

Resolution No. 14

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT: Policy

Re: IAFF Support of the Commission on Fire Accreditation International (CFAI) Fire Department Accreditation Process

1 WHEREAS, fire service leaders continuously face
2 pressure to "do more with less" and justify their
3 expenditures; and

4 WHEREAS, fire department accreditation can
5 provide that justification using a well-defined,
6 internationally-recognized performance indicator
7 system to measure the overall quality of fire and
8 emergency services; and

9 WHEREAS, the Commission on Fire Department
10 Accreditation (CFAI) is a comprehensive self-
11 assessment and evaluation model that enables fire
12 departments to examine past, current, and future
13 service levels and internal performance and compare
14 them to industry standards and best practices in
15 comparable departments; and

16 WHEREAS, the standards of cover portion of the
17 CFAI accreditation process is intended to determine
18 whether a fire department has sufficient resources
19 deployed for the inherent risks in their community or
20 whether there are deficits in resources that leave the
21 community vulnerable to civilian injury or death,
22 Fire fighter injury or death, and property loss; and

23 WHEREAS, the CFAI accreditation process is
24 designed and intended to be a continuous quality
25 improvement tool that identifies and recommends
26 specific improvements to be accomplished annually
27 and between 5-year reaccreditation cycles; and

28 WHEREAS, the CFAI accreditation process of
29 developing and measuring a fire department’s
30 standards of cover models the IAFF’s overall
31 response system evaluation process; and

32 WHEREAS, the IAFF maintains labor
33 representatives on the CFAI Commission and on the
34 parent organization, Center for Public Safety
35 Excellence (CPSE), Board of Directors; and

36 WHEREAS, CFAI-Risk is a non-profit affiliate to
37 CPSE/CFAI and is a long term partner with the IAFF
38 on the NIST field experiments and on both the
39 FireCARES and N-FORS projects; therefore be it

40 RESOLVED, That the IAFF support and promote
41 the CFAI accreditation process noting that it is not a
42 validation that any particular fire department is
43 “doing everything right” but that it is a continuous
44 quality measurement system; and be it further

45 RESOLVED, That the IAFF encourage every fire
46 department choosing to go through the accreditation
47 process to include a labor representative on the
48 accreditation management team; and be it further

49 RESOLVED, That IAFF local affiliate leaders
50 encourage the use of IAFF partner-developed tools in
51 the system evaluation portion of the accreditation
52 process including FireCARES, WebGIS, and the N-
53 FORS data system.

Submitted by: IAFF Executive Board

Cost Estimate: None

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

CONVENTION ACTION: