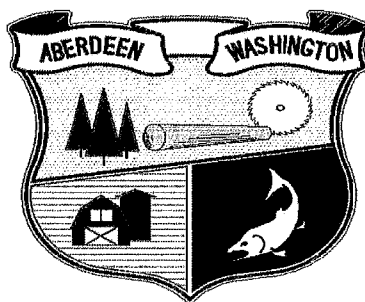


2026 – 2028

**COLLECTIVE BARGAINING
AGREEMENT**

BETWEEN THE

CITY OF ABERDEEN



AND THE

**CENTRAL GRAYS HARBOR PROFESSIONAL
FIREFIGHTERS, IAFF LOCAL 315**

Aberdeen Unit



ORIGINAL

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ARTICLE 1 – RECOGNITION	1
ARTICLE 2 – PREVIOUS RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES	1
ARTICLE 3 – SAVINGS CLAUSE	1
ARTICLE 4 - MANAGEMENT’S RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES	1
ARTICLE 5 – DISCIPLINE	2
ARTICLE 6 – GRIEVANCES	2
ARTICLE 7 – UNION MEMBERSHIP	5
ARTICLE 8 – UNION OFFICIALS	5
ARTICLE 9 – SENIORITY	6
ARTICLE 10 – SALARIES	6
ARTICLE 11 – EMT CERTIFICATION	7
ARTICLE 12 – HOURS OF WORK	8
ARTICLE 13 – STAFFING	10
ARTICLE 14 – SCHEDULING AND WORKING OUT OF CLASSIFICATION ASSIGNMENTS	11
ARTICLE 15 – DAILY VACANCY	11
ARTICLE 16 – OVERTIME	14
ARTICLE 17 – JURY DUTY AND WITNESS ATTENDANCE	15
ARTICLE 18 – LIGHT DUTY	15
ARTICLE 19 – SICK LEAVE	16
ARTICLE 20 – LEAVE OF ABSENCE	18
ARTICLE 21 – VACATIONS	19
ARTICLE 22 - PAID HOLIDAYS	19
ARTICLE 23 – BEREAVEMENT LEAVE	20
ARTICLE 24 – MEDICAL INSURANCE	20
ARTICLE 25 – LIFE INSURANCE	21
ARTICLE 26 – MERP	21
ARTICLE 27 – DEFERRED COMPENSATION	21
ARTICLE 28 – UNIFORMS AND PROTECTIVE CLOTHING	22
ARTICLE 29 – RESPIRATORY STANDARDS	22
ARTICLE 30 – SUBSTANCE ABUSE	23
ARTICLE 31 – ALL HAZARD MOBILIZATIONS	23
ARTICLE 32 – EFFECTIVE DATE	24

APPENDIX A – SALARIES	25
APPENDIX B – DISCIPLINE	28
APPENDIX C – ABERDEEN FIRE DEPARTMENT SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICY	39
APPENDIX D – ABERDEEN FIRE DEPARTMENT CONTRACT DEFINITIONS	46
APPENDIX E – FIRE SERVICE SPECIALIST	47
APPENDIX F – FIT FOR DUTY EVALUATIONS	50
APPENDIX G – PARAMEDIC TRAINING PROGRAM	54

ARTICLE 1 – RECOGNITION

The City recognizes the Union as the sole and exclusive bargaining agent for the purpose of establishing salaries, wages, hours, and other conditions of employment for all uniformed employees of the Fire Department, except for the Fire Chief and Assistant Fire Chief and other employees who may be excluded from the bargaining unit under RCW 41.56, it being the intention of the parties to acknowledge and preserve the right of either party to petition for clarification of the bargaining unit during the life of this contract.

ARTICLE 2 – PREVIOUS RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES

All rights and privileges held by the employees at the present time, which are not included in this Agreement, shall remain in full force and effect, unchanged and unaffected in any manner by this Agreement. Previous rights and privileges shall mean wages, hours, and other terms of employment which are mandatory subjects of bargaining within the coverage of RCW 41.56 and shall not include permissive subjects of bargaining.

ARTICLE 3 – SAVINGS CLAUSE

Should any provision of this Agreement be found to be in violation of any Federal, State, or local laws, all other provisions of this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect for the duration of this Agreement. If any provision of this Agreement or the application of such provision shall be rendered or declared invalid by any court action or by reason of any existing or subsequently enacted legislation, the remaining parts or portions of this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect. The failure to enforce any term of this Agreement shall not be deemed a waiver of the right to enforce this Agreement.

ARTICLE 4 - MANAGEMENT'S RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The parties recognize the prerogatives of the City to operate and manage its affairs in all respects in accordance with its responsibilities and powers of authority. Among such responsibilities and prerogatives (and subject to the provisions of this Agreement, State law and Civil Service Rules and Regulations) the City has the right:

- (a) To recruit, assign, schedule, transfer or promote members to positions within the department;
- (b) To suspend, demote, discharge, or take other disciplinary action against members for just cause;
- (c) To determine methods, means, and personnel necessary for departmental actions;
- (d) To control the department budget; and
- (e) To take whatever actions are necessary in emergencies in order to assure the proper function of the department.

Prior to any contracting out, consolidation, merger or annexation that would include the services provided by the bargaining unit represented by the Union, the City agrees to notify the Union and bargain the effects of such.

Section 1. Notification: The City will satisfy its collective bargaining obligation before making a change with respect to a matter that is a mandatory subject.

The City will notify the Union, of these changes in writing, citing this Article. Written notice will be provided thirty (30) calendar days in advance, when possible. In the event of a reduction in force written notice will be provided sixty (60) calendar days in advance. The written notice must include:

- (a) A description of the intended change, including information relevant to the impacts of the change on employees and a list of the job classifications and names of affected employees if known;
- (b) Where the change will occur; and
- (c) The date the City intends to implement the change.

Section 2. Response Timeframe: Within fifteen (15) calendar days of receipt of the written notice the Union may request negotiations over the changes. The timeframe for filing a demand to bargain will begin after the City has provided written notice to the Union. The fifteen (15) calendar day period may be used to informally discuss the matter with the City and to gather information related to the proposed change.

In the event the Union does not request negotiations within fifteen (15) calendar days of receipt of the notice, the City may implement the changes without further negotiations.

There may be emergency or mandated conditions that are outside of the City's control requiring immediate implementation, in which case the City will notify the Union as soon as possible.

Section 3. Obligation: Prior to making any change in written agency policy that is a mandatory subject of bargaining, the City will notify the Union and satisfy its collective bargaining obligations per Section 1.

Section 4. Bargaining: The parties will agree to the location and time for the discussions and/or negotiations. Each party is responsible for choosing its own representatives for these activities. The City and the Union recognize the importance of scheduling these discussions and/or negotiations in an expeditious manner. Unless agreed otherwise, the parties agree to schedule the bargaining to occur within fifteen (15) calendar days of receipt of the request to bargain.

ARTICLE 5 – DISCIPLINE

The purpose of disciplinary action is twofold: first, disciplinary action is taken to correct the conduct of personnel who fail to meet established standards; second, discipline is meant to modify behavior in order to achieve the goals and objectives of the individual and/or the organization. Discipline will be applied per the Discipline Policy, Appendix B.

ARTICLE 6 – GRIEVANCES

A grievance means a claim or dispute by one employee, group of employees, or the Union with respect to the interpretation and application of the provision of this Agreement. Any issue that has been appealed to the Civil Service Commission shall not be considered a grievance or subject to the grievance

procedure herein and vice versa. Nothing in this Agreement shall preclude the right of the two (2) parties to meet and verbally discuss the grievance in an attempt to resolve the issue. The City and the Union may agree to extend the time limits of any of the steps if mutually agreed to by both parties.

Step 1. An employee, group of employees, or the Union may present a written grievance to the employee's supervisor within ten (10) calendar days of the matter coming to their attention. The written grievance shall include a statement including the specific Article(s) or Section(s) of the Agreement allegedly violated, the specific facts, and the remedy sought. The supervisor shall attempt to resolve the grievance within ten (10) calendar days after it is presented. No grievance in this step shall be presented to a supervisor classified above the Assistant Fire Chief.

Step 2. If the grievance is not resolved in step 1, the employee, group of employees, or the Union may present it to the Union Grievance Committee within ten (10) calendar days of receipt of the supervisor's response to the grievance. Upon receiving a written and signed petition, the Union Grievance Committee shall determine within twenty (20) calendar days if a grievance exists. If a grievance exists, the Union Grievance Committee, with or without the physical presence of the aggrieved employee(s), will present the grievance to the Fire Chief, who shall attempt to resolve it within twenty (20) calendar days after it has been presented to him/her. No further action is required if the Union Grievance Committee determines no grievance exists in this step.

Step 3. If the Union Grievance Committee is not satisfied with the Fire Chief's response in Step 2, the Committee may present the written grievance with all relevant materials to the Mayor or his/her designee within twenty (20) calendar days of receipt of the Fire Chief's response. The Mayor or his/her designee shall attempt to resolve the grievance within twenty (20) calendar days.

Step 4. Mediation: If, after completion of Step 3, the Union Grievance Committee is not satisfied with the Mayor's response, the Union may request mediation of the dispute. If requesting mediation, the Union shall request the Public Employees Relations Commission (PERC) to assign a mediator from the PERC staff by filing within ten (10) calendar days after the Mayor's response. Upon designation of the mediator, the parties will make every attempt to schedule a date for mediation within twenty (20) calendar days.

- (a) Proceedings before the mediator shall be confidential to the extent permitted by law and informal in nature. No transcript or other official record of the mediation conference shall be made.
- (b) The mediator shall attempt to ensure that all necessary facts and considerations are revealed. The mediator shall have the authority to meet jointly and/or separately with the parties and gather such evidence as deemed necessary.
- (c) The mediator shall not have the authority to compel resolution of the grievance. If the mediator is successful in obtaining agreement between the parties, he/she shall reduce the grievance settlement in writing. The said settlement shall not constitute a precedent unless both parties agree.

- (d) If the parties to the dispute mutually agree that the mediation is not producing a resolution or if the mediator concludes that further proceedings will not be productive; the mediation will be ended.
- (e) If mediation fails to settle the dispute, the mediator may not serve as arbitrator in the same matter nor appear as a witness for either party. None of the statements or offers of compromise made in mediation can be used in any future arbitration as evidence against the City or the Employee.

Step 5. Arbitration: Any grievance involving the interpretation or application of this Agreement, which is not resolved in accordance with the foregoing procedure between the City and the Union, may be referred to arbitration within sixty (60) calendar days after the final mediation meeting. The arbitrator shall be a member of the American Arbitration Association (AAA), Federal Mediation Conciliation Service (FMCS), or PERC. The parties may attempt to select an arbitrator jointly. If the parties cannot agree upon an arbitrator, the Union or the City will submit a request to FMCS for a list of seven arbitrators with primary residence in Washington or Oregon, from which the parties shall select a neutral using the traditional striking method. The cost of the arbitration shall be borne ½ by the City and ½ by the Union.

- (a) Upon receipt of a written request for arbitration, the City and the Union shall attempt to prepare a submission to be signed by the Union and the City, setting forth the issues in dispute. If the City and the Union cannot agree upon the submission for arbitration, each party, at least ten (10) calendar days before the hearing, shall submit to the arbitrator a statement of the issues it considers in dispute.
- (b) The arbitrator shall have no right to amend, modify, ignore, add to, or subtract from the provisions of this Agreement. He/she shall consider and decide only the specific issue submitted to him/her in writing by the City and the Union, and shall have no authority to decide on any other issue not submitted to him/her.
- (c) The arbitrator's decision shall be based solely upon his/her interpretation of the meaning or application of the express terms of this Agreement to the facts of the grievance presented. The decision of the arbitrator shall be final and binding, provided that it does not exceed the arbitrator's authority as granted in this Article. Each party shall be responsible for compensating its own representatives and witnesses.
- (d) Neither the arbitrator nor any other person or persons involved in the grievance procedure shall have the power to negotiate new agreements or change any of this Agreement's present provisions.

The Union's right to lodge and process a grievance is confirmed, and an employee may be represented by the Union at any stage of the grievance procedure.

No settlement of a grievance with the Union and the City shall be contrary to the terms of the current Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Full Force and Effect. All other terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect as provided therein.

ARTICLE 7 – UNION MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Notification of Employees: The City will inform new, transferred, and promoted, or demoted employees prior to appointment into positions included in the bargaining unit of the Union's exclusive representation status. The City will furnish the President of the Union with notice of the employee's appointment. The Union will be provided time to meet with new employees per state law.

Section 2. Union Dues Deduction: Upon the Union's written notice to the City of authorization from an employee covered by this Agreement for deduction of membership dues, the City agrees to deduct the membership dues from the salary of the authorizing City within two (2) pay periods. The City will provide payments for all dues deductions to the Treasurer of the Union each pay period.

Section 3. Dues Cancellation: An employee may cancel their payroll deduction in accordance with state and federal law.

ARTICLE 8 – UNION OFFICIALS

Section 1. Union members will be provided reasonable time during their normal working hours to prepare for, travel to and attend meeting for the following activities:

- (a) Investigatory interviews and pre-disciplinary meetings, disciplinary procedures, or to investigate and process grievances in accordance with the Article 5;
- (b) Labor Management meetings;
- (c) Collective Bargaining Agreement Negotiations; and
- (d) To meet with new employees.

Section 2. The bargaining unit will be allowed time off with pay, not to exceed one-hundred sixty-eight (168) hours annually for union members to prepare for, travel to, and attend the following activities:

- (a) To attend State or National events, State or National conferences, or State LEOFF board meetings.
 - i. The Union member will obtain prior approval at least fourteen (14) calendar days in advance from their supervisor to prepare for, travel to and attend a meeting. Notification will include the approximate amount of the activity will take.
 - ii. Time spent preparing for, traveling to and attending meetings during the union members non-work hours will not be considered as hours worked.
 - iii. If the City needs to cancel the leave request they will do so at least fourteen (14) calendar days prior to date of occurrence.

ARTICLE 9 – SENIORITY

Seniority of employees for purposes of layoff, promotions, out of classification appointments, and order of vacation selection shall be computed from the date of original employment as a civil service employee of the Fire Department, provided employment with the Fire Department has been continuous.

The following leave will be counted towards seniority:

- (a) Military service
- (b) Layoffs and Recalls

ARTICLE 10 – SALARIES

Section 1. Effective on January 1, 2026 or upon full ratification of this Agreement (whichever is later), all of the members of Local 315's bargaining unit shall receive a five percent (5%) across the board wage increase over the salary schedule in effect as of December 31, 2025.

Effective January 1, 2027, the City shall raise the base wages all of the members of Local 315's bargaining unit by four percent (4%).

Effective January 1, 2028, the City shall raise the base wages of all of the members of Local 315's bargaining unit by four percent (4%).

