pandemic.**

COVID News.

The IAFF strongly encourages all members to vaccinate against the COVID Virus. Please view the General President's video. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nUNGsXIEkxY&t=55s>

Vaccine Mandate.

As you know President Biden issued an Executive Order Regarding a vaccine mandate for U.S. Federal Employees. As of this writing further guidance has not been provided. However, you can find some information at this site. <https://www.saferfederalworkforce.gov/overview/>. Additionally, on this page the site provides information that federal employees are expected to be fully vaccinated by November 22, 2021.

<https://www.saferfederalworkforce.gov/downloads/updates%20to%20model%20safety%20principles%2009.13.21.pdf>. That said, Locals should expect to receive additional guidance from their agency/employer.

Hurricane Ida.

The IAFF activated our Disaster Assistance Teams during the hurricane to assist IAFF members. Many thanks go out to the 14th District, DVP Danny Todd, and the Professional Fire Fighters of Louisiana and their President, Chad Major, for the great help they provided to IAFF members in the New Orleans area, including Local F-189.

Disaster Response....Go Teams.

Our disaster response teams are made up of members that offer their time off from the job to travel into disaster areas and provide assistance to IAFF members. If your Local has members or retired active members interested in providing assistance during disasters have your Local President contact me. A Go team consists of a minimum of two members than can travel (via POV...usually a pick-up truck) to a disaster area. Go Teams report to our Command Post and the IAFF provides housing and food. Go teams perform a variety of duties such as delivering fuel and water, tarping roofs and removing trees from roofs. We rotate teams in and out of the area so you should expect to be on site a minimum of 3-4 days if possible.

Trade Time.

Thanks to the great work of our IAFF Legislative and Government Affairs Department, we finally have progress on a decade old issue. The District Trade Time legislation has been included in the 2021 National Defense Authorization Act. The language still has to survive mark-ups, but we are hopeful the language stays and is enacted into law!!!!

Biden Executive Order. (This is worth repeating.....)

Executive Order 14003 which was issued on January 22, 2021 directs that Agencies shall bargain 5 USC 7106 (b) (1) topics. Locals should utilize the EO as they approach managers regarding bargaining issues. In the past (and as specified in the Statute) 7106 (b) (1) topics could only be bargained at the discretion of the employer. Obviously, this rarely occurred. The EO provides that:

Sec. 4. Ensuring the Right to Engage in Collective Bargaining. The head of each agency subject to the provisions of chapter 71 of title 5, United States Code, shall elect to negotiate over the subjects set forth in 5 U.S.C. 7106(b)(1) and shall instruct subordinate officials to do the same.

The EO opens the door to bargain topics that were previously considered “managements rights”. If you attempt to bargain such topics you can expect push back from the Agency to the point that you may end up in mediation and Impasse or even a negotiability appeal. Feel free to reach out for assistance to me or one of the Service Reps regarding bargaining these topics.

Unfair Labor Practices.

In **DE-CA-21-0135** the Agency (Commander, Joint Base San Antonio) unilaterally applied a collective bargaining agreement upon the bargaining unit. The “CBA” was forced upon the unit during the last few months of the Trump Administration. The “CBA” applied the Trump executive orders and changed many of the working conditions of the bargaining unit. An unfair labor practice charge was filed with the Federal Labor Relations Authority. The FLRA has sustained the charge and sought a settlement agreement that would revoke the egregiously applied “CBA”. *Update-The Agency has refused to settle and the matter will be going to trial.* The Local is represented by Attorneys Reid Coploff and John Stewart from the firm of McGillivray/Steel/Elkin under the IAFF Guardian program. For more information contact DFSR Joe Love at jlove@iaff16.org . **This case still awaits action by the FLRA.**

Petitions.

In **WA-RP-21-0003** the Agency (Commander Navy Region Mid-Atlantic) filed a petition to consolidate seven (7) IAFF Locals within the region. The District submitted a statement opposing the consolidation. Thereafter the FLRA issued an order to show cause to the Union regarding why the FLRA should not order the consolidation. The District has responded to the order and we are awaiting a determination by the FLRA. After consideration of written submissions by the parties the FLRA ordered a hearing which was scheduled for June. However, the District submitted an additional Statement to the FLRA citing cases that continue to object to the consolidation. Thereafter the FLRA issued an Order to Show Cause to the Agency as to why the FLRA should not dismiss the petition. **The FLRA D.C. Regional Director has dismissed the Agencies Petition which is the action the IAFF was seeking. The Agency has appeal rights, and we expect that a appeal will be filed.** For more information contact the IAFF Regional Representative DFSR Joe Love at jlove@iaff16.org .

Impasse.

Several Locals within Navy Region Mid-Atlantic (NRMA) are preparing to proceed to mediation and impasse before the FSIP regarding the application of language within the NDAA (National Defense Authorization Act) directing the Agency to adopt an alternative work schedule. To date, agency representatives have failed to comply with the language in the NDAA or the direction of Congress. *The*

agency has however proposed a schedule that does not comply with the law. **Update**-several of the Locals have submitted the issue to the Federal Service Impasse Panel for resolution. As of this writing one Local has accepted the schedule proposed by the Navy Region. For more information contact the IAFF NRMA Representative DFSR Joe Love at jlove@iaff16.org . **We expect these schedule issues will be going forward as President Biden has appointed Impasse Panel Members. (FSIP Panel appointees do not require Senate confirmation)**

Federal Labor Relations Authority Appointments.

