



IABPFF “SMOKE”

International Association of Black Professional Fire Fighters

January 2010

SPECIAL EDITION

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BLACK PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTERS 2010 EXECUTIVE BOARD CANDIDATES



President
Lt. Joseph Bridgers Muhammad

Joseph B. Muhammad is the President of the International Association of Black Professional Fire Fighters (www.iabpff.org), a nationally recognized organization of 5200 members. He is a 23-year veteran of the White Plains (N.Y.) Fire Department, currently holding the rank of Lieutenant.

Prior to joining the fire service, he pursued various human service professions such as a Psychiatric Technician, a Senior Child Care Worker, and an Educational Consultant for many community centers and spiritual institutions in the New York metropolitan area. After losing his Brother in Law in LODD, he became a Trustee in IAFF Local 274. After the tragedy of September 11, 2001, and because of his unique position as a firefighter, a Muslim, and a student of scripture, he became a member of the White Plains Religious Leaders Task Force (An ecumenical group Pastors, Imams, Rabbis, and others).

As a student of history he is constantly documenting the achievements of black firefighters. As a writer, he has recently been published in Fire Engineering Magazine and the Greater Diversity News Publications. He has also contributed to syndicated news affiliates nationwide. He has been interviewed via radio, television and the Internet. Topics have ranged from recruitment to

fire safety for toddlers; from disaster preparedness to the issue of race relations in America (The Montel Williams Show); and the most recent Supreme Court Case, Ricci vs. DeStefano.

As President of the IABPFF, Brother Lt. Joseph B. Muhammad has an obligation to engage with other national fire service organizations such as the Congressional Fire Service Institute, the National Fire Academy, NFPA, IAFF, and both Latino Organizations, to name a few. He has an insatiable desire to further dialogue with other representatives in our profession, such as FIRE 20/20 or as witnessed by the 2009 Equity and Diversity Conference in Alexandria, Virginia. There he was a panelist with Chief Administrator Kelvin Cochran (USFA), Chief James Gray (VA Fire Chiefs), CEO Mark Light (IAFC), Lt. Raul Castillo (NAHF), and Chief Cheryl Horvath (I-Women).

Mr. Muhammad has dedicated his life to lifting the consciousness of those willing to listen. He is recognized as a lecturer, poet by various schools, spiritual institutions, cultural, civic, and business organizations throughout the country, as well. He is an alumnus of Norfolk State University (VA), and a graduate of the Dr. Carl Holmes Executive Development Institute (Clark-Atlanta University).

He has been married for 30 years and is the father of three sons.



**Executive Vice President
James Hill**

James F. Hill II is a 35-year veteran of the Dallas Fire-Rescue Department. In prior years as a member of the International Association of Black

Professional Fire Fighters Assoc. (IABPFF) he has served on all three levels from local to the IABPFF executive board. He is presently the presiding Executive Vice President.

James was born and raised in Ennis, Texas a suburb of Dallas, Texas. Their father and mother James and Margie Hill raised him, his four sisters, and three brothers. He attended elementary school where he was taught by his grandmother and aunt who were the Principal and assistant Principal of the school in Palmer, Texas. The school was a white wood building that sat in the middle of a cotton field. As he and his friends sat learning they watched as others picked/pulled and chopped cotton. During recess they would play along the rows as the people worked. He later attended Dorie Miller School in Ennis, Texas and graduated from Ennis High after the integration of Carver High School (all black high school) and Ennis High School (all white school).

James excelled in both baseball and football. He attended college at Prairie View A&M University (HBC) and played football and baseball where he was "ALL SWAC" at third base. He is a professional firefighter with the rank of Command Tech/Engineer and is a Logistical Manager for Texas Task Force II USAR and SUSAR. He has also attained various certifications and accommodations. Since joining the IABPFF in 1986 it has become a passion. His passion began with him becoming a member of the Dallas Black Firefighters and becoming an officer in the organization. He rose through the structure of the organization to become president, twice. He is the longest standing president of the organization. He was instrumental in bringing forth issues and fighting injustices within the Dallas Fire Department and the state of Texas. He has served as Director of the South Central Region of the IABPFF, Sergeant-at-Arms, and Financial Secretary and is the present Executive Vice President of the IABPFF. Some of his hobbies are golf, traveling, and

spending time with family and friends. He is married to his adoring wife Cynthia.

They have a daughter Kristie and six grandsons; Evann, Jamison, Xavier, Joshua, Cole and Chandler.

