

AGREEMENT BETWEEN

CITY OF RICHLAND

AND

**INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS UNION
RANK AND FILE, LOCAL #1052**

2023-2025

January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2025

Resolution No. 2023-121, Contract No. 286-23



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THIS AGREEMENT is entered into by and between the City of Richland, Washington, hereinafter referred to as the City, and the International Association of Fire Fighters Union, Local #1052, hereinafter referred to as the Union. It is the purpose of this Agreement to achieve and maintain harmonious relations between the City and the Union, to provide for equitable and peaceful adjustment of differences, which may arise, and to establish proper standards of wages, hours and other conditions of employment.

ARTICLE 1 -- RECOGNITION

1.1 Unit Description

The City hereby recognizes the Union, as the exclusive bargaining agent for all classifications enumerated in [Appendix "A"](#), and all employees of the Fire & Emergency Services Department except the positions of Battalion Chief (" B C ") and above, non-uniform secretary/clerical positions, employees of the Department that are not uniformed employees as defined by RCW 41.56, and confidential employees.

1.2 Communications and Notices

Any notices to be given hereunder by either party to the other, except formal grievances, shall be in writing either by personal delivery or by first class mail as follows:

To the City

Human Resources Director
625 Swift Blvd., MS-12
Richland, Washington 99352

To the Union

President
Post Office Box 607
Richland, Washington 99352

ARTICLE 2 -- NON-DISCRIMINATION

Charges of discriminatory conduct by either party to this agreement except claims of discrimination for Union membership or activity are not subject to appeal or disposition through the arbitration procedure set forth herein, but may be taken to other appropriate State and Federal Agencies for adjudication. Nothing in this section shall be deemed to prevent either party from fully representing its constituents and interest in any appropriate forum relative to questions of discrimination except arbitration.

2.1 The City and the Union agree not to discriminate against any employee for the employee's membership or non-Union membership in the Union.

2.2 Whenever words denoting the masculine gender are used in this Agreement, they are intended to apply equally to either gender.

ARTICLE 3 -- UNION SECURITY AND PAYROLL DEDUCTION

3.1 Dues Processing

The Union will notify the City of its initiation fees and dues. The City will deduct such initiation fees and Union dues from the wages of the employees who have authorized such deductions, when the Union notifies the City to begin deductions. The City will forward collected fees and dues to the Union each pay period, to the address and name provided by the Union, accompanied by a list of dues-paying employees and the amount of their dues and elected Union-provided benefits.

3.2 Revocation

An employee may revoke their authorization for payroll deduction of payments to the Union by the employee providing written notice to the Union. The Union shall notify the City of the revocation. The City will process the employee's request to end the deduction as soon as administratively feasible, either effective on the first payroll, but not later than the second payroll, after the City's receipt of the employee's written notice. For purposes of revocation, the employee may provide written notice by email to the Union, who will provide the notice to the City.

3.3 Indemnification

The Union will indemnify the City against any and all liability which may arise by reason of the deduction by the City of money for Union membership dues from employee's wages in accordance with copies of the written employee authorizations furnished to the City by the Union.

ARTICLE 4 -- UNION BUSINESS

4.1 Except as provided in Section 4.2 below, a Union member who is an employee in the bargaining unit will be granted time off without pay while attending Union associated conventions, seminars, meetings, and Union/City litigation matters, provided (1) the employee notifies the on-duty BC or above in writing at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the time off; (2) the City will have sufficient employees available to man the Department during this time off; and (3) an employee called in to replace another employee, who is off on Union business (including time spent in labor negotiations), will receive straight time pay and overtime pay as required by the FLSA. The Union will reimburse the City the amount over straight time pay if the cost of replacement exceeds the member's pay at the regular hourly rate. Members of the negotiating team while on duty at said time they are negotiating while within the City of Richland shall be on-duty available for response.

4.2 The City shall deposit twelve (12) hours per bargaining unit position per year into the Union's Business Leave Bank. This bank will be used, at the discretion of the

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principal officers of the Union, to offset the cost of time off for Union business. Union Business Leave will be paid back to the City from the leave bank on an hour for hour basis unless the leave causes overtime, in which case, it will be paid back at the overtime rate.

Other than payroll administration, the Union shall be responsible for the administration of the total annual hours that goes into the bank. A maximum of 400 hours may be carried over from year to year. The City shall have sufficient employees available to staff the Department during this time off and an employee called in to replace another employee, who is off on such business, will receive overtime pay, which shall be cost neutral to the City.

The on-duty BC shall be notified by a principal officer of the Union, at least forty-eight (48) hours prior, that a member will be off on Union Business. It shall be the responsibility of the BC to document the absence and arrange for the replacement of staffing if necessary. Union Business Leave shall not affect a member's ability to use accrued leaves or the City's ability to meet operational needs.

- 4.2.1 In 2009, the Union and the City agreed to create a Union Business Leave Bank (UBLB) by reducing each bargaining unit member's sick leave accrual by two (2) or four (4) hours per month in exchange for depositing twelve (12) hours per bargaining unit position per year into the UBLB.
- 4.3 The Union shall retain the privilege of holding Union Meetings at the Central Fire Station provided that on-duty employees shall, with the exception of the Union President, Vice-President and Secretary remain at their respective duty stations. Audio-visual equipment linking the Central with other stations has been installed by the City, and said audio-visual equipment may be used by the Union for its meetings. Operating costs will be borne by the City. The Union will bear the replacement or repair cost for physical damage to equipment other than warranty or normal wear. In the event the equipment is out of order, one company within four (4) miles of the Central Station may move up to the Central Station for Union meetings.
- 4.4 No Union member or officer shall conduct any Union business on City scheduled active duty/structured duty work time on the City's premises, except during breaks, lunch, regular and special Union meetings or as provided within [Article 4](#).
- 4.5 Nothing in this Article shall preclude the two parties from meeting at reasonable times to discuss areas of mutual concern when mutually agreed.
- 4.6 Professional Standards
In keeping with professional ideals and standards, neither the Union nor the City shall

invoke the name of the other party as a sponsor or supporter to any fund-raising activities without the written agreement of the duly designated representative of the sponsoring party.

ARTICLE 5 -- ILLNESS, INJURY, AND RETURNING TO WORK

5.1 Occupational Illness and Injury and Occupational Disability Allowance

The City administers employee leaves associated with occupational illness and injury. The City also administers the process by which employees shall reintegrate into the workplace when in recovery, when released to full duty or when restrictions are placed on the employee's full return to duty. Occupational leaves are administered in accordance with this Agreement, Department policies, and City policies enacted to conform to State and Federal laws.

5.2 The City will provide an Occupational Disability Allowance ("ODA") for employees injured or occupationally diseased ("occupational injury") in the line of duty when a claim ("L&I claim") is approved and the employee is determined eligible for time-loss payments under State Workers' Compensation Law. ODA shall substitute for time loss payments the employee would be otherwise eligible to receive, until ODA benefits for the employee are exhausted or the employee otherwise becomes ineligible for time loss payments. Employees shall receive ODA only for hours of their normally scheduled shifts during the approved ODA period.

5.2.1 The City may choose to provisionally approve an employee's eligibility for ODA until a claim determination is made, including determining whether the injury/disease is an approved L&I claim and determining whether the employee is eligible for time loss payments. If an L&I claim or time loss payments are denied, the ODA received by the employee provisionally must be repaid by the employee through payroll deductions from the employee's other available paid time off or through other arrangements for employee repayment to the City.

5.2.2 Approved ODA will continue during absences from regular shifts due to the injury/occupational disease, for as long as such job related injury/occupational disease continues, subject to a maximum limit of one (1) calendar year from the determined L&I Claim Date, plus one day. This calendar year of ODA eligibility includes any amount of time the employee worked on a regular duty or on a light duty assignment during that calendar year. After one calendar year, the employee shall be eligible for consideration of time loss payments for the L&I claim, when time-loss is approved by the Department of Labor & Industries, Workers' Compensation division.

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- 5.2.3 The shift of injury is considered hours worked and is paid at one hundred percent (100%) of the employee's straight time wages and normal additional pay and benefits. This day is not counted against the ODA one-year maximum.
- 5.2.4 The employee shall receive one hundred percent (100%) of the employee's straight time wages and normal additional pay and benefits after the employee has missed two (2) scheduled shifts for 24-hour shift employees, or four (4) scheduled shifts for forty (40) hour employees, retroactive back to the first full shift missed. If an employee is not absent for more than two (2) scheduled shifts or four (4) scheduled shifts as described above, the employee shall not be eligible for ODA benefits for the days missed, unless the employee later misses shifts which trigger eligibility within the one calendar year eligibility period of the claim.
- 5.2.5 For the remaining shifts within the ODA calendar year, ODA benefits shall be equal to eighty percent (80%) of regular straight time wages plus normal additional pay and benefits for shifts missed. The employee may choose to make up the remaining twenty percent (20%) of the regular straight time wages with accrued or accumulated sick leave, vacation leave, or State Sick Leave.
- 5.2.6 During the period of ODA, the employee shall continue to accrue all leaves they would have otherwise accrued at a full, unreduced accrual level when the employee is on one hundred percent (100%) pay. When the employee is on eighty percent (80%) pay, their leave accruals shall be reduced to eighty percent (80%) of normal accrual, unless the employee elects to supplement their pay to one hundred percent (100%) using available leaves.
- 5.2.7 Employees on ODA shall receive full, unreduced holiday pay when a holiday occurs while on ODA. The occurrence of a holiday during an employee's ODA leave does not extend the one (1) calendar year ODA maximum by an additional day.
- 5.2.8 The ODA wage is considered "kept on salary" for purposes of time-loss compensation. Therefore, applicable payroll deductions and contributions, voluntary or otherwise, will only be subtracted from the portion of ODA which is in excess of time loss benefits, and from any optional leave supplement to ODA the employee may have elected when at the 80% ODA benefit level.
- 5.2.9 Except for taxes and LEOFF retirement contributions, all other applicable payroll deductions and contributions, voluntary or otherwise, shall be subtracted from ODA wages that are equal to time loss benefits. Employees may elect to make LEOFF retirement contributions from ODA wages and thereby continue to earn service credit hours for the ODA wage periods.

