



**CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo
REGULAR MEETING**

#22-0324

TO: Honorable Mayor & Members of the
Fort Lauderdale City Commission

FROM: Chris Lagerbloom, ICMA-CM, City Manager

DATE: April 19, 2022

TITLE: Motion Approving an Agreement with the International Association of Fire
Chiefs (IAFC) for participation in the International Training Program
(Commission Districts 1, 2, 3, and 4)

Recommendation

It is recommended that the City Commission approve an agreement, in substantially the form attached, with the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) for participation in the International Training Program and authorize the City Manager to execute any required documents.

Background

The International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) has designed the International Fellowship Program as a total-immersion six-month learning experience for Saudi Aramco Fire Protection Department (SAFrPD) firefighters.

SAFrPD is taking a multi-faceted approach to culture change within their department. Their aim is to develop fire officers that are effective decision-makers and enhance their department's overall service delivery within Saudi Aramco compounds and facilities. These officers face unique challenges. Thanks to a company-wide commitment to workforce safety and to excellent fire prevention programs, the firefighters from SAFrPD get little operational experience. This means they get few opportunities to hone decision-making under pressure, implement their skills, and practice managing the interpersonal aspects of an emergency scene.

The IAFC partners with leading fire departments welcome and embed the fellows in cohorts of eight (8) firefighters for six (6) months. The IAFC encourages each "host" department to customize their cohort's fellowship and make it their own. This diversity of experience allows the fellows to bring back a multitude of best practices and approaches to the SAFrPD and promote the desired culture change. Additionally, the firefighters from SAFrPD need to do this fellowship in order for them to be promoted in their department.

The IAFC will pay for any and all associated costs (overtime, uniforms, personal protective equipment (PPE), etc.) as they move through the fellow's six-month

embedment within the City of Fort Lauderdale Fire Rescue (FLFR). However, as a partnership, if FLFR has uniforms, PPE, etc. in stock making those items cost neutral to the IAFC, there will be a surplus of funds available at the end of the program. Any surplus funds shall be used to purchase then donate (equipment, etc.) to FLFR's choosing as agreed upon by the IAFC

Fort Lauderdale Fire Rescue is honored to become a host department and be included with the other prestigious fire rescue agencies such as: San Diego Fire Rescue, Oklahoma City Fire Department, Miami-Dade Fire Rescue, Atlanta Fire Rescue Department and Denver Fire Department.

Resource Impact

There is no fiscal impact associated with this action

Strategic Connections

This item is a 2021 Commission Priority, advancing the Safety initiative.

This item supports the *Press Play Fort Lauderdale 2024* Strategic Plan, specifically advancing:

- The Public Safety Focus Area
- Goal 6: Build a safe and well-prepared community.
- Objective: Provide quick and exceptional fire, medical, and emergency response.
- The Internal Support Focus Area
- Goal 7: Build a values-based organization dedicated to developing and retaining qualified employees.
- Objective: Establish an organizational culture that fosters rewarding, professional careers.

This item advances the *Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale 2035* Vision Plan: We Are Community.

Attachment

Exhibit 1 – International Training Program Agreement between the IAFC and City of Fort Lauderdale

Prepared by Jo-Ann Lorber, Assistant Chief, Fire Rescue

Department Director: Rhoda Mae Kerr, Fire Chief