



## **SOUTHEASTERN ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS**

### **POLICY 2016 – 01/05; REV 2024 – 01/12 ENDORSEMENT OF IAFC OFFICER CANDIDATES**

**This policy provides Information and requirements for individuals seeking endorsement from the SEAFC for an IAFC Officer Position.**

#### **PURPOSE:**

This policy is established by the Board of Directors of the SEAFC to provide essential information for candidates pursuing officer positions in the IAFC and seeking the endorsement by the Southeastern Division.

#### **ENDORSEMENT:**

The SEAFC Board of Directors may choose to endorse one candidate running for each IAFC office. The Board reserves the right to choose not to endorse any candidate.

**NOTE-** This policy addresses endorsement of candidates for IAFC officer positions ONLY.

## **HOW TO SEEK SE AFC ENDORSEMENT FOR IAFC OFFICES?**

Valuable information on seeking IAFC offices is available in the IAFC election packet and may be obtained by contacting the IAFC office. The IAFC advises that the candidacy process should last several years. That would include time to prepare the campaign, as well as at least one year of active campaigning.

Past candidates from within the SE AFC as well as candidates from other divisions have sought endorsements from the SE AFC for IAFC offices. The following information provides a guideline for the process of seeking SE AFC endorsement and the commitment the SE AFC makes to candidates it endorses.

### **PROCESS:**

- A) Candidates seeking endorsement for national offices must attend a SE AFC Board of Directors meeting to present their platform and request endorsement (If the candidate is unable to attend in person {the preferred method}, the Board may approve the candidate to utilize Zoom or other remote distant video meeting software to address the Board). The candidate will still follow the process outlined below for determining when to meet with the Board. Candidates must attend one of the Board meetings no more than 12 months prior to the IAFC election. Candidates may attend either the June Board meeting preceding the Annual SE AFC Conference OR the annual January Board meeting (Example: A candidate seeking endorsement for IAFC election in 2017 may attend and request endorsement at the 2016 Conference Board meeting OR the 2017 January Mid-Winter meeting). Requests for endorsement may not be made more than one year prior to elections.
- B) Candidates seeking endorsement for national offices must notify the SE AFC Executive Director of their desire to attend one (or both) of the Board meetings at least 30 days prior to the meeting.
- C) Candidates may also be permitted to attend the annual SE AFC Conference Business Session to present their platforms to the SE AFC membership. Only one speech by each candidate shall be permitted during the Business meeting and shall not exceed five minutes.
- D) Candidates will be expected to pay the conference registration fees if they will be attending the Conference (other than simply speaking to the membership during the Business Session).
- E) Any decision to endorse a candidate will be made by the Board of Directors at the January Board meeting of the election year. Endorsed candidates will be notified.

## **ENDORSEMENT SUPPORT**

Upon receiving endorsement of the SE AFC, the Association may provide support to the candidate by:

- Allowing the candidate to use the SE AFC logo in compliance with SE AFC policy.
- Provide space for a posting on the SE AFC website up to FRI of the election year.
- SE AFC will send two e-mail advertisements annually on behalf of the candidate to the full voting membership.

## **NON-ENDORSED CANDIDATES**

Only SE AFC endorsed candidates will be offered complimentary marketing/campaigning opportunities to the SE AFC membership.

If SE AFC does not endorse any one candidate, marketing/campaigning opportunities will be offered at the established rates to all candidates.

## **CANDIDATES AT FIRE-RESCUE INTERNATIONAL**

During the SE AFC Division Luncheon at Fire-Rescue International only IAFC Candidates 1 year out from elections will be allowed to address the membership for a maximum of 5 minutes. All other candidates may be recognized at the President's discretion. Candidates (non-endorsed and endorsed) wishing to address the membership must notify the Executive Director.

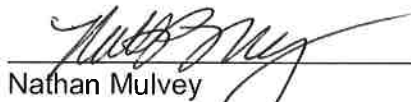
**Adopted by the Board of Directors on this 5<sup>th</sup> day of January 2016**

**Amended and Adopted by the Board of Directors on this 12<sup>th</sup> day of January 2024**



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Larry H. Williams, Jr  
Executive Director



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Nathan Mulvey  
Constitution and By-Laws Chairman