- 5.2.10 ODA wages in excess of time-loss benefits, and optional leave supplement to ODA the employee may have elected when at the 80% ODA benefit level, are taxable wages and subject to required LEOFF retirement contributions.
- 5.2.11 When the employee has insufficient eligible wages to cover the employee's deductions and contributions, the employee shall pay the balance of only the required deductions and contributions directly to the City each pay period. Voluntary contributions shall cease until and unless the employee's eligible wages are sufficient each pay period.
- 5.2.12 The City may elect to pay the required deductions and contributions on the employee's behalf. Such payment is contingent upon the employee providing written pre-authorization for the City to deduct from the employee's future wages or the cash value of other available benefits. The employee must also agree in advance to repay the City for required deductions paid on the employee's behalf by direct payment to the City, should insufficient wages or benefits be available with which to repay the City. Such repayment shall occur upon the employee's return to work or separation from employment, in accordance with a schedule determined by the City.

5.3 Returning to Work from Occupational Leave

Employees absent from any portion of one or more normally scheduled shifts due to an approved or pending-approval of an occupational illness or injury leave must receive clearance by the City before returning to duty. Clearance process and documentation requirements are determined by the City, and may include documentation from the employee's healthcare provider(s) and/or, at the City's expense and choice, documentation from the City's choice of designated healthcare provider(s) when the City determines a medical second opinion is appropriate.

- 5.3.1 Employees may be returned to full and unrestricted duty, modified duty, or full duty within a work hardening progression. If more than one employee is eligible for and agrees to an occupational modified duty assignment, the City shall split available work as evenly as possible among the eligible employees assigned to modified duty.
- 5.3.2 Work hardening progression occurs for a period of no more than two (2) consecutive weeks, during which the employee is released to full duty but gradually increases their performance of full duty assignments on their normal shift. Work hardening is required when the employee has been off work and/or on restricted duty for an occupational injury/illness for 60 or more days. An employee may request work hardening for periods of less than 60 days. Work hardening is not used when the

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employee is restricted from their normal duty. Employees on work hardening progressions are not considered part of minimum staffing.

- 5.3.3 Modified duty may include reduced hours; reduced work tasks; reassignment temporarily to work tasks not normally performed by the employee; medical rehabilitation to a maximum of two hours per day; or other approved job modifications; and shall not last longer than three (3) calendar months unless approved by the Human Resources Director and Fire Chief or designee. Modified duty assignments are completed on the employee's regular shift or, upon approval of the healthcare provider(s) and the Fire Chief or designee, on an alternate shift. Shift employees assigned to a day schedule on a modified duty assignment while on occupational disability allowance shall revert to the day shift accrual rates for the duration of the day shift assignment, and shall follow the formula for leave conversion as defined in [Article 22](#), and shall receive State Sick Leave accrual from the beginning of the modified duty assignment. Employees on modified duty are not considered part of minimum staffing.
- 5.3.4 A modified duty job description detailing the proposed work the employee shall perform is developed from the designated healthcare provider(s) report detailing the employee's limitations and restrictions, as well as operational needs. The modified duty hours shall not exceed the employee's normal scheduled hours each shift. The designated healthcare provider and the City must approve the modified duty job description. Following this approval, the modified duty assignment must be offered and accepted by the employee prior to the employee returning to work.
- 5.3.4.1 Employees declining modified duty job description assignments shall lose eligibility for time-loss, and, as a consequence, shall lose eligibility for ODA. These employees shall remain eligible for other benefits allowed under the claim.
- 5.3.5 Employees shall not be required to report for modified duty assignments during any period that the employee had, prior to the disability, scheduled as a first (1st) or second (2nd) pick of vacation, as provided by the Department vacation policy. The employee, at their option, shall be placed on vacation leave as previously scheduled and shall use accrued vacation leave for all hours of those scheduled days off.
- 5.3.6 Employees must comply with the requirements of the modified duty or may be removed from the assignment, in order to protect the employee from potential re-injury, aggravation of injury, or slowing of the employee's recovery and reintegration into the workforce.

- 5.3.6.1 Employees who do not comply with modified duty or work hardening assignments and requirements shall lose eligibility for continued ODA benefits. These employees will also not be eligible for time loss benefits but shall remain eligible for other benefits allowed under the claim.

5.4 Reoccurrence of Occupational Illness or Injury

When an employee has returned to full, unrestricted duty from an occupational claim that has been closed by the Department of Labor & Industries (“L&I”), and L&I subsequently reopen the original claim, the reopened claim shall be treated as a new claim for purposes of ODA benefits.

5.5 Occupational Illness or Injury Extending Past One Year

- 5.5.1. When an employee’s occupational illness or injury leave extends beyond one (1) calendar year, the employee shall no longer receive ODA, and shall be eligible for time-loss benefits when approved under the claim.

- 5.5.1.1 While on time-loss benefits, neither the City nor the employee shall make LEOFF retirement plan contributions, and the employee shall not earn service credit. The employee may choose to “buy back” service credit when allowed by the Department of Retirement Systems rules.

- 5.5.2 When an employee has been determined through the claim process to be unable to return to the job they held when they were injured/illness, the City will retain the employee through their period of ODA benefit entitlement. The employee may choose to initiate separation of their employment for medical reasons, and in such cases the City shall provide the employee the remaining ODA wage benefits that are in excess of time-loss wages, and proceed with separation of the employee. The employee may then receive time-loss wages and other benefits if authorized through the claim.

- 5.5.3 An employee who has exceeded one (1) calendar year on an occupational leave shall retain continued employment only when on a medical leave approved by the Human Resources Director and Fire Chief or designee. The decision to continue employment shall include considerations of operational need, the prognosis of and timeframe anticipated for returning to the employee’s job of injury/illness, the employee’s skillset and potential for performance of other jobs in the City or Department, and other considerations of the City. A decision to continue employment under this Section is not binding, and may be amended or rescinded by the City as deemed appropriate at any time.

5.5.3.1 An employee who's employment has not been extended as described in 5.5.3 may be retained as an employee with no entitlement to the employee's job of injury, while a determination and decision is made regarding the availability and appropriateness of other employment and rehabilitation options.

5.6 Non-occupational Illness, Injury and Returning to Work

The City provides and administers various forms of paid and unpaid leave for employees ill or injured in non-occupational circumstances. Employees are entitled to paid time off as specified in this Agreement, to include sick leave and vacation leave or other time off as provided. Employees may also be entitled to State and/or Federal leave, as referenced in [Article 21](#).

5.6.1 Employees on a non-occupational illness or injury who are absent for 60 or more consecutive calendar days may be required to submit a healthcare provider certification releasing them to duty and certifying they can safely perform all their job duties. Employees who desire modified duty assignment or work hardening progression shall be subject to the same return to work process and approvals as described in this Article for occupational illness or injury and returning to work, when available and at the discretion of the Fire Chief or designee. Additionally, priority for modified duty is always given to employee(s) on occupational modified duty, and employees on approved non-occupational modified duty may have their assignment ended should the need for an occupationally-injured employee arise. Such employees shall be paid their regular wage during hours they are assigned to an approved non-occupational modified duty or work hardening progression assignment.

5.6.2 Modified duty for non-occupational illness or injury is available only to employees having sick or annual leave time available and shall not constitute a position nor extend beyond available paid leave time.

ARTICLE 6 -- HOLIDAYS

6.1 Except as provided in Section 6.6 for employees working 40-hours per week, it shall be the practice of the City to pay cash compensation in lieu of time off for holidays.

6.2 The following holidays are recognized:

New Year's Day
President's Day
Memorial Day

Veteran's Day
Thanksgiving Day
Day after Thanksgiving

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Independence Day	Christmas Eve
Labor Day	Christmas Day
Floating Holiday	

Each of the above-listed holidays, except for Christmas and New Year's Day, shall be observed on the same day that the holiday is observed by the City. The Christmas holiday shall be observed on December 25 of each calendar year, and the New Year's Day holiday shall be observed on January 1st of each calendar year.

