

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF FEDERAL LEGISLATION, FUNDING AND POLICIES TO  
ADDRESS FIREFIGHTER OCCUPATIONAL CANCER**

Offered by:

National Fallen Firefighters Foundation  
International Fire Service Training Association  
International Association of Arson Investigators  
International Association of Black Professional Fire Fighters  
International Association of Fire Chiefs  
International Association of Fire Fighters  
International Code Council  
National Fire Protection Association  
National Volunteer Fire Council  
North American Fire Training Directors

Whereas, firefighting is known to be inherently dangerous, and independent scientific research continues to show a strong correlation between firefighting and instances of occupational cancer; and

Whereas, firefighters are uniquely exposed to a wide variety of hazards and known carcinogens; and

Whereas, scientific research indicates that firefighters have an increased risk of certain cancers such as colon, lung, melanoma, mesothelioma, multiple myeloma, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, non-melanoma skin cancer, prostate, rectal and stomach cancers, etc.; and

Whereas, additional research is needed to better prevent cancer-related exposures and to enable the fire service to provide a safer work environment that prevents cancer-related illnesses and line-of-duty deaths; and

Whereas, there is a need to develop national standards, training programs, more effective protective equipment and other safeguards to prevent firefighter exposures to carcinogens; and

Whereas, these efforts will need to include treatments and benefits because it is not realistic to believe that firefighter occupational cancer can be completely eradicated;

Therefore, it is resolved that the Congressional Fire Services Institute support federal legislation, funding and policies directed toward:

- An inclusive national statistical cancer reporting system for firefighters,
- Funding for research to reduce the instances of occupational cancer to firefighters and the development of more effective treatments,
- Public recognition of firefighter line-of-duty deaths resulting from certain cancers identified through scientific research,
- Federal presumptive line-of-duty death benefits, including the Public Safety Officers' Benefits (PSOB) program, that cover firefighters who die from certain cancers identified through scientific research;
- Implementation of the work of the Fire Service Occupational Cancer Alliance as they continue their unified efforts to address myriad issues relating to cancer in firefighters.

Unanimously Approved on December 16, 2015