

To All Local 135 Members:

The document below includes examples of “no confidence” resolutions that other Locals have utilized in taking a “no-confidence” vote. My intent is to provide the membership with information prior to deciding on whether or not to proceed with a “no confidence” vote.

Thanks,

Rocky

The Resolution:

Under the authority of chapter 41.56 RCW, the

International Association of Fire Fighters, Local 2950,

hereby Resolves:

WHEREAS, this Vote of No-Confidence is an alternative method to bring forth serious concerns of public safety and mismanagement to the public while still promoting the uninterrupted and dedicated service because such services are **“vital to the welfare and public safety of the state of Washington”** and;

Whereas Local 2950, Woodinville Firefighters, believes that this No-Confidence Resolution is but one of those very limited options available to promote these purposes and;

Whereas I. David Daniels became the Fire Chief of Woodinville Fire and Rescue on the first day of January, 2010 and;

Whereas prior to the arrival of I. David Daniels, Woodinville Fire and Rescue was one of approximately 300 fire departments in the world to earn accreditation from the Commission on Fire Accreditation International which ensures that fire agencies adhere to and meet industry best practices and;

Whereas under the leadership of I. David Daniels Woodinville Fire and Rescue has lost it's CFAI accreditation and;

Whereas under the leadership of I. David Daniels, fire prevention services were eliminated for the citizens of the City of Woodinville resulting in a loss of fire and life safety inspections being conducted within the City and;

Whereas under the leadership of I. David Daniels, the position of Public Educator was eliminated and the position of a personal executive secretary to the Chief was created and;

Whereas I. David Daniels has compromised the safety and preparation of the citizens of Woodinville by abandoning the training of Community Emergency Response Teams for the citizens of Woodinville, designed by King County to QUOTE: "prepare people in neighborhoods, the workplace, and schools to take a more active role in emergency management planning, and to prepare themselves and others for disasters;" END QUOTE and;

Whereas I. David Daniels has compromised the safety of his firefighters on multiple occasions by directly overseeing events such as ordering non-uniformed personnel into a hot-zone of a hazardous materials incident, forcing a Battalion Chief to work a 96-hour shift, abandoning inspections in the City of Woodinville, and others, and;

Whereas under the leadership of I. David Daniels the citizens of Hollywood Hill and surrounding areas are now subjected to unacceptably long response times after the closure of Fire Station 34, as established by national standards, with no short or long term plan to remediate the response delays and;

Whereas under the leadership of I. David Daniels, Woodinville Fire and Rescue has terminated a vocational education program, primarily funded by the Northshore School District, that was recognized throughout Western Washington for its excellence, education, and guidance to area youth and;

Whereas under the leadership of I. David Daniels, Woodinville Fire and Rescue terminated its long standing joint training division with Redmond and Kirkland that had leveraged resources resulting in an elevated level of training to the fire fighters that serve the Woodinville community and;

Whereas under the leadership of I. David Daniels, in spite of the closure of a fire station and the reduction in the number of emergency responders, Woodinville Fire and Rescue has created five brand new administrative positions and;

Whereas under the leadership of I. David Daniels, the reduction in the number of emergency responders and the increase in the number of administrators has resulted in more people sitting behind desks each day at station headquarters than there are staffing emergency apparatus in the community and;

Whereas knowing that Woodinville Fire and Rescue is spending more annually than it is taking in and thus is committed to depleting its Reserve Fund that took years to build, I. David Daniels has endeavored to make the fire district insolvent;

THEREFORE

BE IT RESOLVED, that the members of Local 2950 unanimously declare that they have no confidence in the leadership of Fire Chief I. David Daniels and will unify with all of their strength, solidarity, and firm conviction to work towards the restitution of Woodinville Fire and Rescue that, until only recently, was looked upon as an example of excellence in the fire service community, including its ability to work in a collaborative and innovative manner to accomplish common goals that provide the highest and best service to the citizens of our community and the firefighters that loyally serve them.

Duluth, MN

A statement issued by the union said: "Reasons for this vote include lack of leadership, inability to effectively communicate, failure to respond to firefighter concerns, fiscal decision-making priorities and lack of overall concern for the well-being of our members. Chief Pogorels has repeatedly micromanaged the day-to-day operations of his command staff and subordinates while failing to maintain a clear grasp of larger issues."

The no confidence vote will not have any impact on service, Holmquist said. "As firefighters, we've been doing our job to the best of our ability since he became chief."

Tahoe

"The goal is not to create more acrimony or compromise the community, but to share concerns so we can improve the department," Gillingham said. "This was not a traditional vote of no confidence. The vote of no confidence was to ensure the concern raised was a universal perception, and now what to do and how to start to create transparency."

woonsocket

On March 24, 2011 at our monthly union meeting, the members of Local #732 of The International Association of Fire Fighters, made a motion to take a no confidence vote in you as the Fire Chief," Oakland stated in a letter to the chief announcing the vote.

Oakland said 89 local members voting on the motion approved it unanimously.

"It is embarrassing to me as the President of this proud union that this vote had to be taken, but your actions, or lack there of, left us no choice," Oakland said in the letter to the chief.

"This vote was not taken lightly or without considerable deliberation, as a vote for no confidence has never been taken in the history of our organization. I have met with you in the past few months, as have some of the Chief Officers, and explained to you that the members were questioning your leadership in some of your decisions and the lack of direction from your office," he said.

"Some discussion during the meeting focused on:

Your silence as to the member's safety and wellbeing;

Your refusal to address declining morale;

Failure to provide direction during turbulent times;

Failure to have a comprehensive operational plan in place to address the reduced safety of the

community caused by the removal of Ladder 1;
Failure to publicly contest the reduction of the department safe staffing levels;
Lastly and most important your failure to openly communicate in general the organizational goals and objectives of the Woonsocket Fire Department,” Oakland said.
“As a union, we are always open to discussion on how to rectify the above stated deficiencies. Our ultimate goal is to work with the Fire Chief and the Administration to ensure the health, safety, and wellbeing of our members as well as that of the community,” he said in conclusion of the letter.
Lataille could not be reached for comment on the letter Monday night. Fontaine also could not be reached Monday.
The sides are reported to be beginning talks on a new contract. The union’s current contract with the city expires on July 1.

<http://www.nyspffa.org/Docs/Endicott%20vote.pdf>

lancaster

We want to make it publicly clear that local 319 is concerned about the safety of the citizens of Lancaster as well as our own. We feel Chief Gregg's decision making priorities regarding the Bureau of Fire border on irrational and irresponsible. We are concerned that he knowingly makes decisions that could be considered reckless and in direct violation of NFPA standards potentially jeopardizing lives, property and the fiscal well being of the city itself. We have repeatedly expressed our concerns to Chief Gregg but he continues to disregard and ignore our pleas. in response to this we feel our only recourse is to publicly document our lack of faith and confidence in Chief Gregg's ability to saely lead and appropriately manager the City's Bureau of Fire by voting "No Confidence". Local 319's goal is not to create acrimony or compromise the community but to share our concerns so we can improve the department."

64% of 340 of AFD Fire Fighters voted 'No-Confidence' in Chief Breen

--

The crisis in public safety leadership continues in Albuquerque. Only 36% of Firefighters have confidence in Chief Breen’s ability to lead the Albuquerque Fire Department. Despite this crisis, Albuquerque Fire Fighters will continue to stand strong in protecting your life and property, committed to the public we serve and not the Mayor’s political agenda.