- 6.3 The floating holiday shall be paid during the pay period of the employee's choice, as indicated on the employee's time card. All employees shall schedule their floating holiday in a pay period in the year it is accrued or it is forfeited. The employee receiving the holiday pay shall be on the same work routine as the remainder of the shift.
- 6.4 Twenty-four (24)-hour-shift personnel shall be paid 14 hours pay at their regular rate of pay for each recognized holiday during the pay period in which the holiday falls, in addition to the employee's regular pay.
- 6.5 An employee on any leave except "Leave Without Pay" shall receive holiday pay for any and all holidays occurring during the term of said leave (this includes Occupational Disability Allowance Time listed in [Article 5](#)).
- 6.6 Forty (40) hour week (day shift) personnel shall receive the above holidays (Section 6.2) off. In the event a holiday should fall on the employee's regularly scheduled day off, the employee shall receive another regularly scheduled workday off in lieu of the holiday.

ARTICLE 7 -- UNION BULLETIN BOARDS

- 7.1 The City agrees to furnish and maintain suitable boards in a convenient place in each station and work area to be used by the Union. The Union shall limit its posting of notices and bulletins to such bulletin boards.

ARTICLE 8 -- CITY RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- 8.1 Subject to the provisions of this Agreement, the Union recognizes:
- A. The prerogatives of the City to operate and manage its affairs in all respects and in accordance with its responsibilities and powers and;
 - B. That the City reserves those rights concerned with the management and operation of the Department which includes, but is not limited to the following:

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- a) To recruit, hire, assign, transfer, and promote members to the positions within this Department,
- b) To suspend, demote, discharge, or take other disciplinary actions against members for just cause,
- c) To determine methods, means, and personnel necessary for the Department operations,
- d) To control the Department Budget,
- e) To introduce and use new or improved methods, equipment or facilities,
- f) To take lawful actions, not in violation of this Agreement, in order to assure the proper functions of the Department.

ARTICLE 9 -- PREVAILING RIGHTS

- 9.1 All rights and privileges held by the employees at the present time which are not included in this Agreement shall remain in force, unchanged and unaffected in any manner. These rights and privileges shall include but not be limited to the following:
- a) Employees shall have the right to retain store call in its present form, provided that shift officers shall consider energy conservation in scheduling and implementing store call.
 - b) Employees shall maintain the right to use "crew room" during leisure hours.
 - c) Employees shall maintain kitchen and sleeping rights.
 - d) Employees shall retain guest and personal telephone privileges in local area and agree to charge all personal long distance calls to a non-City number.

ARTICLE 10 -- PERFORMANCE OF DUTY - RULES AND REGULATIONS

- 10.1 Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to give an employee the right to strike and no employee shall strike or refuse to perform their assigned duties to the best of their ability during the term of this Agreement.
- 10.2 The Union agrees that it will not condone or cause any strikes, slowdowns, mass sick call or any other form of work stoppage, or interference of normal operations of the Department during the term of this Agreement.
- 10.3 The Union agrees that its members shall comply in full with the Fire & Emergency Services Department Rules and Regulations, including those related to conduct and work performance.
- 10.4 The City agrees that the Department Rules and Regulations, Policies and Procedures, and Guidelines, promulgated after the effective date of this Agreement, which affect working conditions and performance, shall be posted electronically or on the Union

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bulletin boards, and shall be subject to the grievance procedure, if brought within 15 days of the date the order is posted, as to whether or not such Rules, Policies and/or Guidelines are in conflict with any provisions of this Agreement.

- 10.5 The Union recognizes the City's right to establish minimum qualifications that must be met by newly hired Firefighters prior to being assigned to shift duties. A copy of these established minimum qualifications shall be furnished to the Union, and any changes to said qualifications shall be provided to the Union at least thirty (30) days prior to implementation of the change or changes. Nothing in this clause shall be viewed as a waiver by the Union of their existing rights to bargain such issues as provided by RCW 41.56, nor does it create any new rights.

ARTICLE 11 -- UNIFORMS

- 11.1 All uniforms, protective clothing, devices required of employees in performance of their duties and cleaning thereof shall be furnished by the City, except dress shoes, shorts, undershirts, socks, and belts, unless the City requires they be worn.
- 11.2 City shall provide up to four (4) new t-shirts annually and up to one (1) sweatshirt every other year. They will be laundered by employee.

ARTICLE 12 -- SHIFT TRADES

- 12.1 Employees shall have the right to exchange shifts with equally qualified persons, with the approval of their BCs.

ARTICLE 13 -- PERSONNEL REDUCTION

- 13.1 In the case of personnel reduction, the employee having the least seniority in the Fire & Emergency Services Department shall be laid off first. Time in the Fire & Emergency Services Department shall be given first and utmost consideration. In the case of reduction in rank, time in position shall be given first consideration. If time in position is equal, scores on the Certification List(s) shall govern, such that the employee with the lowest score on the most recent certification list shall be reduced-in-rank first. If scores on the certification list are equal, then time in the Fire & Emergency Services Department shall govern such that the employee with the least time shall be reduced-in-rank first.
- 13.2 When employees are laid off, their names shall be placed on an employment list in order of seniority, with the employee having the most seniority at the head of the list, and the person with the least seniority at the bottom. This list shall stand for a period of two (2) years and no new employees may be hired during that period until the laid-off personnel have been given the opportunity to return to work.

- 13.3 Persons being re-promoted to positions held prior to being reduced-in-rank shall be re-promoted in the reverse order from which they were reduced in rank.

ARTICLE 14 -- WORKING OUT OF CLASSIFICATION - EFFECT ON PAY

- 14.1 Any person covered by this Agreement who is required to accept the responsibilities and carry out the duties of the position or rank above that which he normally holds shall be compensated in the following manner:

14.1.1 An employee shall receive compensation per shift for a minimum number of hours worked out-of-classification, as set forth below. In the event two (2) employees work an equal twelve (12) hours out-of-classification for the same position, during a twenty-four (24) hour shift, the employee working the 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. portion shall receive the out-of-classification pay. No more than the compensation set forth below per position, per shift, shall be paid. Any employee working out-of-classification will be paid the higher amount only for those shifts he works out-of-classification. At the completion of six (6) continuous months out-of-classification, the employee will be entitled to the E step rate of pay in the out-of-classification position, so long as the employee continues to work the out-of-classification position. This provision shall apply to all suppression officer positions covered by this Agreement.

0.75% x F step Firefighter for minimum of 8 hours

14.2 Rank and File Captains working in the Battalion Chief bargaining unit

14.2.1 If the Battalion Chief ("BC") position is unable to be filled by a BC, then a qualified off duty Rank and File Captain will be called in to work the position of BC.

14.2.2 Pay will correspond to the OT Pay Article in the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) for Rank and File, in addition, the employee will receive "Out of Classification Pay" any time they work in the BC's position.

14.2.3 If an eligible Captain is not available, an eligible on duty Captain will be upgraded to the position of BC with the current call-in policy being utilized to replace the Captain who was upgraded to BC. However, if staffing levels allow for a Captain to be upgraded and enough personnel are on duty that a call-in is not necessary then no call-in will take place.

Note: The upgrading of a Captain to the Position of BC will not impact the ability of on duty Rank and File personnel to utilize accrued leaves. (Ex. If a Captain is

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upgraded to BC and during the shift somebody would like to utilize an accrued leave then they will have the ability to do so, and another Rank and File member will be called in to replace that employee.)

- 14.2.4 Upgrade pay for the on duty Captain who is required to fill the BC position will be two percent (2%) of the monthly pay for F step Captain for any shift or portion of a shift in which they are required to assume the duties of a BC.
- 14.2.5 If no eligible Captains are available or wish to accept the call-in, Rank and File members shall not be ordered in prior to the BC's being ordered in.
- 14.2.6 Rank and File Captains working in the BC bargaining unit is an arrangement intended to promote succession planning. The Fire Chief or designee and BCs' representatives will meet to update policies related to this section, including limiting overtime eligibility to Captains who are both interested in BC career progression and who are sufficiently qualified for such progression.

ARTICLE 15 -- VACANCIES AND PROMOTIONS

- 15.1 The right to determine whether or not a vacancy in any position covered by this Agreement is to be filled, and, if so, when, is vested solely in the City.
- 15.2 If a permanent vacancy should occur, the City may not through a series of "out of classification" appointments avoid promoting individuals to gain advantage of the lower pay scale provided by this article.
- 15.3 All vacancies shall be filled through a competitive examination process determined by the City of Richland Personnel Committee.
- 15.4 When it is determined by the City that a vacancy in a position covered by this Agreement is to be filled, appointment to the position shall be made by the appointing authority from among the top three (3) names on the certification list established for the position. If requested by the employee(s), the appointing authority, for informational purposes only, shall give the passed-over candidate(s) valid written reasons for not being selected.
- 15.5 Promotional testing for Lieutenants and Captains will be conducted in a single test in April of even years. Candidates for either rank will be subject to the same processes during the test, including the same study materials, the same applications requirements (exception: the prerequisites for testing described in the job descriptions for each rank remain), the same test components, but with distinct scoring criteria for each rank. Two (2) lists will be formed from the testing process; one for Lieutenant and one for Captain. Promotional lists shall be in effect for two (2) years. The City may void the list if there are less than three (3)

names on the list.

Employees remaining on the list will be given a written valid reason for the cancellation.

