

SEAFRC Resolutions Submitted to the International Association of Fire Chiefs for Fire Rescue  
International, New Orleans, LA, August 12-15, 2004

**Resolution Title: Volunteerism**

Resolution Description: Protecting the right to volunteer.

WHEREAS, the President of the United States encourages and rewards volunteerism; and

WHEREAS, the majority of properties in the United States are protected by volunteer fire and rescue services; and

WHEREAS, the concept of volunteering has made America what it is today;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the International Association of Fire Chiefs encourages and endorses career firefighters volunteering in their communities, keeping with the desire to improve overall fire protection services by wise use of all available resources. It should be noted that an individual's time away from their primary income source is rightfully their time and no person or organization should attempt to prevent an individual from volunteering their time in support of their community.

**Resolution Title: Federal Income Tax Exemption**

Resolution Description: Develop legislation for Federal Income tax exemption for volunteers.

WHEREAS, the act of volunteering has long been both a mainstay and necessity of life in America; and

WHEREAS, volunteer firefighters protect a large majority of American communities and without those services, untold dollars from fire loss and loss of life would be realized; and

WHEREAS, there is an increasing difficulty in recruiting and retaining volunteer firefighters;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the IAFC Board should develop and lobby for a legislative action bill that would provide for federal income tax exemption of all volunteer firefighters in America.

**Resolution Title: National EMS Incident Reporting System**

Resolution Description: Promote development of a National EMS Incident Reporting System.

WHEREAS, most fire departments in the United States provide some level of emergency care; and

WHEREAS, the importance of maintaining accurate records and reports is fundamental in providing quality emergency care;

THREERFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the IAFC encourages the promotion and adoption of a nationally accepted EMS Incident Report.

**Resolution Title: National Fire Incident Reporting System**

Resolution Description: Support and encourage use of National Fire Incident Reporting System.

WHEREAS, the importance of maintaining accurate records and reports is fundamental in providing quality fire protection; and

WHEREAS, these uniform records are critical to providing the public with an accurate account of fire department operations; and

WHEREAS, the National Fire Incident Reporting System is both available and widely used;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the IAFC supports and encourages all fire departments to utilize the NFIRS system.

**Resolution Title: National Spokesperson**

Resolution Description: Need to have a National Spokesperson.

WHEREAS, as the message of the fire service is one that needs to communicated nation wide, and

WHEREAS, the fire service is the first line of defense when disaster strikes, and

WHEREAS, most fire departments do not have a focused public relations program, and

WHEREAS, it is the belief of the membership that an informed public better supports the mission of the fire service

BE IT RESOLVED, that the membership strongly encourages the IAFC Board of Directors to identify and fund a national level spokesperson to advocate and further the causes of the fire service nationwide.