



To all Local Presidents,

Please read the email below from former UFOA local 854 President Al Hagan. As you know Jake Lemonda is running for IAFF General Secretary Treasurer of the IAFF. We endorsed Jake a while ago and we hope you will watch his video. <https://vimeo.com/490955299>

If you haven't done so yet, please register for the IAFF convention. It is only \$100. Jake needs our support and votes. He is from our State and will do a great job as IAFF GST.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Aside from the right temperament for the job, Jake also has the right qualifications. He has a degree in economics from Queens College of the City University of New York. He has been a trustee of various funds in NYC including the Fire Pension Fund and the UFOA Annuity fund. The combined assets of these funds are in the billions of dollars.

As an example of how Jake Lemonda is not afraid to stand up to powerful interests, let me relate a story from back when I was the president of IAFF Local 854 (UFOA).

In 2010 Byron Wien, a Vice President of the Blackstone Group (Investment Managers) was on a webcast with clients. He answered a question about government deficits saying:

"The retirement benefits for state workers, really not only in New York, California and New Jersey, but throughout the country, are very generous. Too generous. And it's very hard to change that....but I think we have to be more realistic. We literally can't afford the benefits we have given our retirees in state and local governments and we have to change that."

Shortly thereafter, Blackstone came before the NYC Fire Pension Fund with a huge investment proposal worth hundreds of millions dollars. Despite pressure from City Hall and the NYC Comptroller's Office, Jake voted against the proposal saying that he would never vote to use our members money to buy the bullets that would be used against them! He stood strong in the face of real power...making real threats concerning fiduciary responsibility. When he cast that "no" vote, he wasn't just standing up for the members of the FDNY, he was standing strong for every firefighter in North America. [Business Insider](#)

*James "Jake" Lemonda is the right person for the job of General Secretary
Treasurer of the IAFF. He knows how to operate on the fire floor or the board
room. He has the right temperament, real spine, the right qualifications and most
importantly, Jake's moral compass is true!*

*If you want to do the best thing for yourself, your family and our great union, vote for
Jake as our next GST!*

*Respectfully,
Al Hagan
Local 854 - UFOA (retired)*

[IMG_1519 on Vimeo](#)



Fraternally,

The
NYSPPFA

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