



NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS FOUNDATION

April 8, 2026

Dr. Kenny Fent, PhD, CIH
Team Lead, National Firefighter Registry for Cancer
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Dr. Fent,

On behalf of the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF) and our Board of Directors, I am writing to express our strong support for the National Firefighter Registry (NFR) for Cancer, administered by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) within the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Firefighters put their lives on the line to protect our communities, often facing extreme and unpredictable hazards. Beyond the immediate dangers of fire suppression and emergency response, they are routinely exposed to toxic smoke, carcinogenic chemicals, diesel exhaust, and other hazardous substances. A growing body of research shows that these exposures significantly increase firefighters' risk of developing occupational cancers.

The National Firefighter Registry for Cancer represents a critical advancement in protecting those who protect us. By collecting comprehensive health and occupational data from firefighters nationwide—both career and volunteer—the Registry will deepen our understanding of cancer risks associated with the profession. This research will help inform prevention strategies, enhance safety standards, guide policy decisions, and ultimately save lives.

The NFFF is committed to actively supporting and promoting the National Firefighter Registry as part of our shared dedication to firefighter health, safety, and long-term well-being. We will continue to advocate for sustained funding, expanded outreach, and strong institutional support for this vital initiative.

Thank you for your leadership and commitment to those who serve our communities every day.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Victor Stagnaro".

Victor Stagnaro
Chief Executive Officer
National Fallen Firefighters Foundation

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