



HONORARY CO-CHAIRS



President, IAFF Local #67
Jack Reall



President, F.O.P. Lodge #9
Jim Gilbert

To All Ohio Safety Services Personnel,

We're proud to be honorary co-chairs of the 2010 "Battle of the Badges" fundraiser to benefit the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. On Saturday, February 27, 2010, hundreds of Union Police Officers and Firefighters will race up 40 flights of stairs at the tallest skyscraper in Central Ohio. First and foremost, we want you to know that this is a great cause to get behind. Families from the firefighting and law enforcement communities have been directly impacted by cystic fibrosis -- a devastating disease that gradually diminishes lung function and shortens lives. Columbus police officer Tony Monturo, and Pleasant Township firefighter Kalub Patterson, both have young daughters with CF.

The work of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation is quite impressive. This organization has been widely recognized for its unique entrepreneurial and cost-effective approach to finding a cure. Their strategic investments in cutting-edge research have produced astounding results that have significantly lengthened the lifespan and improved the quality of life for kids with this disease.

We're also excited about participating in an event that showcases the strength, stamina, endurance, determination and teamwork of Ohio's safety forces. Many departments across the country, including Columbus, have faced -- or are facing -- dramatic cutbacks due to the current economic climate. Now, more than ever, it's important for our men and women in uniform to have a positive high profile in the communities they serve.

The organizers of "Battle of the Badges" are putting together a top-notch event that will be both fun and challenging. You can be part of a two-person or four-person relay team, or you can tackle the entire 40 floors as a solo climber. Whatever you do, please don't miss out on this wonderful opportunity to connect with other safety forces personnel and make a difference in the lives of kids with cystic fibrosis.

Looking forward to seeing you in February!

Jack Reall

Jim Gilbert