**Recording Secretary
Lt. Carrie Edwards-Clemons**



Achievements

University of Michigan, B.A.; , Flint Fire Department, Firefighter/ Paramedic Lieutenant; Flint Fire Department, Emergency Medical Service Supervisor; State of Michigan, EMS Instructor Coordinator; State of Michigan, Fire I & II Certified Instructor; BLS/ First Aid Instructor; Emergency Medical Dispatcher Advanced Certification; State of Michigan, Certified Drivers Training Instructor; Advance Cardiac Life Support Certified Instructor; Member of the Genesee County Haz-Mat Team; Past 1st & 2nd Vice President of Flint Firefighters Local 352.

Organizational History

Recording Secretary and Vice President, Society of Minority Firefighters-Flint; Flint Public Library Baby Sitters Academy; Community BLS/First Aid; "Hear the Beep" Smoke Detector Program; Fire Safety House Presentations; SOMFF Calendar Fundraiser; Davis/Dixon Annual Scholarship Musical; Health/Career Fair Thanksgiving & Christmas Food Basket and Gift Give-A-Way; EMS Day at Local Hospital; North Central Region, BWFS Chair; Recording Secretary and 2nd Vice Director, Executive Board Retreat; NCR Conference Host, Flint, Michigan; Regional Community Service Project, Good and Welfare Committee Chair; International Association of Black Professional Firefighters, Recording Secretary; Stop Fire Campaign, Committee Chair.

Carrie enjoys reading, singing, dancing, playing the piano and spending time with family and friends. "If I can help somebody as I pass along, then my living shall not be in vein"



Corresponding Secretary
Rita Francis

Rita M. Francis, born and raised in Baltimore, Maryland, received her education in the Baltimore City public schools system. She attended James Madison University, and earned certificates as an Emergency Medical and Cardiac Rescue Technician from the Community College of Baltimore. Ms. Francis started her career in the emergency service arena with the Rockingham County Volunteer Fire Department, in Harrisonburg, Virginia. She secured employment as an Emergency Medical Technician and Dispatcher for a private ambulance service and in 1986 joined the Woodlawn Volunteer Fire Department, Baltimore County, Maryland.

In 1989, Ms. Francis became a dispatcher with the Howard County Bureau of Communications in Ellicott City, Maryland, where she dispatches fire, rescue, EMS, and police personnel. She is trained in hostage negotiation, domestic violence intervention, and is a national and Maryland State certified Emergency Medical Dispatcher. She is Senior Dispatcher Supervisor and is also an eighteen-year member of the Howard County Critical Incident Stress Management Team.

Ms. Francis has been a member of the International Association of Black Professional Fire Fighters (IABPFF) since 1992, and serves on the Executive Board of her local chapter, The Phoenix Sentinels of Howard County, Maryland, as Secretary. She is currently the Corresponding Secretary for the South East Region and is the Corresponding Secretary for the IABPFF. In 2006 Ms. Francis was presented with an Outstanding Service Award from the IABPFF.

Ms. Francis is single, and the proud mother of a son, Darius Staten.



Treasurer
Sam Aubrey

Education

Wharton High School, 1964
Graduate; Texas Southern University;
Houston Community College, 1967
(60 hours); Graduate, Associate Degree (1972-1974);
University of Houston Fire Science (1975-1977); 1978
(110 hours, 1984).

Military Service

2nd 7th First Cavalry/2nd 287th 101st Airborne
1970-72; Vietnam, December 1970 to December 1971.

Fire Service

Houston Fire Department (Retired) 1974-2001; Fire
Station 55 & 46, 1974-1991; Haz Mat Station 22,
1991-2001; Hazardous Material Technician.

Organizations

Houston Black Fire Fighters Association, 1985-2001;
Founder, Treasurer, Vice President & Acting President,
IABPFF; Served five of the seven Presidents as Board
Member: Clarence Williams, South Central Regional
Director, 1987-1989; Romeo Spaulding, Sgt. at Arms,
1992-1996; Oshiyemi Adelabu, Sgt at Arms, 1996-
1998; Theodore O. Holme, Financial Secretary, 1998-
2000; Treasurer, 2000-2002, Johnny "JB" Brewington
Treasurer, 2002-Present.



**Financial Secretary
Sandra Richards**

Sandra Richards is currently a Lieutenant for the City of Memphis Fire Services in Memphis, Tennessee. She has served on the Department for 16 years and expecting to become the second African American Battalion Chief in the history of the department within the first quarter of 2010.

Sandra graduated from high school as the Valedictorian. She continued her education by earning a B.A. in Finance from Jackson State University, Jackson, Mississippi, a B.P.S in Fire Administration from the University of Memphis, Memphis, Tennessee and M.S.A in Information Systems Management from Central Michigan University, Mount Pleasant, Michigan (December 2009).

