



OAPFF Affiliate Leadership and 52nd Biennial Conference Delegates, Alternates and Guests,

On March 12<sup>th</sup>, Ohio Governor Mike DeWine announced that Ohio Department of Health Director Amy Acton, M.D., MPH has signed an order to prohibit mass gatherings in the state of Ohio. Mass gatherings are defined as any event or convening that brings together 100 or more persons in a single room or single space at the same time such as an auditorium, stadium, arena, large conference room, meeting hall, theater, or any other confined indoor or outdoor space. This order took effect immediately and will remain until the state of emergency declared by the Governor has been rescinded or modified

The Executive Board of the Ohio Association of Professional Fire Fighters is considering how the novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) may impact the upcoming scheduled District Meetings as well as the 52<sup>nd</sup> Biennial Conference, May 18-21, 2020, in Toledo, Ohio. Since this is a rapidly evolving outbreak and there is still much to be learned, the OAPFF will continue to closely monitor the situation and inform you of any changes in relation to our District Meetings and Biennial Conference. Currently, we have no plans to cancel any of the scheduled events.

While active discussions with the Renaissance Hotel in Toledo continue, canceling will certainly present a whole host of Constitutional as well as logistical challenges. While we want to ensure that our affiliates can participate in the exchange of ideas, meaningful debate and setting the direction of the organization for the next two years, we are also mindful of the Governors Order as well as Public Health Concerns. So, we ask our leadership to be as flexible as possible in accommodating whatever contingency plans that may be required to respond to the evolving situation.

We will be monitoring information from the Ohio Department of Health and will be determining what we feel will be the best course of action in the coming weeks. Thank you in advance for your understanding and support during this ever changing and evolving pandemic.

Fraternally,

OAPFF President

Michael P. Taylor

Secretary Treasurer

William E. Quinn