



CALIFORNIA PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTERS

State Council of the International Association of Fire Fighters • California Labor Federation • AFL-CIO | Volume 18 No. 1 First Quarter 2010



STANDING UP AGAINST CANCER

New FF Presumption Bill Builds on CPF Legacy of Leadership

Firefighters take the job knowing that the next major fire call could put their lives at risk. But there is another, silent, threat to which first responders are exposed every day: the slow-motion risk of job-related cancer.

For three decades, California Professional Firefighters has led the fight to recognize the increased job-related risks faced by first responders, beginning with the nation's first cancer presumption law, signed in 1982 by Jerry Brown.

This year, that legacy continues with the introduction of AB 2253, the **William Dallas Jones Memorial Cancer Presumption Act of 2010**.

"As firefighters, we know that even a single incident, or a seemingly minor call, can produce exposures that could, ultimately, claim our lives," said **CPF President Lou Paulson**. "This legislation will help protect the family of every firefighter whose life may be cut short by these silent killers."



*Late Secretary-Treasurer
Dallas Jones*

AB 2253, authored by Assemblyman Joe Coto (D-San Jose), protects firefighters' cancer presumption for up to 15 years after his or her retirement. The current statute of limitations only extends to five years after retirement. Firefighter presumption laws require that

employers provide appropriate disability and workers' compensation benefits to first responders, who become ill or die as a result of specified job-contracted illnesses or injuries. Employers can only deny coverage if they can conclusively prove that the illness or injury is not job related.

"From the beginning, presumption laws have protected firefighters and families victimized by job-related illness," said Paulson. "Instead of the firefighter having to prove that the illness is job related, management has to prove that it isn't."

Every year, the California Firefighters Memorial adds the names of anywhere from 10 to 30 firefighters who have lost their lives to cancer contracted on the job. Usually, it is the result of consistent exposure to carcinogenic chemicals over the course of a career. In some cases, a single incident can produce the exposure that triggers job-related illness.

Building solid protection for firefighters

has been a central focus of California Professional Firefighters. CPF sponsored the nation's first firefighter cancer presumption law, signed in 1982 by then-Gov. Jerry Brown. Over the years, CPF has won additional presumptions for heart, TB, meningitis, biochemical exposure and, most recently, MRSA.

The new proposal, which is working its way through the Legislature, is named for the late CPF Secretary-Treasurer Dallas Jones. A giant of the firefighter labor movement, Jones lost his own battle with job-related cancer in 2008.

Keep track of AB 2253, and all of CPF's priority legislation, by checking the "Issues and Legislation" section at www.cpf.org.



FREE VIDEO!
Take a photo of this icon to see our CPF Firevision video story about how CPF sponsored the nation's first cancer presumption law for firefighters.

THREE DECADES OF PROGRESS CPF's Firefighter Presumption Legislation

The first workers' comp presumption laws in California were passed in the 1930s, and covered hernia, pneumonia and "heart trouble." However, it has been in the last 30 years that California firefighters have enjoyed the full protection of firefighter presumption laws.

AB 3011, the nation's first cancer presumption law (signed by then-Gov. Jerry Brown)

Tuberculosis presumption enacted

CPF legislation explicitly shifts burden of proof to employer

Meningitis, Hepatitis presumptions enacted

Blood-borne pathogen presumption enacted

Biochemical exposure presumption enacted

AB 2754 (Bass) establishes MRSA presumption

CPF introduces William Dallas Jones Cancer Presumption Act to extend statute of limitations on cancer presumption

1982

1996

1999

2000

2002

2003

2009

2010

In this issue:

President's Perspective 3

Legislative Update 6

CPF Endorsements 9

District Reports 14

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Sacramento, CA
dSP

California Professional Firefighters
1780 Creekside Oaks, Suite 200
Sacramento, CA 95833



Letters to the President

Thanks from Photo Contest Winner

I want to thank you and your staff for selecting one of my images for the first place award for the CPF Photo Contest. I have already put the money to good use, helping to restore a radio repeater that emergency photographers use in Southern California as well as fixing several pieces of photographic equipment that I damaged on the Station wildfire.

I am glad that many of the images that I submitted to you can be used to further our great profession and to promote our motto of "Honor, Respect and Devotion to Duty." The fire service is coming under attack with huge budget shortfalls and I hope that the compelling images can be used to fire back at people who want to downsize our most noble profession.

As you may know, I am continuing to publish *Southern California Fire Journal* and am working on a documentary regarding the Station wildfire. It has been a long and tedious task but I am finally making progress and your award money helped to alleviate some serious financial burdens that I have.

Please extend my most sincere thank you to all of your wonderful staff and let them know that I am truly honored that you selected one of my images for the award. I will continue to strive to photograph as much as possible next year as long as my health and finances hold up.

Thanks again!

Fraternally,

Jeff Zimmerman

Firefighter and founder of Zimmerman Media LLC

Appreciation for the Pipes and Drums

On behalf of the family of Richard "Chip" Smith, and the Ontario Fire Department, I'd like to thank you for the CPF Pipes and Drums participation at Battalion Chief Smith's Memorial Service on Saturday, February 27th. As you know, this service had to come together in a short period of time, and your team's responsiveness was remarkable.

We estimated that over 900 persons attended Chip's service. The Pipes and Drums portion was nothing short of incredible. Over and over again, I heard attendees speak of the heartfelt emotions generated by the sounds of Pipes and Drums.

Rest assured that Chip's wife Amanda, and his daughters Colleen and Shannon, will remember the performance that day forever. Thanks again for your assistance, and please pass on our appreciation to your Pipes and Drums Band.

Sincerely,

David A. Carrier

Fire Chief
City of Ontario Fire Department



A Tribute to Jim Perry

Thank you for your financial assistance, as well as for your moral support with Jim Perry's memorials.

We lost a dear friend and labor brother and these memorials were a fitting tribute to a great man.

Sincerely,

Brian Hishinuma

Treasurer
United Firefighters of Los Angeles City,
Local 112



Firefighters Stay Informed with CPF Firevision



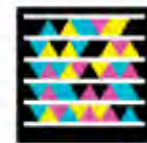
Firefighters are getting more news that matter to them in minutes, courtesy of **CPF Firevision**.

Since CPF Firevision launched in January, the online news service has reported on issues affecting our profession, like the re-introduction of the Emergency Response Initiative, the California Firefighters Memorial Ceremony and pension-slashing measures. The work of locals has also been spotlighted ranging from Alameda County's Fire Ops to LA County Firefighters' relief work in Haiti. One groundbreaking episode was dedicated entirely to the 2010 pension fight.

Each video update averages only five minutes and can be viewed on a computer or cell phone. Free downloads are available on the CPF Web site, YouTube, iTunes, Facebook and Twitter. A new episode is posted the second and fourth Wednesday of every month.

"CPF Firevision is great. The episodes are short, but provide an accessible way for us to reach our members and let them know what their union is doing," said Contra Costa County Fire Captain **Pete Marshall**, whose local has begun sending these video links to its members. "I tell folks that if they want to learn about their profession, here's a way to do it. It just makes sense."

Do you have a story idea for a future episode of CPF Firevision? Email us at cpffirevision@cpf.org. Watch the latest CPF Firevision or view past episodes at www.cpffirevision.org.



WATCH IT!

Take a photo of this icon to watch the latest CPF Firevision episode or catch up on previous episodes.

POINT AND SHOOT!



Throughout this issue, you'll find these colorful Microsoft Tag barcodes. Use your smartphone to snap a photo of any tag and you'll gain instant access to related videos, Web sites and more! To start, download the free Tag reader at <http://gettag.mobi>.

President's Perspective



Lou Paulson

Standing Tall ... Standing Together

Forty years ago, this past April 13th, the confidence of America's space program was shattered with a few muffled words from the cramped capsule of Apollo 13: "Houston, we've had a problem, here."

The oft-misquoted phrase has become something of a cliché, used when things that seemed to be going well suddenly go wrong. But the real lesson of Apollo 13 is how, when the stakes were impossibly high, intelligence, cool-headedness, determination and teamwork brought three stranded astronauts home safely, turning tragedy into triumph.

As firefighters, we're trained to use these qualities on the front lines. But in a time of economic upheaval, we will be called upon to show the same fortitude and common purpose as we approach what is arguably the

most important and difficult election campaign in our lives.

For firefighters, the stakes in the 2010 elections have never been higher.

That we "have a problem" is beyond dispute. Public safety budgets are under unprecedented attack. Fire stations are going dark. Our brothers and sisters are being laid off. Beyond the fiscal threats, firefighters, law enforcement and other public workers have been on the business end of an unprecedented wave of vicious attacks. We've been targeted in hard-line management tactics and the editorial ivory towers.

Now more than ever, we need to stand with those who stand up for us, our families and the citizens we serve. This principle has been the guidepost in our endorsements for statewide and legislative contests.

WHY DO WE ENDORSE?

In making endorsements in statewide races, CPF is simply providing our members with information about the candidates that stand with us on those issues that are relevant to the lives and well-being of our members – public safety resources, retirement security, employee rights, training and protecting the families of fallen firefighters. We would not, and are not, telling our members how to vote.

HOW DO WE DECIDE?

California Professional Firefighters is committed to making its decisions on the issues, not political labels. In statewide contests, every credible candidate – Democrat and Republican – is invited to an interview. In the governor's race, all of the major candidates were interviewed – Republicans Steve Poizner and Meg Whitman and Democrat Jerry Brown. Our endorsement list for the June Primary (see page 9) includes Democrats and Republicans.

In legislative races, CPF's approach is truly "bottom up." Candidates are interviewed in coordination

with local affiliates, and it is their recommendations that guide our endorsement decisions.

As you'll find, our recommended candidates include Democrats and Republicans, from the most liberal to the most conservative. We back up those recommendations with the promise we give all of our candidates: *We stand with those who stand with us.*

WHY IT MATTERS THAT WE STAND TALL, AND STAND TOGETHER

With so much at stake for our profession, now is not the time to stand on the sidelines. If we are to protect the families we cherish, the security we've earned and the safety our citizens deserve, it's imperative we answer the call in this year's election.

I would encourage you to get informed on where the candidates stand on our issues. You can find more info in this newspaper and at www.cpf.org. Once informed, get active – your local union leadership can help.

The stakes have never been higher, and the choices have never been clearer.



SHOW YOUR PRIDE AS A CALIFORNIA FIREFIGHTER



**VISIT OUR NEW
ONLINE STORE
& SAVE**

Choose from a range of high-quality gear with the California Professional Firefighters logo. Union made in the USA!

CPF members receive a **20% off** discount on their first purchase. Just use coupon code SAVE20 when shopping online.



READY TO BUY?

Download the free cellphone app at gettag.mobi and take a photo of this bar code to get a look at items for sale at CPF Union Shop.

www.cpfunionshop.org



Secretary-Treasurer's Desk



Lew Stone

The DIY Approach to Labor

I write this article to those of you in a leadership position in your local union. Because the job of union president can seem, at times, overwhelming, there is a growing trend toward delegating certain responsibilities – contract negotiations, grievance and disciplinary appeals and political actions – to outside lawyers and consultants. Recently a CPF local told me they had hired a political

consultant with a choking price tag to perform what they probably could have done “in-house.”

Let me be clear. I am not advocating ignoring professional assistance where it's appropriate. Labor attorneys and other experts are a valuable resource for us. But there's a difference between hiring someone because you need them versus hiring them just because

it's easier. Outside consultants have value, but they should not replace our involvement.

Apprehensive about negotiating that next contract? If your union has not had a smooth leadership transition, you may feel the need to have an attorney represent you. If this is the case, then ask questions, study the methods used and take lots of notes. Use the attorney's expertise as a teaching time for you and your team. The same strategy would apply to the filing of a PERB action or a disciplinary appeal. Pay attention with the thought that someday soon you will be doing this without help. Do not sell your abilities short. You were probably elected to office because you exhibited abilities in the various aspects of membership representation.

Believe it or not, you can also get an education from the other side. I remember sitting in the human resource manager's office very early in my union career. He left his office, so I got up and looked at his library. It was full of various public sector labor relations periodicals and management books and other publications, none of which were *Sports Illustrated*. I jotted down as many of the titles as I could, got my hands on them and found them extremely valuable resources. It is like viewing the opponent's game film, studying their tendencies and what offense they are going to run.