Her work experience has included contract management, general contracting, project management, meeting planning, fiscal, and management consulting. Sandra is the President, of the Progressive Black Firefighters of Memphis and holds numerous certifications in the Fire Service industry.

Sandra is active in civic and professional organizations. They include but not limited to Secretary Treasurer of the Shelby County Emergency Communications District, the National Emergency Numbers Association, the Association of Public Safety Officials, former Democratic State Executive Committeewoman District #32 (twelve years), FEMA USAR team (Tennessee Taskforce One, Technical Information Specialist), NAACP, and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

Sandra Richards is the mother of a daughter and god-daughter. Her hobbies include gardening (flowers & vegetables) traveling, playing tennis, and participating in half marathons.



**Sgt.-At-Arms
Freddie Jackson**

Mr. Jackson is a native Houstonian and for over 33 years has truly been a dedicated servant in his community. He joined the Houston Fire Department in November of 1973. He was a member of Local # 341 from 1974-1993. During his tenure he received the Citation Award of Merit in December of 1992 for going above and beyond the call of duty for assisting the Carlisle family.

He has volunteered in several capacities and countless hours assisting families with needs including the seniors. He has assisted in providing food, shelter, clothing, roofing, yards mowed and even job placement. He has also volunteered at schools in Aldine ISD, Houston ISD and North Forest ISD doing Fire Safety, Career Day and tutoring. He has worked with a number of community agencies and organizations on many levels. Mr. Jackson has dedicated selfless and tireless hours volunteering with the organization Habitat for Humanity.

In the midst of working in his community Mr. Jackson saw a need to start a Thanksgiving Food Basket Program in 1992. He asked the fire fighters at his station #67 to give a donation of \$5.00 each and to commit to also be a volunteer. At this time it was 44 fire fighters. This first year only about ½ of the fire fighters donated and 5 families benefited. After evaluating the needs of the community further and being committed to succeed he decided some changes needed to be made.

The next year the Food Basket Program was changed to be held annually at Christmas and to include donations for food and toys. In 1986 Mr. Jackson joined the International Association of Black Professional Fire Fighters (IABPFF). After hearing about the work of the community program through him in about 1997 the Houston Chapter of the IABPFF became a sponsor for the program. The Houston Chapter appointed a Community Action Committee and elected him to be the Chairperson. He still chairs today and with those combined efforts this past year they were able to donate to 65 families and 125 children. These numbers are a combination of food and toys to families and toys to needy and displaced children.

Mr. Jackson also extended his professionalism, knowledge and tireless hours to volunteer across the state line to his fraternal sisters and brothers from Louisiana. We all know some of the needs of the Katrina evacuees. On behalf of the Houston Chapter of the IABPFF he and others assisted in finding shelter, issuing funds and transporting from Louisiana to Houston. He also funded on his own a week of shelter at a hotel for 4 members displaced from New Orleans. The Houston Chapter of the IABPFF decided to host a Fill the Boot fundraiser on September 11, 2005. This fundraiser would benefit the Katrina evacuees. He assisted with the fundraiser and it was a great success raising \$ 12,000.00 in only 5 hours.

Beyond being a humanitarian committed to his community Mr. Jackson recently retired & served as a professional fire fighter with the City of Houston for 33 years. For the last 18 years and continues to serve as the Sargent at Arms for the IABPFF South Central Region and elected in 2004 as the Sergeant at Arms for the IABPFF. He currently is and has for 20 years served as the Corresponding Secretary for the Houston Chapter of the International Association of Professional Black Fire Fighters.

Awards

- * Sandra Hines Jr. Achievement–Youth Against Drugs
- * Garden City Resident Council – Service to Residents of the Acres Homes Community
- * Exchange Club of Cosmopolitan Houston – Book of Golden Deeds
- * United to Serve America - Diamond Award
- * The Old Acres Homes Citizens Council Achievers' Award October 2006
- * The Acres Homes Historical Community Association - Community Service Award - 2006
- * Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition - On behalf of the Constituents of the Ninth Congressional of Texas - November 2006
- * Received The Flag of the United States of America that was flown over The United States Capitol in my Honor at the request of The Honorable Al Green, Member of Congress - November 2006
- * Houston Fire Department Fire Chief's Commendation Award
- * Volunteer, Habitat for Humanity - Building Homes for Gulf Coast Katrina displaced families
- * Jarvis Johnson / Houston City Council District B - Leading By Example Service Award November 2006
- * Houston Black Firefighters Association - Community Service Award - 1986 - 2006
- * International Association of Black Professional Firefighters - Outstanding Service Award - August 2006
- * Certificate for Retirement from the City of Houston - Served the Citizen's of Houston from November 1973 till November 2006
- * African American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Houston - 2007 Community Service Award

