



COLUMBUS FIRE FIGHTERS UNION LOCAL 67

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PRESS RELEASE

On Tuesday August 17, 2004, the Delegates to the International Association of Firefighters (IAFF) biennial convention voted overwhelmingly to support a resolution calling for a change to 42 CFR 84, the federal regulation governing SCBA, with regard to its stance on how early the remaining service-life indicator (low air alarm) can be set to alert firefighters. This change would allow the fire service address the exit time problem that contributes to countless firefighter deaths, by allowing the allocation of more air for exit without the detrimental effects of a longer work period. The IAFF will provide comment to the federal docket that has been established to consider this change. In addition, the IAFF will use its established political acumen and vast resources to ensure the success of this initiative.

The Columbus Firefighters Union began this initiative in September 2003 and has built a strong support base for this change to the federal regulation. Prior to the IAFF backing, the initiative received formal and public support by Bill Manning, Managing Editor of Fire Engineering magazine, in his August 2004 editorial column.

For more information about this initiative and information on how to add your comments to the federal review process (the Docket), visit our website at <http://www.timetoexit.com/>. An article detailing the exit time problem and this initiative was featured in the June 2004 issue of Fire Engineering magazine (Expanding "Time To Exit" for Firefighters); it is available online at <http://www.fireengineering.com/>.