

OHIO ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL FIRE FIGHTERS

Endorsement Philosophy:

The Ohio Association of Professional Fire Fighters respects and encourages the right of every OAPFF member to vote for the candidate that best represents and aligns with their views and political ideologies.

Politics within the OAPFF is about shared respect. The OAPFF will never criticize any member for their choice of candidate. We recognize that many issues beyond the fire service and labor issues carry important and symbolic weight, and we respect every member's individual right to vote for the candidate(s) who may not have received an endorsement from your State Association.

However, just as our members review their respective candidates' political party affiliations, history, legislative positions, and platforms to evaluate their voting decision, so does the OAPFF. And, just like the OAPFF respects your right to vote for the candidate of your choosing, we ask for the same respect concerning the OAPFF's duty to make its endorsement based on issues that directly affect the fire service and our members.

The OAPFF evaluates candidates based on a clear and consistent set of criteria. Every endorsement made is the result of a thorough and deliberate evaluation of the candidate's character, integrity, and voting record on fire fighter issues.

We do not and will not base any of our endorsement decisions on environmental, social, or religious issues that many of our members hold firm beliefs on. We do not base our decisions on political party affiliation, campaign promises, or political rhetoric. Instead, we evaluate a candidate's proven record of supporting our members and advancing the legislative priorities that impact Ohio's professional fire fighters.

No one, including your Union, has the right to tell you how to vote. Our responsibility is to educate and inform our members on the candidates who have demonstrated a commitment to protecting the rights, benefits, and priorities of our members and our profession.

Our legislative victories in support of our profession were not achieved without our direct participation in the political process. Political parties will not decide the future of our profession. It will be decided by those who are willing to stand with us, fight beside us, and honor their commitment to Ohio's bravest.

