### Office of the President



## International Association of Black Professional Fire Fighters



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# President Report Executive Council Meeting May 14- 18, 2025 | New Orleans, LA

To the members of IABPFF Inc., what a pleasure to experience an in-person meeting here in the great city of New Orleans, LA...I would like to thank all members throughout the nation who continue to work diligently across the country and beyond, recruiting and preparing future candidates to succeed in the Fire and Emergency Medical Service. My current role as the IABPFF President is one of great responsibility and vision. Charged with being the official spokesperson for the organization, the President leads initiatives that UNIFY members across the globe while fostering growth, diversity, and advocacy within the Fire Service profession and beyond. I look forward to continuing in my role. I fully realize this position requires strategic coordination of the organization's business affairs, engagement with local, regional, and global chapters, entities, and spearheading key programs to uplift the IABPFF Inc. membership in firefighting-related fields.

As President, I would like to encourage all members to attend all future symposiums, training workshops offered by the IABPFF Inc. and affiliated groups. Also, encourage members to play any role to improve efforts to uplift the organization and our beloved communities.

Since the recent election in Miami, Fl. I have been continually active about the mission of IABPFF Inc. Listed below are examples of my commitment to the betterment of our communities and the organization in the past nine months.

### IABPFF Inc. President- August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024- Present

- Attended the 2024 IABPFF Inc. Convention in Miami, Florida.
- Attended the Black Congressional Caucus Prayer Breakfast in Washington, DC., and Continue to serve on several boards that impact our communities.
- Continue to aid IABPFF members with discrimination issues in their departments.
- Nominated as one of the CT NAACP's 100 most Influential Blacks in CT in 2024.
- Enshrined in the Ruby and Calvin Fletcher AA History Museum due to my life's work and commitment to the mission and goals of our beloved organization.
- Collaborated with members and community partners to set up the Hartford Community That Care, Workforce and Career Readiness Program. The program will offer training in Youth Engagement, Violence Intervention, and EMT Certification. Members of IABPFF Inc. will play a key role in helping to build the project. The Phoenix Society, along with members from the Bridgeport Firebird Society Inc. and the Firebird Society of New Haven Inc., attended training sessions about Violence Intervention.
- Attended the 2024 South-Central Regional Conference in Dallas, Texas.
- Recently nominated by the United Supreme Council, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Free
  Masonry, Prince Hall Affiliation, Northern Jurisdiction, USA, as the Knight Commander in Court
  of Honor. The event is scheduled to take place in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Great Honor!
- Attended Day of Prayer in Washington, DC, at the Washington Cathedral. I had the honor of speaking on behalf of the IABPFF and the pleasure of hearing Vice President Regina Wilson sing a beautiful rendition of the National Anthem.
- Traveled to Los Angeles, CA, and San Francisco to meet with the local chapters in the SWR.
- I recently attended the NER Regional meeting in Wilmington, Delaware.
- Attended the Retirees celebration for the Plainfield Vulcan Society, NJ. Phenomenal event!

#### MOVING FORWARD

- Continue to meet with EDI and BCOC Leadership.
- Working with the Vision 2020 Steering Committee
- Working on reconnecting with Congressional Black Caucus leadership in Washington, DC.
- Establishing partnerships throughout the country and beyond. Blue Ladder Marketing and O'Connor Cares, LLC., and the Ben Crump Law Group PLLC.
- Identifying sponsors and building relationships with several organizations. Specifically, the Red
   Cross and Kidde. Community Risk Reduction initiatives.
- Moving forward with initiatives to promote and support the David Floyd Camp. Fortunately,
   David Lavin and Where Angels Play will partner with us on camp initiatives and Benevolent projects nationwide.
- Smoke Newsletter. The Historical Committee will continue to assist in our efforts to complete the Smoke Newsletter.
- IBFF- International Black Firefighter Foundation
- We will continue to discuss building our relationship with the Grenada Fire and Police. A range
  of resources was donated to support the department's initiatives in improving community
  safety.
- More plans on the agenda!

FOUNDED 1970

Keep The Fire Burning for Justice!

Fraternally,
Gary Tinney, President
IABPFF Inc.
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