

Resolution No. 25

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT: Resolutions

Re: Honoring & Recognizing the Passing of Frank J. Montanaro, President Emeritus, Rhode Island State Association of Fire Fighters

1 WHEREAS, Frank J. Montanaro was born the 4th
2 of April 1934 to Frank and Matilda Montanaro in
3 the City of Cranston, Rhode Island; and

4 WHEREAS, Brother Montanaro knew from a
5 young age that he wanted to be a fire fighter and to
6 be involved with organized labor; and

7 WHEREAS, Brother Montanaro enlisted in the
8 United States Air Force and served his country
9 honorably during the Korean War; and

10 WHEREAS, in 1959, a short time after discharge
11 from the Air Force, Brother Montanaro was
12 appointed to the Cranston Fire Department; and

13 WHEREAS, in 1959 Brother Montanaro was
14 elected Vice President of IAFF Local 1363; and

15 WHEREAS, in 1964 Brother Montanaro was
16 elected President of IAFF Local 1363, serving in that
17 capacity until 1981 when he retired from the
18 Cranston Fire Department with the rank of
19 Lieutenant; and

20 WHEREAS, in 1972 Brother Montanaro was
21 elected President of the Rhode Island State
22 Association of Fire Fighters and served in that
23 capacity until his retirement in 2010; and

24 WHEREAS, Brother Montanaro worked tirelessly
25 for the passage of state laws protecting the health,
26 welfare, compensation and benefits to all fire fighters
27 within the State of Rhode Island, establishing some

28 monumental laws, including the Fire Fighters
29 Arbitration Act, Cancer Presumption, Widow
30 and Orphan Benefits, Occupational Injury and Illness
31 and many other laws protecting fire fighters; and

32 WHEREAS, in 1976 Brother Montanaro was
33 appointed to the Executive Board of the Rhode Island
34 AFL-CIO; and

35 WHEREAS, in 1978 Brother Montanaro was
36 appointed to the Rhode Island State Labor Relations
37 Board, where he presided over labor relations matters
38 pertaining to all public-sector unions within the State
39 of Rhode Island until 2017; and

40 WHEREAS, in 1992 Brother Montanaro was
41 elected President of the Rhode Island AFL-CIO and
42 served in that capacity until his retirement in
43 2007 from the AFL-CIO; and

44 WHEREAS, Brother Montanaro served in
45 numerous leadership roles within the state and
46 national Democratic Party; and

47 WHEREAS, Brother Montanaro was a tireless
48 advocate for the establishment and advancing the
49 cause of all state associations within the IAFF and
50 was instrumental in the creation and organizing
51 of the Federation of State and Provincial Fire
52 Fighters Association; and

53 WHEREAS, Brother Montanaro was a strong
54 supporter and advocate for the IAFF, serving on
55 numerous committees, including the Constitution
56 & By-Laws Committee; and

57 WHEREAS, upon Brother Montanaro's
58 retirement in 2010 from the Rhode Island State
59 Association of Fire Fighters, Brother Montanaro was
60 bestowed the position and title of President Emeritus

61 in recognition of his commitment and dedication to
62 professional fire fighters, which has spanned over
63 fifty (50) years; and

64 WHEREAS, it is with deep regret and sadness to
65 report to the Delegates of this 54th IAFF Convention
66 that Brother Montanaro has passed from this life on
67 August 22, 2017; therefore be it

68 RESOLVED, That Brother Montanaro be
69 recognized on this, the one hundredth (100th)
70 anniversary of the IAFF, and before the delegates
71 assembled at this IAFF Convention for his
72 unwavering devotion and commitment to the struggle
73 of making the good and welfare of all professional
74 fire fighters throughout this great IAFF better today
75 than it was the day before.

Submitted by: Rhode Island State Association of Fire Fighters,
A-38

Local 1363, Cranston Fire Fighters

Local 732, Woonsocket Fire Fighters

Local 850, East Providence Fire Fighters

Local 1080, Newport Fire Fighters

Local 1104, West Warwick Fire Fighters

Local 1261, Pawtucket Fire Fighters

Local 1485, Central Falls Fire Fighters

Local 1589, Narragansett Fire Fighters

Local 1651, North Kingstown Fire Fighters

Local 1703, Tiverton Fire Fighters

Local 1774, Barrington Fire Fighters

Local 1933, Middletown Fire Fighters

Local 1949, Portsmouth Fire Fighters

Local 1950, Johnston Fire Fighters

Local 2050, Smithfield Fire Fighters

Local 2334, North Providence Fire Fighters
Local 2722, Cumberland Fire Fighters
Local 2725, Cumberland Rescue
Local 2748, Warwick Fire Fighters
Local 3023, Lincoln Rescue and Fire Fighters
Local 3328, East Greenwich Fire Fighters
Local 3365, South Kingstown EMS
Local 3372, Central Coventry Fire Fighters
Local 3422, Foster Emergency Services
Local 3957, Little Compton Fire Fighters
Local 3984, North Smithfield Fire Fighters
Local 4771, West Greenwich Fire Fighters
Local 4824, Hopkins Hill Fire Fighters
Local 4908, Pascoag Fire Fighters
Local 4910, Harrisville Fire Fighters
Local 4968, Burrillville Fire Fighters

Cost Estimate: None

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Adopt

CONVENTION ACTION: Adopted Unanimously