Section 2. Firefighters, Engineers, and Captains working as Paramedics shall be paid 10.0% in addition to their base salary; E.M.T.'s with IV Technician certification shall be paid 2.0% in addition to their base salary. The above premium pay shall be included within base salaries for purposes of calculating retirement and overtime pay. Those employees who have been employed for a minimum of one year, will have the option of obtaining IV Technician level training regardless of the number of current IV Technicians and shall be entitled to receive the IV Technician associated premiums in accordance with Appendix A. Battalion Chiefs are excluded from any medical premium.

Employees certified as a Grays Harbor County approved EMS Instructor/Evaluator shall receive premium pay in the amount of two percent (2%) of the base wage of Firefighter V with paramedic certification. The City shall have the ability to limit the number of employees receiving EMS Instructor/Evaluator premium pay to a maximum of thirteen (13) employees.

Employees certified as an American Heart Association BLS Instructor shall receive premium pay in the amount of two percent (2%) of the base wage of Firefighter V with paramedic certification. The City shall have the ability to limit the number of employees receiving American Heart Association BLS Instructor premium pay to a maximum of five (5) employees.

Section 3. The following positions will receive specialty pay, specialty appointment is limited to one per member, this pay will be included within base salary for purposes of calculating retirement and overtime pay:

- (a) Emergency Medical Coordinator (E.M.C.) five percent (5%) base wage of firefighter V with paramedic certification. One appointment.
- (b) Fire Department Safety Officer five percent (5%) base wage of firefighter V with paramedic certification. One appointment.
- (c) Emergency Medical Services Quality Assurance Coordinators two percent (2%) base wage of firefighter V with paramedic certification. Two appointments.
- (d) Training Officers two percent (2%) base wage of firefighter V with paramedic certification. Three appointments.
- (e) Apparatus Technicians two percent (2%) base wage of firefighter V with paramedic certification. Two appointments.
- (f) Personal protective equipment (PPE) manager, (2%) base wage of firefighter V with paramedic certification. One appointment.
- (g) Self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) and air station manager, (2%) base wage of firefighter V with paramedic certification. One appointment.
- (h) Facilities manager: two percent (2%) base wage of Firefighter V with paramedic certification. One appointment.

Section 4. Educational incentive pay shall be paid at the indicated percent of a qualifying member's base salary for the level of education indicated below this pay will be included within base salary for purposes of calculating retirement and overtime pay. Members will provide documentation to verify education to the Human Resources Director.

Associate Degree: 2%
Bachelor's Degree: 4%

Section 5. Longevity incentive: Effective January 1, 2026, longevity incentive pay shall be paid at the indicated percent, this pay will be included within base salary for purposes of calculating retirement and overtime pay:

After 5 years: One percent (1.0%)
After 10 years: Two percent (2.0%)
After 15 years: Three percent (3.0%)
After 20 years: Four percent (4.0%)
After 25 years: Five percent (5.0%)

Section 6. Bilingual incentive: Employees who have proven bilingual competence as determined by the City (pursuant to the same process the City uses to demonstrate competence for other City employees outside this bargaining unit) in either Spanish or American Sign Language shall be eligible for premium pay equal to two percent (2%) of the base wage of Firefighter V with paramedic certification. Employees receiving bilingual pay shall assist the City in creating bilingual content when requested.

ARTICLE 11 – EMT CERTIFICATION

All employees shall, as a minimum condition of employment, maintain a Washington State Emergency Medical Technician Basic (EMT) certification. Failure to maintain Washington State EMT certification may be considered just cause for termination.

Employees who do not have a Grays Harbor County approved EMT or Paramedic certification will not count towards minimum staffing levels as identified in Article 13 below.

ARTICLE 12 – HOURS OF WORK

Section 1. Effective January 1, 2026 (or on January 1st of the year after this Agreement is fully ratified – whichever occurs later), employees assigned to twenty-four (24) hour shifts will be assigned to one of four (4) platoons (A, B, C & D Shifts) with eight (8) Debit Days, for an average workweek of 45.68 hours. Duty hours shall start at 0800 and end at 0800 the following calendar day, with a rotating schedule of twenty-four (24) hours on, forty-eight (48) off, twenty-four (24) hours on, ninety-six (96) hours off.

Hours of Work will be calculated using the following formula:

Days a year	/	Platoons	=		+	Debit Days	=	Shifts Worked	x	Hours	=	Hours per year	/	Weeks	=	Hours a week
365	/	4	=	91.25	+	8	=	99.25	x	24	=	2,382	/	52.14	=	45.68

Section 2. Employees assigned to twenty-four (24) hour shifts will be scheduled to work a maximum of 168 hours per twenty-four (24) day FLSA cycle.

- (a) FLSA cycles will transition from the twenty-seven (27) day FLSA cycle in place in 2025 to a new twenty-four (24) day FLSA cycle on January 23, 2026.

Section 3. Debit Days shall be scheduled on a rotational basis that is agreed upon by the Fire Department and the Union. The parties' agreement in this regard shall meet the criteria set forth below in this Section 3. Further, the parties agree to work together in good faith to prepare and complete a separate written Standard Operating Guideline (SOG) no later than January 1, 2026 - which will contain more detailed scheduling parameters and information.

- (a) Employees are allowed to work a maximum of one (1) Debit Day per FLSA cycle.
- (b) The parties acknowledge that the intention is to use Debit Days to maintain average annual hours worked and to ensure that the appropriate level of staffing is maintained as efficiently as possible.
- (c) Employees will pick Debit Days after all annual leave is scheduled.
- (d) Employees will not be forced to involuntarily work a 48-hour shift when scheduling Debit Days.
- (e) Employees will not be forced to involuntarily schedule a Debit Day during their prescheduled vacation or holiday time off. For purposes of this section "prescheduled vacation or holiday time off" means the first day off after a scheduled shift until the day before the employee's next scheduled shift.

- (f) Once Debit days are scheduled, employees may trade Debit Days with employees as stipulated in Aberdeen Fire Department shift trade policies.
- (g) Employees who are hired or separate service during the calendar year will have their number of Debit Days prorated using the following formula:

Days remaining in year	/	7 Days/Week	=	Weeks	x	3.68	=	Hours	/	24 Hours/Day	=	Debit Days Rounded to the nearest whole number
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Section 4. Battalion Chiefs will be primarily responsible for working with the members of their shift to schedule leave time subject to the provisions of the Aberdeen Fire Department Policy for scheduling and the Fire Chief's final approval.

- (a) There shall be a maximum of two (2) employees scheduled off on annual leave on any given day.
- (b) The parties agree there shall be a reopener in January of 2026 to develop a fair process that would balance the use of paid time off against the increase of staffing costs while employees are on leaves such Disability/L&I, FMLA/PFML, Military Reserve Time, Training Time, Administrative Time, etc.

Section 5. In the event that an individual is involuntarily assigned to a new shift, in order to maintain a minimum of forty-eight (48) hours off between scheduled shifts, the employee shall receive a paid administrative leave day if the start of the new shift assignment occurs during their scheduled minimum forty-eight (48) hours off of the previous shift. Vacation and holiday may not be used to satisfy the 48-hour requirement.

- (a) If an employee is involuntary reassigned to a different shift mid-year, the City will work with the employee to reschedule the employees leave days to correspond with the new shift assignment.

Section 6. The four (4) platoon schedule shall be for a two (2) year trial period beginning on January 1, 2026, and ending on December 31, 2027 (if this Agreement is fully ratified before January 1, 2026. If not, then there shall be a two (2) year trial period from whenever the switch to the 4-platoon schedule occurs – and, in that event, all dates set forth in this subsection 7 below shall be adjusted accordingly). At the end of the two (2) year trial period, the City shall have the discretion to return to the previous three (3) platoon system (in that event, those personnel promoted for the four (4) platoon system trial period will be reduced in rank to their previous position and be placed in order of original placement on the appropriate eligibility list). If additional promotions occur due to employees separating service after the promotions from the 4-platoon system, the promoted position with the least amount of time in the promoted rank will be reduced in rank to their previous position. Promoted positions that would be demoted because of the transition back to a 3-platoon schedule, shall: (i) be placed back on the promotional list and position on that list that the employee was promoted from; or (ii) if there is no current promotional list, the employee shall be promoted if a position becomes available until the next promotional list becomes approved by Civil Service.

- (a) If a return to the previous 3 platoon system is necessary, the average hours of work per week shall be 46.92 (20 Kelly Days). In that instance, the Union and the City agree to revert to the language and associated changes that mirror the language contained in the 2023-2025 Collective Bargaining Agreement between the parties using a 46.92 average hours of work per week, unless otherwise approved by the Union and the City.
- (b) If a return to the previous 3 platoon system is necessary, the City shall provide the Local with written notice at least 120 days in advance of when the City will revert to the 3-platoon system.
- (c) The City understands that reverting to the 3-platoon system could create a hardship for employees with vacations and holiday time already scheduled under the 4-platoon system. The City will make every effort to reasonably accommodate extenuating circumstances for such employees.

ARTICLE 13 – STAFFING

Section 1. The City agrees to maintain a minimum daily staffing level of nine (9) bargaining unit employees. In the event that the overall staffing levels of the Fire Department increase, the City and the Local agree to determine the need to increase the daily minimum staffing levels.

Section 2. In the event that the City is unable to fill a daily vacancy positions on a shift through the voluntary overtime procedure in Article 15, the on-duty employee who was to be relieved shall continue working until the shift can either be filled or for the duration of the shift.

AFD Staffing Model:

- 4 – Battalion Chiefs
- 8 – Captains
- 8 – Engineers/Drivers
- 20 – Firefighters
- 1 – Fire Services Specialist

AFD Daily Staffing Model:

- 1 – Battalion Chief position
- 2 – Captain positions
- 2 – Engineer/Driver positions
- 4 – 6 Firefighter positions (see above)

The daily staffing will include 1 ALS staffed Medic Unit at Headquarters and 1 ALS staffed Medic Unit at Station #2 (Southside). Efforts will also be made to staff the Headquarters Engine as ALS for the ability to cross staff a second ALS Medic Unit from Headquarters.

ARTICLE 14 – SCHEDULING AND WORKING OUT OF CLASSIFICATION ASSIGNMENTS

Section 1. An employee working out of classification shall be paid the actual hours worked in the assigned out of classification position. An employee will be deemed to be working out of classification when the Employer and employee mutually agree that the individual has assumed the responsibilities of a higher rank.

Section 2. Shift substitutions or partial shift substitutions shall be handled in accordance with and as defined under FLSA guidelines which states; any employee originally assigned a “working out of classification premium,” or “holiday premium” shall still receive the associated premium for the duration of the shift or partial shift as applicable.

Section 3. When an out of classification vacancy needs to be filled, it shall be filled in the following order:

- (a) The on-duty employee working the regular shift with the highest placement on the most recent civil service promotional list for the position that needs to be filled.
- (b) If the on-duty shift has no employees on the current civil service promotional eligibility list for the vacant classification position, the City will seek to fill the position by hiring an off-duty employee: (i) an off-duty employee of the same rank as the vacancy; or (ii) an off-duty employee on the current civil service promotional eligibility list for that position.
- (c) If the City is unable to fill the vacant position through the aforementioned process, the Fire Chief or his/her designee shall appoint an employee who is to work the out of classification vacancy for the shift.

Section 4.

- (a) Employees who are reassigned due to a paramedic certification will still receive any out of classification pay that they would have received if not for reassignment. If the reassignment of an employee due to specialty skills requires the hiring of an off-duty employee because staffing is below minimum levels, the attempt shall be made to fill the paramedic position first before an individual is assigned due to special skills.
- (b) The union recognizes the responsibility of management to assign and schedule members as needed for daily operations. The attempt shall be made, through scheduling, to maintain an equal opportunity for individuals within the department whose specialized skills conflict with their ability to fill and perform out of classification duties.

ARTICLE 15 – DAILY VACANCY

Section 1. A daily vacancy is defined as when an opening on a shift occurs that results in staffing below minimum daily staffing levels as identified in Article 13. The City and Union agree that daily vacancies will be filled using the following manner:

- (a) Hiring steps by rank when below minimum staffing:

Firefighter position

- Hire a Firefighter/EMT or Firefighter/Medic from the overtime (OT) list while considering EMS certification needs.
- If no firefighter can be hired, hire an Engineer.
- If no Engineers can be hired, hire a Captain.
- If no Captains can be hired, hire a Battalion Chief.
- If no individual can be hired, the Fire Chief or his/her designee shall appoint an employee to work the shift.

Engineer position

- Hire an Engineer from the overtime (OT) list.
- If no Engineers are available, the on-duty employee with the highest placement on the Engineer Promotional List will be assigned to work out of classification. Fill the newly created vacancy.
- If no employee assigned to shift is on the Engineer promotional list, hire from the Acting Engineers overtime (OT) list.
- If no Acting Engineer can be hired, the most senior employee on shift will be assigned to Acting Engineer, then fill the newly created vacancy to prevent operating below minimum staffing.

Captain position

- Hire a Captain from the overtime (OT) list.
- If no Captains are available, the on-duty employee with the highest placement on the Captain Promotional List will be assigned to work out of classification. Fill the newly created vacancy.
- If no employee assigned to shift is on the Captain Promotional List, hire from the Acting Captain overtime (OT) list.
- If no Acting Captain can be hired, hire a Battalion Chief from the overtime (OT) list.
- If no Battalion Chief can be hired, the most senior employee on shift will be assigned to Acting Captain. Fill the newly created vacancy.

Battalion Chief position

- Hire a Battalion Chief from the overtime (OT) list.
- If no Battalion Chiefs are available, the on-duty employee with the highest placement on the Battalion Chief Promotional List will be assigned to work out of classification. Fill the newly created vacancy.
- If no employee assigned to shift is on the Battalion Chief Promotional list, hire from the Acting Battalion Chiefs from the overtime (OT) list.
- If no Acting Battalion Chiefs are available, assign the most senior Captain on shift to work out of classification. Fill the newly created vacancy.
- If only Acting Captains are working, hire a Captain from the overtime (OT) to fill the vacant Battalion Chief position.

- If no AFD officers are available, the Fire Chief or the Assistant Fire Chief must be contacted immediately for emergency staffing.

(b) Hiring steps by rank when at or above minimum staffing

Firefighter position

- Hire firefighters as needed to for paramedic minimums.

Engineer position

- The on-duty employee with the highest placement on the Engineer Promotional List will work out of classification.
- If no employee is on the Engineer Promotional List, (i) hire an Engineer, (ii) no available Engineer, hire an employee from the Acting Engineer overtime (OT) list, regardless of the staffing levels for the shift.
- If unable to fill the position, the Fire Chief or His/her Designee shall appoint an employee to fill the vacancy.

