

President's Report September 2011

Respectfully Submitted – Dominick Marino, President

World Trade Center and Fire Fighter Cancer Study Released
Copy of study included in this month's packet

FIRE Act Grant Application Period Extended to September 16

The application period for Fiscal Year 2011 Assistance to Firefighters Grants (FIRE Act) program has been extended by week due to Hurricane Irene. The new deadline is September 16, 2011 at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time. Hurricane Irene has affected a wide expanse of communities on the East Coast of the United States, and FEMA recognizes that many of the eligible applicants for FIRE Act grants are fire departments in the disaster region.

The Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has posted a [Get Ready Guide](#) to help with the grant application process, as well as a review of the [program guidance and application kit](#). For additional assistance, call or email the Help Desk at 1-866-274-0960.

The Passionately Pink for the Cure campaign helps IAFF affiliates participate in National Breast Cancer Awareness Month by providing tools and resources to use in their own communities and events. All donations collected online in connection with the IAFF Passionately Pink campaign will be shared equally by the IAFF Charitable Foundation and Susan G. Komen for the Cure.



This exciting new program is designed to complement the [IAFF resolution](#) passed at the 2010 Convention that supports and encourages IAFF members to participate in campaigns to help fight cancer. Susan G. Komen Passionately Pink for the Cure offers a great way for IAFF members to contribute to the cause.

LEGAL ISSUES:

Pension Litigation – filed 2004:

We received the ruling on our appeal and unfortunately the courts did not rule in our favor. A copy of the appellate court decision is included in this month's packet.

1.5% Health TAX Litigation – filed 2010:

Our appeal has been filed.

10% pension payment and 35% health benefit premium:

Our suit has been filed in Federal Court as of August 31st.

Arbitration Task Force:

The next scheduled meeting is October 13th.

LEGISLATION:

As you know we have had some major setbacks with respect to reform legislation. Our Pension and Health benefits have been legislated to affect each member in a detrimental way.

All the negotiations, rallies, demonstrations, letter writing, emails, phone calls and meetings did nothing to change some democrat's votes. This was a calculated attack on labor by our so called friends. When I stated at the rally outside the state house prior to vote on June 23rd; that we will always remember those legislators who stood with us in this fight and we will NEVER forget those legislators that turned their backs on labor and the middle class and voted against us. I meant it.

Included in this month's packet is a list of candidates for the upcoming November elections. Today we will decide who the PFANJ will endorse for the New Jersey Assembly and Senate.

Division of Fire Safety:

There was a rumor going around that the Division of Fire Safety was to be dismantled. We immediately sent letters to the Governor and all 40 Senators and 80 Assembly members urging that they do everything possible to not dismantle the Division. Various legislators sent letters on our behalf and many called. Senator Bucco went as far as calling and advising us, after he contacted the Governor's office, that there was no plan by the administration to dismantle the Division!

"DRIVE TO SURVIVE"

ESSEX COUNTY COLLEGE POLICE ACADEMY
250 Grove Avenue, Cedar Grove NJ, 07009

ON: OCTOBER 12, 2011 at 1900 hours

Important dates and events:

September 17th IAFF Fallen Fire Fighters Memorial
September 17th Saint Barnabas Burn Foundation Pipes & Drums
September 18th New York Jet's Fire Appreciation Night
October 12th PFANJ Monthly Meeting
October 27th St. Barnabas Burn Foundation Valor Awards Ceremony
November 15th through 18th – New Jersey League of Municipalities Conference
November 16th PFANJ Monthly Meeting (Atlantic City – League of Municipalities conference)
December 14th PFANJ Monthly Meeting
January 22nd through 24th IAFF Human Resources Conference
January 24th through 26th IAFF Affiliate Leadership Conference (ALTS)

Included in May's packet:

- List of Candidates for N.J. Legislature
- Copy of Labor Candidates for the upcoming elections
- Assembly Voting record
- Senate Voting record
- Copy of Letter from NJ AFL-CIO on the upcoming elections
- Copy of Article "Unions sue to block pension reform act"
- Copy of Opinion – Lawsuit confirms unions oblivious
- Copy of Letter from National Fallen Firefighter Foundation (www.firehero.org)
- Copy of New UPC form from PERC
- Copy of ruling from the Appellate Division on the 2004 Pension lawsuit
- Copy of article – Democratic Senators Sweeney, Norcross lose support of AFL-CIO
- Legislative update from Attorney Mets
- Attorney advise with respect to Under Insurance Motorist coverage
- Copy of IAFF Disaster Relief Fund application
- Copy of article – See NJEA snub as mark of pride
- New York Fire Fighters plan unique Memorial Ride for 9/11
- Flyer – New York Jets Fire Appreciation Night 9/18/11
- IAFF – Liberty Mutual flyer
- IAFF – Nationwide Flyer – Retirement Planning
- IAFF – Nationwide Flyer – Deferred compensation Plan
- Drive to survive flyer and details
- Copy of World Trade Center and Fire Fighter Cancer Study
- Copy of Passionately Pink Resolution