

## HOUSTON Professional Fire Fighters

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## **ASSOCIATION LOCAL 341**

VIA EMAIL

EST. 1932

March 28, 2019

Hon. Sylvester Turner City of Houston P.O. Box 1562 Houston, Texas 77251

Dear Mayor Turner,

We received your "proposal," which apparently is intended to leave the impression that you might finally end your political and legal war on Houston firefighters and respect the will of the 298,000 Prop B voters. At first glance, the proposal seems to only offer a portion of the pay and benefits over a five-year period. With that in mind, we ask:

- 1. Does this fully implement parity with HPD, including both base pay and incentives?
- 2. If you believe it does, please explain in writing so that we can advise our members.
- 3. If it does not, please explain why the proposal fails to provide parity.

Firefighter layoffs are unnecessary. They were unnecessary during the HPD raises. They are unnecessary now. When you gut HFD from within with yet more budget and personnel cuts, you alone will be responsible for the consequences of diminished public safety services and for the loss of Houston-trained, taxpayer-funded firefighters. Please be prepared to explain why you recently hired hundreds of police and municipal employees yet you insist on terminating firefighter jobs.

Finally, please also explain why the hundreds of millions paid to HPD for 37 percent raises since 2011, including at least \$98 million this year, caused no fiscal crises or city employee layoffs.

When you are serious about resolving our differences, please let us know.

Yours truly

Patrick M. "Marty" Lancton

cc:

Houston City Council

Houston Fire Chief Samuel Peña