Captain position

- The on-duty employee with the highest placement on the Captain Promotional List will work out of classification.
- If no employee is on the Captain Promotional List, (i) hire a Captain, (ii) no available Captain, hire an employee from the Acting Captain overtime (OT) list, regardless of the staffing levels for the shift.
- If unable to fill the position, the Fire Chief or His/her Designee shall appoint an employee to fill the vacancy

Battalion Chief position

- The on-duty Captain with the highest placement on the Battalion Chief Promotional List will work out of classification.
- If no employee is on the Battalion Chief Promotional List, (i) hire a Battalion Chief, (ii) no available Battalion Chief, hire a Captain from the Acting Battalion Chief overtime (OT) list, regardless of the staffing levels for the shift.
- If no employee on the Acting Battalion Chief List is available, the senior Captain on shift will work out of classification. If no Captain is on duty, hire a Captain from the Captain overtime (OT) list to work out of classification.
- If unable to fill the position, the Fire Chief or His/her Designee shall appoint an employee to fill the vacancy.

Section 2. When more than one employee on shift is on the same promotional list(s), the vacancy shall be filled by the order of placement on the promotional list.

Section 3. If an employee of a higher rank is hired for a daily vacancy and an employee is already scheduled to work out of classification, they may ask to swap positions to work their normal position. The employee scheduled to work out of classification will still receive out-of-classification pay.

If an employee with a promoted rank is hired for a vacancy below their rank, the Fire Chief or his/her designee may choose to reassign them to their regular assignment if that position is being staffed by a working out of classification employee(s). The employee(s) originally assigned to working out of classification shall receive out-of-classification pay for the shift.

ARTICLE 16 – OVERTIME

Section 1. Overtime shall be paid for any hours worked over the employee's regularly scheduled hours. Overtime hours worked shall be paid at the rate of time-and-one-half ($1\frac{1}{2}$) the employee's regular rate of pay, except those employees working overtime on a city-recognized holiday shall be paid at the rate of two (2) times the employee's regular rate of pay.

Section 2. Shift trades of any length of time are not recognized for overtime compensation.

Section 3. Training time which occurs outside of an employee's regularly scheduled shift shall be paid at the rate of time-and-one-half (1.5) the employee's regular rate of pay. The training shall be directly related to the employee's job and aid the employee in handling their job more effectively, more efficiently or more safely. All trainings must be approved by the training committee to be subject to overtime provisions in this article. Enrollment in courses offered by institutions of higher learning which earn credit towards college degrees shall not be considered training directly related to the employee's job.

Section 4. Overtime shall be paid for all emergency callbacks. Employees shall be paid at the rate of time-and-one-half ($1\frac{1}{2}$) their regular rate of pay with a four (4) hour minimum when an emergency callback is requested. Employees subject to emergency callback shall remain at work until the Incident Command has determined Department operations are back to normal.

Section 5. Overtime for personnel to accommodate inter-facility transports shall be paid at the rate of one and three quarters ($1\frac{3}{4}$) times the employee's regular rate of pay. On-duty personnel shall be used for out-of-town Stroke/STEMI transfers as necessary to comply with mandatory emergency medical response standards. MRI/Radiant Care transfers will utilize on-duty personnel if daily staffing is above minimum levels as identified in Article 13. The Department shall attempt to hire off-duty personnel to perform all other out-of-town transports and will refuse those requests if off-duty personnel are not available unless on-duty personnel volunteer to staff the transfer. If any out-of-town transport reduces staffing below minimum levels, the Department will attempt to call in off-duty personnel to maintain minimum staffing levels. Overtime for any off-duty personnel responding to an out-of-town transfer request will be computed in the following manner:

- (a) If the start of the transfer is sixty (60) minutes or less from the time of the phone call, the overtime pay starts when the employee receives the call.
- (b) If the start of the transfer is more than sixty (60) minutes from the time of the phone call the overtime pay starts fifteen (15) minutes prior to the time the patient is scheduled to be transferred.

Overtime for off-duty personnel to accommodate local MRI/Radiant Care transfers will be paid at the rate of one and three quarters (1.75) of the employee's regular rate of pay. If more than sixty (60) minutes notice is provided, overtime pay starts thirty (30) minutes prior to the scheduled pickup time. If less than sixty (60) minutes notice, overtime pay starts when the phone call is received by the off-duty employee.

Section 6. Overtime shall be offered on a rotational basis and in accordance with Article 15. The Chief or his/her designee will maintain the overtime rotation.

ARTICLE 17 – JURY DUTY AND WITNESS ATTENDANCE

Any member called for jury duty while on duty shall be paid the difference between the fee he or she receives for jury duty and the amount of straight time earnings lost by reason of such service. In order to be eligible for such payments, the employee must furnish a written statement from the appropriate public official showing the date and time served and the amount of jury pay recovered. The employee shall give the Battalion Chief prompt notice of call for jury duty. When released from jury duty the employee shall be responsible to complete their assigned shift.

- (a) In the event the trial extends over a weekend the employee is required to work any regularly assigned shifts that fall on a Saturday, and the first twelve hours of any Sunday shift.

In addition, any member required to appear in court during his or her duty time regarding a job-related incident shall be compensated in an amount equal to the member's regular hourly wage for the time his or her attendance is required by the court, less the amount of any witness fee to which the person may be entitled. If a firefighter is called as a witness as indicated herein on his or her time off, the rate of compensation shall be paid at one and one-half times his or her regular hourly rate. The firefighters shall establish an expert fee schedule; if an expert fee is paid, the firefighter shall be paid at the highest rate. In addition, the member shall immediately contact his supervisor of the fact that he has been subpoenaed and cooperate in assisting the City in billing that party which he has been subpoenaed to appear for.

Jury duty shall not be counted as hours worked for the purposes of computing eligibility for overtime. Attendance as a witness under this Article shall be included as hours worked for the purpose of determining eligibility for overtime.

ARTICLE 18 – LIGHT DUTY

Section 1. An employee who is injured and is subsequently unable to perform his or her normal duties may be assigned to light duty upon examination of the employee's own physician and a determination by the Fire Chief (or designee), in his/her discretion, that productive light duty work exists. Employees seeking an assignment to light duty must return a light duty packet (provided to them by the City) to be completed and signed by their physician prior to approval of any light duty assignment. The City reserves the right, at its own expense, to have the employee examined by a City-appointed physician. A person's salary while on light duty shall be the employee's regular rate of pay. Provided however, that employees may, at their sole option and discretion, utilize the paid leave benefits that they receive from the City (such as sick leave, vacation leave or comp. time), and/or other available benefits that they receive from other sources (such as reduced earning power benefits from L&I) in order to bring their City-

generated monthly income back up to 100% of their normal City-generated monthly income while they are on light duty.

- (a) If the employee receives workers' compensation time loss benefits and has been paid by the City in the form of sick leave, the employee shall submit time loss benefits and associated documentation to the City. Once received, the City will calculate and process time loss buy back and credit the employee's sick leave bank. If the employee receives and does not submit workers' compensation time loss benefits to the City, the amount received will be deducted from the employee's salary (if the employee has already been paid by the City in the form of sick leave). The City shall apply the terms of RCW 41.04.500 – 41.04.550 (disability leave supplement for law enforcement officers and firefighters) to the extent applicable.

Section 2. There shall be a maximum of one (1) light duty position at a time unless otherwise approved by the Fire Chief or designee. This position shall not affect the minimum staffing requirements of the Department, as set forth in Article 13. The employee shall be assigned non-combat duty in such areas as Fire Prevention, Training, or as determined by the Chief or designee. Light duty work shall be performed on a five (5) day, eight (8) hours per day schedule, during normal administrative hours. Other work schedules may be arranged by mutual agreement between the employee and the Fire Chief or designee.

Section 3. The initial period of light duty shall not exceed a period of four (4) weeks. However, if a particular illness or injury requires additional time off, the Fire Chief or designee may extend the light duty period, if there are sufficient and compatible non-combat duties to be performed. Additional light duty will be assigned in thirty (30) day increments with evaluation at the end of each thirty (30) day period by the Fire Chief or designee. At no time will a duty assignment be for a period in excess of six (6) months total. If the employee cannot return to their normal duties after this six (6) month period, the employee must use accumulated sick leave or disability.

ARTICLE 19 – SICK LEAVE

Section 1. Employees shall earn twenty-four hours (24) of sick leave for each month of employment, provided that the number of hours an employee may carry over from one calendar year to the next shall be limited to one thousand one hundred fifty-two (1,152).

- (a) Washington Family Medical Leave Program effective January 1, 2020. Eligible employees are covered by Washington's Family and Medical Leave Program, RCW 50A.04. Eligibility for leave and benefits, which begins January 1, 2020, is established by Washington law and is therefore independent of this Agreement. Premiums for benefits are established by law and for the period ending December 31, 2020, will total four-tenths of one percent (0.4% of employees' wages (unless otherwise limited by action of the State). Employees will pay through payroll deduction the full cost of the premiums associated with family leave benefits and forty-five percent (45%) of the premiums associated with the medical leave benefits, as determined under RCW 50A.10.030.

- (b) Washington Paid Sick Leave effective January 1, 2018. The parties recognize that the Washington State Paid Sick Leave (RCW 49.46.210) is in effect beginning January 1, 2018

and eligibility for and approval of leave for purposes as described under that Program shall be in accordance with RCW 49.46.210.

- (c) The City may require that any employee requesting leave under the terms of the federal Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (FMLA) utilize accrued paid time off (vacation, personal or compensatory time off, and sick leave if a sickness is involved) before any non-paid time off shall be utilized. The City and the Employee will follow all applicable laws for approved leave under the FMLA.

Section 2. City Employees may use sick leave in accordance with Personnel Policy, and applicable State and Federal Law.

Section 3. Upon being hired, an employee shall be front-loaded 120 hours of sick leave. In addition, the employee shall begin accruing sick leave at the rate set forth above in Section One of this Article in the same month in which they begin working for the City (without pro-rata for that month). Upon termination, if the total sick leave used is greater than the total sick leave accrued, the difference will be deducted from their final paycheck.

Section 4. Employees who have accumulated one thousand one hundred fifty-two (1,152) hours of sick leave shall continue to accumulate sick leave as provided in Section 1. Any hours of sick leave accrued in excess of 1,152 hours (up to 144) not used during the calendar year in which they were accrued shall be converted to pay at the rate of three (3) hours sick leave to two (2) hours of pay up to a maximum of ninety-six (96) hours of pay. No employee shall be allowed to carry over more than 1,152 hours' sick leave from one calendar year to the next.

Section 5. Sick Leave Buy Back: An employee receiving benefits from an off-duty disability insurance plan may, at the employee's request, buy back sick leave used while on such a disability. Sick leave shall be bought back hour for hour, based on the respective employee's rate of pay. Employees will not be able to buy back more sick leave than what was used while on an off-duty disability.

Section 6. Sick Leave Cash-out on Separation from Service: At the time of separation in good standing from fifteen (15) or more years of service, the City shall contribute twenty-five percent (25%) of an eligible employee's accumulated sick leave in the form of either MERP credit or a contribution into a VEBA account. It will be at the sole discretion of each employee to determine whether they receive their sick leave cash out benefit in the form of MERP credits or in the form of a contribution to a VEBA account. The maximum amount of the separation benefit described herein shall be \$10,000.00, based upon the salary in effect at the time of separation of employment.

In the event the separation resulting from a non "line-of-duty-death" of the employee (as defined by the State of Washington), the City shall contribute twenty-five percent (25%) of an eligible employee's accumulated sick leave in the form of a cash distribution to the estate of the employee. The maximum amount of the benefit described herein shall be \$10,000.00, based upon the salary in effect at the time of employee's death.

Section 7. In the event an employee's separation of employment is the result of their "line-of-duty death" as defined by the State of Washington, the City shall pay the value of one hundred percent

(100%) of the employee's accrued but unused sick leave balance (based upon the employee's salary at the time of their death) to the estate of the employee.

ARTICLE 20 – LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Section 1. Employees who are physically injured off duty and have used all accrued leave and are physically unable to perform their assigned duties may request a leave of absence without pay. If the Chief finds that the applicant is physically unable to perform his or her assigned duties as a result of such an off-duty injury, the applicant shall be granted an automatic leave of absence without pay for one-year dating from the time of the injury or such lesser period of time as the applicant may request or the disability may exist.

The above notwithstanding, an employee shall be denied a leave of absence or a leave of absence shall terminate if the employee refuses to accept alternate employment with the City and offered by the City during the period of leave when the employee is qualified for the alternate employment and is physically able to perform the job.

The Union and the City recognize that the rules and requirements for leave under the federal Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) and for leave under Washington State's Paid Family and Medical Leave Act (PFML) have been evolving and changing in recent years. Accordingly, rather than attempting to list all such requirements in this Agreement, the parties acknowledge that they shall follow all applicable requirements of both the FMLA and the PFML.

Unless otherwise required by applicable law, vacation and sick leave benefits shall not accrue while an employee is on a leave of absence without pay from the City.

Upon return to duty, the employee shall be reinstated in the position held at the time the leave was granted or other equivalent position, and the employee's anniversary date will be adjusted by the length of the leave granted.

Any promotion or hiring occasioned by an employee going on a leave of absence without pay shall be considered temporary for all purposes until the employee on leave returns to work or the leave of absence expires. When an employee on leave returns to work any employee or employees promoted on account of the leave shall return to their former positions and any employee hired on account of the leave may be laid off in accordance with City Policy and any applicable law.

Section 2. United States Military Leave: Employees who are members of the Washington National Guard or of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, or Marine Corps Reserve, or of any organized reserve or armed forces of the United States will be granted a military leave of absence with pay not exceeding twenty-one (21) days during each year, beginning October 1st and ending September 30th, in accordance with RCW 38.40.060.

For all employees, one (1) day shall be calculated as one physical day for each day of their regular schedule (i.e., twenty-four (24) hour employees; 0800-0800, or day employees; 0800-1600/1700).

Employees shall be relieved from a regularly scheduled shift with pay if that shift falls on: (i) the day before they are scheduled to depart for military leave under this section; or (ii) the day after they return home from military leave under this section.

Employees deployed for extended military active duty outside of the circumstances covered by RCW 38.40.060 shall be placed on a leave of absence for the duration of their deployment in accordance with applicable federal law.

ARTICLE 21 – VACATIONS

Section 1. Employees shall accrue vacation hours beginning on the date of employment and shall become eligible to utilize vacation leave upon completion of twelve full months (one year) of employment. The accrual calculations will not be prorated based on days worked within a month.

Section 2. Each employee working a 24-hour shift shall accrue vacation as follows:

Years of Service (Months)	Accrual Rates		
	<u>Annually</u>	<u>Shifts</u>	<u>Hours/month</u>
1-48 months	120 hours	(5)	10 hours
49-108 months	168 hours	(7)	14 hours
109-168 months	192 hours	(8)	16 hours
169-228 months	216 hours	(9)	18 hours
229-288 months	240 hours	(10)	20 hours
289+ months	264 hours	(11)	22 hours

Section 3. Employees shall be paid for any unused accumulation of vacation when they are permanently separated from employment (resignation, retirement, death, layoff or discharge). Employees who have a negative vacation balance on their separation date will have the negative hours deducted from their final paycheck.