- 15.6 The provisions of this Article do not apply to the filling of vacancies in positions not covered by this Agreement. See Section 1.1.

ARTICLE 16 -- GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

- 16.1 A grievance means a claim or dispute by one employee or group of employees with respect to the interpretation and application of the provisions of this Agreement. Any issue that has been appealed to the Personnel Committee with the approval of the Union shall not be considered a grievance or subject to the grievance procedure herein and vice versa.
- 16.2 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.
- 16.3 Grievances as herein defined shall be processed in the following manner:
- 1) **Preliminary Procedure.** An employee or group of employees, who feel they have a grievance, may present such grievance within thirty (30) calendar days of when such matter comes to the attention of the employee. Such grievance should be submitted in writing to the employee's supervisor, preferably on a standard form, who shall attempt to resolve it within twenty one (21) calendar days after it is presented to the supervisor; provided that no grievance in this stage shall be pursued beyond the Fire & Emergency Services Director.
 - 2) **Step 1.** If the grievance is not resolved in the preliminary procedure, the employee shall have ten (10) calendar days to notify the Union Grievance Committee, in which case it shall be settled in the following manner: The Union Grievance Committee, upon receiving a written and signed petition, shall determine within ten (10) calendar days if a grievance exists. If in their opinion no grievance exists, no further action is necessary. If a grievance does exist, they shall, with or without the physical presence of the aggrieved employee, present the grievance to the Fire & Emergency Services Director in writing within fifteen (15) calendar days who shall attempt to resolve it within twenty one (21) calendar days after it has been presented to the Director. The written grievance shall include a statement including the specific Article(s) or Section(s) of the Agreement allegedly violated, the specific facts, and specific remedy sought.
 - 3) **Step 2.** If the employee or employees are not satisfied with the response of the Fire & Emergency Services Director, the written grievance may be presented to the City Manager, together with all pertinent materials, by Union representatives within

thirty (30) calendar days of receipt of the Fire & Emergency Services Director's response. The City Manager shall attempt to resolve the grievance within twenty one (21) calendar days.

- 4) **Step 3.** Any grievance involving the interpretation or application of this Agreement, which is not resolved in accordance with the foregoing procedure, may be referred to arbitration by the Union within thirty (30) calendar days after receipt of the City Manager's answer in step 2. The arbitrator shall be on the arbitrator panel of the Washington Public Employment Relations Commission (PERC) and shall be selected in accordance with the established procedures of the PERC. The cost of arbitrator and court reporter, if used by either party, shall be borne half (1/2) by the City and half (1/2) by the Union. Each party is responsible for its own costs and attorney's fees. The arbitrator shall render their decision based on the interpretation and application of the Agreement. The decision shall be final and binding upon the parties to the grievance, provided that the decision does not involve action by the City which is beyond its jurisdiction, and provided further that the decision of the arbiter is not arbitrary, nor capricious, nor exceeds their authority.
- 16.4 The City and the Union may agree to extend the time limits of any of the above steps if mutually agreed to by both parties. Any deadlines falling on a Saturday, Sunday, or observed holiday shall be extended to the following day.
- 16.5 Neither the arbitrator nor any other person or persons involved in the grievance procedure shall have the power to negotiate new agreements or to add to, subtract from, or otherwise change any of the present provisions of this Agreement.
- 16.6 No settlement of a grievance shall be contrary to the terms of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 17 -- WAGES

- 17.1 The types of employment and wages for all employees covered by this Agreement shall be listed in [Appendix "A"](#), attached hereto and by this reference incorporated herein.
- 17.2 When an employee assigned to day shift is promoted and transferred back to an Operations Shift, the aforementioned action will result in that employee being placed in the E step of the appropriate range.
- 17.3 Effective 1/1/2023, "base pay" shall mean wages listed in Exhibit A.

ARTICLE 18 -- HOURS

- 18.1 The hours of duty shall be approximately 48.154 hours per week as presently worked,

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provided a total of seventeen (17) Kelly Days shall be scheduled off. Ten (10) shifts off will be periodically scheduled on a rotating basis. Seven (7) more shifts may be scheduled off, by the employee, prior to July first, on a manpower available basis, or as scheduled in a vacation pick period. Kelly Days shall be scheduled in accordance with Department Kelly Day and Vacation polices.

18.1.1 40-hour per week, day-shift positions shall serve three (3) years in position from the time of appointment unless appointed through the Mandatory Assignment Procedure. A member may serve additional years in position at the discretion of the Fire & Emergency Services Director.

18.1.2 For employees classified as day-shift positions the hours of work shall be forty (40) hours per week. The work schedule shall normally be four (4) ten (10) hour days. A schedule of five (5) eight (8) hour days per week may be scheduled with the approval of the Director of Fire & Emergency Services.

18.1.3 For recruit Firefighters, the hours of work shall be 48.154 hours a week to be scheduled by the Director.

18.2 Employee structured work hours, for scheduled activities, shall be 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Structured work hours for Sundays shall be from 8:00 a.m. to 12 noon. Holidays except Christmas and Thanksgiving shall be from 8:00 a.m. to 12 noon. Christmas and Thanksgiving shall be from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

The Union and the City recognize that time sensitive projects, public service and education events, training, and other commitments sometimes dictate that work continue into, or occur during, non-structured hours. Both parties agree to strive for balance in such work and the BCs are authorized to approve time during structured hours to off-set crew time spent working during non-structured hours. Emergency readiness, incident response and associated work shall be performed throughout the shift, regardless of structured hours.

ARTICLE 19 -- FIRE EDUCATION INCENTIVE PROGRAM

19.1 The purpose of this program is to provide incentive pay for members of the Fire Department to seek additional education in order to meet the ever-changing needs and demands placed upon the Fire Department.

19.2 This program is based on college degrees within the Fire & Emergency Medical Services Administration or closely related fields of study.

19.3 All applications for education incentive shall be presented to the Fire & Emergency Services Director for approval. Personnel achieving an approved Associate's or Bachelor's degree shall

be paid the percentage indicated in Article 19.5 for said degree.

19.4 Approved degree fields for Education Incentive pay include: Fire Service Administration, EMS Administration, Business Administration, Public Administration, and Healthcare Administration, or equivalent as approved by the Fire & Emergency Services Director. Degrees must be attained from a Regionally Accredited College or University in order to qualify for Education Incentive pay.

19.5 Requirements for Education Incentive Pay

<u>% OF BASE PAY</u>	<u>BA/BS DEGREE/CREDITS</u>
5%	Approved AA degree or 50% BA/BS credit requirements
10% total	Approved BA/BS/Master's Degree

19.5.1 Completion of an A.A. or A.A.S. degree within the approved degree fields identified in 19.4, or an A.A.S. degree in Fire Science, or equivalent fire science degree as determined by the Director, is eligible for 5% incentive education pay.

19.5.2 For those programs that do not require an AA degree as part of the Bachelor's degree, upon 50% completion of an approved Bachelor's degree, employees may submit a transcript demonstrating that all classes have been passed with at least a 2.0, and a letter from the institution stating that at least 50% of the Bachelor's degree credits have been successfully completed to qualify for 5% education incentive pay.

19.5.3 Completion of an approved Bachelor's or Master's degree qualifies the employee for 10% incentive education pay.

19.5.4 To receive Fire Education Incentive Pay, bargaining unit members must provide a diploma, or transcript and letter of 50% completion as outlined in Section 19.5. from a regionally accredited college or university. The effective date of education incentive pay begins the date that all applicable documentation is submitted to the Fire & Emergency Services Director or their support staff.

19.5.5 All members of the bargaining unit in classifications covered by this labor agreement are eligible to participate in the Education Incentive Program.

19.6 Education Incentive Pay Program transition

19.6.1 The program outlined in this CBA becomes fully implemented on January 1, 2019. All employees receiving education incentive pay at previous 1% increments on January 1, 2019 shall not suffer a reduction in existing percentage of compensation because of the agreed upon revisions. However, eligibility for any further increases

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shall be contingent upon meeting the requirements of the updated program set forth above.

19.6.2 A transition period for incumbent employees (employed as of January 1, 2019) will allow employees to either choose to move to the updated incentive education program or continue under the education incentive program outlined in Section 19.7, Grandfathered Education Incentive Education, below, for the duration of this CBA. On January 1, 2022, education incentive pay will be frozen at the level submitted and approved for those employees who have not completed an approved degree. After that date, additional education incentive pay will be subject to the current program parameters.

19.7 Grandfathered Education Incentive Program

19.7.1 This program is based on college units and college degrees within the Fire Service as defined under a Fire Science/Fire Administration Program curriculum. Subjects not related directly to the fire field but part of the requirements or electives towards a degree shall be counted as a part of this program as defined in Section 19.5.

19.7.2 All applications for education incentive shall be presented to the Fire & Emergency Services Director prior to becoming eligible for credit under this program. Personnel achieving an Associate or Bachelor Degree in Fire Science/Fire Administration shall be paid the percentage indicated in Section 19.5 for said degree.

19.7.3 When a Firefighter has not received a degree, courses/credits completed will be accepted under this program as set forth below.

