MIKE DUFFEE - BIO

AFA Vice President

- AFD start date 2/3/1995
- Previous assignments Eng. 23 C, Eng. and Quint 38 C, Eng. 44 C
- Current assignment Lieutenant at Eng. 4 C
- I am currently finishing my second term as an AFA Vice President, beginning my first term in January of 2015.

I am asking for the members to support my bid for re-election to the position of Vice President. It has been an honor and a great learning experience to serve on the executive board of AFA for these past years. I have enjoyed serving the members of our great department and establishing new relationships both inside and outside the department during my tenure.

Actions as an AFA Vice President

- I show up. I have an excellent record of attendance during my tenure to E-Board meetings, general membership meetings, committee meetings and other AFA events and functions.

- I have consistently attended our monthly “Labor Management Initiative” meetings. These are valuable meetings in which labor and management have the chance to solve problems on the member’s behalf. These are often protracted discussions that take months of good faith efforts on both sides to reach solutions. Issues such as discipline, safe driving, the clarification of issues of contract compliance, uniform and grooming standards, transferability and facilities are some of the topics that management and labor work through together.

- I have represented AFA at numerous conferences and seminars. I have traveled to San Antonio, Longview, Oklahoma City and Seattle to learn new skills and represent Local 975

- I have attended multiple cadet luncheons and multiple cadet graduation ceremonies on behalf of the AFA E-Board and the members. This is an important step to welcome our new brothers and sisters and to educate them about the important work of the union.

- I have made station visits and made myself available to the members that I represent. I make a deliberate effort to stay in touch with my designated stations, provide timely updates and field questions and concerns.
I have provided representation to several members during POS investigations and have worked diligently to ensure that their rights and due process are protected.

I have met with local politicians and built relationships with our City Council Members. The actions we take to vet and endorse candidates have paid great dividends. The President and Vice presidents are able to work constructively with local elected officials to great benefit of the department and members. We have used our relationships to get progress on many issues. Areas such as the consent decree, stake holder input in the Chief selection process, currently working to strengthen our 4 person staffing resolution to an ordinance, new station construction has finally been given a priority and put on a schedule, Phase 5 and Phase 6 of the equitable use restroom project have been put on track and new stations and restroom projects have been funded via “certificates of obligation” instead of counting on the whims of bond elections. These are some of the behind the scenes things that I have been involved with over the last 4 years.

I have chaired the facilities committee. We have been effective in getting the restroom project back on track. We have been involved in the discussion to get the next 5 stations built on a firm time line. We have lobbied to get the previously mentioned certificates of obligation as a funding source for capital projects. We have managed to get a good working relationship with command staff, the assistant city managers, public works and building services. We have been granted quarterly sit down meetings that include all the above, this gives us unprecedented access to have transparency and accountability.

In Closing.
AFA currently has a very capable and effective executive board, of which I am proud to be a member. I have given considerable effort to do an effective job, grow into the role and be a responsible steward of the member’s trust. In my opinion, the three incumbents running for re-election are all deserving of your vote. I can attest that Mike Leone and Jeremy Copus have worked hard over the last two years and deserve consideration. We have a very effective board, with each member bringing their own strengths and perspective. The board makes great effort to discern the will of the membership, using surveys, on-line voting, membership meetings and station visits. All of us strive to work actively to represent the will of the membership. I take that responsibility seriously, I understand that I am working for you and your benefit. I humbly ask for your vote.

Thanks,
Lt. Mike Duffee AFA VP