There are many labor relations classes outside of the fire service available to you. Ask your agency's labor relations department where they send their employees for training. Many of those seminars are open to you, too. They are typically taught by respected attorneys retained by management. It's like peeking behind enemy lines – a terrific learning experience and another great way to read the other side's playbook.

There are also resources geared directly to your needs. As firefighters, we take all kinds of command classes and various certifications; everything from the methods of intubation to the burning index of a young sumac. We need to be just as diligent with our labor training. Through IAFF affiliate leadership training and CPF leadership training, you can get the tools you need to be successful.

Successful labor representatives are not afraid to spend the time sitting in classes, reading public sector labor journals, picking the brains of successful leaders and putting in the time necessary to be true advocate for your membership. It will also give you the wisdom to know when to initiate the assistance of an attorney.

I know the job can seem daunting, but the more you build your “labor I.Q.,” the better prepared you will be to face enormous challenges that lay ahead. If you'd like some additional resources, just email me at lstone@cpf.org.

CALIFORNIA PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTERS

PUBLISHED QUARTERLY

PUBLICATION OFFICE
CALIFORNIA PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTERS
1780 CREEKSIDE OAKS • SUITE 200
SACRAMENTO • CA • 95833
(916) 921-9111

www.cpf.org EMAIL: info@cpf.org

EDITOR: TRICIA TOMIYOSHI

GRAPHIC DESIGN MANAGER: SEANNE VILLANUEVA



ADMINISTRATION

Executive Board

Lou Paulson, President
Lew Stone, Secretary-Treasurer
Dan Crow, 1st District Vice President
Chris Mahon, 2nd District Vice President
Bobby Weist, 3rd District Vice President
Randy Sekany, 4th District Vice President
Michael Massone, 5th District Vice President
Bob Wolf, 6th District Vice President
Dave Gillotte, 7th District Vice President
Pat McOsker, 8th District Vice President

Trustees

Tom Gardner, CDF Firefighters 2881
Erik Baskin, San Luis Obispo 3523
Steve Norris, LA City 112

Health Benefits Trust Directors

Ken Bryant, Chair, Modesto 1289
Dennis O'Brien, CDF Firefighters 2881
Nils Anderson, Vice Chair, Contra Costa Co. 1230
Richard L. Mayberry, 3rd District Vice President Emeritus
Jim Robinson, LA County 1014
Sam Scoles, Kern County 1301
Bobby Weist, Davis Professional Firefighters 3494

Health Benefits Trust Administrator

Harry J. Wilson, InsuranCenter, Inc.
United Valley Insurance Agency (800) 549-4242

Staff

Teresa Ortiz, Managing Director
Brian Hatch, Governmental Advocate
Christy Bouma, Governmental Advocate
Amy Howard, Legislative Director
Kelly Calkin, Political Director
Carroll Wills, Communications Director
Tricia Tomiyoshi, Publications Editor
Pharris Treskunoff, Administrative Asst. to the President
Kevin White, EMS and Health & Safety Director
Vanessa Robinson, California Fire Foundation Director
Lindsey Freitas, Legislative Assistant
Apryl Swanberg, PER Coordinator
Bryan Wagner, Senior Accountant
Kathy Shipley, Full-Charge Bookkeeper
Stacy Smith, Receptionist

Firefighters Print & Design

Mariena DeAnda, Director
Seanne Villanueva, Graphic Design Manager
Robbie Panco, Graphic Designer
Natalie Quinn, Administrative Assistant
Victor Jimenez, Press Operator
Jud Whitnell, Delivery/Shipping Clerk

Official publication of the California Professional Firefighters, organized October 12, 1938. Incorporated as not-for-profit May 27, 1958. Member of the International Association of Fire Fighters, AFL-CIO. All unsolicited articles, manuscripts, letters and photographs sent to California Professional Firefighters are sent at the owner's risk, and California Professional Firefighters expressly disclaims any liability or responsibility for their safe custody or return. Signed articles express the views of the authors and not necessarily those of the editors of California Professional Firefighters. Send all correspondence and photographs to California Professional Firefighters, Publication office, 1780 Creekside Oaks, Suite 200, Sacramento 95833. We reserve the right to edit submitted materials.

© 2009 California Professional Firefighters.

CPF Legislative Update

2010 SPONSORSHIP/CO-SPONSORSHIP BILLS

(As of April 19, 2010)



AB 155 (Tony Mendoza, D-Artesia) – Authorizes a local public entity, with the approval of the California Debt and Investment Advisory Commission, to file a petition and exercise powers applicable under federal bankruptcy law. This bill assures taxpayers who rely on vital public services, as well as those who own and operate businesses, every chance to help a municipality avoid the long term devastation of bankruptcy.



AB 2149 (Warren Furutani, D-Long Beach) - Strikes obsolete references to “fireman” in the County Employees’ Retirement Law of 1937 (aka ‘37 Act) and instead, makes reference to “firefighter.” In doing so, this bill assists in broader efforts to ensure gender equity in the state’s county retirement law given the growing focus on recruitment and retention of women in non-traditional public safety professions, such as firefighting.



AB 2456 (Alberto Torrico, D-Fremont) - Clarifies existing law with respect to the Emergency Medical Service Authority’s current ability to establish guidelines that direct local EMS agencies and other essential EMS stakeholders in their operations for the coordinated delivery of emergency medical services in California.



AB 1651 (Hector De La Torre, D-South Gate) - Enables specified furloughed employees to accrue retirement service credit during their furloughed period, including local firefighters employed by a few jurisdictions in the state that have imposed furloughs on their fire departments. As such, the retirement of a handful of local firefighters affected by furloughs would be kept whole in a manner similar to their non-furloughed counterparts.



AB 2253 (Joe Coto, D-San Jose) - Enacts the “William Dallas Jones Cancer Presumption Act of 2010” and in doing so, extends the existing public safety cancer presumption statute of limitations – from five to 15 years – to more accurately reflect the risk to those types of job-related cancers that are contracted by firefighters and other public safety personnel.



ACA 9 (Jared Huffman, D-San Rafael) - Amends the state Constitution to change the existing two-thirds voter-approval requirement for local government special taxes to 55 percent. It also amends the state Constitution to create an additional exception to the 1% limit for a rate imposed by a city, county or special district to service bonded indebtedness to fund public service improvements, facilities or buildings that is approved by 55 percent of the voters.



AB 2151 (Norma Torres, D-Pomona) – Ensures that a firefighter is held financially blameless if he or she is involved in an accident while operating their private vehicle at the request or direction of their employer.



AB 2331 (Nancy Skinner, D-Berkeley) - Amends existing law to enable the California Fire Fighter Joint Apprenticeship Committee (CFFJAC) to remove names of those firefighters who were once added to the displaced firefighting hiring list it maintains when notification is given that the firefighter has obtained new employment or been reemployed.



SB 5 (Abel Maldonado, R-Santa Maria) - Directs the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training to conduct a feasibility study regarding the peace officer designation of members of a fire department bomb squad unit, who are certified by the Federal Bureau of Investigation as certified bomb technicians.

2010 Sponsorship/Co-Sponsorship Bills continued



SB 88 (Mark DeSaulnier, D-Antioch) – Deletes the current legal requirement that a spouse of a fallen firefighter transfer the firefighter license plate into their name within 60 days. It also allows other specified surviving family members to elect to keep the plate as a family heirloom in the event there is no surviving spouse.

To keep updated on CPF legislation, check the "Issues and Legislation" section at www.cpf.org.

2010 PRIORITY OPPOSE BILLS

(As of April 19, 2010)

AB 1669 (Jeffries, R-Riverside) – Requires CAL FIRE to take on the expensive bureaucratic program of conducting a state and federal level criminal offender record information search that does not prove, in itself, necessary. Also, unfairly forces seasonal firefighters to pay the cost of record information only to be paid back after they have been employed 24-months accumulatively. For seasonals, who make barely more than minimum wage, the payback would take between two-and-a-half to four years.

AB 1700 (Gaines, R-Roseville) – Repeals the pending modest Vehicle License Fee (VLF) increase and in doing so, adversely impacts critically needed funding for local public safety programs.

AB 1833 (Logue, R-Chico) – Undermines worker safety by creating additional hurdles to the enactment of Cal/OSHA regulations, including the completion of an economic impact analysis of any proposed regulation -- a proposed requirement that is duplicative of existing law and not a wise use of scarce taxpayer dollars.

AB 1990 (Anderson, R-La Mesa) – Allows an income tax credit equal to 100% of the costs paid or incurred for specified contributions made toward child care and in doing so, would result in significant revenue losses that could ultimately impact revenues otherwise made available for critical firefighting and public safety services.

AB 2041 (Villines, R-Clovis) – Allows a specified income tax deduction in connection with health savings accounts (HSAs), which, aside from negatively impacting revenues otherwise made available for public safety services, does nothing to

reduce the number of uninsured. HSA-compatible plans still have high premiums so these accounts really only benefit high wage earners and do nothing to make health care more affordable for the uninsured and low-income earners.

AB 2126 (Garrick, R-Carlsbad) – Reduces the existing minimum franchise tax of \$800 paid by corporations, partnerships and other companies for the first 10 years they are in business and in doing so, would result in a significant loss of critical revenue to the General Fund that could otherwise be earmarked for vital firefighting and other public safety services.

AB 2539 (Smyth, R-Santa Clarita) – Similar to AB 2041, this bill allows a specified income tax deduction in connection with health savings accounts (HSAs) without demonstrating any specific economic benefits for California.

SB 1180 (Dutton, R-Inland Empire) – Depresses wages and working conditions for California workers by turning the state into a so-called "right to work" state where workers are entitled to all of the benefits of union membership, but cannot be compelled to pay their fair share for that representation, thereby weakening California unions and making it impossible for them to bargain good contracts.

SB 1262 (Aanestad, R-Grass Valley) – Requires the CalPERS' Board of Administration to offer a high deductible health plan and a Health Savings Account option under PEMHCA to public employee and annuitant members. Similar to AB 2041 and AB 2539, this bill also allows a HSA-related income tax deduction, without demonstrating any specific economic benefits.

Pension Initiative Pulled, But New Threats Loom

Battle for Retirement Security Moves from Ballot to Budget

First, the good news: A ballot measure that could have cut new employee retirement by as much as 50% and more will not be on the ballot this November.

The proposal, which would have imposed punitive new restrictions on retirement, health care and collective bargaining, was withdrawn after no deep pocket stepped forward to bankroll the signature gathering campaign.

The proposal was the latest in a series of attacks launched by an anti-firefighter, anti-employee organization that's been on the attack for the better part of the last decade. Their 2005 ballot proposal – also withdrawn during signature gathering – sparked widespread condemnation for shutting off defined benefit payments to the survivors of fallen firefighters and law enforcement.

"The backers of this ill-conceived proposal didn't learn the lessons of the 2005 campaign, but their benefactors clearly did," said **CPF President Lou Paulson**, "The withdrawal of this measure is a victory for firefighters and their families."

Now, the bad news: The battle for retirement security is far from over ... in fact, it's just beginning. Only this time, the venue isn't the ballot box – it's the budget process.

- Local governments have made two-tiered pensions a focal point of local collective bargaining. Regional city manager organizations, with the encouragement of advocates such as the League of California Cities, have proposed "pension guidelines" that seek to impose a one-size-fits-all pension solution.

- Candidates hostile to public employees – most notably former eBay CEO Meg Whitman – have proposed eliminating pensions entirely and replacing them

with higher cost, higher risk retirement savings accounts.

- Anti-employee, anti-union media outlets have explicitly (and inaccurately) targeted public safety retirement security as the biggest threat to long-term fiscal health for local and state government.

"We may not see retirement security on the ballot, but that doesn't mean the issue has disappeared," said Paulson. "You've earned your retirement security, but if we let down our guard now, they'll take it away."

What We're Doing

California Professional Firefighters continues to work collaboratively with other labor groups in the "ground war" against steep pension rollbacks. In addition to co-chairing labor's Californians for Health Care and Retirement Security (CHCRS), CPF has also produced an informational video on retirement security, available online at www.cpfrevision.org.

