



San Mateo County Firefighters IAFF Local 2400

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Representing
Professional Firefighters
protecting the communities of
Belmont • San Carlos
Millbrae • Brisbane
San Mateo • Hillsborough
Burlingame • Foster City
Menlo Park • Atherton
East Palo Alto • Redwood City
Woodside • Pacifica

July 21st, 2008

Ollie Brown
Menlo Park Fire Protection District
825 Hobart Avenue
Menlo Park, Ca 94025

Re: Recent Vote of No Confidence

Director Brown,

Recently the Active members of the Menlo Park Firefighters Association, District 10 of IAFF Local 2400, completed a "vote of no confidence" against a senior member of the Fire Districts Command Staff. Firefighter Association President John Wurdinger made attempts to coordinate meetings with each member of the District Fire Board with limited success, even after ensuring that the matter needing to be discussed had nothing to do with the current contract negotiations. At the July 15th Fire Board Meeting it was made clear that the members of the Fire Board would not discuss matters related to the Fire District with the Firefighters of Menlo Park, while engaged in contract negotiations.

This decision by the Fire Board to not talk with the Firefighters of Menlo Park is confusing to the Executive Board of Local 2400, since we have been made aware that the Fire District Board of Directors made "improving labor relations" a high priority for 2008 at a public Board Meeting earlier this year. The Executive Board of IAFF Local 2400 believes that you have a duty to talk to members of the Association about Fire District Business and that it would be in the best interest of all parties involved to do so.

We ask you, as a Fire Board member, to reconsider your decision to not speak with the Firefighters of Menlo Park. It is important for all parties that you personally understand why this vote was taken. Please contact Menlo Park Firefighters' Association President John Wurdinger by e-mail at johnw@mpffa.org or by phone at [REDACTED] to coordinate a meeting. President Hawkins and Vice-president Neylan of Local 2400 will be available to attend this meeting.

Sincerely,

Ed Hawkins
President
San Mateo County Firefighters
IAFF Local 2400

Tom Neylan
Vice President
San Mateo County Firefighters
IAFF Local 2400

Cc: Menlo Park Firefighters File