

**Revised and Amended
Resolution No. 23**

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT: POLICY

Re: Our Good Name

WHEREAS, the International Association of Fire Fighters is a proud trade union with ninety-plus years of history as part of the North American Labor Movement fighting to raise the standard of living of fire fighters and workers across the continent; and

WHEREAS, this union's commitment to standing strong for our members and for union workers everywhere is as strong as ever; and

WHEREAS, this union represents members who stand up, lead and hold people accountable for their actions; and

WHEREAS, just as we would not and do not expect nor do we accept anyone, especially our union brothers and sisters to sell us short or sell us out; and

WHEREAS, the IAFF Executive Board works hard to ensure that when the IAFF logo is put on apparel or other merchandise it is ONLY put on union made and made in the U.S.A. or Canada materials and products; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Board Public Relations Committee meets regularly to review requests to manufacture products bearing this union's good name in the form of the IAFF logo, the letters IAFF or the words "International Association of Fire Fighters"; and

WHEREAS, the Public Relations Committee only

approves products that are union made or made in the United States of America or Canada that will bear the IAFF Logo, the letters IAFF or the words “International Association of Fire Fighters”; and

WHEREAS, the determining factors in deciding approval fall within the guidelines of Executive Board Policy; and

WHEREAS, individual members and state, provincial and local affiliates continue to ignore Executive Board Policy, continue to violate the basic principles for which this union and every member in this Great Hall stands for by applying or ordering this great union’s logo, the letters IAFF or the words “International Association of Fire Fighters” on apparel and merchandise made by workers forced into labor under appalling sweat shop conditions and/or by child labor in third world countries, just to save a few bucks on a tee shirt or coffee mug; and

WHEREAS, selling our brothers and sisters in labor out for a few bucks is not only embarrassing for the IAFF but also is encouraging anti-union sentiment and anti-union companies and corporations to grow and continue to eliminate good, union jobs; and

WHEREAS, this is a slap in the face to the Labor Movement and to those IAFF members who fought so hard before us in building this great trade union; and

WHEREAS, at the very least in this Great Union, a trade by all accounts comprised of blue collar workers, it could be interpreted to be a chargeable

offense against an individual member or an affiliate body to engage in the above stated acts; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That this entire body of delegates to the 50th IAFF Convention condemns the act of ordering or applying this union's good name in the form of the IAFF Logo, the letters IAFF or the words "International Association of Fire Fighters" to any piece of apparel or merchandise that is not *UNION* made, or is made outside the United States of America or made outside of Canada; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the IAFF expressly acknowledges the right of the IAFF's global partners to adopt similar measures as applied to their respective countries; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this entire body encourage those IAFF card carrying members who own or operate a business that produces items that carry our good name on them, join the appropriate trade union of that industry; and be it further

RESOLVED, That short of changing this IAFF Constitution and By-Laws, this entire body of delegates to the 50th IAFF Convention hereby commits as a show of solidarity to union workers everywhere that we do stand for good, secure jobs so workers and families can have good lives and retirements and will abide by those principles for which this union has stood for since 1918 and will stand for, for all time.

Submitted by: Ricky J. Walsh, IAFF 7th District Vice President
Local 726, Puyallup, WA
Washington State Counsel of Fire Fighters
Professional Fire Fighters of Idaho
Montana State Counsel of Professional Fire
Fighters
Alaska Professional Fire Fighters Association
Local 31, Tacoma, WA
Local 27, Seattle, WA
Local 1488, Lakewood, WA
Local 3542, Sunnyside, WA
Local 1264, Anchorage, AK
Local 2916, Meade, WA
Local 1983, Mount Vernon, WA
Local 2409, Tumwater, WA
Local 3674, Ridgefield, WA
Local 29, Spokane, WA
Local 2919, Seatac, WA
Local 3701, Spokane, WA
Local 3520, Bonney Lake, WA
Local 3828, Kelso, WA
Local 1352, Auburn, WA
Local 2109, Ocean Shores, WA
Local 1789, Spokane, WA
Local 521, Billings, MT
Local 1805, Vancouver, WA
Local I-24, Richland, WA
Local 1997, Mill Creek, WA
Local 3062, Maple Valley, WA
Local 468, Olympia, WA
Local 187, Pocatello, ID

Local 1296, Kennewick, WA
Local 437, Bremerton, WA
Local 106, Bellingham, WA
Local 1747, Kent, WA
Local 2819, Silverdale, WA
Local 3235, Lake Stevens, WA
Local 2595, Kent, WA
Local 404, Walla Walla, WA
Local 2597, Everett, WA
Local 3219, Marysville, WA
Local 2024, Federal Way, WA
Local 1604, Bellevue, WA
Local 2088, Seattle, WA
Local 4303, Juneau, AK
Local 2444, Camas, WA
Local 1257, Seattle, WA
Local 2829, Redmond, WA
Local 2781, Mill Creek, WA
Local 864, Renton, WA
Local 1984, Lynnwood, WA
Local 613, Bozeman, MT

Cost Estimate: None

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Adopt as Revised
and Amended

CONVENTION ACTION: Adopted as Revised and Amended