CPF has also provided local affiliate leadership with an array of public outreach tools and resources to fight back against the attacks. Participating in positive public outreach programs are the most effective counterbalance to the attacks on firefighters and public employees.

To keep current on the battle to protect your retirement security, look for Pension Updates at www.cpf.org, under "Find It Here."

WATCH OUR PENSION REPORT

What's at stake in the current debate over retirement security? Take a photo of this barcode and watch CPF Firevision's video update.



Political Action

A Legacy of Support ... A Vision for the Future

Why CPF Endorses Jerry Brown for Governor

Whether it's their brothers and sisters on the front lines or their leaders in Sacramento, California's firefighters live by a simple motto: We stand up for those who stand up with us.

As Californians, firefighters are also concerned about the direction our state is taking, and the budget challenges that threaten their lives and livelihoods.

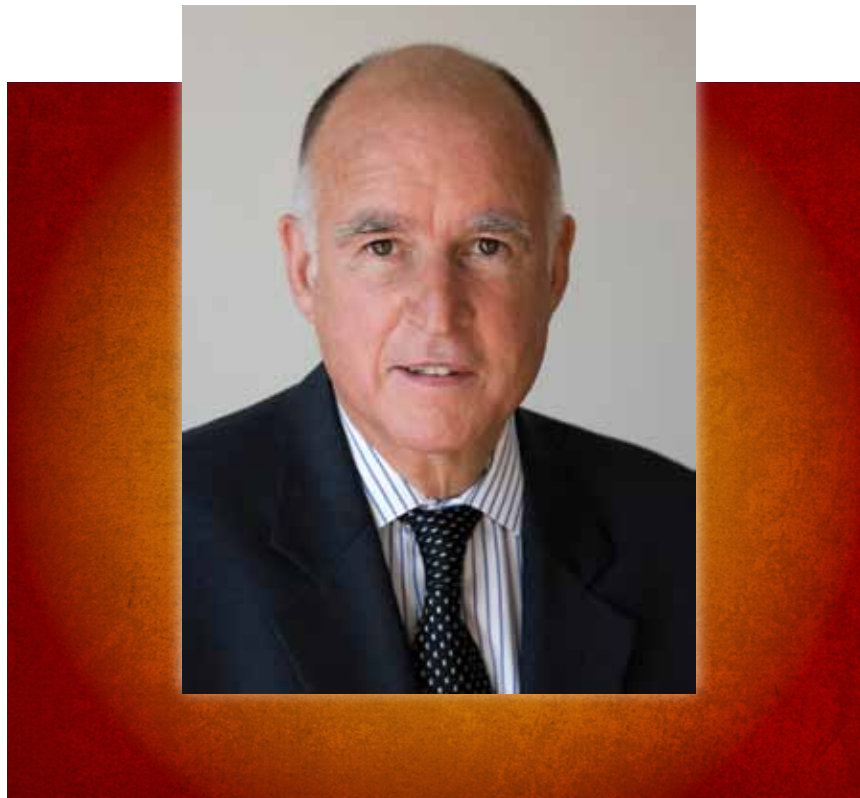
After interviewing all of the major Republican and Democratic candidates for governor, California Professional Firefighters believes that, for firefighters and their families, the choice is clear: Attorney General Jerry Brown.

Standing Up for Firefighter Families

During his first stint as governor, from 1975 to 1983, Jerry Brown made history on behalf of California's firefighters.

- Governor Brown **signed the nation's first firefighter cancer presumption law**, the foundation of workers' compensation protection for front line firefighters and their families;
- Governor Brown **appointed the first line firefighter to serve as California State Fire Marshal**, guaranteeing a voice for front line firefighters in setting state fire policy;
- Governor Brown signed the bill that **created the California Fire Fighter Joint Apprenticeship Committee**, the nation's model firefighter training and recruitment organization;
- Governor Brown **authorized collective bargaining for state employees**, building a core protection for, among others, CAL FIRE firefighters.

"Any one of these achievements by itself would justify our support for Jerry Brown," said **CPF President**



Lou Paulson. "When you're looking for a record of support, it's hard to think of anyone else that comes close."

Experience That Makes A Difference

When confronting the daunting challenges facing California, it helps to know what you're doing. At nearly every level of service, Jerry Brown has been there, done that, and made a difference.

As governor, his record on behalf of firefighters and their families is clear. But Brown was also known for frugal fiscal policies and strong public safety support. As California's attorney general, Brown has been tough on crime and cracked down on corporate irresponsibility. He has also insured balance and clarity in drafting summaries for initiatives such as those attacking retirement security and employee rights.

Sharing Our Values

Running California calls for more than just a resume. When interviewing the candidates, CPF pushed hard on the issues that will make a difference in

After interviewing all of the major Republican and Democratic candidates for governor, California Professional Firefighters believes that, for firefighters and their families, the choice is clear: Attorney General Jerry Brown.

the lives of its members: retirement security, safety on the job, collective bargaining rights and funding for state and local disaster response.

In all of these areas, Brown stood out.

- **Retirement security.** Brown was

the only candidate who stood fast in support of a secure pension for firefighters and their families;

- **Collective bargaining:** Brown was the only candidate committed to working with employees through the collective bargaining process;
- **Fire service resources:** Brown was the only candidate who supported finding more resources to save our endangered mutual aid response.

"Jerry Brown doesn't run down public employees ... he stands up for them," said Paulson.

Vision for California's Future

During his first term as governor, Chicago columnist Mike Royko dubbed Brown "Governor Moonbeam." Why? Because Jerry Brown proposed modernizing disaster response by launching an emergency communications satellite. It turns out that "Governor Moonbeam" was ahead of his time.

"If we're really going to fix California's ills, we can't settle for the same old partisan rhetoric," said Paulson. "Jerry Brown is the original 'outsider'. The difference is, he's an 'outsider' who knows how to get things done."

CPF doesn't endorse on the basis of party affiliation – we judge candidates on their past history, their shared values and their vision for the future. CPF believes that, by all of these measures, Jerry Brown is the right choice for governor.

CPF Endorsements – Statewide Office

Bipartisan list spotlights strongest candidates on first responder issues

After an extensive interview process, California Professional Firefighters has identified candidates it believes would be the strongest firefighter choices for statewide office in this June’s Primary Election.

“We’re proud to stand with these men and women, each of whom has a record of supporting the issues that matter to front line firefighters and their families,” said **CPF President Lou Paulson**. “In contests with strong pro-firefighter candidates on both sides of the aisle, CPF endorsed in both the Democratic and Republican races.”

The CPF endorsements for the primary were the product of weeks of interviews with dozens of candidates from both sides of the political aisle.

Only candidates who interviewed with the CPF Executive Board were eligible for consideration. All viable major party candidates running for statewide office were invited for interviews, and every candidate who responded to our invitation was interviewed.

GOVERNOR: **Jerry Brown (D)**

LT. GOVERNOR: **Janice Hahn (D)**
Abel Maldonado (R)

ATTORNEY GENERAL: **Alberto Torrico (D)**

TREASURER: **Bill Lockyer (D)**

SECRETARY OF STATE: **Debra Bowen (D)**

CONTROLLER: **John Chiang (D)**

INSURANCE COMMISSIONER: **Hector De La Torre (D)**
Mike Villines (R)

SUPT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION: **Tom Torlakson**

CPF - Primary Endorsements 2010

Candidates winning the CPF endorsement have demonstrated a commitment to public safety and California’s first responders, and earned support from CPF affiliates in their area. “Neutral” means there are more than one candidate supportive of first responders. “No Endorsement” means CPF found no firefighter-friendly candidates in the race.

STATE ASSEMBLY

AD01 – Wes Chesbro
AD02 – Jim Nielsen
AD03 – Dan Logue
AD04 – No Endorsement
AD05 – Neutral
AD06 – Jared Huffman
AD07 – Michael Allen
AD08 – Mariko Yamada
AD09 – Lauren Hammond
AD10 – Alyson Huber
AD11 – Susan Bonilla
AD12 – Fiona Ma
AD13 – Tom Ammiano
AD14 – Nancy Skinner
AD15 – Joan Buchanan
AD16 – Sandre Swanson
AD17 – Kathleen Galgiani
AD18 – Mary Hayashi
AD19 – Jerry Hill
AD20 – Bob Wiecekowski
AD21 – Josh Becker
AD22 – Paul Fong
AD23 – Nora Campos
AD24 – Jim Beall
AD25 – Kristen Olsen
AD26 – Bill Berryhill
AD27 – Bill Monning
AD28 – Neutral
AD29 – Linda Halderman
AD30 – Pete Parra
AD31 – Henry Perea
AD32 – Neutral

AD33 – K. H. “Katcho” Achadjian
AD34 – Connie Conway
AD35 – Neutral
AD36 – Neutral
AD37 – Jeff Gorrell
AD38 – Cameron Smyth
AD39 – Felipe Fuentes
AD40 – Bob Blumenfield
AD41 – Julia Brownley
AD42 – Mike Feuer
AD43 – Neutral
AD44 – Anthony Portantino
AD45 – Gil Cedillo
AD46 – John Perez
AD47 – Neutral
AD48 – Mike Davis
AD49 – Mike Eng
AD50 – Luis Marquez
AD51 – Steve Bradford
AD52 – Isadore Hall
AD53 – Neutral
AD54 – Bonnie Lowenthal
AD55 – Warren Furutani

AD56 – Tony Mendoza
AD57 – Rodger Hernandez
AD58 – Charles Calderon
AD59 – Neutral
AD60 – Curt Hagman
AD61 – Norma Torres
AD62 – Amina Carter
AD63 – Neutral
AD64 – Brian Nestande
AD65 – Paul Cook
AD66 – No Endorsement
AD67 – Jim Silva
AD68 – Phu Nguyen
AD69 – Jose Solorio
AD71 – Jeff Miller
AD72 – No Endorsement
AD73 – No Endorsement
AD74 – Martin Garrick
AD75 – Nathan Fletcher
AD76 – Toni Atkins
AD78 – Marty Block
AD79 – Benjamin Hueso
AD80 – Manuel V. Perez

STATE SENATE

SD02 – Noreen Evans
SD04 – Rick Keene
SD06 – Steinberg
SD08 – Leland Yee
SD10 – Ellen Corbett
SD12 – Neutral
SD14 – Tom Berryhill
SD16 – Michael Rubio
SD18 – Jean Fuller
SD20 – Alex Padilla
SD22 – Kevin De Leon
SD24 – Dr. Ed Hernandez
SD26 – Curren Price
SD28 – Jenny Oropeza
SD30 – Ron Calderon
SD32 – Gloria Negrete Mcleod
SD34 – Lou Correa
SD36 – Joel Anderson
SD37 – Russ Bogh
SD38 – Mark Wyland
SD40 – Neutral



No on Proposition 14 – Open Primary

CPF takes positions only on those ballot measures that directly affect its members and their bargaining and employee rights. Proposition 14, in our view, will simply ramp up the financial arms race in politics, making it harder for our members to participate in electing firefighter-friendly candidates to state office.

California Fire Foundation

Fresno Firefighters Reach Hispanic Community Through Firefighters On Your Side

California Fire Foundation Campaign Highlights Importance of Escape Plan

In Fresno, where nearly 40 percent of residents are Hispanic, fire safety messages can get lost in translation. Firefighters still recall the story of the little girl, who was killed in a house fire in Fresno last year, because her family didn't know the importance of smoke detectors.

"They didn't understand the language so messages of about this important topic never reached them," said Fresno Battalion Chief Tony Escobedo. "We want to make sure this never happens again."

To this end, Fresno Firefighters enlisted help from Firefighters On Your Side, the program created by the **California Fire Foundation**, to communicate the importance of having an escape plan in Spanish and English. In February, they began saturating their community with the Spanish/English campaign "Tenga Un Plan De Escape/Have an Escape Plan."

- Members of Local 753 and the Fresno Fire Department visited Fresno area schools to show students how to make an escape plan for their homes. Brochures were sent home with students in Spanish and English so that they could educate their families.
- Commercials in Spanish and English highlighted the need for an evacuation plan in the event of a house fire. To date, every major network in Fresno has aired the 30-second commercials created by the Foundation.
- Firefighters reached residents through their Web site and media interviews, again in Spanish and English.