Section 4. Twelve (12) months of accumulated vacation shall be scheduled and used each calendar year. The scheduling and use of annual vacation hours shall be subject to the approval of the Chief. The Chief may grant exceptions for the following: hires made in the latter part of the year, duty related injuries, or extenuating circumstances.

Section 5. Employees will be allowed to carry over a maximum of twenty-four (24) hours of vacation or holiday from the previous year so long as the schedule has room to accommodate the time off without incurring additional cost to the City; scheduling of the 24 hours will be applied after vacation and holidays for the shift has been chosen.

ARTICLE 22 - PAID HOLIDAYS

Section 1. Every employee assigned to work 24-hour shifts shall receive 120 hours of holiday time off per year (the equivalent of five 24-hour shifts). Employees' working day shifts shall receive eleven (11) days off in lieu of holidays.

Section 2. Holiday accruals are calculated at ten (10) hours per month. The accrual calculations will not be prorated based on days worked within a month.

Section 3. In addition, those employees who are scheduled to work on any of the nine (9) following holidays shall be compensated at the overtime rate: New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Presidents Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day.

ARTICLE 23 – BEREAVEMENT LEAVE

In the event of death in the immediate family of a member of the Union, that employee shall be granted two (2) twenty-four (24) hour shifts off duty without loss of pay. Immediate family are defined as mother, father, stepmother, stepfather, sister, brother, mother-law, father-in-law, domestic partner's mother, domestic partner's father, husband, wife, domestic partner, grandparent, great-grandparent, grandchild, great-grandchild, son, daughter, stepchild, and a child in the custody of and residing in the home of an employee.

Employees who are working eight (8) hour shifts shall be entitled to up to three (3) days off under this article.

ARTICLE 24 – MEDICAL INSURANCE

Section 1. The City shall provide family medical and dental insurance for the families of members as of the first of the month following their date of employment by the City as firefighters. The parties shall mutually agree before any change is made in the insurance carrier. It is understood between the parties that the City will only provide life insurance, family medical and dental for uniformed employees who are on active duty with the department or on temporary disability in accordance with State statutes. Employees may, at their option, maintain coverage under the insurance plans after retirement, at their own expense to the extent allowed by the plan.

The City will provide medical insurance for employees and dependents under the IAFF Health and Wellness Trust Plan \$1,500. Members shall contribute an amount towards the premiums each month that equals one and one-half percent (1.5%) of the monthly base wage for top step firefighters (Range 18F, Step 6).

The City shall also contribute to the HRA vendor selected by the union \$125 per month for employees with employee only coverage and \$250 per month for employees with dependent coverage.

Section 2. The members of Local 315 and their dependents will be provided with dental insurance by the City through the IAFF Health and Wellness Trust Members of Local 315's bargaining unit who have one or more dependents pay five percent (5.0%) of the dependent portion of the Trust Dental Plan (Incentive Plan 7 + \$2,000 Ortho Rider) or Willamette HMO & Ortho. The City will pay all other premiums that are associated with that plan, including 100% of the premiums that are applicable to the bargaining unit members themselves.

ARTICLE 25 – LIFE INSURANCE

The City shall make available term life insurance with a death benefit in the amount of up to Fifty-Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) to be paid to the estate or designated beneficiary of any employee covered by this agreement who dies while in the employment of the City, with double indemnity in the event of accidental death. The City shall pay that portion of the premium necessary to provide the first Ten-Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) of said coverage with the employee to pay the balance of the premium through payroll deduction. An additional death benefit of \$15,000 will be paid for funeral expenses of employees who die in the line of duty.

ARTICLE 26 – MERP

Section 1. The City hereby agrees to assist the members of Local 315's bargaining unit to become enrolled, effective on the first day of the month following the execution by both parties of this agreement, in the Medical Reimbursement Plan (MERP) that is made available by the Washington State Council of Fire Fighters. The City also hereby agrees to assist the members of Local 315's bargaining unit to maintain their enrollment in the MERP thereafter. Payment of the monthly premiums related to the MERP shall be made by the City as follows: \$150 per member.

Any premium increases during this contract shall be the responsibility of Local 315's bargaining unit members, and shall be paid by means of payroll deductions taken by the City from the pay checks of Local 315's bargaining unit members and then forwarded by the City to the Washington State Council of Firefighters Employee Benefit Trust. In addition, because the membership of Local 315 has voted to make additional contributions to MERP from the members' own funds, in an amount equaling the City's contributions to MERP, the City shall, make payroll deductions in that amount for each member and will submit those additional contributions to MERP.

Section 2. IAFF Local 315 and its members agree to hold the City harmless and indemnify the City from any and all liability, claims, demands, law suits, losses, damage, or injury to persons or property, of whatsoever kind, arising from and in any way related to the implementation and administration of the MERP. The union and employees shall be one hundred percent (100%) liable for any and all liabilities inclusive of any federal, state, or local agency determination regarding any liabilities that arise out of the MERP. The union and employees shall be liable for any and all tax penalties, as well as any other liabilities arising out of the implementation and administration of the MERP.

ARTICLE 27 – DEFERRED COMPENSATION

Effective January 1, 2026, all employees shall contribute two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250) per month to the deferred compensation program of the employee's choosing from the options provided by the City. Employees may elect to defer additional compensation to their respective deferred compensation account (to the extent permitted by applicable law).

Effective January 1, 2026, the City will contribute three percent (3%) of the base salary of Firefighter V with a paramedic certification to each employee's respective deferred compensation account. If permitted by the rules and regulations of the Washington State Department of Retirement Systems (DRS), as well as any other applicable law/regulation, the foregoing contribution shall be included as

salary for the purpose calculating each employee's respective retirement benefits (the parties acknowledge, however, that the City is not the decisionmaker in this regard).

Effective January 1, 2027, the City will contribute three percent and one-half (3.5%) of the base salary of Firefighter V with a paramedic certification to each employee's respective deferred compensation account. If permitted by the rules and regulations of the Washington State Department of Retirement Systems (DRS), as well as any other applicable law/regulation, the foregoing contribution shall be included as salary for the purpose calculating each employee's respective retirement benefits (the parties acknowledge, however, that the City is not the decisionmaker in this regard).

ARTICLE 28 – UNIFORMS AND PROTECTIVE CLOTHING

Section 1. If any employee is required to wear uniform, protective clothing, or any protective device as a condition of employment, such uniforms, protective clothing or protective device shall be furnished to the employee by the City. The City shall provide a washer and dryer at all stations for use by employees and cleaning solution for protective clothing.

Section 2. New employees shall receive a full uniform that includes: 2 Class B Nomex shirts, 3 pairs of Nomex duty pants, 6 tee shirts, 1 sweatshirt, 1 baseball cap, 1 beanie hat, 1 belt, 1 foul weather jacket, and duty boots.

After the first year of employment, employees will be allocated an annual uniform allowance of eight hundred dollars (\$800) for the purchase and/or replacement of approved uniform apparel and footwear. This includes, but is not limited to: Class B Nomex shirts, Nomex duty pants, and all other Class C uniform clothing. Unspent annual allowance does not roll into the next calendar year. The annual allowance is for the replacement of uniform apparel and footwear and is not intended for the initial issuance of uniforms, bunker gear, or workplace safety apparel and equipment required by federal or state law.

The Union and the Fire Chief (or designee) will confer on uniform items to be approved for purchase under this Section 2.

Section 3. Effective July 1, 2026, the City shall provide all employees with one (1) complete set of structural firefighting gear (one pant, one coat, one pair of suspenders, one pair of structural gloves) that meets the requirements of Washington State law.

Effective December 31, 2028, the City shall provide all employees with one (1) complete set of back-up structural firefighting gear (one pant, one coat, one pair of suspenders, one pair of structural gloves) that meets the requirements of Washington State law.

ARTICLE 29 – RESPIRATORY STANDARDS

The Union recognizes the City's obligation to provide medical evaluations and reevaluations for every employee required to use a respirator, to the extent required by the Safety Standards for Firefighters adopted by the Washington state Department of Labor and Industries (L&I).

Medical reevaluations shall be provided as required by the L&I standards and as noted on the initial or subsequent respirator evaluations performed by a licensed medical professional as provided for in the department's written respirator program. Employees who have been recommended for reevaluation for reasons other than the licensed medical professional certification have the right to contest the necessity of obtaining a medical reevaluation by appealing to the Department Safety Officer (DSO). The DSO will decide if just medical cause exists to determine that the criteria for providing a medical reevaluation under the L&I standards (WAC 296-842-14005) have been met. If the DSO determines that a reevaluation is not necessary, his or her decision shall be final. If there is a finding of necessity by the DSO the reevaluation request shall be forwarded to the Fire Chief for final determination.

Employees who are reevaluated have the right to have their personal physician, the department physician, or the department licensed health care professional review the medical reevaluation.

ARTICLE 30 – SUBSTANCE ABUSE

The City and the Union recognize substance abuse by employees is a threat to the public welfare and the safety of department personnel. The City and Union agree to follow the Substance Abuse Policy attached as Appendix C.

ARTICLE 31 – ALL HAZARD MOBILIZATIONS

Section 1. The Aberdeen Fire Department's participation in, and management of Federal and State mobilizations shall be at the sole discretion of the Fire Chief or their designee. Employees who are deployed shall come from those who satisfy the qualifications of the requesting agency and volunteer for the deployment.

Section 2. City apparatus being mobilized shall first be staffed by Aberdeen Fire Department personnel, if available. In the event that Aberdeen Fire Department personnel do not voluntarily fill a mobilization request, the City may fill the mobilization positions on City apparatus with qualified personnel from other agencies in accordance with the *Grays Harbor Fire Agencies Mobilization Cooperation Interlocal Agreement*.

Section 3. Those who are deployed shall serve and participate as employees of the Aberdeen Fire Department, as identified in Federal and State Mobilization requests.

Section 4. Upon request for mobilization, and with the approval of the Fire Chief or their designee, the City will attempt to backfill the employee's first two work shifts. Once an employee's first two work shifts are backfilled, they will be reassigned to the mobilization. In the event that the City is unable to backfill an employee's first two shifts, they will not be mobilized unless otherwise approved by the Fire Chief.

- (a) The backfilling for mobilized employees will be done to accommodate minimum staffing levels as determined in Article 13.

Section 5. Employee compensation while participating in mobilizations shall be in accordance with the Washington State Fire Services Resource Mobilization Plan, unless specifically outlined otherwise in this Agreement.

- (a) Employees shall receive their regular rate of pay for time on mobilization during regularly scheduled work shifts.
- (b) Employees shall receive their overtime rate of pay for hours worked outside of their regularly scheduled hours while on mobilization.
- (c) Upon return from mobilization, employees shall submit Incident Time Reports for payroll processing and timely submittal of reimbursement requests.
- (d) Compensation for mobilizations will be processed on normally scheduled payroll dates.

Section 6. Mobilized employees will keep in contact with the Aberdeen Fire Department to advise of their status and anticipated demobilization so that the Department can plan and schedule accordingly.


Section 7. If an employee is demobilized on a day which they are regularly scheduled to work for the Aberdeen Fire Department, they shall receive paid administrative leave for that day in order to rest. In that event, the employee shall return to work at the Aberdeen Fire Department for their next scheduled shift. The end time indicated on the employee's Incident Time Report will be utilized to determine their demobilization day.

ARTICLE 32 – EFFECTIVE DATE

The effective date of this Agreement shall be January 1, 2026, or upon full ratification of the parties, whichever is later. This Agreement shall expire at 23:59 on December 31, 2028.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have set their hands on December 19, 2025.

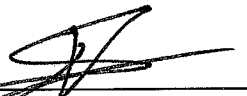
IAFF LOCAL 315



Ryan Cline, President




Derek Jensen, Vice President



John Van Syckle, Unit Vice President

CITY OF ABERDEEN



Douglas Orr, Mayor



Attest: Finance Director
Katy Williamsen

APPENDIX A – SALARIES

2026 FIRE PAY SCHEDULE 5% COLA Effective 1/1/2026 (2,382 hrs. per yr.)

Rank	1	2	3
	EMT	EMT-IV (2%)	EMT-P (10%)
Firefighter 1	6,825	6,961	7,507
Annual	81,897	83,535	90,087
Hourly	34.38	35.07	37.82
Overtime Transfers	60.17	61.37	66.18
Overtime Fire	51.57	52.60	56.73
Firefighter 1 AA	6,961	7,101	7,657
Annual	83,535	85,206	91,889
Hourly	35.07	35.77	38.58
Overtime Transfers	61.37	62.60	67.51
Overtime Fire	52.60	53.66	57.86
Firefighter 1 BA	7,101	7,243	7,811
Annual	85,206	86,910	93,727
Hourly	35.77	36.49	39.35
Overtime Transfers	62.60	63.85	68.86
Overtime Fire	53.66	54.73	59.02

Firefighter 2	7,165	7,308	7,882
Annual	85,980	87,699	94,578
Hourly	36.10	36.82	39.71
Overtime Transfers	63.17	64.43	69.48
Overtime Fire	54.14	55.23	59.56
Firefighter 2 AA	7,308	7,454	8,039
Annual	87,699	89,453	96,469
Hourly	36.82	37.55	40.50
Overtime Transfers	64.43	65.72	70.87
Overtime Fire	55.23	56.33	60.76
Firefighter 2 BA	7,454	7,604	8,200
Annual	89,453	91,242	98,398
Hourly	37.55	38.30	41.31
Overtime Transfers	65.72	67.03	72.29
Overtime Fire	56.33	57.46	61.96

Rank	1	2	3
	EMT	EMT-IV (2%)	EMT-P (10%)
Firefighter 3	7,524	7,675	8,277
Annual	90,292	92,097	99,321
Hourly	37.91	38.66	41.70
Overtime Transfers	66.34	67.66	72.97
Overtime Fire	56.86	58.00	62.54
Firefighter 3 AA	7,675	7,828	8,442
Annual	92,097	93,938	101,307
Hourly	38.66	39.44	42.53
Overtime Transfers	67.66	69.01	74.43
Overtime Fire	58.00	59.15	63.80
Firefighter 3 BA	7,828	7,985	8,611
Annual	93,938	95,817	103,332
Hourly	39.44	40.23	43.38
Overtime Transfers	69.01	70.39	75.92
Overtime Fire	59.15	60.34	65.07