19.7.4 Requirements for Education Incentive Pay

<u>% OF BASE PAY</u>	<u>AA DEGREE/CREDITS</u>	<u>BA/BS DEGREE/CREDITS</u>
1%	20% of credit requirements	10% of credit requirements
2%	40% of credit requirements	20% of credit requirements
3%	60% of credit requirements	30% of credit requirements
4%	80% of credit requirements	40% of credit requirements
5%	AA Degree	50% of credit requirements
6%		60% of credit requirements
7%		70% of credit requirements
8%		80% of credit requirements
9%		90% of credit requirements
10%		BA/BS Degree

19.7.5 All employees receiving education incentive pay on January 1, 2007 shall not

suffer a reduction in existing percentage of compensation because of the agreed upon revisions. Eligibility for any further increases shall be contingent upon meeting the requirements set forth above.

19.7.6 To receive credits for Fire Education Incentive Pay, bargaining unit members must provide a transcript and Fire Science/Fire Administration curriculum from the college issuing the transcript. A letter from the course administrator is required for determination of appropriate credit allowance. Credits offered for pay under this program must have a "C" grade average.

19.7.7 Requests for pay in excess of the 5% step level must be predicated on upper division level credits for classes that fit into a four (4) year Fire Science/Fire Administration curriculum for a four (4) year college degree. Unused service credits to the maximum of thirty (30) may be used as upper division electives if accepted by the college.

19.7.8 All members of the bargaining unit in classifications covered by this labor agreement are eligible to participate in the Education Incentive Program.

ARTICLE 20 -- SICK LEAVE

20.1 Sick Leave for LEOFF II Employees

Full-time LEOFF II employees shall accrue sick leave as follows:

	<u>Accrual Rate</u>
40 hour per week employees	7 hours per month
24 hour shift employees:	
1) With less than 1440 hours accrued sick leave	20 hours per month
2) With 1440 or more hours accrued sick leave	10 hours per month

20.1.1 Fifty percent (50%) of unused sick leave accrued by each LEOFF II employee will be paid to the employee by the City, up to a maximum payout of \$15,000, when such employee separates from service with fifteen (15) or more years of employment with the Richland Fire Department. Employees terminated from employment shall not be eligible for sick leave cash out.

20.1.2 From the Agreement's full execution, through December 31, 2025, any remaining unused sick leave over 1,440 hours for employees assigned to 24-hour shifts and 1,196 hours for those employees assigned to a 40-hour base week will be cashed out, up to a maximum payment of \$25,000, when such employee separates from service with twenty (20) or more

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years of employment with the Richland Fire Department. Twelve (12) months after the execution of this agreement, employees are only eligible for the additional sick leave cash out of up to \$25,000 if they provide a minimum of twelve (12) months' notice of their intent to retire to the Employer. The employee's notice of intent to retire is non-binding; however, rescinding the notice will make the employee ineligible for the additional sick leave cash out unless a new notice is provided in accordance with this Section. Employees terminated from employment shall not be eligible for sick leave cash out.

- 20.2 Advance of Sick Leave for New Employees. New employees will be advanced a sick leave allowance of 144 hours which is equal to that which would be accrued in 7.2 months at the LEOFF II accrual rate, and will begin their regular LEOFF II accrual at the end of 7.2 months' employment. An employee whose employment terminates for any reason during the first 7.2 months must repay the City for sick leave used in excess of the LEOFF II accrual rate for the period of actual employment.
- 20.3 Employees shall be allowed to donate accrued sick leave to other employees within the bargaining unit with less than thirty-six (36) months of service. A donating employee may give to more than one employee but not to exceed twenty-four (24) hours per receiving employee per year. Receiving employees can receive unspecified number of hours from various donors. Donation does not impact perfect attendance.
- 20.4 Employees working the 40-hour shift schedule shall accrue Washington's paid sick leave (State Sick Leave) in accordance with City policy. Paid sick leave accruing in accordance with Washington law and the City policy is a subset of existing Sick Leave accruals.

ARTICLE 21 -- PAID LEAVES**21.1 Vacation Leave**

Regular full-time employees shall accrue vacation time as set forth below, based on length of service with the City. No employee shall be eligible to use vacation time accrued until he/she has worked for the City a minimum of six (6) calendar months.

- 21.1.1 Employees working a 40-hour base week shall accrue vacation time on the following basis:

<u>Length of Service</u>	<u>Monthly Rate of Vacation Credit in Hours</u>
0 through 9 years	12
10th through 15 years	14
16th through 20 years	16
Over 20 years	18

21.2 Accumulation of vacation shall not exceed 339 hours at year's end.

21.2.1 Employees working 24-hour shifts shall accrue vacation time on the following basis:

<u>Length of Service</u>	<u>Monthly Rate of Vacation Credit in Hours</u>
0 through 9 years	14
10th through 15 years	16.25
16th through 20 years	19
Over 20 years	21

21.3 Accumulation of vacation shall not exceed 408 hours at year's end.

21.4 Vacation Bonus Days

Regular full-time employee(s) working a 40-hour base week and with one continuous year of service shall be eligible to earn one vacation bonus day (eight (8) hours) after non-use of sick leave and leave without pay collectively. Regular full-time employee(s) working Firefighter (24-hour) shifts who have completed one continuous year of service shall be eligible to earn one (1) vacation bonus Firefighter shift (24-hours) after non-use of sick leave and leave without pay collectively.

21.5 Vacation Leave Cash Out Upon Separation

An employee's accrued, unused vacation leave shall be cashed out at the employee's base pay rate upon separation from employment.

21.6 Family Leave

Regular full-time employees shall be granted family leave for injury, illness, birth or death in the employee's family, when employee's presence is needed.

21.6.1 40-hour week employees shall be granted (forty) (40) hours family leave per year. 24-hour shift employees shall be granted seventy-two (72) hours family leave per year.

21.6.2 Hours needed in excess of the limits listed in 21.5.1 shall be charged to sick leave or vacation per the employee's request after being approved by the on-duty BC or above or as provided by State Statute. Sick leave used to extend family leave shall impact the employee's perfect attendance date, unless prohibited by law.

21.6.3 For Family Leave purposes, "Employee's Family" shall be defined as the employee's spouse, son, son-in-law, daughter, daughter-in-law, mother, mother-in-law, father, father-in-law, sister, sister-in-law, brother, brother-in-law, grandfather, grandfather-in-law, grandmother, grandmother-in-law, grandchild, or any person

permanently residing with the employee that has a familial or committed intimate relationship. Step relatives of the relations listed shall also be considered as part of the employee's family.

21.7 Personal Business Vacation Leave

Regular full-time employees working twenty- four (24) hour shifts shall be granted up to seventy-two (72) hours of personal business vacation leave annually.

- 21.8 Twenty-four (24) hours of the seventy-two (72) hours may be taken at the employee's discretion. Such time must be taken in blocks of eight (8) hours or more. Vacation shall be charged at the applicable overtime rate against the employee's accrued vacation for each hour taken. Discretionary use of personal leave will impact perfect attendance.

Forty-eight (48) hours of the seventy-two (72) hours may be taken for those situations which require the employee's presence and which cannot be scheduled to another time. Examples include: child care, business appointments. Recreational or other pleasure activities are not included. The determination of whether the situation qualifies for such leave rests solely with the City. The City may request documentation to support the justification for the use of such leave. Vacation shall be charged for the exact amount of leave used.

Employees not using personal business vacation leave in a calendar year shall receive twenty-four (24) hours of bonus vacation accrual to be paid cash compensation in lieu of time off. Employees transferring from days to shifts or vice-versa shall have the bonus prorated for amount of time spent on shift. An employee separating from service shall receive compensation at the prorated rate for time served. New hires shall receive compensation at the prorated rate for time served.

- 21.9 Eligible employees will be allowed up to twelve (12) weeks of unpaid leave in accordance with the Family Medical Leave Act ("FMLA"). The City may require an employee to use any and all accrued leave as part of the FMLA leave. Other State or Federal laws may provide other protected paid or unpaid leave, and the provisions of this section are not intended to expand upon federal or state law.

21.9.1 Employees are entitled to receive notice of their eligibility for and right to use various State and Federal leaves. In order to ensure employees receive the required notifications from Human Resources ("HR"), when employees use paid or unpaid time off for absences due to their own or a family member's illness or injury exceeds three normally scheduled shifts, human resources shall be notified of the absences and anticipated return, if known. Such notification shall be provided by the employee's command staff. Additionally, the employee may choose to notify HR directly.

21.9.2 Employees on non-occupational sick leave for their own illness or injury who choose to utilize State or Federally protected leave concurrent with sick or other paid time off, or as unpaid leave following use of paid time off, shall be subject to the City's requirements for use of that State/Federal leave and associated City policies, to include City requirements for returning to work.

21.10 Jury Duty and Witness Service

An employee who is called for jury duty or is subpoenaed as a witness in a case arising from their City employment, to which the employee is not a party, shall be paid during the absence on account of the jury or witness service. The employee shall endorse to the City any amount of jury or witness fees (exclusive of mileage) the employee is paid.

21.11 Vacation Leave Donation/Transfer

The policy of the City is to allow employees to donate vacation leave to co-workers facing personal emergencies who have exhausted all accrued leave.

