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### IAAI Position Statement Supporting the National Firefighter Registry

As it becomes more well-known that fire service members are exposed to chemicals and particulates on the fireground that could increase their risk of developing cancer, there are many unanswered questions about how cancer risk may vary across our nation's diverse fire service. To help address this important issue, in 2018, Congress passed the Firefighter Cancer Registry Act, which directed the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), a branch of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, to develop a registry to study cancer in the fire service, including fire investigators. After several years of development, NIOSH is set to launch the National Firefighter Registry in January 2023 to align with Firefighter Cancer Awareness Month. Their goal is to enroll at least 200,000 fire service members and link them (and their work history details) to any individual cancer diagnoses reported to states. Participation in the registry is voluntary. You can learn more about this effort and get additional information about the registry at <https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/firefighters/registry/aboutnfr.html>

Including fire investigators in this registry is significant because we are typically at more fire scenes than firefighters, work in the post-fire scene for a longer period, and are sometimes less well-protected by PPE. The information gathered regarding fire investigators will be of great significance because so little is currently known about the adverse health effects of working at post-fire scenes.

The IAAI supports the mission of the National Firefighter Registry and encourages our members to register and participate in this important program.

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