Firefighter 4	7,904	8,062	8,694
Annual	94,842	96,739	104,326
Hourly	39.82	40.61	43.80
Overtime Transfers	69.68	71.07	76.65
Overtime Fire	59.72	60.92	65.70
Firefighter 4 AA	8,062	8,223	8,868
Annual	96,739	98,681	106,413
Hourly	40.61	41.43	44.67
Overtime Transfers	71.07	72.50	78.18
Overtime Fire	60.92	62.14	67.01
Firefighter 4 BA	8,223	8,388	9,046
Annual	98,681	100,655	108,549
Hourly	41.43	42.26	45.57
Overtime Transfers	72.50	73.95	79.75
Overtime Fire	62.14	63.38	68.36

2026 Fire Pay Schedule

5% COLA Effective 1-1-2026 (2382 hrs per yr)

Rank	5+ Years				10+ Years				15+ Years				20+ Years			
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	BMT	BMT+12%	BMT+10%	LG 14% BMT	LG 14% BMT	LG 14% BMT	BMT	LG 24% BMT	LG 24% BMT	LG 34% BMT	LG 34% BMT	LG 34% BMT	BMT	LG 44% BMT	LG 44% BMT	BMT
Firefighter 5																
Annual	8,298	8,463	9,127	8,360	8,548	9,219	8,463	8,639	9,310	8,546	8,717	9,401	8,630	8,802	9,492	8,712
Hourly	99,570	101,561	109,527	100,566	102,577	110,622	101,561	103,554	111,718	102,557	104,608	112,813	103,554	105,623	113,908	104,549
Overtime Transfers	41.80	42.64	45.98	42.22	43.06	46.44	42.54	43.47	46.90	43.06	43.92	47.36	43.47	44.34	47.82	43.89
Overtime Fire	73.15	74.61	80.47	73.88	75.36	81.27	74.61	76.08	82.03	75.35	76.85	82.88	76.08	77.60	83.69	76.81
	62.70	63.96	69.87	63.33	64.59	69.86	63.96	65.21	70.36	64.58	65.87	71.04	65.21	66.51	71.73	65.84
Firefighter 5 AA																
Annual	8,463	8,630	9,310	8,546	8,716	9,403	8,630	8,802	9,495	8,717	8,888	9,589	8,802	8,975	9,682	8,887
Hourly	101,561	103,554	111,717	102,577	104,590	112,813	103,554	105,625	113,951	104,608	106,661	115,069	105,623	107,696	116,186	106,539
Overtime Transfers	42.64	43.47	46.90	43.06	43.91	47.37	43.47	44.34	47.84	43.92	44.78	48.31	44.34	45.21	48.78	44.77
Overtime Fire	74.61	76.08	82.03	75.36	76.84	82.90	76.08	77.50	83.72	76.85	78.36	84.54	77.60	79.12	85.36	78.35
	63.96	65.21	70.36	64.59	65.85	71.05	65.21	66.51	71.76	65.87	67.17	72.46	66.51	67.82	73.16	67.15
Firefighter 5 BA																
Annual	8,630	8,802	9,492	8,715	8,890	9,587	8,802	8,978	9,682	8,888	9,066	9,777	8,975	9,154	9,872	9,061
Hourly	103,554	105,625	113,909	104,590	106,681	115,048	105,625	107,738	116,188	106,661	108,794	117,327	107,696	109,830	118,466	108,732
Overtime Transfers	43.47	44.34	47.82	43.91	44.79	48.30	44.34	45.23	48.79	44.78	45.67	49.26	45.21	46.12	49.73	45.65
Overtime Fire	76.08	77.60	83.69	76.84	78.36	84.52	77.50	79.15	85.36	78.36	79.93	86.20	79.12	80.70	87.03	79.88
	65.21	66.51	71.73	65.86	67.19	72.45	66.51	67.84	73.17	67.17	68.51	73.88	67.82	69.18	74.80	68.47

Rank	5+ Years				10+ Years				15+ Years				20+ Years			
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	BMT	BMT+12%	BMT+10%	LG 14% BMT	LG 14% BMT	LG 14% BMT	BMT	LG 24% BMT	LG 24% BMT	LG 34% BMT	LG 34% BMT	LG 34% BMT	BMT	LG 44% BMT	LG 44% BMT	BMT
Engineer 5																
Annual	8,713	8,887	9,584	8,800	8,976	9,680	8,887	9,065	9,776	8,974	9,154	9,871	9,065	9,242	9,967	9,148
Hourly	104,552	106,643	115,007	105,598	107,709	116,157	106,643	108,776	117,307	107,689	109,842	118,457	108,776	110,909	119,607	109,780
Overtime Transfers	43.89	44.77	48.28	44.33	45.22	48.76	44.77	45.67	49.25	45.21	46.11	49.73	45.67	46.56	50.21	46.09
Overtime Fire	76.81	78.35	84.49	77.58	79.13	85.34	78.35	79.92	86.18	79.12	80.70	87.03	79.92	81.48	87.87	80.55
	65.84	67.16	72.42	66.50	67.83	73.15	67.16	68.50	73.87	67.81	69.17	74.60	68.50	69.84	75.32	69.13
Engineer 5 AA																
Annual	8,887	9,065	9,776	8,976	9,155	9,873	9,065	9,246	9,971	9,154	9,337	10,069	9,242	9,427	10,167	9,331
Hourly	106,643	108,776	117,307	107,709	109,864	118,480	108,776	110,952	119,653	109,842	112,039	120,827	110,909	113,127	122,000	111,975
Overtime Transfers	44.77	45.67	49.25	45.22	46.12	49.74	45.67	46.58	50.23	46.11	47.04	50.72	46.56	47.49	51.22	47.01
Overtime Fire	78.35	79.92	86.18	79.13	80.71	87.04	79.92	81.51	87.91	80.70	82.31	88.77	81.48	83.11	89.63	82.27
	67.16	68.50	73.87	67.83	69.18	74.61	68.50	69.87	75.35	69.17	70.55	76.09	69.84	71.24	76.83	70.51
Engineer 5 BA																
Annual	9,065	9,242	9,967	9,155	9,335	10,067	9,246	9,427	10,167	9,337	9,520	10,266	9,427	9,612	10,366	9,518
Hourly	108,776	110,909	119,607	109,864	112,018	120,804	110,952	113,127	122,000	112,039	114,236	123,196	113,127	115,345	124,392	114,215
Overtime Transfers	45.67	46.56	50.21	46.12	47.03	50.72	46.58	47.49	51.22	47.04	47.96	51.72	47.49	48.42	52.22	47.95
Overtime Fire	79.92	81.48	87.87	80.71	82.30	88.75	81.51	83.11	89.63	82.31	83.93	90.51	83.11	84.74	91.39	83.91
	68.50	69.84	75.32	68.18	69.54	75.07	68.87	70.24	75.83	70.55	71.94	77.58	71.24	72.64	78.33	71.92

2026 Fire Pay Schedule
5% COLA Effective 1-1-2026 (3382 hrs per yr)

Rank	1	2	3	5+ Years			10+ Years			15+ Years			20+ Years			25+ Years		
	BMT	BMT IV (2%)	BMT IV (10%)	LS 1% BMT	LS 5% IV	LS 10% P	BMT	LS 2% IV	LS 7% P	LS 3% BMT	LS 8% IV	LS 12% P	BMT	LS 4% IV	LS 9% P	BMT	LS 6% IV	LS 14% P
Captain 5																		
Annual	9,957	10,156	10,953	10,057	10,258	11,062	10,156	10,359	11,172	10,256	10,461	11,281	10,359	10,562	11,391	10,455	10,664	11,500
Hourly	119,484	121,873	131,432	120,679	123,092	132,747	121,873	124,310	134,061	123,069	125,529	135,375	124,310	126,748	136,590	125,458	127,967	138,004
Overtime Transfers	50.16	51.16	55.18	50.66	51.63	55.73	51.16	52.19	56.28	51.67	52.70	56.83	52.19	53.21	57.38	52.67	53.72	57.94
Overtime Fire	87.78	89.54	96.56	88.86	90.43	97.53	89.54	91.33	98.49	90.42	92.22	99.46	91.33	93.12	100.42	92.17	94.01	101.39
Overtime Fire	76.24	76.75	82.77	76.99	77.51	83.59	76.75	78.28	84.42	77.50	79.05	85.25	78.28	79.82	86.08	79.00	80.58	86.90
Captain 5 AA																		
Annual	10,156	10,359	11,172	10,258	10,463	11,283	10,359	10,566	11,395	10,461	10,670	11,507	10,562	10,774	11,619	10,664	10,877	11,730
Hourly	121,873	124,310	134,051	123,092	125,553	135,402	124,310	126,796	136,742	125,529	128,039	138,083	126,748	129,282	139,423	127,967	130,526	140,764
Overtime Transfers	51.16	52.19	56.28	51.68	52.71	56.84	52.19	53.23	57.41	52.70	53.75	57.97	53.21	54.27	58.53	53.72	54.80	59.09
Overtime Fire	89.54	91.33	98.49	90.43	92.24	99.48	91.33	93.15	100.46	92.22	94.07	101.45	93.12	94.98	102.43	94.01	95.89	103.42
Overtime Fire	76.75	78.28	84.42	77.51	79.08	85.27	78.28	79.85	86.11	79.05	80.63	86.95	79.82	81.41	87.80	80.58	82.19	88.64
Captain 5 BA																		
Annual	10,359	10,562	11,391	10,463	10,668	11,505	10,566	10,774	11,619	10,670	10,879	11,733	10,774	10,985	11,846	10,877	11,090	11,960
Hourly	124,310	126,748	136,590	125,553	128,015	138,057	126,796	129,283	139,423	128,039	130,550	140,790	129,282	131,818	142,157	130,526	133,085	143,524
Overtime Transfers	53.21	54.27	58.53	52.71	53.74	57.96	53.23	54.27	58.53	53.75	54.81	59.11	54.27	55.34	59.68	54.80	55.87	60.25
Overtime Fire	91.33	93.12	100.42	92.24	94.05	101.43	93.15	94.98	102.43	94.07	95.91	103.44	94.98	96.84	104.44	95.89	97.77	105.44
Overtime Fire	78.28	79.82	86.08	79.06	80.61	86.94	79.85	81.41	87.80	80.63	82.21	88.66	81.41	83.01	89.52	82.19	83.81	90.38

Rank	1	2	3	5+ Years			10+ Years			15+ Years			20+ Years			25+ Years		
	BMT	LS 1% BMT	LS 2% BMT	LS 3% BMT	LS 4% BMT	LS 5% BMT	LS 6% BMT	LS 7% BMT	LS 8% BMT	LS 9% BMT	LS 10% BMT	LS 11% BMT	LS 12% BMT	LS 13% BMT	LS 14% BMT	LS 15% BMT	LS 16% BMT	LS 17% BMT
Battalion Chief 5																		
Annual	11,824	11,942	12,060	12,179	12,297	12,415												
Hourly	141,887	143,306	144,725	146,144	147,562	148,981												
Overtime Transfers	59.37	60.16	60.76	61.35	61.95	62.54												
Overtime Fire	104.24	105.28	106.33	107.37	108.41	109.45												
Overtime Fire	89.36	90.24	91.14	92.03	92.92	93.82												
Battalion Chief 5 AA																		
Annual	12,060	12,181	12,302	12,422	12,543	12,663												
Hourly	144,725	146,172	147,620	149,067	150,514	151,961												
Overtime Transfers	60.76	61.37	61.97	62.58	63.19	63.80												
Overtime Fire	106.33	107.39	108.45	109.52	110.58	111.64												
Overtime Fire	91.14	92.05	92.96	93.87	94.78	95.69												
Battalion Chief 5 BA																		
Annual	12,297	12,420	12,543	12,666	12,789	12,912												
Hourly	147,562	149,038	150,514	151,989	153,465	154,941												
Overtime Transfers	62.57	63.19	63.81	64.43	65.05	65.67												
Overtime Fire	108.41	109.49	110.58	111.66	112.75	113.83												
Overtime Fire	82.92	83.85	84.78	85.71	86.64	87.57												

APPENDIX B – DISCIPLINE

City of Aberdeen Fire Department Discipline Policy

Contents

1.0	Scope and Purpose
2.0	Definitions
3.0	Progressive Discipline
4.0	Officer/Supervisor Responsibilities
5.0	Human Resources Responsibilities
6.0	Due Process
7.0	Documentation
8.0	Imposition of Disciplinary Action
9.0	Misuse of Authority
10.0	Guideline for Disciplinary Action

1.0 Scope and Purpose

- 1.0 This policy covers all members of the City of Aberdeen.
- 1.1 The purpose of disciplinary action is twofold: first, disciplinary action is taken to correct the conduct of personnel who fail to meet established standards; second, discipline is meant to modify behavior in order to achieve the goals and objectives of the individual and/or the organization.

2.0 Definitions

- 2.1 **Dereliction of Duty.** The intentional abandonment or conscious neglect of assigned responsibilities or duties.
- 2.2 **Discipline.** Any supervisory action designed to: correct conduct to meet established standards; modify behavior in order to achieve the goals and objectives of the individual and/or the organization
- 2.3 **Due Process.** Procedure which guarantees that no person receives prejudicial, unfair or unequal treatment, and which insures that employees are given fair and adequate notice of the charges against them and an opportunity to respond to those charges.
- 2.4 **Extenuating Circumstances.** Circumstances that diminish the responsibility or fault of one who has committed an offense and so can be considered to mitigate (to make less harsh or severe) the punishment.
- 2.5 **Human Resource Director.** The City Human Resources Director, responsible for human resource-related administrative duties, which include specific discipline responsibilities identified herein.
- 2.6 **Insubordination.** Disobeying, defying or failing to comply with a reasonable order, failing to perform a task, or engaging in conduct with a reasonable order, failing to perform a task, or engaging in conduct that is otherwise insubordinate.
- 2.7 **Misuse of Authority by Supervisors.** The incorrect or improper use of the authority granted to supervisors, such as ordering a subordinate to commit an action which is contrary to known regulations, is improper or is illegal.
- 2.8 **Officer/Supervisor.** The Supervisor who is responsible for the imposition of the disciplinary action. Depending upon the extent or degree of the infraction, this may be the immediate supervisor or a higher-ranking officer. All supervisors involved in a disciplinary investigation have the responsibility to ensure that due process is followed.
- 2.9 **Weingarten Rights.** The right of an employee to have a Union representative present at a

meeting with the City if the employee has a reasonable expectation that he/she may receive disciplinary action.

- 2.10 **Garrity Rights.** The right of an employee from being compelled to incriminate themselves during investigatory interviews conducted by the City.

3.0 **Progressive Discipline**

- 3.1 Progressive Discipline is a system of discipline where the penalties, or disciplinary actions, increase upon repeat occurrences and consists of a series of steps. Any one of the steps may be modified as the circumstances surrounding the infraction dictates.