An employee is eligible for donated vacation leave when 1) he or she has suffered an extraordinary injury or illness (from other than a work-related cause) which exceeds sixty (60) calendar days in duration and has exhausted all applicable accumulated leaves; or 2) when an attending physician determines the presence of an employee is necessary because of an immediate family member's medical condition which exceeds sixty (60) calendar days in duration and the employee has exhausted all other available leaves.

Recipients are limited to receiving 240 hours of donated leave for any one (1) incident or illness and may not request donated vacation leave more than one (1) time in any concurrent five (5) year period.

An eligible employee requiring use of donated vacation leave shall notify Human Resources in writing that the use of donated leave is required, explaining and providing written documentation as to the circumstances.

Human Resources is responsible for approving the request and forwarding the PTO/Vacation Donation Transfer Form (available on the intranet) for City-wide notification and distribution.

City employees may donate vacation leave to other employees under the following conditions:

- 1) A vacation balance of at least 100 hours is maintained after the transfer, and employees may not donate more than 100 hours per year of their vacation balance.
- 2) Vacation is transferred based on the dollar value of said leave. For example, the

requesting employee earns \$10.00 per hour base. The donating employee earns \$20.00 per hour, and wishes to transfer 10 hours. As a result, \$200 worth of leave is transferred. The requesting employee will be credited with 20 hours (\$200 divided by \$10/hour).

No City employee may intimidate, threaten or coerce any other employee with respect to donating, receiving or using leave under this program. Only the actual donations needed each pay period will be used by Finance during payroll processing. If the recipient does not use all the leave donations offered by employees, the donation forms shall be destroyed by Finance.

ARTICLE 22 -- LEAVE CONVERSION AND MAXIMUM USAGE

- 22.1 Because shift changes are usually accomplished during the first part of the year, Family and Emergency Leave hours shall be restored to the appropriate maximum granted in [Article 21](#) whenever an employee transfers from a 40-hour per week position to a 24-hour shift position, or vice versa.
- 22.2 Whenever an employee changes from 24-hour shifts to days, Sick Leave and Vacation accrual totals shall be multiplied by 0.83088. When changing from days to 24-hour shift, Sick Leave and Vacation shall be multiplied by 1.2035. The multipliers are based on hours worked per week.

The accrual rates shall be changed to reflect the appropriate rate for the position being worked on the last day of each month. Accruals by 40-hour shift employees who then convert to a 24-hour shift shall be managed in accordance with City State Sick Leave policy.

22.3 Leave of Absence Without Pay

A regular full-time employee may be eligible for an unpaid leave of absence up to thirty (30) calendar days with the approval of the Fire & Emergency Services Director. Prior to requesting such leave, the employee must have exhausted all of the employee's paid leave. During such leave, the employee will be considered to be active at work and entitled to the privileges and benefits as specified by this Agreement. If the employee fails to return from said leave, the employee will be considered as having abandoned the employee's job and be subject to termination.

A regular full-time employee with a minimum of five (5) years of service may be granted an unpaid leave of absence of up to one (1) calendar year with the approval of the City Manager. Prior to requesting such leave, the employee must have exhausted all of the employee's paid leave. During such leave, the employee will not accrue sick leave, vacation leave or any other benefits, and the employee's seniority will be frozen. Upon return from such leave, the employee may be placed in an open position as listed in

[Appendix A](#) of this Agreement according to the employee's knowledge, skills and abilities. If the employee fails to return from such leave, the employee will be considered as abandoning the employee's job and be subject to termination.

ARTICLE 23 -- OVERTIME PAY

- 23.1 All overtime work for 24-hour shift employees shall be compensated at one and one-half (1.5) times the regular hourly rate of pay, except as provided in Section 23.1.1 and 23.1.2 and subsections thereof.
- 23.1.1 For Rank and File bargaining unit members regularly working a 40-hour base week, who are on a scheduled leave or day off and assigned to a shift for overtime, shall be paid at 1.5 times the member's current rank equivalent for an Operations Division employee's rate of pay (at the appropriate step) calculated on a 2504 scheduled hours work year (48.154 hours per week x 52 weeks per year). For example, the Assistant Fire Marshal with the rank of Lieutenant at F step shall be paid for overtime worked on a 24-hour shift at the rate of an Operations Fire Lieutenant, F Step.
- 23.1.2 Classroom time or other related preparation time, outside of normal working hours, for department-*required* training, training related to maintaining EMS, Haz Mat, and TRT certifications as outlined in [Articles 27](#), [33](#), and [38](#), and training required as part of individual staff assignments (i.e. SCBA Technician, Fire Investigator, SME, etc.) shall be compensated at the employee's regular overtime rate. Course registration, fees, travel, or other related costs are addressed by Department policies.
- 23.1.2.1 Classroom time or other related preparation time, outside of normal working hours, for training that is not *required* but nonetheless the employee has been approved to attend and is directly related to the employee's current work shall be compensated at the Training Rate of one and one-half (1.5) times the current minimum wage rate. Course registration, fees, travel, or other related costs are addressed by Department policies.
- 23.1.2.2 Classroom time or other related preparation time, outside of normal working hours, which is for purposes of promotional preparation, development of skills outside the scope of current work, training that is primarily for the benefit of the employee and not the city, attainment of certifications outside the scope of current work, and formal education (i.e. for-credit college courses) shall be non-compensable. Course

registration, fees, travel, or other related costs are addressed by Department policies.

23.1.2.2.1 When registration for an otherwise non-compensable course (as described under 23.1.2.2, above) requires the employee to obtain Richland Fire Department approval in order to attend, the Department's approval shall not be construed so as to change the nature of the course from non-compensable to compensable. The employee's attendance at the course does not constitute a work assignment and is non-compensable.

23.1.3 When mutually agreed, the City may grant day shift employees (40 hour per week workers) compensatory time off in lieu of overtime pay. Such compensatory time shall be granted at 1-1/2 times overtime hours worked and shall be scheduled for use at a time, which is mutually agreeable to the City and employee. In no event shall compensatory time accrual exceed two hundred (200) hours; and compensatory time shall either be used, or overtime hours be paid at 1-1/2 times the regular hourly rate of pay, within 12 months of when the overtime was performed.

23.1.4 Minimum overtime pay shall be equivalent to four (4) hours straight pay for all call backs, exception hold over pay.

23.2 The parties agree to the current departmental Overtime Policy, except to the extent it is in conflict with this Article.

ARTICLE 24 -- INSURANCE

24.1 Health Insurance

24.1.1 The City and employee as represented by IAFF Local 1052 shall share the cost for health insurance coverage for employees and their dependents.

24.1.2 During the term of this agreement, unless otherwise indicated per [Appendix C](#), the employee shall contribute 1.75% of "F" step rate of Firefighter monthly base salary towards the cost of the LEOFF Health and Welfare Trust Plan B

24.1.3 In conjunction with the IAFF members transfer to the LEOFF Trust Plan, an individual Health Reimbursement Account (HRA) shall be established by the parties' mutual agreement. Annual contributions will be prorated and contributed monthly by the City for each bargaining unit member as follows:

- a) An HRA annual contribution in the amount of \$4,500.00 will be made by the City for each member with dependent(s) and \$2,250.00 contributed for each member without dependents. HRA set up and annual fees shall be paid by the City, not to include an HRA debit card, which shall be borne by the employee. The HRA contributions will be prorated for all future members hired or terminated during the term of this agreement.

24.1.4 At the end of each annual claim submission period, excess monies in each HRA account will roll into an individual Health Savings Account ("HSA")/Voluntary Employee Benefit Association ("VEBA") account. All fees associated with said HSA/VEBA will be at the expense of the member.

24.2 Dental Plan

The City will pay for a dental plan which covers the employee and all of the employee's eligible dependents.

24.3 Vision Plan

Vision benefits are included through the LEOFF Health and Welfare Trust 6B Plan. The cost of the City's vision insurance plan will be part of the cost of medical coverage used in [Appendix C](#).

24.4 Post-Employment Health Program

During discussions for contracts effective in 2003, the City offered all bargaining units an irrevocable and one-time opportunity to fund a post-employment health program. In lieu of participation and the long term funding requirements for this new benefit program, IAFF Local 1052 elected to take additional wages. As a result, it is understood that IAFF Local 1052 members are not, nor shall at any time in the future be, eligible to participate in the City's post-employment health benefit program.

24.5 Life and Accidental Death & Dismemberment Insurance

The City will maintain basic Life and Accidental Death & Dismemberment ("AD&D") policies which provide an employee death benefit equal to two (2) times an employee's annual base salary, and a nominal basic life insurance benefit for spouse and child/ren. The City shall offer an employee-paid supplemental life and AD&D benefit.

ARTICLE 25 -- PRODUCTIVITY

- 25.1 The City and the Union shall work together to meet the production requirements of the Fire & Emergency Services Department to provide the public with efficient and courteous service, to encourage good attendance of employees on regular duty; and to promote a climate of labor relations that will aid in achieving a high level of efficiency in the

Department.