"We had the chance to really get to know the people we serve face to face.

We've gained trust and respect in the community, and done something really proactive from a safety standpoint," said **Jerry Smith, President of Local 753.**

Prior to this, Fresno Firefighters participated in the Disaster Planning for the Elderly campaign, which was sponsored by Firefighters On Your Side. Each year, the Foundation adds additional topics and languages to its program offering.

If your local is interested in participating in the Foundation's Firefighters On Your

Side program, contact Vanessa Robinson at (916) 921-9111 or vrobinson@cpf.org. For more information, visit www.firefightersonyourside.org or www.bomberosatulado.org.

Watch the Interview!
 Fresno Battalion Chief Tony Escobedo appeared on "Central Valley Today" to discuss the Firefighters On Your Side campaign. Take a photo of the barcode to see the interview.



Daniel A. Terry Scholarship Eases Burden of College Tuition

With the rising costs of tuition, students across the state are finding it more difficult to afford a college education.

The Daniel A. Terry Scholarship helps to ease this burden for children, whose parent was a California firefighter whose name appears on the **California Firefighters Memorial Wall.**

Named after the founder of the **California Fire Foundation** and President Emeritus of California Professional Firefighters, the Daniel A. Terry Scholarship has awarded scholarships to 17 students since the program started in 2006.

The 2010 scholarship applications will be sent to all local unions,

departments, firefighter organizations and families of fallen firefighters at the end of April. Recipients will be given a \$2,000 scholarship award. The closing date to receive completed applications is June 4, 2010.

"Without this scholarship, I don't know if I would have been able to follow my dreams of being the first in my family to go to college," said Heather Yonan, a 2009 Daniel A. Terry Scholarship recipient. "Obtaining higher education is such a financial struggle. I am so thankful for this opportunity."

Visit www.cafirefoundation.org/go/cff/scholarships-grants/ to download a scholarship application.



Fresno firefighters spoke to students at Jackson Elementary about making an escape plan in case of fire.



Making a Difference

Firefighters Attend MDA 'Boot Camp'

Fill the Boot Campaign gives Hope and Help

Thank you to all who attended the annual MDA "Boot Camps" in Southern and Northern California. Departments from across the state came together to share best practices to ensure that the 2010 Fill the Boot Campaign is a huge success. **CPF President Lou Paulson** encouraged firefighters to support MDA and to continue filling their boots for the worthwhile cause.

"California firefighters are extremely proud of the money we've raised for families affected by these devastating diseases," said President Paulson. "We will continue to support MDA until cures and effective treatments are found."

Southern California Boot Camp

Attendees met some of the families who are directly affected by the funds raised by California firefighters including Phil Kelleher, former CAL FIRE Local 2881 firefighter, who is now battling ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease) and Ashley Garcia, a 14-year-old girl with neuromuscular disease.

"You guys go out there and save lives each and every day but when you go out there and fill the boot you save one of our lives," said Garcia, who thanked the firefighters for their support.



LA County Fire Fighters Local 1014 at the Southern California Boot Camp. The local received the award for raising the most money for MDA as a local with over 700 members.

Several Southern California departments received awards at Boot Camp for their tremendous efforts in 2009. Congratulations to the following locals:

- Most Dollars Raised (700+ members): **Los Angeles County Firefighters Local 1014**
- Most Dollars Raised (101-699 members): **Ventura County Professional Firefighters Association Local 1364**
- Most Dollars Raised (100 or less members): **Upland Professional Firefighters Local 3477**
- Top Dollars Raised by a Member:

\$1,525.73 per member - **Upland Professional Firefighters Local 3477**

- Most Improved Over Previous Year: **CAL FIRE Local 2881**
- Southern California Rookie of the Year: **Long Beach Firefighters Local 372**

Northern California Boot Camp

Firefighters had the opportunity to meet MDA California State Goodwill Ambassador Calum Cain, a 9-year-old boy with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy. Cain thanked the firefighters

for all they do for MDA families. Northern California locals celebrated a significant increase in dollars raised over last year. Congratulations to the following locals:

- Most Dollars Raised: **CAL FIRE Local 2881**
- Northern California Rookie of the Year: **Contra Costa County Professional Firefighters Local 1230**
- Honorable Mentions: **San Mateo County Firefighters Local 2400, Stockton Firefighters Local 456 and Marin Professional Firefighters Local 1775**

Thank you to all locals who participated! A special thank you to Continental Airlines for awarding roundtrip tickets to the top raising departments throughout California!

Abbey Umali, the 10-year-old MDA National Goodwill Ambassador, said it best.

"Without you, MDA couldn't do what it does, and that is to give help to kids and adults with muscular dystrophy like me," said Umali. "I hope you all know how much hope you're giving to all of us."

Thank you, California firefighters! Because of you, the families served by MDA have hope. Best wishes for a safe and successful 2010.



CAL FIRE Local 2881 received an award for the most improvement over the previous year and for most dollars raised.



MDA National Goodwill Ambassador Abbey Umali spoke at the 2010 Boot Camps.



From left to right: Fremont Local 1689's Jim Martin, CPF President Lou Paulson and Contra Costa County Local 1230's Art Jacobson attended the Northern California Boot Camp.

Health & Safety

Firefighters Encouraged to Record Their Exposures

Through aggressive lobbying by CPF, California firefighters are now protected by some of the strongest firefighter presumption laws in the nation.

But firefighters still need proof of exposures!

All of the presumptions in statute are disputable, which means that firefighters need evidence that an illness resulted on the job. It can mean all the difference in a workers' compensation claim.

"It's vastly easier to make your case if you have kept extensive records of your exposures," said Tom Bowen, attorney with Davis, Cowell and Bowe, who has represented firefighters in presumption cases. "And if you were at a fire -- any fire -- you were exposed."

So how do firefighters put their exposures on the record?

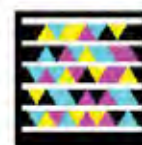
For the past 25 years, the **Personal Exposure Reporting (PER)** program has been helping firefighters report their exposures safely and securely. For \$15 a year, firefighters have unlimited access to PER's unique exposure reporting form, which automates the sometimes time-consuming paper filing process. It's a firefighter's best line of defense.



"I've seen too many cases where a firefighter does not get workers' comp or a firefighter's family does not get the death benefits that they deserve because there weren't any exposure records to support their case," said **Mike Dubron**, president and founder of the Firefighter Cancer Support Network, who recorded his exposures prior to his cancer diagnosis.

Dubron recommends that firefighters consider reporting exposures a vital part of their job. "The few minutes that a firefighter spends reporting their exposures are just as important as putting on turnouts before battling a blaze. They both serve to protect the firefighter," Dubron said.

For more information about PER, visit www.peronline.org, call (916) 921-9111 or email PER@cpf.org. For more information about the Firefighter Cancer Support Network, visit www.firefightercancersupport.org.



REPORT YOUR EXPOSURES!

Take a photo of this barcode to find out more about CPF's PER program.

Report your **chemical** and **biological** exposures at www.peronline.org

Protect Yourself!

As a firefighter, you are frequently exposed to a broad range of environmental and biological toxins, which put you at greater risk of contracting cancer, tuberculosis, blood-borne and other contagious diseases. Several of California's presumption laws require that firefighters document occupational exposures to hazardous agents.

In short, you need proof!

The Personal Exposure Reporting (PER) program keeps track of all of the exposures you report. It's a safe and secure way to protect yourself!

For more information, visit www.peronline.org call (916) 921-9111 or e-mail PER@cpf.org.

CALIFORNIA



Your Online Fire Service Connection

The California Fire Department Directory is your free up-to-date online resource for basic information about the fire service in California.

Complete: Current contact info, web addresses and even MACS designations

Up-To-Date: Directory is updated monthly

Searchable: Search by county or department name

Downloadable: Those who need it on paper can download a copy for FREE!

www.cpf.org

CALIFORNIA PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTERS
1780 CREEKSIDE OAKS, SUITE 200 SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95833

CPF Welcomes Its Newest Local

Pioneer Union Fire Fighters Local 4586



Located in Southern El Dorado County, the Pioneer Fire Protection District serves a 296-square mile area including the growing community of Somerset and its surroundings. Six fire stations serve approximately 8,000 residents and averages 780 calls each year, including medical calls, structure fires, vehicle accidents, water rescue and Haz Mat.

Pioneer Professional Firefighters Local 4586 joined the IAFF in December of 2007 and became a proud member of CPF two years later.

"Since we are a small employee group with limited funds and resources, we decided that joining the CPF would be a good way to increase our options for assistance," said **Pioneer Union Fire Fighters President Jack Daniels**.

Like many departments up and down the state, the Pioneer Fire Protection District has been threatened with budget cuts. Their department receives a quarter of its funding from El Dorado County in the form of an Augmentation Fund, which is at risk of being eliminated. Without this funding, the department is in jeopardy of losing their full-time ALS staffing.

The local also continues to face challenges from a very anti-paid firefighter board of directors. The board opposes their 2% at 55 PERS plan, even though the local has given up two pay increases and accepted a sub par medical plan.

The local's current goals include gearing up for elections to put pro-firefighter candidates on the board, obtaining a good retirement plan and medical plan for its staff and continuing to deliver a high level of professional service to its community.



Pioneer Union firefighters respond to a vehicle fire.

Media Solutions

Building your image ... Realizing your vision



www.firestarproductions.org

Television • Print • Radio • Web • Graphic Design

firefighters 
print & design
www.ffprint.org



Need help with your mortgage? Worried about foreclosure? If so, WE CAN HELP!

BROUGHT TO YOU BY



JOHN CHIANG
California State Controller



Friday, June 4, 2010
10:00am to 4:00pm - *Counseling*

State Controller's Office
3301 "C" Street, Suite 750. Sacramento, CA 95816 (free parking)
(Entrance "C" and 40th Street)

GET HELP TO SAVE YOUR HOME! Don't miss the opportunity to meet with HUD-Approved Counselors and Lenders Face-to-Face **It's Free!**

COME PREPARED! Bring (2) copies of the following documentation;

- Two (2) Current Pay Stubs
- Two (2) Months Bank Statements
- 2009 Tax Return including W-2
- A list of your monthly expenses
- Your most recent mortgage statement & any other related correspondence
- Copy of Homeowners Insurance Policy
- Hardship Letter (in your own words)
- Self-Employed Individuals must provide: four (4) months of the most recent bank statements; 2008 or 2009 tax return; a YTD Profit & Loss Statement

Register today 866-920-3111 or www.nidsacramento.org **It's FREE!**

INVITED LENDERS

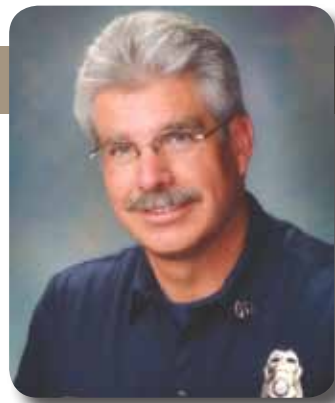


Dan Crow

CPF 1st District Vice President



CPF District 1 represents the counties of San Bernardino, Riverside, San Diego, Imperial and Orange



City of Coronado's Prudent Approach Benefits Firefighters

Coronado firefighters have done well despite the current economic climate. They are currently in a three-year contract, which includes raises and the 3% at 50 retirement formula.

The local has benefited greatly from the City of Coronado's aggressive approach to savings. When their CalPERS account became superfunded in the 1990s and the City of Coronado no longer needed to contribute 9%, the city redistributed that money back into their daily budget. By banking this money, they built a strong reserve, which has been crucial these past two years as revenues have fallen.

The local has also become more involved in political action and has forged an excellent relationship with their mayor and city council, which has paid dividends.

"We have a fair contract. They've honored both sides of our MOU and we appreciate their support," said **Coronado Firefighters President Kevin Roof**.

Local 3734 Helps City, Raises Political Capital

Despite the current economic downturn, the city of Newport Beach is still financially secure. However, **Newport Beach Firefighters Local 3734** has made concessions now to help raise their political capital for the future.

