



# Avian and Pandemic Influenza

International Association of Fire Fighters  
Avian Influenza Conference, September 2007

IAFF Always on the Frontline

Harold A. Schaitberger  
General President

Vincent J. Bollon  
General Secretary-Treasurer



# Who Are We?

- The International Association of Fire Fighters
  - Headquartered in Washington, DC
  - Represent more than 281,000 full-time professional fire fighters and paramedics
    - Who protect 85 percent of the nation's population
  - More than 3,100 affiliates and their members protect every state in the United States and Canada



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# Our Mission

- To educate emergency responders about strategies to safeguard their health and safety
- To reduce occupational deaths and injuries related to hazardous materials and weapons of mass destruction response



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- The IAFF HazMat/WMD Training Department is completely funded by federal grants and contracts with:
  - National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS)
  - National Institutes for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)
  - Department of Energy (DOE), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
  - Department of Transportation (DOT)
  - Department of Homeland Security (DHS)



# IAFF's Target Audience

- Fire service (1.8 million, career and volunteer)
  - Fire fighters
  - Emergency medical personnel
- Other emergency responders
  - Law enforcement
  - Emergency management
  - Public works



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# Programs Developed Under NIEHS Grant

- A Shift-Based Training Program
  - Downloadable Facilitators Guide, *Preparing for a Pandemic Flu: What First Responders Need to Know*
    - Module 1: In My Fire House (30 minutes)
    - Module 2: Making a Plan (1 hour)
    - Module 3: Protecting Myself (30 minute)
- An instructor-led module, *Avian and Pandemic Influenza*
  - Stand-Alone
  - Added to the *Infectious Diseases* course



# Train-the-Trainer

- Open to interested emergency response agencies upon request
- Participants review and practice teaching actual materials
- IAFF's instructor cadre of 93 trained during 2007 Instructor Development Conference



- What are Avian and pandemic influenza?
- What will the effects on emergency response systems be?
- How can communities, fire departments and responders prepare themselves?
- How can responders protect themselves?
- Where can responders learn more?



# Course Components

- Available the National Clearinghouse for Worker Safety and Health Training
  - Instructor Guide
  - Student Manual
  - Slide Presentation



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