

A Resolution offering support of the Vulnerability Assessment Program (VAP)

Offered by:
National Fallen Firefighters Foundation

Whereas every year firefighters and emergency services personnel are injured or killed in the line of duty;

Whereas, many of these line-of-duty deaths and injuries were preventable;

Whereas, the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF) and the United States Fire Administration (USFA) have joined forces with most major fire service organizations to develop a *Vulnerability Assessment Tool*, a web-based, free, interactive survey that will enable fire and EMS organizations to identify the gaps in their service and resource capabilities;

Whereas, at the end of the process, a fire department will receive a customized report identifying areas and remedies for vulnerabilities linked to historic risks for firefighter injuries and deaths;

Whereas, with these reports, fire and EMS department officers will be able to present strategically prioritized budget requests with accurate and timely data to support their needs;

Whereas, it is expected that with this tool firefighter injuries and deaths will decline;

Whereas, by creating safer environments for firefighters, the fire and emergency services are creating safer communities for our citizens;

Whereas, the VAP has received support from a number of National Advisory Committee members including: the Center for Public Safety Excellence, Fire Apparatus Manufacturers' Association, Fire and Emergency Manufacturers and Services Association, International Association of Arson Investigators, the International Association of Black Professional Fire Fighters, the International Association of Fire Chiefs, International Association of Fire Fighters, International Fire Service Training Association, National Fire Protection Association, National Volunteer Fire Council, North American Fire Training Directors, and VFIS;

Whereas, the VAP has received support from a number of other organizations including Honeywell, Common Voices, Fire Department Safety Officers Association, International Association of Women in the Fire and Emergency Services, International Association of Hispanic Firefighters, Provident Insurance, United States Conference of Mayors; and government agencies including, Navy Fire and Emergency Services Command, NIOSH, OSHA, and the US Forest Service;

Therefore, *it is resolved that the Congressional Fire Services Institute supports the Vulnerability Assessment Program (VAP) to extend firefighter safety through the identification of gaps in services and resources that lead to preventable line-of-duty injuries and deaths.*