The terms of their contract included:

- A one-year extension to their existing contract
- Implementing a 48/96 trial period
- Paying a portion of their PERS. The local was due a 3½% raise. Instead, they funneled that into their PERS so the city pays 3½% to PERS and members do not pay out-of-pocket.
- Any new hires after March 2010 would pay the full 9% of PERS for their first five years of employment, then they would drop back to paying 3 ½% after the five years. This helped the local stave off the two-tiered retirement system. Employees still get 3% at 50. They just need to invest more on the front end.

"We've had nothing but positive feedback from the city and our council. The city is using us as an example of an organization that has been making compromises and helping the city during this economic downturn. In the end, we hope to see some positive in

the future," said **Local 3734 President Chad Ponegalek**.

Former Local President Becomes Ontario City Manager

It's virtually unheard of. But in the city of Ontario, Chris Hughes has moved up the ranks from local union president to deputy fire chief to fire chief to his latest position: city manager.

Hughes was appointed city manager of Ontario by the mayor and city council in February. He brings with him this most unusual career path and over 20 years of service to the City of Ontario.

"He's a great supporter of the fire service, of our fire department and a good employee," said **Ontario Professional Firefighters Local 1430 President Ryan Lewis**. "He's going to be a great city manager."

Local 1430 is currently in a contract so hasn't been in talks with Hughes yet, but they have worked with Hughes in many joint labor-management projects when he was fire chief and have been duly impressed.

"I haven't heard of something like this happening in this area but we are very happy," said Lewis.



Chris Hughes is Ontario's new city manager. Hughes was a past local president of Ontario Firefighters Association Local 1430.



Coronado firefighters respond to a house fire. Their local has stayed strong through the state's economic crisis.

Chris Mahon

CPF 2nd District Vice President



District 2 represents CPF Local Unions in the counties of Kern, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura and Los Angeles - with the exception of United Firefighters of Los Angeles City Local 112 and Los Angeles County Fire Fighters Local 1014.

Tough Times Across the Political Spectrum

Locals across the state are facing tough times, regardless of where their city falls on the political spectrum.

But it has been especially trying for locals in areas that have been traditionally anti-union territory.

Bakersfield City Firefighters Local 246 is currently being threatened with staffing reductions, brownouts and a change of retirement from 3% at 50 to 3% at 55. In the best of times, the department's growth has been stymied, despite the growth of its population and city limits. For years, there have been no new hires, no pay raises and their stations do not meet the 4-0 staffing standards called for by NFPA.

And things are likely going to get worse before they get better. Local 246 has been in negotiations since their contract ended in March 2008 and has been unable to come to an agreement with the city. The city's latest threat is to take all staffing language from their contract, which would mean that firefighters would either have to brown out a station that is not fully staffed or run with a two-man station.

"We haven't grown like everyone else has. The city is saying we need to feel the pain like other city agencies but we've been feeling the pain for the last 20 years," said **Bakersfield City President Bob Melton**.

But it's not only locals in anti-union areas that are feeling the pinch. Locals in traditionally progressive areas are also getting hammered.

"I know it's turned from sporadic pension battles in anti-labor areas to a

fight for staffing and benefits in all areas up and down the state. We're dealing with it, too," said **Santa Barbara City Firefighters President Jon Turner**.

Santa Barbara City Firefighters Local 525 has already deferred raises but the city is asking for further concessions. They've been successful in fending off brownouts up until now, but expect to roll up their sleeves and fight harder in July, when the city needs to close a \$2.1 million shortfall.

In Montebello, a suburb east of Los Angeles, public sentiment towards firefighters and labor is good, but the city has been relentless in their demands for concessions.

Daily staffing has gone from 18 to 16 and the city has its sights on getting rid of minimum staffing to reduce it further. With staff reductions, one of the department's ladder trucks has been eliminated. And the cuts keep coming

By July, Montebello firefighters will most likely be paying 9% of PERS, with no city contribution and the city is also exploring a two-tiered retirement system for new hires.

"The public doesn't know about these cuts, but they will soon. We're going to be passing out flyers and walking precincts in the next couple of weeks," said **Local 3821 President Craig Barker**.

Santa Barbara County FFs Support Fellow FF

When a firefighter gets sick, their firefighter family rallies to support them. Such has been the case for Santa Barbara County firefighter Tyler Gilliam, who was diagnosed with testicular cancer in February of 2009.

Members of **Local 2046** have donated their vacation time to him, shaved their heads and brought meals to his home for weeks after his surgeries. Through their Benevolent Foundation, they covered the costs of travel and expenses for his family to visit him at his UCLA hospital room. They even voted online in droves when Gilliam and his fiancée were finalists in the Southern California Dream Wedding Giveaway (and netted the most votes, even though they were not ultimately selected by the sponsor judges for the final prize).

But perhaps the most moving show of solidarity can be seen in "Run to Tyler," a short video that documents the three-day run that Local 2046 members made from Gilliam's home in Santa Barbara to his UCLA hospital room to surprise him. The video can be seen at <http://vimeo.com/9473769>.

Tyler is one of three firefighters from Local 2046, who has been stricken with work-related cancer recently.

"It's been a trying time for our fire family and brings to light how we all need to do give a little bit extra to help each other out," said **Santa Barbara County Firefighters President Rob Heckman**. "Tyler got work-related cancer at just 33 years of age. We are criticized for having a reasonable retirement and a fair wage, but I don't think we're asking too much when work-related cancer can strike any of us."



Santa Barbara County firefighters run from Santa Barbara to UCLA in support of their firefighter brother, Tyler Gilliam.



FREE VIDEO!
Take a photo of this icon to see Local 2046's running journey from Santa Barbara to LA to surprise their firefighter brother Tyler Gilliam.

Local 4403 Provides Real Scoop About Unions

Arroyo Grande residents got the real scoop about organized labor recently when **Professional Firefighters Local 4403** joined other area unions in hosting a free ice cream event for the public at Doc Burnstein's Ice Cream Lab.

Carpenters Local 150, a builder's group that has disassociated itself from the AFL-CIO, has targeted the beloved ice cream parlor, picketing and bannering the site for several months and intimidating its visitors.



Brian Leathers, left, and Sean McMahon represented Professional Firefighters Local 4403 at the free ice cream event at Doc Burnstein's Ice Cream Lab.

The Ventura County-based group alleges that Doc Burnstein's owner Greg Steinberger is using non-union labor to build his second shop at the Santa Maria Town Center. But construction at the Santa Maria Town Center is controlled and paid for by the mall management group, not individual tenants like Steinberger.

Repeated attempts by Steinberger to reach out to Carpenters Local 150 were unsuccessful and Carpenters Local 150's aggressive tactics were giving the public the wrong message about organized labor.

"They were not portraying unions in a positive light," said **Local 4403 President PJ Ferguson**, who teamed with locals in hosting the ice cream event.

The event was a rousing success. The AFL-CIO affiliated Tri-Counties Building and Construction Trades Council footed the bill for over 1,230 free scoops of ice cream for the public. Over 30 unions, including Local 4403, set up booths providing information about themselves and offering details about job opportunities, where available.

"This was our way of letting the community know what good union stewardship is all about," said Ferguson.

Bobby Weist

CPF 3rd District Vice President



CPF District 3 represents the counties of Del Norte, Siskiyou, Modoc, Humboldt, Trinity, Shasta, Lassen, Mendocino, Tehama, Plumas, Lake, Glenn, Butte, Colusa, Sutter, Yuba, Sierra, Yolo, Placer, Sacramento, El Dorado, San Joaquin, Amador, Calaveras, Alpine, Stanislaus, Tuolumne, Mono, Merced, Mariposa, Monterey, Santa Cruz, San Benito, Fresno, Kings, Madera, Nevada, Tulare and Inyo.

Local 522 Member to Help Repair Haitian Boy's Heart

Sacramento Metro fire captain and **Local 522 member Barbie Law** knows how to mend a broken heart.

In the aftermath of the earthquake in Haiti, Law volunteered as a medical relief worker with the non-profit humanitarian agency, Relief International. It was here that she first met seven-year-old Lovensky Alexandre.

Alexandre suffered from a congenital heart defect, which limited his ability to run and play like other children. He took heart medication to combat the chest pains, but his mother was hoping for a surgical solution – something that was not readily available in Haiti.

With the arrival of the American clinic where Law was volunteering, Alexandre's

mother, Roselene Ducelus, saw new opportunity and new hope. On their first two visits, the clinic was still in its emergency start-up phase and could not provide any assistance to Alexandre. Law wanted to help, but didn't have the tools to do so.

At least not in earthquake-torn Haiti.

Law consulted her father, a practicing physician in Sacramento, and asked if any of his colleagues could help. The first cardiologist her father approached agreed to review Alexandre's records. With his particular heart defect, Alexandre would have a shortened life expectancy and would be required to take medication for the rest of his life. A fairly routine surgery could repair the defect and allow him to live a normal life. Doctors at Sutter Medical Center in Sacramento offered to perform the life-saving heart surgery for free and cover all expenses, including his hospital stay. It was an offer that Alexandre couldn't refuse.



Local 522 member Barbie Law, right, with 7-year-old Lovensky Alexandre and his mother Roselene Ducelus in Haiti before flying to Sacramento.

Law spent the next month, applying for Haitian passports and arranging air travel. The biggest hurdle was obtaining the travel visas since the U.S. Embassy in Port-Au-Prince isn't processing tourism or medical visas at this time. It seemed all hope was lost until she heard about U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services and applied for humanitarian parole, which was granted.

"I've never done anything like this before but managed to achieve a lot for this little boy in a short time," said Law.

In late March, Law flew back to Haiti to pick up Alexandre and Ducelus and escort them to the Sacramento area, where they stayed with the family of Haitian expatriate Pierre LaGuerre, who is supervisor of business services for Sutter General Hospital and also a French and Creole interpreter at the hospital.



Barbie Law takes Lovensky Alexandre and Pierre LaGuerre to see a fire truck at Fire Station 106 in Sacramento.

During their visit, Law and LaGuerre took them on a clothes shopping trip since they only had the clothes on their back when they arrived. They also visited Law's fire station, where Alexandre got to tiller the truck and learned to put up the aerial ladder.

Alexandre's original surgical date was postponed after his doctor diagnosed

him with a staph infection, contracted while living on the streets of Haiti. His surgery has been re-scheduled for mid-April. If all things go as planned, Alexandre will have a heart that is good as new.

"I saw so much suffering in Haiti. There was so much that was wrong there that I was helpless to make right. This was one thing that I could do," Law said.

More Bad News for Salinas

Salinas' budget shortfall for 2010-2011 is nearing \$10.3 million and the city just got more bad news: Property tax was greatly underestimated so now they are an additional \$2.2 million short.

Prior to this news, six firefighter jobs were on the chopping block. Three of these positions will be reduced through attrition since two firefighters retired last year and one retired this year. The fourth job in jeopardy was spared when **Local 1270 President Steve Furtado** put himself on the line to help his firefighter brother.

"I've put in my retirement notice," said Furtado, who plans to continue to serve as president of Salinas Fire Fighters Local 1270 until his term ends in August of 2011. "I've decided to go, rather than see another firefighter lose a job."

Now with the additional property tax shortfall, layoffs may be back on the table, as the city plans to make deeper cuts than previously expected.

Local 1270 may be moving to constant staffing, a model that would increase staffing and put another truck in service, while decreasing expenditures. Currently, Salinas firefighters don't always make an eight-minute response time. Putting another truck in service would help them better serve their population, which is spread over 25 square miles.

But that still not enough. At the time of this publication, Furtado is evaluating other options.

Randy Sekany

CPF 4th District Vice President



CPF District 4 represents the counties of Sonoma, Napa, Solano, Marin, Contra Costa, Alameda, San Francisco, San Mateo and Santa Clara.

Hayward Firefighters Add BCs to Bargaining Unit

Hayward's front line firefighters and battalion chiefs are now represented by the same bargaining unit under **Local 1909**.

The change, which took effect in February, has been an idea long in the making. Former local presidents **Garrett Contreras** and **Eric Vollmer** were both active proponents of this when they were in office.

