



Houston Professional Fire Fighters Association, IAFF Local 341

NEWS from Houston Fire Fighters

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Statement from the Houston Professional Fire Fighters Association

HOUSTON, July 20, 2018 – *The following comments were released today by the Houston Professional Fire Fighters Association:*

- HPFFA President Patrick M. “Marty” Lancton said, “The chaos we saw at Houston City Hall today reflects the pressure being put on city council members behind the scenes. The political smoke and mirrors is disappointing, but predictable. We thank Council Members Michael Kubosh, Greg Travis, Brenda Stardig, Mike Knox, Steve Le, Dave Martin, and Dwight Boykins for attending the meeting. All Houston firefighters ask is that, after a year of delays by the mayor, Houston voters finally get to have their say on the firefighter pay parity initiative. If approved by voters, the ballot initiative will force the city to bring Houston firefighter pay in line with that of Houston police officers. Since 2011, the City of Houston has awarded 30 percent in raises to police compared to only three percent for firefighters. Many other major U.S. cities – including New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, and Dallas – have police and fire pay parity policies.”
- Cris Feldman, Feldman & Feldman PC, Houston, legal counsel for the Houston Professional Fire Fighters Association: “The campaign against this petition has already started. Council Member Martin flat-out stated that the city’s Budget and Fiscal Affairs meeting next week is a campaign ploy on the part of the mayor. The mayor’s text to him on his cell phone confirmed as much. This is a game. This is a stone-cold political move by the mayor that is actually on very thin ice. It will clearly be electioneering, using public resources, which is aggravated by the fact that it will be occurring even before an election order has been adopted by city council, as required by law.”

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