LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING

on

Fire Investigation and Fire Prevention Programs

The Alameda Fire Department’s Fire Investigation Program shall be operated in accordance with General Order Bulletin (GOB) I-55 and GOB 2-5. A maximum of six (6) employees who are trained as Fire Investigators and are actively participating in the Fire Investigator Program shall receive an additional five percent (5%) salary differential while assigned to the Program and actively serving as a Fire Investigator. Fire Investigation team members shall be distributed efficiently among the three (3) suppression shifts. Any shift balancing shall be in accordance with GOB 2-40 Station Preference Assignments. When a vacancy occurs, only members who have completed Fire Investigation courses 1A, 1B, 2A, 2B, and the forty hour component of P.C. 832 (or equivalent should the State Fire Marshal course requirements change) as a prerequisite will be considered for acceptance into the program.

A Fire Investigator on standby who is called in shall receive premium pay at the rate of one and one-half times the base rate of pay. The list of standby investigators shall be maintained by the Fire Investigation Program Manager with a current list located at Dispatch and in the Duty Chief’s office with one investigator assigned standby at all times.

Notwithstanding the above provisions, the City does not waive its right to subcontract fire investigative services or change the way these duties are performed in the future. If the City decides to subcontract fire investigative services it will provide IAFF 689 with not less than 30 days advance written notice and will satisfy any meet and confer requirements.

Fire Prevention Program

The Fire Prevention Bureau will be reinstated in Fiscal Year 2017-2018. The Fire Prevention Bureau will be staffed with one Fire Captain and two Fire Fighters or Apparatus Operators. Staff who apply and are assigned to the Fire Prevention Bureau will agree to serve a five-year term. If an employee is mandated to the Fire Prevention Bureau they will serve a two year term. The selection of staff and operations of the Fire Prevention Bureau will be done in accordance with the Fire Department’s General Order Bulletin, Office Assignments 2-55.

Firefighters assigned to the Fire Prevention Bureau will not work suppression during their regularly scheduled hours in fire prevention and suppression functions will not be augmented by prevention staff with the exception of large emergencies.

Staff assigned to the Fire Prevention Bureau will complete State Fire Marshal courses to receive certification as Fire Inspector 1, Fire Inspector 2, and Plan Examiner.
The Fire Prevention Bureau will present an annual report to the City Council with the number of inspections to be completed annually based on Fire Code, State law and local ordinances, number of inspections scheduled and the number and percent completed.

Notwithstanding the above provision, the City does not waive its right to alter how fire prevention duties are completed. The City will provide IAFF 689 with not less than 30 days advance written notice and will satisfy any meet and confer requirements.

Any dispute about the interpretation or application of this Letter of Understanding shall be subject to the grievance procedure contained in the parties' Memorandum of Understanding.

For the City of Alameda

Jill, Keimach, City Manager

For IAFF Local 689

Jeff Delbono, President

Approved as to form

Janet Kern, City Attorney