"We have a great relationship with both our command staff and the city and knew that they would be open to the idea," said **Hayward Firefighters President Jason Livermore**. "We wanted to have everyone that works on a 24-hour shift to be under the same bargaining unit since we're all in the firehouse together, work the same schedule and respond to the same emergencies."

Hayward battalion chiefs were previously part of their own separate bargaining unit, which was a management unit alongside two deputy chiefs. The BCs voted unanimously to join Local 1909. Members of Local 1909 also supported the idea. It required a two-thirds vote of the membership to pursue and they got it.

"We got the votes because our members understand the importance of organizing and growing our membership and having all of us that live in the firehouse every day under one bargaining unit," said Livermore.

From there, the local approached Hayward's city manager with the proposal and offered two models to choose from. With the first model, BCs would fall under Local 1909's current contract and they would add language that speaks to them. With the second option, BCs would keep their current contract and Local 1909 would represent them.

The city manager opted for the second option so now firefighters and BCs have their own contracts but both are represented by Local 1909.

"This doesn't give us more leverage when bargaining but it does give us another avenue to communicate with BCs," said Livermore. "We used to have staff meetings to address concerns and ideas. Now we can just speak as union brothers in an informal setting. That's a big step forward."

City Manager Groups Call for "Pension Reform"

The Alameda County City Managers Association and the Contra Costa County Public Managers Association have joined forces to push a proposal for a two-tiered retirement system for public employees in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties.

Guided by concepts from the League of California Cities, the two groups have created a pension reform task force that is working to strip down the current "defined benefit" plan that has worked for public employees for decades. Under this plan, all employees would be required to fund a portion of their pensions through direct payroll contributions. The plan would also implement a two-tiered retirement system for new employees that would

include 2% at 50 for public safety employees. Currently, public safety employees have a 3% at 50 plan in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties.

In addition, both city manager groups are working with the League of California Cities to call for legislative pension reform at the state level.

"What's most upsetting to me is the list of city managers who are a part of the task force. Three city managers from our consolidated department are on the task force," said **John Torres, President of the Alameda County Firefighters Association Local 55**.

Torres found out about the pension reform task force when he received an email with the proposal document from a concerned retiree. "I'm talking with our city managers and they're telling us, 'I can't believe the county is after your pensions' and then I find out they're all sitting on this task force."

In response, Torres and all of the local union leaders from Alameda County have formed the Alameda County Labor Group, a coalition which is currently working on sending a clear message about retirement security to all county residents through a mailer. The group has also enlisted the help of **FireStar Productions** to produce a video that combines two elements: Alameda County's last Fire Ops 101, which many of their politicians participated in

and CPF Firevision's report on what's at stake in the current debate over retirement security. The group will be mailing this video to their key policymakers, local politicians and stakeholders.

'Every Second Counts' in San Jose

It's never been so important for politicians and the public to understand what firefighters do and video is an effective medium to tell that story.

San Jose Firefighters Local 230 utilized help from FireStar Productions to put together a 10-minute video called "Every Second Counts." The video powerfully illustrates the city's current staffing numbers, what it provides and what happens when cuts are made. It has been shown as an educational tool to council members and community groups and the results speak for themselves: Council members unanimously voted down a proposal to close two fire stations in San Jose.



FREE VIDEO!
Snap a photo of this barcode to watch San Jose Firefighters' "Every Second Counts" video.



An informative screenshot from San Jose Firefighters' video "Every Second Counts."

Michael Massone

CPF 5th District Vice President



CPF District 5 represents federal firefighters across the state of California

This year has been incredibly tough on the fire service and the labor movement in general.

Station closures, brownouts and the loss of jobs have been management's answer to surviving this economic crisis, often putting the public and our members in harm's way, casting aside common sense in order to meet the bottom line. Our members have not wavered in their commitment and devotion to the public we serve or to our brothers and sisters riding the rigs. The pundits and politicians who attack us by saying our negotiated benefits are too costly or exorbitant forget that these benefits were not given out of the kindness of our hearts. Locals bargained in good faith, giving back, conceding, offering ideas and real solutions in an effort to help to stem the downward economic spiral we have found ourselves in.

I am confident that by remaining focused on what we as a union do best – staying committed to fair wages, hours, working conditions, and the safety and health of our members and their families -- we, too, shall weather this crisis.

Local F-145 is Abolished

It is the end of an era. Sadly, we say goodbye to **Local F-145**, Presidio San Francisco. The Presidio Fire Department has been abolished and fire protection will be contracted to the City and County of San Francisco. Regrettably, only 15 CPF members will be offered jobs, leaving 19 members unemployed. CPF, as well as the **California Fire Fighter Joint Apprenticeship Committee (CFFJAC)** is assisting by adding these

members to the Displaced Firefighter List, managed by the CFFJAC. Please contact the CFFJAC if your agency has openings.



The Presidio Fire Department has been abolished. Fire protection will be contracted to the City and County of San Francisco.



ARE YOU HIRING?
Snap a photo of this barcode to get more information about the CFFJAC's Displaced Firefighter List.

CPF Convention Nears

Convention is rapidly approaching and I look forward to another successful convention. As you know, our biennial convention provides direction to the CPF Executive Board, setting our agenda and priorities for the future. I expect that hard work, communication and diligence will be our guiding principles during convention.

IAFF Legislative Conference Update

The IAFF's Alfred K. Whitehead Legislative Conference was a resounding success. Visiting Washington, DC, during the week of the healthcare vote, was exciting, to say the least.

Our proposed legislation -- the most ever introduced on behalf of federal firefighters -- was lobbied by the amazing contingent of CPF members. Thank you to all who lobbied, wrote letters or made phone calls. Your voice was heard and the feedback I am receiving is encouraging.

Members from **CAL FIRE Local 2881** and I had an incredible opportunity to meet with USDA Secretary Vilsack's office. We gave candid insight into the dangers of the increased use of contractors, the deplorable pay and poor benefits of wildland firefighters and the need for further cooperation between the USFS and our federal, state, county and municipal agencies. The IAFF and CPF look forward to strengthening this partnership and providing direct input, which will ultimately keep the public and our members safe.

Stay safe and see you in San Diego!



Mike Massone, center, along with CAL FIRE members Paul Van Gerwen, Bob Wolf, Ray Snodgrass and Rick Swan speak to Agriculture Secretary Vilsack's staff regarding USFS firefighters at the IAFF Legislative Conference.

Bob Wolf

CPF 6th District Vice President



CPF District 6 represents
CDF Firefighters, Local 2881



Funding Battles Continue

Legislators from both parties have been looking for innovative ways to generate money for state firefighters, in general, and **CAL FIRE** firefighters, in particular.

Initially, in order to meet the statewide demand for revenues, we focused on the Emergency Response Initiative (ERI), which would levy a 4.8% assessment on all homeowner's policies. The fund would not be subject to Prop. 18 and would be funneled into state and local fire agencies to pay for mutual aid services. However, Legislative Council has opined that the fee is, in reality, a tax and fails to provide the appropriate nexus between the costs being levied and the services being delivered. If this opinion holds, the measure would require a two-thirds vote – a tougher hill to climb. But the bottom line is clear: California needs to do something to shore up a system that is our state's best response to the disasters we know are coming.

The state Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) has always had a suggestion of its own. They believe it makes greater sense to have a State Responsibility Area (SRA) fee that is specific to only those property owners who live in SRAs.

Of course, their idea also has unique problems. First, it becomes extraordinarily difficult to figure out what the assessment fees are for those individuals with expensive homes in the resort areas, as opposed to cattle ranchers in the northern counties. How do we fairly assess the nexus that exists between the fee and the service?

CDF Firefighters Local 2881 also contends that such a proposal would make it very difficult for rural agencies to pay their bills or successfully pass a property assessment in their own areas.

Of course, these issues will continue as long as the budget difficulties remain. The good news is that our state revenues are \$2 billion dollars greater than anticipated. This means we are only \$18 billion in debt.

Bargaining

There are 22 bargaining units in California and 21 of them are without contracts. We are one of those units. CDF Firefighters continues to meet with the Department of Personnel Administration (DPA) and is hopeful that a reasonable contract can be reached. Not unlike our brothers and sisters in the **International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF)** and **California Professional Firefighters**, the unrelenting focus on pensions and benefits makes the challenge of finding a resolution more complex.

We do believe that the general public understands the unique challenges of public safety. While we are obviously willing to make concessions regarding spiking, it is clear that what firefighters do on a daily basis separates us from other employees.

The "Ready, Set, Go!" Program

We were pleased to work with both the IAFF and CPF to help put together a model that educates homeowners about the importance of preparation

and to listen to firefighters during an emergency. The overall policy emphasized that public safety belongs in the hands of professionals and I have no doubt that it has saved lives.

I am especially pleased that the Stay and Defend policy, which proved so disastrous in Australia, will absolutely not be a part of any kind of planning program in California.

At the end of day, we do our best to work with legislators and legislative staff to delineate a cost-benefit appraisal for CAL FIRE that is fair and sensible, but mostly we remember that, as firefighters, our ultimate responsibility is to protect the people of California.

I am proud of all of my brothers and sisters in our profession. Even in the difficult times, I look forward to working closely with you.



Dave Gillotte

CPF 7th District Vice President



CPF District 7 represents Los Angeles County Fire Fighters, Local 1014

As we prepare for CPF Convention, **Local 1014** is in the midst of a very important vote and balloting process. This is not an election. This vote is an investment in our future.

Local 1014's Executive Board is asking its membership to vote on a dues increase from 1% of top step firefighter to 1.33% of top step firefighter. At a time when the economic environment is tough and it would seem to be a poor time to raise dues, we feel there can be no more important time to fund the battle to protect everything we have worked so hard to achieve over the years.

We are taking the bold step to increase our dues to further fund our very strong and pro-active political action program. Our political action program is critical to our strength and voice in protecting and advancing any aspect of our wages, benefits, healthcare and working conditions.

We serve 58 cities and the unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County with 165 fire stations. These cities require an enormous amount of political action to elect responsible officials, who will put public safety first and work to keep staffing levels where they belong.

We continue our efforts in the Cities of El Monte and Pomona to help stabilize their budgets and protect our staffing. Other cities have expressed interest in contracting with the County for Fire and Paramedic Protection. As always, we evaluate each request from a union, business and political perspective.

First, it must be the wish and will of the IAFF local affiliate providing the service to the area or region that is requesting

the service analysis. Without that, any consideration to an annexation is dead in the water and not open for discussion and we will use our power to kill it. Next, the city must have the financial health and wherewithal to pay their fire protection costs for our service. Last, we look at the "votes" and the "voice" of the elected officials and the citizens. Without the "votes," you got nothing ... no deal.

Some cities of interest that may be seeking County Fire Analysis are Brea, El Segundo, Monterey Park, Montebello, West Covina and Vernon. Needless to say, given the economy and the budget, we will be moving cautiously and carefully with each city to ensure a good fit for all. We will keep you posted.

The end of last year had Los Angeles County Fire Fighters, along with many firefighters throughout the state, fighting one of the largest wildland fires in history -- The Station Fire -- where we lost two of our own, brothers Ted Hall and Arnie Quinones. Firefighters from throughout the nation and CPF rallied and helped us do the right thing to lay them to rest and we, again, thank all of you and remember all the others who have made the ultimate sacrifice ... they shall not be forgotten.

We rose up and fought off the massive flooding conditions that occurred immediately after the Station Fire and saved countless homes and businesses once again in that region. Just when we thought we got a handle on things in our own county, Local 1014 members were called upon to travel to Haiti to help rescue and treat people who suffered one of the most devastating earthquakes in history.

Our US AID -- UASI Task Force II Urban Search and Rescue Team is one of only two teams (Fairfax County, Virginia is the other) to be certified to respond worldwide to disasters of this magnitude. Our USAR team performed to the highest caliber of service in the nation in conditions that were beyond belief. Our pride and thanks to all of our Local 1014 members and the Fairfax County members, who represented us all ... a job well done.

We extended our contract for one year in December to protect all of our wages and working conditions until December of 2011 with no takeaways, deferrals or changes to include staffing provisions. We also were fortunate to negotiate and find the funding to actually increase county contributions to our

healthcare premiums and provide increased dental and orthodontia benefits, resulting in more money in our members' pockets.

