



Colorado Springs Professional Fire Fighters Union, IAFF Local 5

To: Colorado Fire Departments
Re: 2009 IAFF Fallen Fire Fighter Memorial Observance and Procession

To Whom It May Concern:

As the liaison between the Colorado Springs Fire Department and the International Association of Fire Fighters, we would like to request your participation in this year's IAFF Fallen Fire Fighter Memorial Observance and the Fire Apparatus/Motorcycle Procession preceding the observance. The observance will take place **Saturday, September 19th, 2009 at 1:00 pm in Colorado Springs.**

Your department's attendance will help the United States and Canada honor our brothers and sisters who lost their lives in the line of duty this past year. All fire department personnel, city officials, and general public are encouraged to attend the observance. Additionally, we would ask your department to commit a piece(s) of fire apparatus and fire fighter motorcyclists to take part in the procession that will occur before the observance begins.

The procession, which is not open to the public, will take place in two sections. Fire departments and motorcyclists may elect to participate in either section or both. The first section is sponsored by the Wind & Fire Motorcycle Club, Rocky Mountain Chapter. Fire apparatus and fire fighter motorcyclists will be escorted by law enforcement officials from Lakewood to a designated staging area in Colorado Springs following a brief early morning gathering.

The second section of the procession is sponsored by the Colorado Springs Professional Fire Fighters Union and the IAFF. It will depart from the staging area in Colorado Springs and arrive under police escort at Memorial Park signifying the commencement of the IAFF Fallen Fire Fighter Memorial Observance.

We understand that fire departments are facing financial hardship and staffing shortages during these difficult economic times. We ask you for your continued support despite this to ensure that those who have lost their lives in the line of duty are honored properly. The attached pages indicate apparatus staging locations, staging/departure times, procession routes, and pertinent addresses. This information can also be found at www.iafflocal5.com.

Fire departments who can commit fire apparatus to either section of the procession must complete a registration form found on our website at www.iafflocal5.com. Fire fighters interested in riding their motorcycles in either section of the procession must register individually at www.ridetoremember.org. Registrations must be submitted no later than September 14th, 2009. Preferred attire for the day's events will be formal dress uniform or similar.

Respectfully,

Kevin L. Simpson
Colorado Springs Professional Fire Fighters Local 5