



Brothers and Sisters,

Earlier, Board members sent an email to the membership stating their opposition to the Endorsement of President Trump.

As the President representing the majority, I would like to address their concerns.

1. The endorsement was made following the current endorsement policy which has been in place for the last 5 years along with PAC monetary donations. Which is by a majority executive board vote. In the oppositions letter, a board member who voted yes is now stating he is against the endorsement. Let me remind you, Board members are also supposed to abide by the majority as per our oath of office.
2. They state the negative effects of the endorsement amongst our friends and allies in the community will have an impact on our effectiveness to advance the needs of our membership.

What they are not saying is, the positive effects of our endorsement will outweigh any hurt feelings from our so-called friends and allies. As we are now gaining favor with Republican State legislators who are in control of ACT 111, which is our collective bargaining rights. And also note that our so-called friends Democratic Legislators are now attacking Act 111, with their desire to go after police unions.

We will also have direct line to the Whitehouse to help maximize Federal Grants to the city, and begin a partnership similar to what the National FOP has, with them addressing our issues. This will also give us leverage with dealing with the Mayor's administration, giving them a helping hand. Please note The IAFF also refused to even meet with President Trump, they didn't even give him a chance.

3. They state our past practice is not to endorse Presidential Candidates.

There is no rule that a Local cannot endorse a Presidential Candidate. And right now, there are no higher stakes. The Economy and Healthcare are enormous issues that affect our membership with their trickle-down effect. They are our most important issues in this Presidential Election. And let us not forget what Vice President Biden did for us when Democrat Mayor Nutter appealed our contract, closed/browned out fire companies and mass transferred members; NOTHING!

The opposition states we have responsibility to do what is best for our membership. And they talk about the membership as a whole. We wholeheartedly agree the entire membership should have a say, and that is why 9 of your elected executive board members voted to spend 14k to send out a secret ballot to everyone. Also, I have been working with our Treasurer looking for ways this cost will be zeroed out. Lastly, We should not cater to threats from special interest groups, or let them dictate or pressure Executive board members when deciding issues that affect the entire membership; The Executive board serves all our members.

As your President, I implore you to vote NO in rescinding the endorsement.

Michael P. Bresnan

President

Philadelphia Firefighters' & Paramedics' Union, Local 22