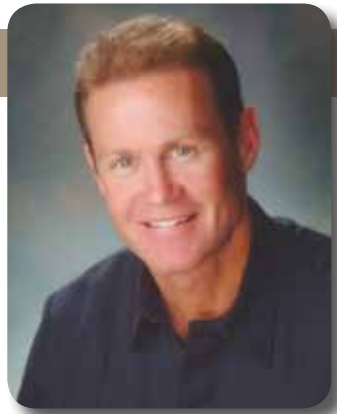
We are very similar to every other membership and we face all of the same challenges heading into the future. We hope to report that our membership approved the dues increase necessary to protect our pensions, shore up our contract cities, run an initiative to supplement our current special fire tax cap, continue to help elect leaders who will protect and support firefighters and their issues and, in the end, focus back to the whole reason we are in this business ... the advancement and protection of our contracts that provide the framework for our wages, benefits and working conditions that we bargain for. Our members deserve nothing less.



President Dave Gillotte (fourth from right) briefs Local 1014's Executive Board members at the IAFF Legislative Conference.

Pat McOsker

CPF 8th District Vice President



CPF District 8 represents the United Firefighters of Los Angeles City Local 112

It's been a tough year for Los Angeles and **Local 112** members. Like so many others, our city is in a fiscal death-spiral that just keeps getting worse and worse. This year's city budget began with a half-billion dollar shortfall that grew by another \$185 million six months into the year.

To address the shortfall, every city department got the budget axe at the beginning of the year.

At least 10% was taken from everyone, including the police and fire departments. The LAFD went from a \$560 million share of the general fund in F/Y 2008/2009, to a \$502 million share this year; \$52 million of the LAFD's cut was taken directly from the payroll accounts of Local 112 members.

Rather than fight for additional funds from the city's reserves like the police department did, our fire chief developed a plan to save money by reducing emergency-responder daily staffing. His plan – which he called "Modified Coverage" – takes 87 firefighters and paramedics off the streets each day by closing 15 fire companies, nine ambulances, three paramedic supervisors and one battalion command team. It closes these companies on a rotating basis throughout the city.

In the process, it harms the public, endangers firefighters and takes \$39 million per year out of the paychecks of Local 112 members.

While Local 112 leadership began waging a battle to end the Modified Coverage Plan, we simultaneously

had to start negotiating a new contract: Our old one expired at the beginning of the fiscal year. In spite of our willingness to "share the sacrifice" by accepting the provisions of contracts signed this year with other city unions, the city singled us out and refused to make us the same offer. Instead, they declared impasse just a few months into bargaining, and then refused to negotiate in good faith when a mediator was brought in.

Thankfully, the city's impasse procedure requires that the sides submit to a "fact-finding" hearing before a neutral third party. The fact-finder's job is to take testimony and evidence and then write a report intended to facilitate continued bargaining.

Essentially, the process is non-binding arbitration.

Just as we hoped and expected, the fact-finder's report sided with us. Our hold-out for a contract on par with others in the city – contracts that save the city money by deferring pay rather than giving it up altogether – was shown by the report to be justified. Having lost the high ground, the city's negotiators modified their offer dramatically.

But their new offer still fell short of the "deferral only" contract that the fact-finder had suggested and that we had been holding out for. When we turned our noses up at their new offer, a committee made up of the mayor and four council members voted to impose it on us by force. Local 112 called their bluff.

We promised to march on City Hall if the deal went to the full council for approval. In the meantime, we aggressively lobbied individual council members for their support.

Before long, the mayor's committee realized that we had the votes to succeed. They reconsidered their earlier decision and elected to accept our last offer instead.

Local 112's perseverance paid off in the fight for a fair contract this year. Now, in the same way, we intend to hang in there and win our fight to reopen closed fire companies, paramedic resources and ambulances.

While the next fiscal year promises to be as much of a challenge as this year, the lesson many Local 112 members just learned is that success against stiff odds is possible when firefighters ignore the voices of the selfish few among us, and choose instead to stick together and fight for what is fair and just.



BROWNOUT MAP!
Snap a photo of this barcode to see the Los Angeles City fire stations that have reduced staffing today.



Marin Missions of **MERCY**

Three firefighters, two different missions, one goal: Help Haiti recover

When Larkspur fire captains **Matt Cobb** and **Jim Clark** saw the horrifying images of suffering coming out of Haiti after the January 12th earthquake, they knew they had to do something. What they didn't know was that, right up the road, San Rafael Captain **Paul LeVeque** – one of their brother firefighters from Local 1775 – was thinking exactly the same thing.

On their own time and their own dime, all three brought their skill, commitment and heart to the citizens of quake-ravaged Haiti. Cobb and Clark spent two weeks on the ground in Port-au-Prince as roving angels of mercy, dispensing random acts of kindness armed with only a duffel full of medical supplies and the desire to make a difference. At almost the same time, LeVeque piloted an airlift of doctors and supplies that helped save lives in a remote, little-noticed corner of the quake-ravaged island.

"When these things happen, a lot of us just want to be there and contribute," said Clark.

Cobb and Clark developed their plan over a series of phone calls in the days after the quake. Clark, who had traveled to Asia in 2004 to help victims of the massive Indian Ocean tsunami, had an understanding of what they could and couldn't do as individuals who weren't part of the official response. Cobb was just ready to go.

"We realized that we weren't going to save the world, but to do a little piece, and help a few people along the way," said Cobb. "It's just how firefighters are wired ... to go and try to do something to address the situation."



San Rafael firefighter Paul LeVeque at the helm of Grumman "Albatross" cargo plane used in supply airlift

With two weeks vacation and a bag of supplies, the two flew to the Dominican Republic, and crossed the border into Haiti. "We went in cautiously, and it just evolved as we got there," said Cobb. "We took it one step at a time."

As EMTs and paramedics, the two were able to provide support for medical personnel, and, on occasion, in-the-field help. For a few days, the pair even volunteered at a field hospital. Mostly, they moved through the streets, offering twenty bucks here, a hundred there and whatever else they could spare to homeless mothers and children in some of the city's poorest neighborhoods.

"The people had tremendous dignity and, despite the conditions, I found them to be extremely spirited," said Clark.

As Cobb and Clark were dispensing dollops of hope in Port-au-Prince, their firefighter brother Paul LeVeque was delivering mercy from the skies. A veteran pilot of the venerable Grumman Albatross seaplane, LeVeque was asked to pilot a team of Michigan physicians from Miami to Les Cayes, on the western peninsula of the island of Haiti.

"The airlines were going to fly them in, but of course, Port-au-Prince Airport was closed, but the seaplane was available and I could fly it," said LeVeque.

aerial runs between Florida and Haiti. They had even hoped to airlift out children orphaned by the quake, but were unable to get authorities to sign off on the effort.

"We wish we could have gotten some of the kids out," said Lynda.

Although the timing of their respective trips overlapped, the two groups never crossed paths, though each knew the other as firefighters back home. Still, each expressed



Larkspur FF Matt Cobb (r) uses paramedic training to assist in field hospital operation

Like Cobb, LeVeque jumped at the chance to help, and, like Cobb, he had a partner – his wife Lynda. "When I got off the phone, she just said 'I'm going.' And I said, 'OK.'"

While Paul was piloting the unique cargo aircraft, Lynda was in charge of gathering whatever supplies the doctors might need to aid in their efforts.

"They didn't have an autoclave (to sterilize instruments) so Lynda went out and bought a bunch of pressure cookers. We really were the supply line for this area."

Originally intended as a single trip, the LeVeques wound up making several

admiration for what the others had done to make a difference.

"What they (the LeVeques) did was phenomenal – a whole different level of giving aid," said Clark. "I can't even fly a glider, so I thought it was great."

"For me, it was no surprise to hear what they (Cobb and Clark) were doing because that's just who they are," said LeVeque.

To see a slideshow of photos from the Marin firefighters' trips, and watch video excerpts of conversations with the travelers, check "Firefighters in Haiti" in the "Find it Here" section at www.cpf.org.



Larkspur firefighters Matt Cobb (l) and Jim Clark (r) with one of many Haitians they helped on their makeshift mercy mission



Paul and Lynda LeVeque with some of the children they met during their Haitian medical airlift

PHOTO GALLERY & VIDEO CLIPS!

Take a photo of this barcode to see Marin Firefighters' Haiti mission through photos and video interviews.



CFFJAC's TCM Train-the-Trainer Course Reaches Nearly 100 Departments

Nearly 100 fire departments in California will be better prepared for a terrorist threat, after sending their training officers and Haz Mat personnel to one of the CFFJAC's Terrorism Consequence Management (TCM) Train-the-Trainer courses. The CFFJAC has held classes in 11 locations throughout the state over the past year.

The one-day course, offered at no cost to the individual or department, provides an overview of TCM standardized protocols, building on the curriculum that was disseminated through the CFFJAC's 2004 TCM course. The class is designed to prepare the participants to go back to their departments to teach the course at the local level.

The TCM class teaches first responders how to recognize chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive agents and devices and to understand

what issues to consider when planning strategies and tactics during a terrorism incident.

"The curriculum offers so many examples of possible threats," said Russ Fowler, Battalion Chief for CAL FIRE in Butte County, who is a course instructor. "It's no longer just about the Twin Towers and Oklahoma City. People are seeing that it's on the home front. It's happening in their backyard."

TCM Continuing Education

In addition to the classroom based TCM training, the CFFJAC has been in production on a series of Web Based Training (WBT) modules to help firefighters continue their TCM education. These modules will be available to every fire department in the state and are designed to be taken by individual users online. Modules will include: Chemical Considerations,

Biological Considerations, Radiological/Nuclear Considerations, and Evidence and Crime Scene Preservation, to name a few.

"We're proud that we've equipped training officers and Haz Mat personnel throughout the state to prepare our

first responders with the knowledge to handle potential terrorist threats," said CFFJAC Program Director Yvonne de la Peña. "We look forward to launching our first Web Based Training product and trust it will be an extremely beneficial component of our TCM training."



SAVE THE DATES 2010 FIREFIGHTER CAREER EXPO

Sponsored by California Fire Fighter Joint Apprenticeship Committee's Commission to Recruit Women for the Fire Service



We have what it takes... Do you?

Saturday, October 2
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
CPAT Center
626 N. Eckhoff Street
Orange, CA 92868

Saturday, October 9
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
CPAT Center
526 Commerce Way
Livermore, CA 94551

Saturday, October 23
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
CPAT Center
1329 N. Market Blvd., #100
Sacramento, CA 95834

Meet female firefighters and fire department recruiters, try the Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT) and much more...

To RSVP, e-mail: womens-commish@cpf.org or call (916) 648-1717
For more information, visit www.CFFJAC.org

CA PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTERS
HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST
3245 WEST FIGARDEN DRIVE
FRESNO, CA 93711

Summary Annual Report for CALIFORNIA PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTERS HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST

This is a summary of the annual report for CALIFORNIA PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTERS HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST, EIN 95-6293393, Plan Number 501, for the period July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009. The annual report has been filed with the Department of Labor, as required under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

Insurance Information

The plan has (a) contract(s) with BOSTON MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, BOSTON MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, BOSTON MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, and NATIONAL UNION to pay the following types of claims incurred under the terms of the plan:

- Certain LIFE AND AD&D claims

The total premiums paid for the plan year ending June 30, 2009 were \$778,748.

Basic Financial Statement

The value of plan assets, after subtracting liabilities of the plan, was \$1,710,979 as of June 30, 2009, compared to \$2,626,584 as of July 1, 2008. During the plan year the plan experienced a change in its net assets of \$-915,605. This change includes unrealized appreciation or depreciation in the value of plan assets; that is, the difference between the value of the plan's assets at the end of the year and the value of the assets at the beginning of the year or the cost of assets acquired during the year. The plan had total income of \$1,205,241 which included employer contributions of \$0, employee contributions of \$1,510,902, gain/loss of \$0 from the sale of assets, and earnings from investments of \$-305,661.

