

## Here are a few reasons why I am asking for your support

### CONTRACT FINALIZED

The previous board was unable to negotiate a contract after 2 years, but I was able to close the deal with no givebacks. These contract benefits include:

- ★ Pay raises of 21-25% for the life of the contract
- ★ PIC additional pay increase of 8.5%
- ★ \$2,500 bonus for those on the payroll in the first quarter of 2024
- ★ FF/EMT-Ps pay increase from 8.5 to 10%
- ★ FF/EMT-Bs will receive their initial 6% pay raise one year earlier than previously paid
- ★ 5% specialty pay for MIH
- ★ 4 administrative days or pay for MIH
- ★ 12 weeks of paid parental leave
- ★ Duty Availability increases
- ★ Clothing Allowance increases
- ★ 14 paid holidays
- ★ Tuition reimbursement for job related courses including IFSI
- ★ Retiree healthcare coverage up to age 65 regardless of Medicare age
- ★ 4 certified divers required on Squads
- ★ Cross trained details to ambulances limited to 4 times per quarter
- ★ No details to ambulances for candidate cross trained members
- ★ Promotions
  - Eliminates oral exams
  - Eliminates merit promotions
  - Eliminates out of rank promotions
  - Testing held every 4-5 years
  - Applicant's answer sheet and answer key provided on test date
  - Engineer promotions will be based on seniority and certifications which will guarantee an Engineer's pension for many of our FS&R members
- ★ Discipline
  - Most discipline will be held in abeyance until arbitrator rules on the case
  - Expedited resolution of grievances through Summary Punishment (up to 3 days suspension) and Binding Summary Opinion (up to 9 days) whereby an arbitrator rules on up to 10 grievances per hearing which is held at least once per month
  - Arbitration awards are to be paid within 6 weeks of the award
  - After being told by the mediator that we would not receive any better benefits in arbitration and not willing to gamble receiving double the manning variances or converting half the ALS Ambulances to BLS Ambulances as reflected in the Ernst and Young Report, the board voted to approve the contract with no givebacks.

**The following EB members supported ratifying the contract - Cleary, Cody, Quintavalle, Martin, Butkus, Stack, Snyder, Pease. I am truly grateful for having these veteran members on the Executive Board when tough decisions needed to be made and experience mattered.**

### LEGISLATION PASSED

We had longstanding relationships with the IAFF and FOP that were fractured by the previous board but I am happy to say that under my leadership, we are now WORKING TOGETHER and the benefits that we were able to obtain for our membership include State and Federal Legislation that we had been trying to pass for decades. Some of these new Federal Laws include:

**SOCIAL SECURITY FAIRNESS ACT** - After 40 years, we restored the SS benefits of retired FFs, spouses and widows which more than doubled their monthly benefit and provided retro money. A multibillion \$ benefit obtained with the IAFF, AFFI, and FOP. I personally lobbied and attended the White House during the Biden Administration with IAFF board members.

**HONORING OUR FALLEN HEROES ACT** - This law extends Public Safety Officer Benefits to the survivors of FFs who die from occupational cancer. This law extends death, educational, and disability benefits to survivors of firefighters that die from occupational cancer. This \$461,000 benefit goes back to 1/1/20 and also covers retirees that are diagnosed within 15 years of their last day of work. A multibillion \$ benefit obtained with the IAFF, AFFI, and FOP. I personally lobbied and attended the White House during the Trump Administration with IAFF board members to get this legislation passed.

Some of the State Legislation that PA Director Dave Quintavalle and I passed include:

- SB1629 - TIER 2 benefit basing their pension on the last 4 years instead of 8 obtained with the FOP

- HB3657 - TIER 2 pension fixes that raised the salary ceiling and added a 3% COLA or CPI for Chicago Police and Firefighters with a \$60M annual benefit - lobbied by the FOP, Dave Quintavalle and I
- SB1742 - FF Drew Price Roof Safety Law - provides that shafts and skylights in all existing and new construction must be protected, provides that all buildings must be surveyed and OEMC provides info during dispatch
- SB1922 - Emergency Vehicle Law that improves FF Scott Gillen's Law
- HB1595 - EMS Disciplinary Law reduces discipline for EMS members
- SB1707 - CFD Promotion Law
- HB3162 - Covid Presumption Law obtained with the FOP and AFFI
- SB1446 - ISFM tracks FF deaths with the AFFI
- HB2336 - Local Government Lift Assist Collection Fee
- SB1976 - IL Worker's Rights & Safety Act (OSHA/FLSA) with the AFFI
- HB2409 - PFAS Firefighting PPE Law with the AFFI
- HB2551 - First Responder Suicide Prevention Law with the AFFI
- HB2977 - CFD Vehicle Fund taking 10% of EMS revenue to purchase & maintain CFD vehicles
- HB3193 - Adds breast cancer as occupational with the AFFI
- SB2247 - Fire Safety Act for Lithium batteries and devices

Some of the City of Chicago Ordinances that I testified in committee and were passed include:

- LODD Bereavement Leave for CFD Ordinance allowing CFD coworkers time off to grieve after a Line of Duty Death
- FF Drew Price Roof Opening Protection Ordinance
- Lithium Ion Battery Safety Standard

**Once again, having an experienced Executive Board that knows how to work together with the IAFF and FOP, and how to maneuver City Hall, the Illinois State Capitol, and Congress paid dividends to our retirees, active members and survivors of our deceased members.**

### UNION HALL RENOVATED

Over a 2 year period, we renovated our union hall that was untouched for 30+ years. Besides roof leaks, constant phone and computer outages, asbestos, mold, mice and 3 porta-potties inside our union hall, it was time to give our members a union hall that our members deserved. This renovation included 4 bathrooms, showers, working classrooms, an elevator, sprinkler system, new roof, kitchen, and offices with updated computers and information technology throughout. All of these improvements were done without increasing dues or requiring any assessments and were spread out over 2+ years to reduce annual costs. This renovation could not have been done without an experienced member like Tony Martin as his hard work ethic, sound investments, and ability to work with numerous labor unions resulted in a beautiful hall inside and out.

### CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS UPDATED

After 20+ years of using an outdated C&BL book, the membership continues to submit motions for bylaw changes and has approved numerous C&BL changes by referendum ballot. We will continue to address all of the recommendations of our members. Our C&BL Committee is composed of Local 2 members, and they have been working hard to ensure that bylaw changes are properly vetted, lawful, and follow IAFF guidelines. Many of our election and voting bylaws have been updated and streamlined to ensure that our members have the best opportunity to lawfully participate in voting as was reflected in the 79% voter participation in our contract ratification and doubling the ballots received in our Stewards' election due to electronic voting. There have been 21 bylaw changes so far including: **The President of Local 2 now can no longer remain active but must go detached or be retired.**

After all recommended bylaw changes are approved by the IAFF, a new C&BL book will be printed. A current C&BL edition is available on our Local 2 webpage.

### HEALTH SCREENINGS IMPROVED

I began changing our health screenings as the VP with the Rush Hospital lung cancer screenings and then as President, I introduced the UDS organ cancer screenings and Grail Galleri blood cancer screenings. As the Chairman of the Foreign Fire Insurance Board, I was able to cover the costs for all active members' screenings while having Local 2 pay for all retiree screenings. I continue to meet with many health and safety vendors at conferences that I attend and have made public service announcements with these organizations to encourage our members to be screened. These screenings have saved many members' lives!