

BALTIMORE COUNTY PROFESSIONAL FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION LOCAL 1311

BY & FOR PROFESSIONAL FIRE FIGHTERS

AFFILIATIONS:

International Association of Fire Fighters, AFL-CIO
Metropolitan Baltimore Council of Unions
Maryland State & DC AFL-CIO
Professional Fire Fighters of Maryland



CHARTERED SEPTEMBER 10, 1958

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Brothers and Sisters,

As you are all aware of the media reports involving our fire department, I wanted to give an update on the actions being taken to address some of your concerns and fears.

Immediately upon being notified of the allegations Monday morning, Local 1311 began working to protect the health and safety of our members, communicating with both fire department and county administration. In addition, I requested resources from IAFF Headquarters to assist us in managing this issue, and a meeting was promptly scheduled with the IAFF Crisis Communication team. The IAFF's Health and Safety Division also began working on an Exposure Plan to be used as a guide to inform us of our next steps.

A letter was drafted and sent to the Fire Chief on Monday afternoon, detailing a list of immediate actions to be taken on several issues to ensure your mental and physical well-being. Upon receiving a media inquiry, I provided a statement that publicly spoke to your health and safety concerns and made it clear that actions needed to be taken to address those concerns.

I have been in constant communication with County Administration over these last few days and want to share with you all that the County Administration has taken our requests very seriously and have committed the following actions.

1. The replacement of ice machines in every career fire station in the county with new units
2. A thorough professional deep cleaning and sanitization of every career fire station in the county.
3. Information regarding resources available for exposure risks and testing information.
4. Immediate access to the Baltimore County Police Department's peer support team, as well as additional behavioral health/crisis response professional

More information should be coming soon. I just wanted to assure you that your health, safety and well-being are our priority, and we are trying to get these things done as fast as possible.

In Solidarity,

Steve Redmer
President
IAFF Local 1311