Total plan expenses were \$2,120,846. These expenses included \$370,667 in administrative expenses and \$1,750,179 in benefits paid to participants and beneficiaries, and \$0 in other expenses.

Your Rights To Additional Information

You have the right to receive a copy of the full annual report, or any part thereof, on request. The items listed below are included in that report:



CPF PAC CONTRIBUTORS

As a member of the Callback Association, Gold and Silver Circle members make a valuable contribution to the California Professional Firefighters' Political Action Committee (PAC), which help us back legislative leaders and candidates – on both sides of the aisle – who stand up for firefighters.

On behalf of the CPF Executive Board, a special thanks to the following Callback members:

GOLD CIRCLE

Alameda City International Association of Firefighters

Local 689
James Ritchey

Alhambra Fire Fighters Association Local 1578

Robert D'Ausilio

Berkeley Fire Fighters Association Local 1227

Richard Watters

Burbank Fire Fighters Local 778

Michael McBride
Monte Osborn

Carlsbad Firefighters Association Local 3730

Richard Fisher

CDF Firefighters Local 2881

Paul Graham
James Mortensen
Dennis O'Brien
Guyld Vincent
Hank Weston

Contra Costa County Professional Firefighters Local 1230

William Cullen
Richard Del Fiorentino
Gerald Goss
Russell Greenlaw
Jeffrey Hansen
Jack (John) Kiely
Ronald Moomey
Michael Proudfoot
William Rabska
Richard Sukacz
William Thomas
Larry Tracey
Herman Walden
Jack Walker
Wayne Zimmerman

Davis Professional Firefighters Association Local 3494

Richard Jett

Edwards AFB Firefighters Local F 53

Thomas Van Trease

El Segundo Firefighters Association Local 3682

Gary Preston

Federal Firefighters, San Diego Local F 33

William Roy

Federal Fire Fighters Association Local F 85

William Harvey
Robert Trahan

Fire Fighters Local 1186

Jennifer Kuret-Nadeau
Kevin Purnell
Mary Wood

Hayward Fire Fighters Local 1909

Richard Cordero

Kern Co. Fire Fighters Local 1301

William Cooper
Gary Frank
Don Hoffman
George Welch
Charles Wimmer

Livermore-Pleasanton Firefighters Local 1974

Raybert Thornton, Jr.
William Walsh

Long Beach Firefighters Local 372

James Firth
Charles Pillsbury
Kenneth Wuchner

Los Angeles Co. Fire Fighters Local 1014

Sheldon Bromberg
William Frownfelter
Juan Gonzalez
Richard Land
Thomas Little
Edward Murrieta
John Price

Swen Swenson
Virginia Wiest

Marin Professional Firefighters Local 1775

Charles Onorato
Eric Stroud
Robert Suttles

Modesto City Firefighters

Local 1289

Charles Giles
Robert McManus

Monterey Co. Regional FPD Local 2606

Walter Days

Monterey Firefighters Association Local 3707

James Page

Mountain View Professional Firefighters Local 1965

Dale Kuersten

Newport Beach Firefighters Association Local 3734

Jeffrey Remmele
Randall Smith

Oakland, Alameda Co and Emeryville Firefighters Local 55

Bruce Ghezzi
Richard Gower
Ralph Johnson
Alex Mathews
Jack Passadore, Sr.
Stanley Silva
Joseph Strawn
Don Vallejo

Oceanside Firefighters Association Local 3736

Kenneth Love

Ontario Professional Firefighters Association Local 1430

Clifton Chandler
Ralph Des Lauriers
Rick Lebel
Gary McDonald

Oxnard Firefighters Local 1684

William Gallaher
Thomas Waller

Palo Alto Professional Firefighters Local 1319

Tim Bettencourt
Robert Brouchoud
Nancy DeMattei
Raymond Diaz
Judith Jewell

Pasadena Firefighters Local 809

Byron Brown

Piedmont Fire Fighters Local 2683

Martin Ensrud

Rancho Cucamonga Professional Firefighters Local 2274

Sam Spagnolo

Redlands Professional Firefighters Local 1354

James Drabinski

Riverside City Firefighters Association Local 1067

Felix Biggers
John Jones

Sacramento Area Fire Fighters Local 522

Charles Bader
Timothy Corcoran
Michael Laughlin
Carl Lofthouse

San Bernardino City Professional Firefighters Local 891

James Beattie
Sammie Fitts
Charles Martinez
Thomas Parlett

San Bernardino County Firefighters Local 935

Danny Bowling
Michael Leonard
Jon Usselton

San Jose Fire Fighters Local 230

Samuel Avila

George Cravalho
Michael Curcio
Arthur Dundon
Chuck Gluck
Gregory Martell
Douglas Potter
Jack Salois
Vincent Sciortino

Santa Marino Firefighters Local 3626

Mikel Bullis

San Mateo Co. Firefighters Local 2400

William Fearing, Jr.
Jay Johnson
Robert Pereira
Allan Walden
Wayne Williams

San Miguel Fire Fighters Local 1434

Raymond Massey
Richard Sherard
Walter (Bill) Williams

San Ramon Valley Firefighters Association Local 3546

Gene Dangel
Herbert Genelly III

Santa Barbara Co. Firefighters Local 2046

Michael Bennett

Santa Clara City Firefighters Local 1171

David Busse
Dan Gama, Jr.
Gary Niblock

Santa Clara Co. Firefighters Local 1165

William Ekwall
Robert Matthews, Jr.
Mark Winters

Santa Rosa Fire Fighters Local 1401

Edward Burtner
Timothy Hamlin
John Vetrano
Kenneth Wills

South San Francisco Firefighters Local 1507

Richard Dennin

Stanislaus Consolidated Firefighters Local 3399

Norval Knutsen

Stockton Firefighters Local 456

Joe Hawkins
Stanley Salbeck

Torrance Fire Fighters Association Local 1138

Leo Palumbo

United Firefighters of Los Angeles City Local 112

William Bamattre
Jerry Brakeman
Julian George
Dennis Grogan
James Perry

SILVER CIRCLE

Alameda City International Association of Firefighters Local 689

William Sowersby

Alhambra Fire Fighters Association Local 1578

Robert Daugherty

Berkeley Fire Fighters Association Local 1227

Clinton Beacham
Dan Salter
Melora Valentine

Burbank Fire Fighters Local 778

Hans Jenner

CDF Firefighters Local 2881

Douglas Allen
Kenneth Eller
James Laughlin
Lloyd Limprecht

Charles Menne
James Wagner

Compton Fire Fighters Local 2216

Lane Haywood

Contra Costa County Professional Firefighters Local 1230

Jennifer Abrahamson
Nils Anderson
John Coshow
Kathryn Dybdahl
Michael Fuhrman
Allen Garbarino
Anthony Gatson
William Greelman
Paul Howell

Edward Kruse
Robert Nelson
Dale Prentice
Frederick Schreder
Thomas Thiering
Martin Vega

Daly City Fire Fighters Local 1879

Robert Barbanica
Don Ciucci
Donald May
George Panellis
John Roy

Fallbrook Firefighters Association Local 1622

Steven Theis

Federal Fire Fighters Association Local F 85

Awilda (Willy) O'Brien
Doug Smith

Fire Fighters Local 1186

Phil Davis
Bob Hepner
Ralph Horne
Kenneth Malito
Mitchel Whorton

Fire Fighters of San Joaquin Co. Local 1243

Jeff Basalto

Fremont Fire Fighters Local 1689

Gary Brown

Fresno Firefighters Local 753

Nick Brotsis

Glendale Fire Fighters Local 776

Neil Kingsley
Elmer Spraker
Johnston Wray III

Hayward Fire Fighters Local 1909

Mike Henderson

Hemet City Firefighters Association Local 2342

William Thompson

Kern Co. Fire Fighters Local 1301

Milton DeLano
Charles La Porte
Richard Pellerin
Dennis Walker

Livermore-Pleasanton Firefighters Local 1974

Edward Boddington
Ai Wisuri

Long Beach Firefighters Local 372

Alexander Cornett
Rodney Dykhouse
David Edwards
Randolph Gibson
Robert Hines
Charles Lyon

Los Angeles Co. Fire Fighters Local 1014

Ronald Bozarth
Victor Caldwell
Ronald Conway
James Holdridge Jr
David Stark

Marin Professional Firefighters Local 1775

Jim Hopkins
Lawrence Martinez

Merced City Firefighters Local 1479

Albert Gonella, Jr.

Modesto City Firefighters Local 1289

Richard Davis
John Greenstreet
Gary Hinshaw
James Pollard
Lawrence Thompson

Mountain View Professional Firefighters Local 1965

Joseph Espinosa
Robert Jonasson
Richard Ring

Napa City Fire Fighters Local 3124

Don Cohn

Oakland, Alameda Co and Emeryville Firefighters Local 55

Michael Cain
John Dailey
Patrick Dailey
William Hughes
Kenton King
Thomas Lueder

Ontario Professional Firefighters Association Local 1430

Michael Cicero
Joe Dingman
Larry Steeber
Dennis Wafford

Orange City Firefighters Local 2384

Stephen Phillips

Palm Springs Professional Firefighters Local 3601

Mario Coletti
Christopher Kramer

Palo Alto Professional Firefighters Local 1319

Richard Dauler
Tim Giberson
Robert Gillespie
Wallace Gonsalves
Dan Heiser
Joan Ruediger
Carl Schilling
Victor Soto

Pasadena Firefighters Local 809

Richard Barry
Larry Divan

Petaluma Firefighters Local 1415

Robert Hickox

Rancho Cucamonga Professional Firefighters Local 2274

Duane Wolfe

Redlands Professional Firefighters Local 1354

Robert Forsythe

Redondo Beach Fire Association Local 2787

Allen Allred

Richmond International Association of Firefighters Local 188

Richard Kalayjian

Sacramento Area Fire Fighters Local 522

Michael Collins
Harvey Georgeson
Donald Little

San Bernardino City Professional Firefighters Local 891

Gerald Bernotas
Herbert Goettelmann
Jack Webb

San Bernardino County Firefighters Local 935

Thomas Nichols

San Gabriel City Firemen's Association Local 2197

Nick Ramirez, Jr.

San Jose Fire Fighters Local 230

Phillip Ayers
Donald Bernardo
John Diquisto
Jerry Ellis
John Flatley
Gregary Grenfell
Ken Heredia

Jeffrey Hunter
Richard Nakamura

San Mateo Co. Firefighters Local 2400

David Balestrieri
Gerald Chevalier
James Fields
Ross Frazee
William Kucharski
Kevin McDowell
David Meghinasso
Gary Pfothenauer
Dahl Waters

San Miguel Fire Fighters Local 1434

Douglas Dunbar

San Ramon Valley Firefighters Association Local 3546

Patrice Doyle
Karen Kiiskinen

Santa Barbara Co. Firefighters Local 2046

James Petersen

Santa Clara City Firefighters Local 1171

Kenneth Hamlin, Jr.
Michael Maloney
Grant Porter

Santa Clara Co. Firefighters Local 1165

Douglas Allen
Bruce Dahl
Lido Gemignani
Richard Ravizza

Santa Monica Fire Fighters Local 1109

Steve Dragovich

Santa Rosa Fire Fighters Local 1401

Eileen Kortas
Lucy Reynolds

Scotts Valley Firefighters Local 3577

Jim Otis

Stanislaus Consolidated Firefighters Local 3399

Richard Reed

Stockton Firefighters Local 456

Vernon Steman

Torrance Fire Fighters Association Local 1138

V. Douglas Bergen
Julian (Mack) Oetting
Breal Rowe
Mary Steiner

United Firefighters of Los Angeles City Local 112

Russell Collier
Barry Englestad
Stephen Haz
Jack Holman
Robert Karger
Dana Laine

Michael Lannen
Samuel Lostutter
Anthony Matulich
Bruce Norman
Steven Ventura
Robert Young

Ventura City Firefighters Association Local 3431

David Hilty
Roger Morgenthaler

Ventura Co. Professional Firefighters Association Local 1364

Michael Burns
Thomas Temple

West Covina Fire Fighters Local 3226

Thomas Hazelleaf

Interested in joining CPF's Callback Association? Call us at (916) 569-0880 or e-mail callback@cpf.org.