ARTICLE 26 -- NOTIFICATION OF ABSENCE

- 26.1 Employees not able to report for duty at the beginning of a scheduled shift or shifts for reasons of sickness, disability, or other unscheduled absence causes, shall notify the on-duty shift supervisor prior to 0700 on the date of the scheduled work shift or shifts.
- 26.2 Employees may be excused from multiple notifications if the absence is known or expected to extend beyond the initial shift. Should circumstances preclude or inhibit an employee's ability to make notification of absence prior to 0700, the employee shall make such notification as soon as reasonably possible to do so.
- 26.3 40-hour week employees not able to report for duty at the beginning of a scheduled shift for reasons of sickness, disability, or other unscheduled absence causes shall, prior to 0700, notify the on-duty BC and the employee's supervisor by phone (cell phone). A follow-up e-mail should be sent to the supervisor if possible. Should circumstances preclude or inhibit an employee's ability to make notification of absence prior to 0700, the employee shall make such notification as soon as reasonably possible to do so.

ARTICLE 27 -- MEDICAL CERTIFICATION/RECERTIFICATION & TRAINING

- 27.1 Unless otherwise provided in this Article, all employees shall be at least EMT certified as a condition of employment.. This certification must meet the Washington State Department of Health requirements in effect or as amended. This requirement does not include any Fire Officers who prior to this agreement were not certified at the EMT level.

The City may temporarily employ non-EMT-Firefighters so long as they obtain their EMT certification within the City's established timeframe. Minimum operational staffing levels do not include non-EMT-Firefighters.

27.2 Initial Certification

The cost of tuition and books for any class to achieve any of the initial medical certifications listed in [Appendix "A"](#) and ["B"](#) shall be paid initially by the Employer contingent upon the employee successfully completing the class. Should the employee not successfully complete the class, the costs of the tuition and books shall be reimbursed to the Employer by the employee through payroll deduction, amortized over the next six (6) months. Should the employee terminate employment with the Employer before the total cost is reimbursed, the remaining costs shall be withheld from the employee's final paycheck. The cost for the second and subsequent failed examinations for initial certifications shall be the sole responsibility of the employee.

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27.2.1 Should the employee opt to have the City of Richland fund their paramedic certification, the employee will commit five years as a Paramedic for the Richland Fire & Emergency Services. To be eligible for City paid paramedic training and time, the employee shall provide all forms and documentation required. Should the employee not fulfill their commitment for any reason other than a medical retirement, the employee shall repay the cost of tuition and books on a pro rata basis, as outlined below. The Fire & Emergency Services Director may, in extenuating circumstances, waive repayment of some, or all, of the tuition and book costs.

Day 1	-	Year 1 (inclusive) to Anniversary Date	=	100% (tuition & books)
Day 1	-	Year 2 (inclusive) to Anniversary Date	=	80% (tuition & books)
Day 1	-	Year 3 (inclusive) to Anniversary Date	=	60% (tuition & books)
Day 1	-	Year 4 (inclusive) to Anniversary Date	=	40% (tuition & books)
Day 1	-	Year 5 (inclusive) to Anniversary Date	=	20% (tuition & books)
Day 1	-	Year 6 (inclusive) to Anniversary Date	=	0%

The City shall allow a minimum of one approved outside medical training opportunity, per paramedic, per certification period. Such training opportunity is subject to the provisions of [Article 23](#) Overtime Pay, and in accordance with City travel policy regarding travel expenses.

27.2.2 The City shall relieve Paramedics for ACLS and PALS classes required for certification and recertification in Benton and Franklin County and pay the required tuition and books for said ACLS and PALS classes in addition to the above stated class expenses and time off.

27.2.3 Paramedic students shall not be paid overtime to attend class while off-duty. A Paramedic student who accepts overtime but leaves to attend class will be taken off duty and replaced, if necessary. A Paramedic student who accepts a trade will have to have a replacement trade to attend class. Upon completing one (1) year as a certified paramedic, and annually for the next four (4) years, the paramedic shall receive an annual lump sum payment equal to 1.40% of the top step Firefighter's annual base salary in effect at the time of payment, for a total of five (5) lump sum payments. Prior to each new paramedic class, this amount will be mutually agreed to by the Union and management.

27.3 All approved off-duty class time for officers and Firefighters necessary to achieve an authorized medical certification listed in [Appendix "A"](#) and [Appendix "B"](#) shall be paid for at the base hourly overtime rate of pay except as noted in 27.2.3. Class time while on-duty shall be allowed when manpower permits and call in shall be utilized to allow

employees to go to class when manpower does not otherwise permit them to go. Class time shall not impact other employees' rights to schedule vacation time off as presently allowed, provided there are sufficient employees available for call in if necessary to cover the student class time.

- 27.4 The City shall pay off-duty paramedics and paramedic students overtime to attend live Ongoing Training and Education Program ("OTEP") and Medical Program Director ("MPD") meetings up to a maximum of eighteen (18) annually. Paramedics shall be paid for required training to maintain certifications (ACLS, PALS, Comprehensive Airway Management, and Advanced Airway Course).
- 27.5 Duties of paramedics shall include teaching Department medical classes as assigned.
- 27.6 Bargaining unit employees who have or will obtain Washington State Paramedic Certification must maintain that Certification and perform paramedic work for the term of that State Certification, unless specifically approved by the Fire & Emergency Services Director.
- 27.6.1 In the event that a paramedic has a lapse in state certification and/or loses protocol privileges from the Medical Program Director, and is unable to practice as an ALS provider for greater than sixty (60) calendar days, the employee's paramedic pay shall be suspended beginning the 61st calendar day until such time that the state certification is renewed and/or protocol privileges are reinstated by the Medical Program Director. If suspension is due to lacking an ACLS, PALS or an advanced airway class, upon approval of the Fire & Emergency Services Director, suspension of paramedic pay may be deferred up to the next available local class.
- 27.6.2 Employees with lapsed certification as described in 27.6.1 may be subject to disciplinary action if they do not maintain eligibility to perform paramedic duties for the full three (3) year state certification period as required in 27.6.

ARTICLE 28 -- TERMS OF SUCCESSORSHIP

- 28.1 This Agreement shall be binding upon the successors and assigns of the parties hereto, and no provisions, terms, or obligations herein contained shall be affected, modified, altered, or changed in any respect whatsoever by the consolidation, merger, annexation, transfer, or assignment of either party hereto; or affected, modification, altered, or changed in any respect whatsoever by any change of any kind of the ownership or management of either party hereto; or by the change geographically or otherwise in the location or place of business of either party hereto.

ARTICLE 29 -- PROBATIONARY PERIOD

- 29.1 All newly hired employees shall serve a twelve (12) continuous month probationary period. Probationary employees who take any type of continuous paid and/or unpaid leave period greater than ninety (90) calendar days during their probation period shall have their probation extended for the same number of calendar days the employee was on leave, for each 90-day or greater leave period. The City may terminate employment of a new hire probationary employee at any time, without cause, during the probationary period.
- 29.2 Newly promoted officers shall serve a twelve (12) continuous month probationary period. If the six (6) month appraisal is satisfactory, the officer will receive a merit increase to the next higher step. Newly promoted officers who take any type of continuous paid and/or unpaid leave period greater than (90) calendar days during their probation period shall have their probation extended for the same number of calendar days the employee was on leave, for each 90-day or greater leave period. Employees promoted to a higher position in the bargaining unit who fail probation shall have the right to bump to their previous rank.
- 29.3 Temporary or provisional time spent on an upgrade in conjunction with a regular appointment, if continuous, will be credited towards the probationary period and merit increase. The regular appointment date establishes the time in grade.

ARTICLE 30 -- TERM OF AGREEMENT

- 30.1 This Agreement shall be and hereby does become effective January 1, 2023, and shall remain in full force and effect up to and including December 31, 2025, and from year-to-year thereafter; provided, that either party wishing to terminate or amend the same, shall notify the other party within the time limits provided by state law.

ARTICLE 31 -- SAVINGS CLAUSE

- 31.1 If any provision of this Agreement or the application of such provision should be rendered or declared invalid by any court action or by reason of any existing or subsequently enacted legislation, the remaining parts or portion of this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.

ARTICLE 32 -- LONGEVITY PAY

- 32.1 Employees that have completed the following years of service shall receive longevity pay in addition to their base pay, equal to the following:

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Years of Service	Longevity Pay
15 years	1.5%
20 years	3.0%
25 years	5.0%

ARTICLE 33 -- HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TEAM

- 33.1 The City agrees to pay up to a maximum of nine (9) bargaining unit members specialty pay for participation on the Tri-County Hazardous Materials Response Team ("HMRT"). Such pay shall be equal to three and one-half percent (3.5%) of top step Firefighter pay per month starting the on the date of appointment to the team.
- 33.2 When there are less than nine (9) Department members on the HMRT, the City shall post openings for a minimum of thirty (30) days. Team members shall be selected from applications received by the Department. Selection and appointment to the team will be based on:
- Review of the applicants' qualifications as submitted in their application packet.
 - A statement of the applicant's commitment in writing.
 - A written recommendation from a supervising officer.
 - A written recommendation from at least one current HRMT member.
 - Approval of the Fire Chief or designee.

In the event that the appointing authority judges two or more applicants to be equally qualified, the position will go to the member with the highest seniority. The appointment shall be made within ninety (90) days of the written notification of a team opening to the Fire & Emergency Services Director.

Prior to final appointment, the selected applicant must pass a baseline Haz Mat medical physical.

