

Elect **LUKE** Vice President @ Large

Please Vote AFFI Convention 2018!

Brothers & Sisters,

We all have opportunities in our lives and careers to make a difference and leave it better for those who follow us. We, like our AFFI brothers and sisters before us, have made great sacrifices so we may enjoy the best career, benefits, and working conditions in the country. It is recognized that our roles in leadership have taken on many challenges to make our Local Union, the AFFI, and the IAFF successful, strong, and revered labor organizations. I believe now is my opportunity to make a difference in the AFFI. I am pleased to announce that I am seeking the opportunity to have **your vote for Vice President at Large for the Associated Fire Fighters of Illinois.** My passion, dedication, and experiences make myself the ideal candidate for this position. I believe together we can begin in June of 2018 to transform our Labor Education within the AFFI to be the best in the Nation.

As a member of the DeKalb Firefighters Local 1236 since 2001, I have been actively engaged in our Local Union as well as the AFFI. In 2002, I was first elected as a Shift Representative for our local and I haven't looked back. Over the past 16 years, I have served as the public relations coordinator, Treasurer, and served as President of our Local for the last 8 years. Within the AFFI, I have had the opportunity to be involved with the Warrior Program in which our Local has delivered 2 new vehicles to wounded veterans and more recently involved with the Labor History Committee serving as the Chairman. In the last 4 years with the Labor History Committee we have been able to expand our program offerings and deliver our history through different platforms to AFFI members. On the fire service side, I am currently a Captain with our Fire Department. My fire service career began over 22 years ago with the St. Charles Fire Department. During my career, I have had the opportunity to serve as a fire service instructor for several institutions and currently work with the College of DuPage, Romeoville Fire Academy, The Illinois Fire Service Institute, and Waubensee Community College. These combined experiences have prepared me to serve you as Vice President at Large of the AFFI.

As Vice President at Large, I look to greatly enhance and expand the AFFI's educational opportunities for the 225 Locals across this great state. So, what's instore for the AFFI with my election you ask:

- Getting back to the "Basics" - Education to build a solid foundation for us!
- Internal organization & integration of locals within the AFFI to foster involvement and bring talent from locals in the AFFI to help educate other members
- Creation of a young member's conference – to foster engagement of our new members

- More use of technology to help better serve our 225 Locals
- A Social Media Page to share thoughts, information, and ideas to help improve education to our members
- A monthly "quick drill" on specific AFFI topics of interest to Local leadership & members
- More educational opportunities each year – This will help keep members engaged and up to speed on trends & changes
- Partnerships with already established educational institutions in Illinois to help deliver classes & seminars around the state
- Joint Labor – Management Classes & Seminars for AFFI Local Leadership & Fire Chiefs
- Create educational grant funding to help smaller or financially strapped locals get their members to AFFI & IAFF educational opportunities
- Create our own AFFI – Affiliate Leadership Training Summit (ALTS)
- Work with each District Vice President to identify and then deliver specific labor education to their districts
- Firefighter Health & Wellness education programs – i.e. Cancer Awareness, Mental Health Programs, Physical Fitness
- Expanded Labor History Education
- Work to bring IAFF Conferences & Seminars right here in our Great State!
- Finally, coordinated communication with all AFFI Locals on their needs & concerns with education for their members

The educational platform laid out above will make the AFFI an even stronger labor organization and improve engagement for all our locals and their members. As an innovative and progressive leader, I will strive to build upon this foundation laid out for our members and continue to seek new ways to deliver the best education for our members throughout my term and beyond.

I look forward to meeting you and your members over the next several months leading up to the AFFI Convention from June 14-16, 2018 in St. Charles to discuss what we can do to take the AFFI's educational programs to the next level. I want to thank you for your time and interest in my campaign. Please contact me with any questions or concerns.

Fraternally,



Luke Howieson

Candidate for AFFI VP @ Large

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