North East Regional Conference - January 29-31, 2010 - Teaneck, NJ

Marriott at Glenpointe

Teaneck, NJ

800.228.9290

Room Rate: \$99.00 per night

BCOC Symposium and Meeting - February 7-14, 2010 - West Palm Beach, FL

Doubletree Palm Beach Gardens Hotel

4431 PGA Blvd.

Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410

800.371.7760

Room Rate: \$119 per night

Cutoff date to make reservations is January 15, 2010

2010 Spring South Central Regional Conference - April 7-11, 2010 - Louisville, KY

Seelbach Hilton Hotel

500 Fourth Street

Louisville, KY 40202

800.333.3399

Room Rate: \$110. per night

2010 Spring South West Regional Conference - April 8-10, 2010 - Pasadena, CA

Hilton Pasadena Hotel

168 South Los Robles Avenue

Pasadena, CA 91101

626.577.1100

2010 Spring South East Regional Conference - April 28-May 2, 2010 - Jacksonville, FL

Omni Jacksonville Hotel

245 Water Street

Jacksonville, FL 32202

904.355.6664

Room Rate: \$105. per night

Cutoff date for reservations is April 7.

2010 Spring North Central Regional Conference-April 29-May 1, 2010-Indianapolis, IN

Embassy Suites North - Indianapolis

3912 Vincennes Road

Indianapolis, IN 46268

800.362.2779

317.872.7700

IABPFF 20th Biennial Convention - New Orleans, LA - August 1-6, 2010

Marriott New Orleans at the Convention Center

859 Convention Center Blvd

New Orleans, LA 70130

504.613.2888

Toll-Free: 800.305.6342

Room Rate: \$119. per night

2010 Fall South East Regional Conference - Chattanooga, TN - November 3-7, 2010

The Chattanooga Hotel

1201 South Broad Street

Chattanooga, TN 37402

Details to follow.

DO YOU HAVE A **VISION** TO
DEVELOP A 501(C)3
NONPROFIT CORPORATION?
IF SO, THEN TAKE YOUR **VISION** OFF HOLD.



ISUALIZATIONS

Do you have a vision?

Cost: Only \$600

(filing fees not included)

Payment plan is available



THE BENEFITS

- ✓ Tax Exemption
- ✓ Obtain Grants
- ✓ Limit Your Personal Liability

OTHER SERVICES

- ✓ Political Action Committee Development (PAC)
- ✓ Limited Liability Companies (LLC's)
- ✓ Corporations
- ✓ Nonprofit Seminars (Groups 30-35)
- ✓ Nonprofit Webinars
- ✓ Nonprofit Restoration



ISUALIZATIONS

Do you have a vision?

For more information contact:

Juanita Smith

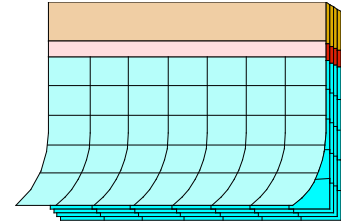
Independent Nonprofit Consultant

P.O. Box 40103, Downey, CA 90239

Phone: 562-964-4293 | Fax: 562-392-4695

E-mail: nonprofit@yahoo.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



For information about IABPFF upcoming events please visit these websites:

North East Region

<http://www.iabpffner.org/>

Southeast Region

<http://www.iabpff.org/iabpffser.htm>

North Central Region

<http://www.iabpffncr.org>

South Central Region

<http://www.iabpffscr.org>

North West Region

<http://www.iabpff.org/iabpffnwr.htm>

South West Region

<http://www.iabpffswr.org/>

Caribbean Region

<http://www.iabpffcar.org/>

Black Chief Officer's Committee

<http://www.bcoc.us/>

Black Women in the Fire Service

<http://www.bwfs.org>

Executive Development Institute

<http://www.edionline.net>

IABPFF "SMOKE"

■ Editor

Johnny Brewington

■ Design/Layout

Danita Love

If you have comments or would like to contribute to the next issue of the IABPFF SMOKE, please contact Johnny Brewington at 877.213.2170 #8 (voice mail) and via our website at www.iabpff.org.

International Association of Black Professional Fire Fighters
1020 North Taylor
St. Louis, Missouri 63113
www.iabpff.org

Postage
Stamp

Mailing Label