General Counsel- Kurt Rumsfeld has been nominated by the President to be the General Counsel of the Federal Labor Relations Authority (FLRA). Mr. Rumsfeld spent several years as the IAFF's in house Counsel and was previously a Deputy General Counsel for the FLRA under the Obama Administration. This appointment requires Senate confirmation. **FLRA Board Member-** Susan Grundmann has been nominated by President Biden to serve as a Board Member of the FLRA. Ms. Grundmann is currently the executive director and chief operating officer of the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights. She has also been the Chairman and a Member of the Merit Systems Protection Board under the Obama administration. Ms. Grundmann also spent several years as the General Counsel for the National Federation of Federal Employees (NFFE). I have worked on many different projects with both nominees and I am certain they will do great work.

CBA Committee. If you need help with any CBA issues reach out to one of the Committee Members for assistance.

Collective Bargaining Agreement Committee

Dale Smith (F-78, Chair)	iafff78@yahoo.com	(781) 249-3583
Joseph Love (F-61 & J-001)	jlove@iaff16.org	(610) 909-9798
Bruce Poore (F-121)	b_poore@hotmail.com	(443) 336-1819
Taska Elin (F-282)	taska@iaff16.org	(360) 801-0257
Roy Colbrunn (F-88)	rcolbrunn@iaff.org	(937) 673-8521

City Hall--Congress.

The IAFF Legislative Staff and the District Legislative Committee have been working to get several Bills reintroduced in the 117th Congress. ***If you connect with a House Member or Member of the Senate regarding a federal fire issue, please let one of the Committee Members know so they can follow up.***

Legislative Committee

Roy Colbrunn (F-88, Chair)	rcolbrunn@iaff.org	(937) 673-8521
Mike Jackson (F-253 & J-01)	mjackson@iaff16.org	(804) 466-1088
Charlie Martinez (F-116)	myboys.tylrandjordan@gmail.com	(805) 588-1418
Dale Smith (F-78)	iafff78@yahoo.com	(781) 249-3583
Taska Elin (F-282)	taska@iaff16.org	(360) 801-0257
Jody Chase (F-211)	jody.chase@att.net	(405) 213-7247

Please contact your House Representatives and Senators and ask them to support our legislative issues!!

HR. 393 Federal Fire Fighters Pay Equity Act, (Rep. Connolly) Co-Sponsors 30 +8, Corrects **pension calculation** to fully include all scheduled hours worked. This would include the proper overtime rate for the 38 hours into the pension calculation. Committees: House - Oversight and Reform.

HR. 521 First Responder Fair Retire Act, (Rep. Connolly) Co-Sponsors 13 +2, Allows line of duty injured medically disqualified to **retain Special retirement** category coverages. Committees: House - Oversight and Reform; Intelligence (Permanent Select); Foreign Affairs.

HR. 2499 Federal Fire Fighters Fairness Act, (Rep Carbajal) Co-Sponsors 92 +52, Federal Fire Fighter **Presumptive Illness**. Committees: House - Education and Labor.

HR. 2059 Federal Firefighter Flexibility and Fairness Act, (Rep Sarbanes), Co-Sponsors 3, **Trade Time**. Allows Federal Fire fighter to make trade time arrangements outside of a single pay period. Committees: House Oversight and Reform. **Language has been included in the 2021 National Defense Authorization Act!**

S. 129 First Responder Fair Retire Act, (Sen. Tester) Co-Sponsors 2, Allows line of duty injured medically disqualified to **retain Special retirement** category coverages. This is a Senate companion Bill to HR 521. Committees: Senate - Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

S. 838 Federal Firefighter Flexibility and Fairness Act, (Sen. Van Hollen), Co-Sponsors 4, **Trade Time**. Allows Federal Fire fighter to make trade time arrangements outside of a single pay period. This is the Senate companion Bill to HR 2059. Committees: Senate - Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. **Language has been included in the 2021 National Defense Authorization Act!**

S. 1116 Federal Fire Fighters Fairness Act, (Sen. Collins/Carper), Co-Sponsors 4, Federal Fire Fighter **Presumptive Illness**. This is the Senate companion Bill to HR 2499. Committees: Senate - Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

For more information on these issues such as lists of Co-Sponsors please visit www.congress.gov and enter the Bill number.

Team 16

District Field Service Representatives

Joseph Love (F-61 Philadelphia Shipyard) (610) 909-9798

Roy R. "Tank" Colbrunn (F-88 Wright Patt AFB) (937) 673-8521

Service Representatives

Bruce Poore (F-121 National Capital) (443) 336-1819

Taska Elin (F-282 Puget Sound) (360) 801-0257

Dale Smith (F-78 Hanscom AFB) (781) 249-3583

Mike Holmes (F-147 Navy Weapons Earl NJ) (908) 461-5078

Scott Powers (F-283 Fort Lewis) (360) 970-7136

Mike Jackson (F-253 Fort Myer) (804) 466-1088

Dusty Warden (F-294 White Sands) (915) 727-0898

Feel free to reach out to me or any of Team 16 with any questions about any topic. They truly are some of the most knowledgeable and experienced leaders in the District!

IAFF Partnership Education Program Instructor (PEP)

Taska Elin (F-282 Puget Sound) (360) 801-0257

PEP Instructors are assigned to teach IAFF training modules at IAFF training events (ALTS and District PEP events).

IAFF Standing Committee Assignments

EMS	Roy Colbrunn	(F-88 Wright Patterson AFB)	(937) 673-8521
Health and Safety	Bruce Poore	(F-121 National Capital)	(443) 336-1819
Human Relations	William Silva	(F-283 Fort Lewis)	(253) 988-0037
Burn Foundation	James Dansereau	(F-253 Fort Myer)	(703) 606-4219
Behavioral Health	Jonathan Lang	(F-273 Fort Belvoir)	(703) 307-4026

Board Meetings

The following Executive Board meetings have been scheduled for 2021:

October 18-22.	Washington D.C
December 14-17	Washington D.C

Stay Safe Brothers and Sisters!

Jim Johnson (202) 360-1318