



SOUTHEASTERN ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS

POLICY 2016 – 01/05; REV 2026 – 06/01

Endorsement of International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) Officer Candidates

Purpose:

This policy provides Information and requirements for individuals seeking endorsement from the SEAFD for an IAFC Officer Position.

The purpose of this policy is established by the Board of Directors of the SEAFD to provide essential information for candidates pursuing officer positions in the IAFC and seeking the endorsement by the Southeastern Division.

ENDORSEMENT:

The SEAFD Board of Directors may choose to endorse one candidate running for each IAFC office. The Board reserves the right to choose not to endorse any candidate.

NOTE- This policy addresses endorsement of candidates for IAFC officer positions ONLY.

HOW TO SEEK SEAFD ENDORSEMENT FOR IAFC OFFICES?

Valuable information on seeking IAFC offices is available in the IAFC election packet and may be obtained by contacting the IAFC office. The IAFC advises that the candidacy process should last several years. That would include time to prepare the campaign, as well as at least one year of active campaigning.

Past candidates from within the SEAFD as well as candidates from other divisions have sought endorsements from the SEAFD for IAFC offices. The following information provides a guideline for the process of seeking SEAFD endorsement and the commitment the SEAFD makes to candidates it endorses.

PROCESS:

- A) Candidates seeking endorsement for national offices must attend a SEAFD Board of Directors meeting to present their platform and request endorsement (If the candidate is unable to attend in person {the preferred method}, the Board may approve the candidate to utilize Zoom or other remote distant video meeting software to address the Board). The candidate will follow the process outlined below for determining when to meet with the Board. **Candidates must attend one of the Board meetings within the 12 months prior to the IAFC election.** Candidates may attend either the June Board meeting preceding the Annual SEAFD Conference OR the annual January Board meeting (Example: A candidate seeking endorsement for IAFC election in 2027 may attend and request endorsement at the 2026 Conference Board meeting OR the 2027 January Mid-Winter meeting). Requests for endorsement may not be made more than one year prior to elections.

- B) Candidates seeking endorsement for national offices must notify the SEAFIC Executive Director of their desire to attend one (or both) of the Board meetings at least 30 days prior to the meeting.
- C) Candidates may also be permitted to attend the annual SEAFIC Conference Business Session to present their platforms to the SEAFIC membership. Only one speech by each candidate shall be permitted during the Business meeting and shall not exceed five minutes.
- D) Candidates will be expected to pay the conference registration fees if they will be attending the Conference.
- E) Any decision to endorse a candidate will be made by the Board of Directors at the January Board meeting (or an approved teleconference meeting) of the election year. Endorsed candidates will be notified by the Executive Director following approval of the Board.

ENDORSEMENT SUPPORT

Upon receiving endorsement of the SEAFIC, the Association may provide support to the candidate by:

- Allowing the candidate to use the SEAFIC logo in compliance with SEAFIC policy.
- Provide space for a posting on the SEAFIC website up to FRI of the election year.
- SEAFIC will send two e-mail advertisements annually on behalf of the candidate to the full voting membership.

NON-ENDORSED CANDIDATES

Only SEAFIC endorsed candidates will be offered complimentary marketing/campaigning opportunities to the SEAFIC membership.

If the SEAFIC does not endorse any one candidate, the Board Directors may offer to send out one impartial platform notification announcing the individuals that are running for office.

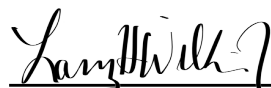
PROSPECTIVE CANDIDATES AT FIRE-RESCUE INTERNATIONAL

During the SEAFIC Division meeting at Fire-Rescue International only IAFC prospective candidates will be allowed to address the membership for a maximum of 5 minutes. All other candidates may be recognized at the President's discretion. Candidates wishing to address the membership must notify the Executive Director.

Adopted by the Board of Directors on this 5th day of January 2016

Amended and Adopted by the Board of Directors on this 12th day of January 2024

Amended and Adopted by the Board of Directors on this 1st day of June 2026



Larry H. Williams, Jr

Executive Director



Steve Kyle

Constitution and By-Laws Chairman