The Progressive Discipline process includes coaching, counseling and training and these disciplinary steps:

1. **Verbal reprimand.** Verbal discipline that is documented on the appropriate form. Documentation of a verbal reprimand may be included in the personnel file.
 2. **Written reprimand.** Written discipline that is documented on the appropriate form.
 3. **Suspension.** Discipline that includes a quantity of time off-duty without pay.
 4. **Demotion.** Discipline that lowers a person's rank or pay status.
 5. **Termination.** Ending employment with the City of Aberdeen.
- 3.2 Within three days following the conclusion of a disciplinary investigation, the contents of the investigatory file and the Supervisor's recommendations shall be forwarded through the chain of command to the Human Resources Director and shall include the following:
1. Name of personnel being disciplined
 2. Date of incident
 3. Brief description of events
 4. Date discipline is administered
 5. Type of discipline administered

4.0 **Supervisor/Management Responsibilities**

- 4.1 All officers and supervisors shall afford equal and impartial treatment to their subordinates without favoritism or injustice. Officers shall not attempt to deprive any member of merit or recognition, or to knowingly shield a member from disciplinary action required as a result of his/her incompetence, misconduct or negligence.

- 4.2 **Performance Improvement Plan (PIP).** The Performance Improvement Plan is not disciplinary action. It is a plan produced by Fire or Assistant Fire Chief and deals with minor issues of performance or behavior. It may also allow for communication and clarification of expectations and feedback for minor first-time offenses that are either not worthy of disciplinary action or are a matter of less-than-satisfactory performance. A PIP may be as simple or as complex as the circumstances warrant. The PIP allows the employee to receive more formalized expectations. It also provides the supervisor with documentation of the expectations provided to the employee. It is, by design, intended to help an employee improve and a method to prevent disciplinary action.

If the expectations agreed upon by management and employee are not met, it may result in disciplinary action.

- 4.3 **Corrective Action Plan (CAP).** Following any disciplinary action, the Fire Chief or Assistant Fire Chief shall develop a Corrective Action Plan with subordinates.

A CAP is implemented in conjunction with disciplinary action. The issuing party must inform the Human Resources Director through the chain of command when a CAP is developed and implemented.

A CAP describes in detail the problem for which the employee was disciplined, expectations for improvement, time lines, action steps the employee and the Fire Chief or Assistant Fire Chief will take, resources available, the ultimate outcome if the problem is not satisfactorily corrected as stated in the plan, and further potential disciplinary action. Since all Corrective Action Plans have a set time frame to improve performance and/or change behavior, documentation is required at the end of that time frame. Employees will be notified when the Corrective Action Plan is no longer in effect.

The CAP should contain:

- List of deficient competencies, or behavior modifications desired
- Outline of desired outcome/goals and objectives
- An action plan for achieving goals and objectives
- Monitoring of progress
- Frequency of monitoring/timeline
- Specific consequences for failure to achieve goals

- 4.4 Any one or more of the following progressive discipline steps may be used with subordinates for cause by any officer or supervisor at the following ranks (Note: Coaching, Counseling and Training is not a disciplinary action):

1. Captain
 - Coaching, counseling and training

2. Battalion Chief
 - Coaching, counseling and training
 - Verbal reprimand
3. Fire Chief/Assistant Chief
 - Coaching, counseling and training
 - Verbal reprimand
 - Written reprimand
 - Suspension with or without pay
 - Demotion / reduction in pay
 - Termination

5.0 Human Resources Director Responsibilities. It shall be the responsibility of the Human Resources Director to insure compliance with the Discipline Policy. Specific duties will include:

1. Maintaining records of disciplinary actions
2. Maintaining copies of Performance Improvement Plans and Corrective Action Plans
3. Direct assistance to supervisors:
 - a. when requested for verbal and written reprimands
 - b. required for all other disciplinary actions
4. Insure due process safeguards are implemented

6.0 Due Process

6.1 Prior to the administration of any disciplinary action, the procedural safeguards of due process shall be provided.

6.2 Investigations

6.2.1 It shall be the responsibility of the officer/supervisor to insure a complete, impartial and appropriate investigation has taken place prior to the administration of any disciplinary action.

6.2.2 Investigations of incidents shall begin with the officer/supervisor insuring the proper disposition of affected personnel. Actions to be considered, depending upon the circumstances, may include:

- Reassigning personnel
- Placing personnel on paid administrative leave pending investigation.

6.2.3 All department members who witness an act that may result in a disciplinary action may be required to provide a written narrative of the act. Directives for these narratives will be issued by the investigating officer/supervisor, and shall include a due date/time. The narrative will contain the following:

- Activity that the witness was engaged in when the act occurred
- A concise description of the events leading up to the act, the act, and events occurring after the act.
- A complete list of witnesses - employees, volunteers and private citizens.
- Signature and printed name of person writing the narrative.

6.2.4 Witness Interviews. Interviews of witnesses shall be conducted as soon as is practicable. The investigating officer will, to the extent possible and within reason, provide notice to the person to be interviewed.

- Interviews of the Subject of the Potential Discipline. Interviews of the person who is the subject of the investigation shall be in accordance with the following:
- The Investigating Officer shall provide reasonable notice to the person of the date and time of the interview.
- The notice to the employee shall contain the details of the incident, which will be discussed at the interview.
- An employee being interviewed which may result in disciplinary action has certain rights to union representation under a decision of the US Supreme Court known as the Weingarten Decision. Only those who have a reasonable belief that disciplinary action may result from the interview may claim those rights to representation. These include the right of the employee to request a union representative be present at the interview, and that the employee and union representative be provided time for consultation prior to the interview. The union representative may provide guidance to the employee in answering questions during the interview.
- If the person chooses to exercise his or her rights under the Weingarten Decision, reasonable time shall be allowed for a union representative to make arrangements to be present.

6.2.5 No employee may refuse to answer questions during an interview. The only exception is that provided by the Fifth Amendment to the United States Constitution. If an employee has a reasonable belief that information he or she provides in an interview may implicate he or she in a criminal act, he or she may refuse to answer a question, and must state their reason (Fifth Amendment right).

This right of refusal to answer a question applies only to self-- incrimination in a criminal act, and does not apply to any violation of a regulation, policy, order or guideline at the City of Aberdeen.

6.2.6 The investigating officer shall conduct the interviews. The Human Resources Director may attend the interview if they so choose.

6.2.7 The investigating officer shall be responsible for gathering, securing and documenting evidence, including photographs.

6.3 Contacting Law Enforcement

6.3.1 If, in the course of the investigation, the investigating officer/supervisor determines or suspects a criminal act may have occurred, he/she will immediately suspend the disciplinary investigation and contact the Human Resources Director.

6.3.2 The Human Resources Director shall communicate the findings of the investigating officer to the Fire Chief or designee who will make the determination to involve law enforcement representatives.

6.3.3 The City's investigation will not resume until law enforcement has declined to prosecute an individual.

6.3.4 If law enforcement determines the incident to be a criminal act, the City retains the right to impose disciplinary action on involved personnel pursuant to City policy.

6.4 At the conclusion of the City's investigation, a determination shall be made concerning the appropriate disciplinary action. For disciplinary actions beyond verbal and written reprimands, due process shall include:

6.4.1 Written notice to the affected employee of the intended disciplinary action

6.4.2 The date the action will take place and conclude, if applicable

6.5 The specific grounds and facts upon which the action is based. The member shall have the opportunity to respond to the charges either orally or in writing.

6.6 A report of the offense and penalties imposed shall be recorded in the member's personnel file.

6.7 At the conclusion of the City's investigation, a report of the findings of the investigation shall be completed by the investigating officer. Included with this report will be a summary page titled Findings Recommendation. The Finding1 Recommendation will include one of four categories:

1. *Unfounded* - the allegation is not factual and/or the incident did not occur as described
2. *Exonerated* - The alleged incident occurred, but it does not meet the criteria of disciplinary action

3. *Non-sustained* - There is insufficient factual evidence either to prove or disprove the allegation
4. *Sustained* - The allegation is supported by sufficient factual evidence and meets the criteria for disciplinary action

Determination shall be made concerning the appropriate disciplinary action based on this report.

7.0 Documentation

- 7.1 All officers and supervisors are responsible to properly and completely document personnel behavior. Notations of coaching, counseling and training, or a verbal reprimand shall be documented. These notations shall be considered in the completion of the person's annual performance evaluation.
- 7.2 Documentation of disciplinary actions beyond that of coaching, counseling and training shall be placed in the member's personnel file per the City Personnel Policy.

No documents shall be removed from personnel files once the documents have been officially included, except as provided for in the Personnel File Policy.

- 7.3 When three years have passed after the issuance of a verbal reprimand, the City shall not consider the reprimand in any personnel decisions, including disciplinary, assignment, and promotional decisions. When five years have passed after the issuance of a written reprimand, the City shall not consider the reprimand in any personnel decisions, including disciplinary, assignment, and promotional decisions. When seven years have passed after the issuance of a suspension, the City shall not consider the suspension in any personnel decisions, including disciplinary, assignment, and promotional decisions.

The above conditions are providing:

- There have been no further disciplinary actions documenting similar behavior in the past three years;
- There has been no disciplinary action of any type resulting in a written reprimand or suspension in the past three years.
- Any form of discipline does not preclude an employee from seeking promotional opportunities.

8.0 Imposition of Disciplinary Action

- 8.1 Upon completion of the investigation the Fire Chief shall weigh the evidence, review the case with the Human Resources Director as appropriate, and determine the appropriate disciplinary action. The findings of that Fire Chief shall be conclusive. No member shall

be charged or tried by another officer for the same offense.

8.2 Disciplinary action shall commence within twenty (20) calendar days after the time the officer or supervisor became aware of the offense; provided, however commencement of disciplinary action may be delayed (a) if the member is on leave or vacation, but disciplinary action shall commence within ten (10) calendar days of the day he/she return to work; and (b) if, pursuant to Section 6.3, the City suspends its investigation to await the completion of a law enforcement investigation, but disciplinary action shall commence within ten (10) calendar days of the date the City is notified of the law enforcement's decision either not to prosecute or that an incident was a criminal act.

8.3 Under circumstances where severe offenses such as intoxication or insubordination have occurred, the individual's supervisor shall have the authority to immediately remove from duty any offending member under his/her command and place them on paid administrative leave until the Fire Chief or designee can be contacted.

9.0 Misuse of Authority (see 2.6 for definition)

9.1 Subordinates may bring charges against supervisors for misuse of authority. Any violation of Rules, Regulations or Orders noted by subordinates should be reported, in writing, to the offending supervisor's immediate superior.

9.2 When the accused is the Chief of the Department, a Disciplinary Hearing Board shall be convened consisting of the Civil Service Commission.

10.0 GUIDELINE FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION (Listed Alphabetically)

Note: Disciplinary actions listed in this guide are not absolute or necessarily appropriate in each case. When selecting the appropriate action, consider departmental and other rules, severity of violation, past record, extenuating circumstances, past department practices, and the level of discipline required to modify behavior. It remains at the discretion of management to decide if circumstances warrant beginning the progressive discipline process at a higher step, including recommending termination in appropriate cases, or progressing to recommending termination for repeated violations. All Disciplinary actions will be reviewed by the City's Human Resources Director.

Violation	1st Offense	2nd Offense	3rd Offense	4th Offense	5th Offense
Absent without leave (AWOL)	Written reprimand	Suspension	Termination		
Dereliction of Duty	Written reprimand	Suspension	Termination		
Destruction of City property, negligent	Verbal reprimand	Written reprimand	Suspension	Termination	

Destruction of City property, willful	Written reprimand	Suspension	Termination		
Dishonesty	Written reprimand	Suspension	Termination		
Failure of good conduct tending to injure the public service	Written reprimand	Suspension	Termination		
False testimony or making false statements knowingly given for the purpose of influencing the outcome of any official disciplinary investigation	Suspension	Termination			
Felony, commission of	Termination				
Insubordination	Written reprimand	Suspension	Termination		
Late/Tardy: In excess of one (1) late arrival (tardy) within a twelve (12) month period	Verbal reprimand	Written reprimand	Suspension	Termination	
Leaving assigned position without being properly relieved	Written reprimand	Suspension	Termination		
Misdemeanor involving sex offenses, theft or drugs, commission of	Suspension	Termination			
Misdemeanor-Gross, commission of	Suspension	Termination			
Misuse of authority by supervisors	Written reprimand	Suspension	Termination		
Policy violation	Verbal reprimand	Written reprimand	Suspension	Termination	
Rules and Regulations violation	Verbal reprimand	Written reprimand	Suspension	Termination	
Sexual Harassment (See Sexual Harassment policy)	Written reprimand	Suspension	Termination		

Sexual Harassment Retaliation (retaliating against someone who has filed a complaint)	Suspension	Termination			
Sexual Harassment with physical assault	Termination				
Sick Leave Abuse	Verbal reprimand	Written reprimand	Suspension	Termination	
Standard Operating Guidelines (Procedures) violation	Coaching, counseling and training	Verbal reprimand	Written reprimand	Suspension	Termination
Supervisor's failure to enforce City rules, regulations, guidelines, procedures and policies.	Written reprimand	Suspension	Demotion		

APPENDIX C – ABERDEEN FIRE DEPARTMENT SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICY

1. Overview

The City and the Union recognize substance abuse by employees is a threat to the public welfare and the safety of department personnel. It is the goal of this policy to eliminate, prevent and correct substance abuse through education and rehabilitation of the affected personnel. The use of alcohol or unauthorized drugs shall not be permitted at the City's work sites and/or while an employee is on duty, nor shall an employee report for duty or be allowed to remain on duty under the influence of alcohol, or drug(s) that impairs their ability to safely perform their duties.

While the City wishes to assist employees with alcohol or substance abuse problems, safety is the City's first priority. Therefore, employees must not report for work or continue working if they are under the influence of, or impaired by, the substances listed in Sections 39.5, 39.7, and 39.6 of this article. Employees participating in treatment programs are expected to observe all job performance standards and work rules.

Nothing in this Substance Abuse Article shall be intended to alter the City's right to discipline or discharge employees for violations of City policy, either related or unrelated to drug and/or alcohol use.

2. Informing Employees About Drug and Alcohol Testing

All employees shall be fully informed of this substance abuse testing article. Employees will be provided with information concerning the impact of the use of alcohol and drugs on job performance as part of new hire orientation. In addition, the City shall inform the employees on how the tests are conducted, what the tests can determine and the consequence of testing positive for drug or alcohol use. No employee shall be tested before this information is provided to him/her. Employees who voluntarily come forward and ask for assistance to deal with a drug or alcohol problem prior to any incident involving serious injury or significant property damage shall not be disciplined by the City for substance abuse as a result of the request.

The City encourages employees to seek treatment for drug and alcohol abuse voluntarily. To encourage employees to do so, the City makes available the Employee Assistance Program (EAP). Any employee who notifies the City of alcohol or substance abuse problems will be given the assistance offered to employees with any other illness. As with other illnesses, the City may grant sick leave, vacation leave or leaves of absence without pay for treatment and rehabilitation of drug and alcohol abuse.

