



SOUTHWEST FLORIDA PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTERS & PARAMEDICS

LOCAL 1826 / I.A.F.F., INC.

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PRINCIPAL OFFICERS

J.P. DUNCAN
President

TROY MESICK
Vice President

MATT GALEWSKI
Secretary

WILLIAM SIMPSON
Field Representative

DISTRICTS

DISTRICTS 1 & 16
Fort Myers

DISTRICT 2
Lee Co. EMS

DISTRICTS 3 & 15
Fort Myers Beach

DISTRICT 4
North Fort Myers

DISTRICT 5
South Trail

DISTRICTS 6 & 19
Lehigh Acres

DISTRICT 7
Iona McGregor

DISTRICT 8
Tice

DISTRICTS 9 & 21
San Carlos Park

DISTRICT 10
Lee Co. CFR

DISTRICT 11
Estero

DISTRICT 12
Bayshore

DISTRICT 13
Pine Island

DISTRICT 14
Collier Co. EMS

DISTRICT 17
Sanibel

DISTRICTS 18 & 20
Fort Myers Shores

DISTRICTS 22
Capita

Dear Commissioner,

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. I am the President of the Southwest Florida Professional Fire Fighters and Paramedics, Local 1826, IAFF, Inc. Our Local represents approximately a thousand Fire Fighters and Paramedics throughout Southwest Florida, including two bargaining units within your Fire District. It is a privilege and an honor to represent your Fire Fighters and Paramedics.

As you are aware the Lehigh Fire District employs some of the best dedicated Fire Fighters and Paramedics in our great state. Your Fire Fighters have and will continue to support District efforts to improve the quality and level of service provided to the Lehigh community you and our members serve.

This Local has a committed responsibility to assist the Lehigh Acres Fire Control District in securing funding to ensure your Fire Fighters maintain their well-earned pay and benefits. Your dedicated Fire Fighters stood beside the District and this Local at the voting polls in November to insure the passage of the much needed fire fee assessment.

In July 2014 our Local approached the International Association of Fire Fighters General President Harold Schaitberger and requested assistance for a number of Fire Districts that Local 1826 represents, including Lehigh Acres. General President Schaitberger approved our request granting Local 1826 a full G.I.S. (Geographical Information

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Florida Professional Fire Fighters*

System) study. This study can show in detail the effects on the community as it pertains to increased response times for emergency vehicles and personnel caused by reduced staffing and station closures due to inadequate funds.

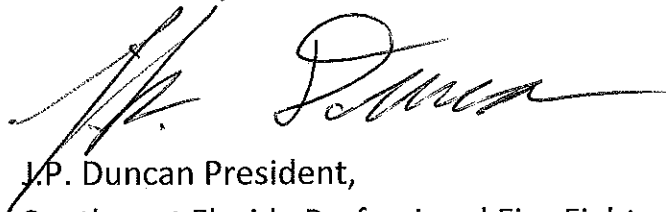
In September 2014 a conference call with I.A.F.F. Director of Grants Ron Benedict and G.I.S. Director Jonathan Moore was conducted with a number of local Fire Chiefs, including Fire Chief John Wayne. During that conference call it was decided that Larry Nesbit Fire Chief of Bayshore and also President of the Lee County Fire Chiefs Association would be the point of contact for gathering all of the data that is required for such an extensive study. I am happy to announce that the G.I.S. study is complete.

It was decided through my office that with the S.A.F.E.R. (Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response) Grant opening application day fast approaching on February 9, 2015, that another conference call with the I.A.F.F. officials and the participating Fire Chiefs was warranted for any questions or comments concerning the G.I.S. project and S.A.F.E.R. Grant applications. Fire Chief John Wayne participated in that conference call.

Chief Wayne raised a number of questions regarding the District's 2015 application for a S.A.F.E.R. Grant. Director Benedict suggested that Lehigh Acres Fire Control should absolutely apply for the S.A.F.E.R. Grant, and also expressed his willingness to assist Chief Wayne in communicating the reasons to apply for S.A.F.E.R. to his Commissioners if needed. Director Benedict also advised Chief Wayne that his office would review, critique, and suggest changes to his S.A.F.E.R. Grant application to maximize the chance of award at no cost to the District.

We recognize that the community and the District will suffer without the S.A.F.E.R. Grant. We will assist in any way we can in order to ensure your S.A.F.E.R. Grant application is approved. If you have any questions regarding the G.I.S. project or the S.A.F.E.R. Grant feel free to contact me at my office at (239) 334-8222 or my cell phone at (239)633-5984. Thank you for your commitment to serve the community as an elected Commissioner.

Professionally,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J.P. Duncan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

J.P. Duncan President,
Southwest Florida Professional Fire Fighters & Paramedics,
Local 1826, IAFF, Inc.