Any decision to voluntarily seek help through the EAP, or privately, will not interfere with an employee's continued employment or eligibility for promotional opportunities. Information regarding an employee's participation in the (EAP) will be maintained in confidence.

3. Employee Testing

Section 1. Reasonable Suspicion Testing. Unless otherwise required by federal law, employees shall not be subject to random urine testing or blood testing or other similar or related tests for the purpose of discovering possible drug or alcohol abuse, except under the terms of a second chance agreement. If the City has reasonable suspicion to believe an employee's work performance is impaired due to drug or alcohol use, the City may require the employee to undergo a drug and/or alcohol test consistent with the conditions set forth in this article.

Reasonable suspicion for the purposes of this article is defined as follows: The City's determination that reasonable suspicion exists shall be based on specific, articulated observations concerning the appearance, behavior, speech or body odors of an employee and shall include, as a minimum, a written report documenting objective, measurable changes in an employee's work performance due to unauthorized drug or alcohol use by two (2) observers who have opportunity to observe these changes.

1. Post Incident/Accident Testing

- a. Employees may be required to undergo urine, breath, saliva, and blood testing if they are a driver involved in a motor vehicle accident (MVA) with an Agency vehicle.
- b. Following an MVA, the driver shall be tested as soon as possible, but not to exceed eight (8) hours from the time of the accident.
- c. Nothing in this section shall be construed to require the delay of necessary medical attention for an injured employee following an MVA.

Section 2. Sample Collection The collection and testing of samples shall be performed only by a laboratory and interpreted by a physician or health care professional qualified and authorized to administer and determine the meaning of any test results. The laboratory performing the test shall be one that is certified by the National Institute of Drug Abuse (NIDA). The local laboratory chosen must be agreed to by the Union and the City. The results of employee tests shall be made available to the Medical Review Officer (MRO).

Collection of blood, saliva, or urine samples shall be conducted in a manner which provides for the highest, reasonable degree of security for the sample and freedom from adulteration. Blood or urine samples shall be submitted as per NIDA standards including the recognized chain of custody procedures. Employees have the right to request Union and/or legal representation to be present during the submission of the sample. However, unless the employee's Weingarten rights (NLRB vs. Weingarten, Inc. 420 U.S. 251, 88 LRRM 2689) should require otherwise, the submission of the sample may be required with or without a Union and/or legal representative being present. Employees shall not be witnessed while submitting a urine specimen. Prior to submitting to a urine, saliva, or blood sample, the employee will be required to sign consent and release form as attached to this article.

A split sample shall be reserved in all cases for an independent analysis in the event of a positive test result. All samples must be stored in a scientifically acceptable preserved manner as established by NIDA approved facility. All positive confirmed samples and related paperwork must be retained by the laboratory for at least six (6) months or for the duration of any grievance, disciplinary action, or legal proceedings,

whichever is longer. At the conclusion of this period, the laboratory's paperwork and specimen shall be destroyed.

Tests shall be conducted in a manner to ensure an employee's legal drug use and diet does not affect the test result.

Section 3. Drug Testing. The laboratory shall test for only the substances and within the limits as follows for the initial and confirmatory test as provided within NIDA standards. The initial test shall use an immunoassay test procedure, which meets the requirements of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for commercial distribution. The following initial cutoff levels shall be used when screening specimens to determine whether they are negative for these five drugs or classes of drugs:

1. INITIAL TESTING:

Cocaine metabolites	300 ng/ml
Opiate metabolites (1)	300 ng/ml
Phencyclidine	25 ng/ml
Amphetamines	1,000 ng/ml

(1) If immunoassay is specific for free morphine, the initial test level is 25 ng/ml.

If initial test results are negative, testing shall be discontinued, all samples destroyed and records of the testing expunged from the employee's files. Only specimens identified as positive on the initial test shall be confirmed using gas chromatography/mass spectrometry (GC/MS) techniques at the following listed cutoff values.

2. CONFIRMATORY TESTING:

Cocaine metabolites	150 ng/ml
Opiate metabolites	
Morphine	300 ng/ml
Codeine	300 ng/ml
Phencyclidine	25 ng/ml
Amphetamines	
Amphetamine	500 ng/ml
Methamphetamine	500 ng/ml
Benzoyllecgonine	

If confirmatory testing results are negative, all samples shall be destroyed and records of the testing expunged from the employee's files.

Drug test results gathered under this article shall not be voluntarily turned over to any party in a criminal investigation or prosecution, except by subpoena.

Section 4. Alcohol Testing. A breathalyzer or similar equipment shall be used to screen for alcohol use, and if positive, shall be confirmed by a blood alcohol test performed by a qualified laboratory. This screening test shall be performed by an individual properly qualified to perform the tests utilizing appropriate equipment. An initial positive alcohol level shall be 0.04 grams per 210 L. of breath. If initial testing results are negative, testing shall be discontinued, all samples destroyed and records of the testing expunged from the employee's files. Only specimens identified as positive on the initial test shall be confirmed using a blood alcohol level. Sample handling procedures, as detailed in Section 39.4, shall apply. A positive blood alcohol level shall be 0.04 grams per 100 ml of blood. If confirmatory testing results are negative, all samples shall be destroyed and records of the testing expunged from the employee's files.

Section 5. Marijuana Testing. In the State of Washington, marijuana is legal under state law, both as a prescription medication and as a drug used for recreational purposes.

Employees shall not be under the psychoactive effects of marijuana causing motor impairment while on duty. Marijuana metabolites can stay in a person's blood for weeks after the psychoactive effects of the drug have completely subsided. In addition, certain topical medications containing marijuana, do not cause any psychoactive effects, but can still result in a positive test for marijuana.

A saliva test shall be used to screen for the psychoactive effects of marijuana use, and if positive, shall be confirmed by a blood test performed by a qualified laboratory. This screening test shall be performed by an individual properly qualified to perform the tests utilizing appropriate equipment. An initial positive level shall be 5 nano grams per milliliter of Delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol. If initial testing results are negative, testing shall be discontinued, all samples destroyed and records of the testing expunged from the employee's files. Only specimens identified as positive on the initial test shall be confirmed using a blood test.

Sample handling procedures, as detailed in Section 39.4, shall apply. A confirmatory test shall also test for the psychoactive effects of marijuana usage. A positive blood level shall be 5 nano grams per milliliter of Delta-9- tetrahydrocannabinol. If confirmatory testing results are negative, all samples shall be destroyed and records of the testing expunged from the employee's files.

If the employee tests positive for marijuana, the MRO will make a determination, based on current scientific data and other evidence, if the marijuana more than likely caused the behavior or impairment that resulted in the administration of the drug or alcohol test.

If the MRO determines marijuana was not the likely cause of the behavior or impairment that resulted in the administration of the drug or alcohol test, the MRO will not release any results of the marijuana portion of the drug test to the City.

4. Medical Review Officer

The MRO shall be chosen by the agency which is agreed upon between the Union and the City and must be a licensed physician with a knowledge of substance abuse disorders. The MRO shall be

familiar with the characteristics of tests (sensitivity, specificity and predictive value), the laboratories conducting the tests and the medical conditions and work exposures of the employees.

The role of the MRO will be to review and interpret the positive test results. He/she must examine alternative medical explanations for any positive test results. This action shall include conducting a medical review with the affected employee, review of the employee's medical history and review of any other relevant biomedical factors. The MRO must review all relevant medical records made available by the tested employee when a confirmed positive test result could have resulted from legally prescribed medication.

5. Laboratory Results

The laboratory will advise only the employee and the MRO of any positive results. The results of any positive drug or alcohol test can only be released to the City by the MRO once he/she has finished review and analysis of the laboratory's test. Unless otherwise required by law, the City will keep the results confidential and shall not release them to the general public.

6. Testing Program Costs

The City shall pay for all costs involving drug and alcohol testing. The City shall also reimburse each employee for their time and expenses including travel incurred involving the testing procedure only.

7. Rehabilitation Program

Any employee who tests positive for a substance listed in Sections 39.5 and 39.6 of this article shall be medically evaluated, counseled and treated for rehabilitation as recommended by the Substance Abuse Professional (SAP). In the event the employee disagrees with the treatment recommended by the SAP, the employee may choose to obtain a second opinion from a qualified physician of his/her choice, at their own expense. Employees who complete a rehabilitation program may be re-tested randomly, without notice, for one (1) year following completion of a rehabilitation program.

An employee may voluntarily enter rehabilitation without a requirement or prior testing. Employees who enter the program on their own prior to any to any incident involving serious injury or significant property damage shall not be subject by the City to random re-testing. Employees will be allowed to use their accrued and earned leave for the necessary time off involved in the rehabilitation program.

If an employee tests positive during the one (1) year period following completion of rehabilitation, the employee will be re-evaluated by an SAP to determine if the employee requires additional counseling and/or treatment. The employee will be solely responsible for any costs, not covered by medical benefits/insurance, which arise from this additional counseling or treatment.

Nothing in this Substance Abuse Article shall be intended to alter the City's right to discipline or discharge employees for violations of City policy, either related or unrelated to drug and/or alcohol use.

Section 1. Duty Assignment After Treatment. If the duty assignment for an employee is modified or changed as a result of a rehabilitation program, then after an employee successfully completes his/her rehabilitation program, the employee shall be returned to the regular duty assignment held prior to the rehabilitation program. Once treatment (including any second-chance agreement) and follow-up care is completed, and one (1) year has passed with no further violations of this article, the employee's records related to drug and alcohol testing shall not be used to deny promotion opportunity or take disciplinary actions against such employee.

All records related to drug and alcohol testing (including rehabilitation) shall be maintained in medical file in a secure location with controlled access. These records shall be kept separate from records pertaining to Section 39.11 Duty Assignment after treatment for the protection of the individual employee and the City.

8. Right of Appeal

The employee has the right to challenge the result of the drug or alcohol test and any discipline imposed in the same manner that he/she may grieve any other City action.

9. Savings Clause

The City and Union have agreed upon this Article in good faith and with the understanding its provisions are consistent with applicable law. In the event any of the provisions of this Article are determined to be illegal by a court of competent jurisdiction or inconsistent with applicable law, the remainder of this Article shall remain in effect and the parties shall meet to negotiate a replacement provision. The Union shall be held harmless for the violation of any worker rights arising from the administration of the drug and alcohol testing program as set forth herein or the City's Substance Abuse Policy, which shall apply uniformly to bargaining unit members; provided, if there are any conflicts between the provisions of this Article and the City's Policy, this Article shall govern.

Consent for Sampling and Release of Information Form

Subject to my rights under Article 30 of the Collective Bargaining Agreement between Local 315 of the IAFF and the City, I consent to the collection of a urine/blood/saliva sample by _____ and its analysis by _____, for those drugs specified in the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

The laboratory administering the tests will be allowed to release the results to the City only after the laboratory's results have been reviewed and interpreted by the Medical Review Officer (MRO). The information provided to the City shall be only whether the tests were confirmed positive or were negative and not any other results of the test without my written consent. The laboratory is not authorized to release the results of this test to any other person without my written consent.

I understand I have the right to my complete test results and the laboratory will preserve the sample for at least six (6) months. I have the right to have this sample split and a portion tested at a second laboratory of my choice at my expense in the event the test results are confirmed positive.

I understand the City is requiring me to submit to this test as a condition of my employment and alteration of the sample or failure to reasonably cooperate with the collection of a urine/blood/saliva sample will result in disciplinary action by the City.

I understand a confirmed positive test may result in a requirement that I enter into a second chance agreement that includes a requirement I undergo rehabilitation.

By signing this consent form, I am not waiving any of my rights under any federal, state or local law, statute, constitution, ordinance, administrative rule or regulation or common law provision. I understand I have the right to challenge any confirmed positive test result and any City action based thereon by filing a grievance under the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Employee # _____ Employee Name _____

Date _____ Employee Signature _____

Employee # _____ Witness Name _____

Date _____ Witness Signature _____

I understand I have the right to request Union representation and my choice is:

I choose to request Union representation Signature _____

I choose not to request Union representation Signature _____

APPENDIX D – ABERDEEN FIRE DEPARTMENT CONTRACT DEFINITIONS

Base salary: includes medical certification pursuant to Article 10, Section 2. For purposes of calculating overtime and/or retirement, the salary shall be:

Base Salary (described here) + Education + Longevity + any applicable Specialty Pay (pursuant to Article 10, Section 3)

Emergency Medical Coordinator (E.M.C.): shall be a paramedic, and may be appointed from any rank, and serves at the discretion of the Fire Chief. Appointment and removal, and performance of E.M.C duties, is not subject to the grievance procedure or Civil Service review. The performance of Firefighter/Paramedic duties by the employee serving as E.M.C. on shift or on ambulance transfer, shall be considered separate from E.M.C. duties and remain subject to Civil Service Rules and Regulations. Civil Service classification is retained, and appointed personnel shall return to their classification upon termination of appointment.

Fire Department Safety Officer: will be appointed from the ranks of Captain or Battalion Chief and serves at the discretion of the Fire Chief. The Fire Department Safety Officer must have a minimum of ten years as an Aberdeen Fire Fighter, two of which must have been as a Captain or Battalion Chief. Appointment and removal, and performance of Fire Department Safety Officer duties, is not subject to the grievance procedure or Civil Service review. Civil Service classification is retained, and appointed personnel shall return to their classification upon termination of appointment.

Training Officer: will be appointed by and serve at the discretion of the Chief. The Chief shall designate one Training Officer to serve as the lead responsible for establishing the roles of the other Training Officers. Appointment and removal, and performance of Training Officer duties, is not subject to the grievance procedure or Civil Service review. Civil Service classification is retained, and appointed personnel shall return to their classification upon termination of appointment.

APPENDIX E – FIRE SERVICE SPECIALIST

IAFF, Local 315 (Local 315) and the City of Aberdeen (the City) hereby agree that it would be mutually beneficial to add a new day shift position, having the job title of Fire Service Specialist, to Local 315's bargaining unit.

The purpose of this Appendix E is therefore:

- To set forth working conditions that are specifically applicable to the position of Fire Service Specialist; and,

The parties agree further that the CBA is applicable in full to any individuals who are occupying the position of Fire Service Specialist, except that Articles 9, 10, 12, 14, 16, 19, 21 and 22 of the CBA are amended (vis-à-vis the Fire Service Specialist position) as set forth below in this Appendix E:

SENIORITY (Article 9)

The following position shall be counted towards seniority:

a. Fire Service Specialist

The Fire Service Specialist position is a permanent day shift position to be filled by an employee holding the rank of Firefighter. The Fire Service Specialist will accrue seniority as a Firefighter with the City of Aberdeen while they are the Fire Service Specialist. A Fire Service Specialist may apply for a 24-hour shift position upon a written expression of interest when a vacant 24-hour shift position exists.

In addition, if the Fire Service Specialist position is subject to involuntary layoff, the individual holding that position would have the right to utilize all of their City of Aberdeen Firefighter seniority (including their time spent as a Fire Service Specialist) in order to move to the Firefighter job classification and displace any Firefighters with less seniority with the City of Aberdeen

The Fire Service Specialist has the right to participate in promotional exams that they are otherwise qualified for, and the full seniority of these individuals, including their time as a Fire Service Specialist, will be applied to their scores on such promotional exams.

The Fire Service Specialist position shall report directly to the Assistant Chief.

When there is an opening in the Fire Service Specialist position, the City shall post the position on the City internet and website as "internal only" for seven (7) calendar days, prior to opening it to the public. HR will send an email to all City email users, and to the Local 315 President, which includes notification of the job opening and a link to the posting.

SALARY (Article 10)

Section 2. The Fire Service Specialist shall be paid the monthly salary that is set forth in Step 1-5 FF/EMT in Appendix A and that is commensurate with their length of service with the City of Aberdeen as a Firefighter (including time spent as a Fire Service Specialist). The hourly rates and overtime rates that would otherwise be applicable to a Step 1-5 FF/EMT as set forth in Appendix A shall be adjusted in order to reflect the 40-hour work week of the Fire Services Specialist position as opposed to the 45.68 hour work week of 24-hour shift personnel.

HOURS OF WORK (Article 12)

Section 4. [new] A Fire Service Specialist shall work a 40-hour work week consisting of either (5) 8-hour days or (4) 10-hour days, at the discretion of the Fire Chief or the Fire Chief's designee. Changes to the work schedule must be mutually agreed upon by both the Union and the City.

Section 5. [new] A Fire Service Specialist will not be required to work Debit Days. does not qualify for Kelly Days. A Fire Service Specialist who transitions to a 24-hour Firefighter position will have Debit Days calculated according to the terms and conditions of this Article 12.

OUT OF CLASSIFICATION (Article 14)

Section 3. [new] Fire Service Specialist is eligible for Out of Classification assignments per City Policy and CBA.

OVERTIME (Article 16)

Section 5. Fire Services Specialist shall be paid overtime for any hours worked in excess of their 8 or 10-hour shift (Article 12, Section 4), and/or in excess of 40 hours per week. Overtime hours worked shall be paid at the rate of time-and-one-half the employee's regular rate of pay; based on a 40-hour work week. Fire Service Specialist will be eligible to work overtime. Overtime may not be taken during the Fire Service Specialist's normal working period.

SICK LEAVE (Article 19)

Section 7. [new] Fire Services Specialist shall accrue eight (8) hours of sick leave per month from date of hire as a Fire Services Specialist. That portion of sick leave not used shall be accumulated. Any hours of sick leave accrued in excess of 960 hours (up to 144) not used during the calendar year in which they were accrued shall be converted to pay at the rate of three (3) hours of sick leave to two (2) hours of pay - up to a maximum of ninety-six (96) hours of pay. Fire Service Specialist shall not be able to carry over more than 960 hours of sick leave from one calendar year to the next.

VACATIONS (Article 21)

Section 6. [new] Fire Service Specialist accrues vacation leave at the rate below, and based on years of service with the Aberdeen Fire Department. After the second year of employment, the Fire Service Specialist must use a minimum of forty (40) hours of vacation per year; any portion of the forty (40) hours not used shall be forfeited.

<u>MONTHS EMPLOYED</u>	<u>HOURS PER MONTH</u>
1 – 48	8
49 – 108	10
109 - 168	12
169 – 228	16
229 - 288	18
289 +	20

PAID HOLIDAYS (Article 22)

Section 1. Every employee assigned to work 24-hour shifts shall receive 120 hours of holiday time off per year (the equivalent of five 24-hour shifts). Employees working day shifts, including the Fire Service Specialist, shall recognize the following as paid holidays:

- New Year's Day
- Martin Luther King Day
- Presidents' Day
- Memorial Day
- Fourth of July
- Labor Day
- Veterans' Day
- Thanksgiving
- Day after Thanksgiving
- Christmas Eve
- Christmas Day
- One "floating" holiday

The floating holiday is to be taken during the year upon mutual consent between the employee and the Fire Chief or the Fire Chief's designee. The employee shall provide notice at least five (5) working days before the proposed holiday; ten (10) working days notice is preferred. Employees will be paid for the number of hours in force at the time of the holiday. Whenever any aforementioned holiday falls on a Saturday, the preceding Friday shall be considered the designated holiday; whenever the aforementioned holiday falls on a Sunday, the succeeding Monday shall be considered the designated holiday.

Section 4. [new] Employees entering a 24-hour shift position during the calendar, including transitioning from Fire Services Specialist, will receive pro-rated holiday hours.

APPENDIX F – FIT FOR DUTY EVALUATIONS

The purpose of this Appendix F is to continue to promote firefighter wellness, health & safety and to protect the general public.

This Appendix F supplements:

1. Aberdeen Fire Department Policy ADM-POL-006, as may be amended, "23.k.: All members shall maintain contact with their supervisor regarding their ability to perform the essential job functions as described in the employee's job description" and
2. The existing Aberdeen Fire Department Safety and Accident Prevention Program, Health and Wellness "Section 1.0 Statement of Intent: The Aberdeen Fire Department shall ensure that all members can perform the job functions as described in the employee's job description."

This Appendix F is intended to more specifically address requirements in current practice by which supervisors and/or management identify staff who present as unable to perform essential functions of their job description, and to describe the process by which the City may require verification that an employee is fit to return to duty.

Except as expressly modified by the terms of this Appendix F, the City retains all management rights, including but not limited to assignment and appropriate discipline of personnel, and taking emergency actions as needed to ensure proper functionality of the department.

Except as expressly modified by the terms of this Appendix F, an employee subject to a Fit for Duty Evaluation retains all rights and benefits provided by the CBA and state and/or federal laws, including but not limited to the right to use accrued paid/unpaid leave, to apply for disability benefits and workers' compensation benefits, to request reasonable accommodations to qualifying disabilities and to file grievances falling under the CBA.

I. DEFINITIONS:

Examining Official: A medical or behavioral health professional trained and experienced according to the nature of the concern identified in a request from the Fire Chief.

Fit for Duty Evaluation: ("FFDE"): A medical or behavioral health-examination by which an employee is determined to be physically or mentally capable of performing the functions of their position.

Timelines: All timelines identified in this Appendix may be extended by mutual written agreement. Both parties understand the importance of timeliness related to fitness for duty consideration

II. PROCEDURE:

Step 1.

The Fire Chief, or their designee, may formally request an FFDE upon his or her observations, or at the written request of two (2) employees, at least one of which must be an officer; the Fire Chief,

or their designee, will take action as soon as practicable, but not more than five (5) business days of notification or observation. The employees shall each create a written report based on observation or objective evidence explaining why the employee may be incapable of performing the functions of his or her job.

The FFDE must be job-related and consistent with business necessity and based on the employee's job description. The basis of the FFDE shall be limited to determining whether the employee can perform the functions of his/her position without posing a threat to themselves or others, with or without restriction, based on their current job description. To assist with his/her analysis, the health care professional conducting the FFDE will be provided a copy of the employee's job description, a department release for work form, and a copy of any written documentation of the employee's behavior or physical condition leading up to the current FFDE.

The request will be in writing and provided to the employee, either in person or via USPS certified mail, with one (1) copy each to the Union representing the employee, the City's Human Resources Director, and an appropriate Examining Official selected by the City

Step 2.

The Examining Official will examine the referred employee based on information supplied in the Fire Chiefs request and the accompanying job data identified in Step 1. The Examining Official will issue a report ("FFDE Report") which specifies whether the employee is (a) Fit for Duty, or (b) Fit for Duty with recommended actions or accommodations, or (c) Not Fit for Duty. The complete work product is maintained as confidential to the client and only disclosing information regarding the determination of, or progress toward, fitness for duty.

Step 3. Determination.

In each outcome, the Union will only be notified of the conclusion of the Examining Official as listed in Step 2. All related documentation, including documentation of verbal communications, will be maintained in the employee's FFDE file and/or medical file.

3.a Fit for Duty: Immediately upon determination of Fit for Duty, the employee may return to work.

3.b Fit for Duty with recommended actions or reasonable accommodations.

3.b.i In the event the employee is determined by the Examining Official to "require additional monitoring/referral, "the Fire Chief will inform the employee they are not to return to work before completing recommended actions or accommodations are in place. The employee, the Union, and the City will discuss available options and/or resources, including but not limited to the availability of an Employee Leave of Absence and related application (City of Aberdeen Personnel Policies).

3.b.ii A follow-up determination of fitness must be provided from the Examining Official before the employee may return to full duty.

3.b.iii The City will follow state and federal laws regarding reasonable accommodation.

3.c Not Fit for Duty

3.c.i If the Examining Official determines the employee is not fit for duty, the Fire Chief will inform the employee they are not returned to work.

3.c.ii If the employee disputes the determination, then they will follow procedures in Section III —Disputed Determination.

3.c.iii If the employee does not dispute the determination, the employee will be directed to HR to coordinate separation from the department. The City will follow state and federal laws regarding reasonable accommodation.

Step 4. Documentation.

Documentation of the FFDE determination only will be provided according to the parameters at Step 2 related to confidentiality and the employee, affected Union, Fire Chief, and Human Resources Director unless otherwise limited according to the process described above or applicable law.

III. DISPUTED DETERMINATION:

If an employee disputes the FFDE determination, then the employee may seek a second opinion from a professional who meets the definition of Examining Official in Section I. The employee shall provide written notice to the City within ten (10) calendar days of receiving the determination of their decision to dispute.

If the two FFDE are inconsistent, the City and the employee shall mutually select a third Examining Official to conduct a tie-breaking FFDE; if they are unable to agree on an Examining Official, the two Examining Officials shall mutually select a third Examining Official to conduct the tie-breaking FFDE. The determination of the third Examining Official is binding on the City and the employee.

In all disputed cases, the Examining Officials will review the same documentation and available history; the intent is that each examiner reviews the same information to determine fitness.

IV. COST OF FIT FOR DUTY EXAMINATION(S):

The City will cover the costs of initial FFDE and follow-up determination for Section 3.b.ii as needed. If the employee disputes the first FFDE and seeks a second opinion, FFDE will be at the employee's expense.

If a third FFDE is necessary, the Examining Official will be required to invoice the City and the employee each for one-half of the expense. Nothing in this section is intended to prevent either party from using their personal or any other insurance (including but not limited to worker's compensation).

V. USE OF LEAVE:

Employees will be placed on paid administrative leave through the initial FFDE. Thereafter, employees may use leave including but not limited to accrued or any other state or federal leave available, or access light-duty assignments as appropriate. In extraordinary situations, the employee may be placed on paid administrative leave pending referred "treatment" and through the final determination of "fitness" in the event no other leave or light-duty is available. Circumstances for assignment of leave status will be reviewed, and the appropriate allocation will be applied according to law, policy, and practice.

APPENDIX G – PARAMEDIC TRAINING PROGRAM

The intent of this Appendix G is to provide an opportunity for partnership between qualified IAFF employees and the City to provide tuition and fee support for employees to attend an accredited and approved Paramedic training program when there is a staffing need and budget availability,

Qualified IAFF Employee: An employee is qualified for tuition and fee support when that employee is currently in the Firefighter rank, is an EMT/EMT-IV with one certification cycle complete, is off probationary status, and has completed all prerequisites set by the Paramedic School.

Selection Process:

1. Fire Chief determines paramedic training financial support, and the maximum number of qualified IAFF employees for the year.
2. Employee must submit a letter of intent to the Emergency Medical Coordinator and Fire Chief requesting Paramedic School attendance that includes proof that they have completed the prerequisites set by the paramedic school.
3. If, after reviewing the documentation, the employee is determined to meet the qualifications, then the employee must pass a written EMT (Basic Life Support) exam with an 80% score; the exam will be based on the NREMT curriculum.
4. Once the employee passes the written exam, they must pass an oral board executed by the Emergency Medical Coordinator.
5. After the application, written exam, and oral board results, the Fire Chief will consider all materials, and relevant employment-related information, to determine whether an employee is eligible for paramedic school financial support.

While Enrolled in the Program: While the employee is attending the Paramedic School, the following shall apply:

1. The employee will be placed on a training schedule to meet the Paramedic School curriculum's needs.
2. Employee will receive their regular monthly salary and all benefits, calculated according to the collective bargaining agreement, and are deemed temporary duty assignment while attending courses.
3. Employee will not be eligible to work overtime unless approved by the Fire Chief.
4. The employee will follow ongoing training set forth by the training division to maintain annual and quarterly training (e.g., 60-second don, SCBA training, EMS training, etc.) within the parameters of the paramedic school curriculum and scheduling. The training division will review the Paramedic School curriculum and schedule the employee to their

regularly assigned shifts as long as the changes do not affect the employee needs to attend classroom time, hospital time, ride site study time.

- a. During the Paramedic School curriculum, the employee attending Paramedic School will be scheduled to 'Paramedic Training.' 'Paramedic Training' will not be counted towards the maximum members off shift.

City of Aberdeen Financial Support for Training:

1. The City will pay the selected and approved Paramedic Program for all tuition, fees, books, and required supplies.
2. The City will not be responsible for housing.
3. The City will not be liable for transportation to and from the school, hospital sites, and agency ride sites.
4. The employee is financially responsible for all prerequisites set by the Paramedic Program, except:
 - a. In the event an employee is accepted to a paramedic program, which does not include Anatomy-Physiology or Medical Terminology courses, the costs of those as prerequisites will be reimbursed to the employee.

Out of Paramedic School:

1. Once the employee becomes certified as a Paramedic in Grays Harbor County, their salary will be converted to Paramedic Premium according to the CBA.
2. If the member does not provide a four (4) year employment commitment to the City, the amount the member will be required to reimburse to the City is following:
 - a. 12 or fewer month commitment after Paramedic School: 0% deducted from total cost; employee owes 100% of total cost
 - b. 13 through 24-month commitment after Paramedic School: 25% deducted from total cost; employee owes 75% of total cost
 - c. 25 through 36-month commitment after Paramedic School: 50% deducted from total cost; employee owes 50% of total cost
 - d. 37 through 48-month commitment after Paramedic School: 75% deducted from total cost; employee owes 25% of total cost
 - e. After the 48 the month commitment after Paramedic School: 100% deducted from total cost; employee has satisfied the agreement and owes 0% of total cost.

The total cost is the sum of tuition, fees, books, and required supplies.

3. In the event the employee does not complete Paramedic School,
 - a. The same four (4) year reimbursement schedule will apply to the total cost paid; and
 - b. The member(s) will continue with their previously held position.
4. For extraordinary circumstances, the City will waive the cost of Paramedic School for the employee. (e.g., death, severe medical issues, line of duty disability, etc.).