- 33.2.1 The cost of tuition and books for any class to achieve HMRT status shall be paid by the City, contingent upon the employee successfully completing the class. Classes taken prior to acceptance as a HMRT member trainee, which are requirements for team member status, will not be subject to reimbursement.

Should the employee not successfully complete the class, the cost of tuition and books shall be reimbursed to the City by the employee, through payroll deduction, amortized over the next three (3) months. Should the employee terminate employment with the City before the total cost is reimbursed, the remaining costs shall be withheld from the employee's final paycheck.

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- 33.2.2 All approved off duty class time for officers and Firefighters necessary to achieve HMRT member status, shall be paid at the base hourly overtime rate of pay. Class time, while on duty, shall be allowed when manpower permits, and call-ins shall be utilized to allow employees to go to class when manpower does not otherwise permit them to go. Class time shall not impact other employee's rights to schedule vacation time off, as presently allowed, provided there are sufficient employees available for call-in, if necessary, to cover the student class time.
- 33.3 Team members shall remain on the HMRT for a minimum of three (3) years from the date they begin hazardous materials training after they are selected for the HMRT by the City for HMRT training. Team members may be removed from the team if a problem or condition occurs, including failure to meet the minimum required annual training hours, which would reasonably prevent or limit the members' effectiveness on the team, or when a majority of other HMRT members feel the removal is necessary, or other good cause. Members may resign from the team after three (3) years of membership by notifying the Department in writing. Should the City withdraw from participation on the HMRT and cease to provide that service, then members of the team shall be considered as having left the team for cause.
- 33.4 Off duty team members shall be paid at their regular overtime rate of pay for the following items:
- a) All emergency response time;
 - b) Required HMRT meetings;
 - c) All required training time (drills and classes).
- On-duty members shall be replaced as needed for required meetings and required training. Said training and meetings shall not impact other bargaining unit members rights to use their leaves (including moving of Kelly Days).
- HMRT members shall be required to attend a minimum of twenty-four (24) hours of team training per year.
- 33.5 HMRT members shall not be required to carry pagers.
- 33.6 The responsibility and authority for the operation of the HMRT, including policies and procedures, rest solely with the Board of Directors. The parties recognize the HMRT's Board of Directors right to assign HMRT members to perform functions associated with ensuring the success of the HMRT. Said assignments shall fall under Section 4 of this Article.
- 33.7 If significant changes to the related conditions or procedures are proposed or enacted, this Article will be reopened at the request of either the City or the Union to negotiate

the impact of such changes.

ARTICLE 34 -- AGREEMENT TO BARGAIN

- 34.1 Nothing in this agreement is to be considered as a waiver by the Union of their rights to request and require bargaining on any changes initiated by the City which impact hours, wages, or working conditions.
- 34.2 The City Manager or designee is fully authorized to enter into Memorandums of Understanding ("MOU") and Memorandums of Agreement ("MOA") with IAFF Local 1052.

ARTICLE 35 -- GROOMING STANDARDS

The uniformed members of the Richland Fire & Emergency Services Department will maintain a standard of grooming and a reasonable uniformity of appearance, as defined in the Department policy. The policy addresses both safety standards as well as ensuring employees impart to the public we serve, an image of competence, efficiency and pride in the City and the Department. The policy shall ensure employees are groomed in such a way as to inspire confidence by the public.

ARTICLE 36 -- DRUG & ALCOHOL TESTING POLICY

- 36.1 Reporting to work under the influence of alcohol and/or illegal drugs, or the use, sale, or possession by an employee of illegal drugs is strictly prohibited and may result in disciplinary action, including immediate termination.

Each employee must advise the City if they are using prescription or other over-the-counter drugs they know or reasonably should know may impair their ability to perform job functions and/or operate machinery such as automobiles. Under appropriate circumstances the City may request the employee provide written medical authorization to perform various essential job functions from a physician while using such drugs.

The City recognizes a need to provide an opportunity for employees to deal with alcohol related problems through employee assistance programs. Any employee, who voluntarily seeks treatment for a personal alcohol problem or for a substance abuse disorder, not involving criminal conduct, may do so through employee assistance programs of the employee's own choosing in complete confidence and without jeopardizing the employee's employment with the City.

Such voluntary action must be done prior to any act or reasonable suspicion that would result in being asked to submit to discovery testing and/or disciplinary action.

It is understood between the parties that the disciplinary action referred to herein Article

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36.1 of the Collective Bargaining Agreement may be termination of employment if, through the commitment of such an act as described in this article, results in personal injury or death of a City employee or member of the general public; destruction of or damage to City equipment or property; destruction of or damage to public or private property.

Other such infractions as covered by this Article shall be dealt with in accordance with their merits.

- 36.2 Where a supervisory employee of the City has a reasonable suspicion to believe an employee is under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs, or is using illegal drugs, the employee in question will be asked to submit to discovery testing including, breath tests, urinalysis and/or a blood screen to identify any involvement with alcohol or illegal drugs.

An employee who refuses to submit to discovery testing for alcohol and/or illegal drugs shall be presumed to be under the influence of alcohol or an illegal drug for the purpose of administering this Article.

- 36.3 For the purpose of administering this Article the following definition of terms is provided:

Reasonable Suspicion:

- 36.3.1 Reasonable Suspicion is based on specific objective facts and reasonable inferences from those facts in the light of experience, that discovery testing will produce evidence of illegal drug or improper alcohol use by that particular employee.

Under the influence - The following cutoff levels shall be used for the initial screening of specimens to determine whether they are negative for these drugs or classes of drugs. All cutoff concentrations are expressed in nanograms per milliliter (ng/mL).

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION STANDARDS - 49 CFR PART 40 §40.87		
Type of Drug or Metabolite	Initial Test	Confirmation Test
Marijuana metabolites Delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol-9-carboxylic acid (TCHA)	50	15
Cocaine metabolites Benzoyllecgonine	150	100

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Opiate metabolites Codeine/Morphine Codeine Morphine	2000	2000 2000
6-Acetylmorphine	10	10
Phencyclidine (PCP)	25	25
Amphetamines – AMP/MAMP Amphetamine (AMP) Methamphetamine (MAMP)	500	250 250 (specimen must also contain at least 100 ng/ML of amphetamine)
Methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA) Methylenedioxyamphetamine (MDA) Methylenedioxyethylamphetamine (MDEA)	500	250 250

Level of the positive result for ethyl alcohol....0.04 gr/dl

Illegal Drugs - are defined as all forms of narcotics, depressants, stimulants, hallucinogens, and cannabis, which sale, purchase, transfer, or unauthorized use or possession is prohibited by law.

Over-the-Counter Drugs - are those which are generally available without a prescription and are limited to those drugs which are capable of impairing the judgment of an employee to safely perform the employee's duties.

Prescription Drugs - are defined as those drugs which are used in the course of medical treatment and have been prescribed and authorized for use by a licensed practitioner/physician or dentist.

36.4 If an employee is required to submit to a drug test, the following procedure shall be followed:

- 1) The employee shall be given an opportunity to confer with a Union representative if one is readily available and the employee has requested said conference.
- 2) The employee shall be given an opportunity to explain the reasons for the employee's condition, such as reaction to a prescribed drug, fatigue, exposure to toxic substances, or any other reasons known to employee to the test administrator. The City and a Union representative may be present during this discussion.
- 3) The City may request urine and/or blood samples.

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- 4) Urine and blood samples shall be collected at a local laboratory, hospital or medical facility. The City shall transport the employee to the collection site. The City and/or Union representative may be allowed to accompany the employee to the collection site and observe the bottling and sealing of the specimen. The employee shall not be observed by the City when the urine specimen is given.
 - 5) All specimen containers and vials and bags used to transport the specimen shall be sealed to safeguard their integrity, in the presence of the City, employee and the Union representative and proper chain-of-custody procedures shall be followed.
 - 6) The drug tests of the specimen shall be conducted by the PAML Laboratory in Spokane, Washington.
 - 7) If a specimen tests positive in an immunoassay screen test, the results must be confirmed by a gas chromatography/mass spectrometry tests. The specimen must show positive results on the GC/MS (gas chromatography/mass spectrometry) confirmatory test to be considered positive.
 - 8) At the employee's or the Union's option, a sample of the specimen may be requisitioned and sent to a laboratory chosen by the Union for testing. The cost of this test will be paid by the Union or the employee. Failure to exercise this option may not be considered as evidence in an arbitration or other proceeding concerning the drug test or its consequences. The results of this second test shall be provided to the City.
 - 9) The City, the employee and the Union shall be informed of the results of all tests, and provided with all documentation regarding the tests as soon as the test results are available by the Medical Review office.
- 36.5 The Medical Review Office shall be chosen and agreed upon between the City and the Union. The role of the Medical Review Office will be to review, interpret and confirm positive test results and communicate the results as previously specified. The Medical Review Office shall review all pertinent medical records made available by the tested employee when a confirmed positive test could have resulted from legally prescribed medication.
- 36.6 If the results of the drug test are positive, and support a conclusion that the employee used an illegal drug, or reported to work while under the influence of alcohol, the employee may be subject to discipline including immediate discharge.
- 36.7 The employee has the right to challenge any discipline imposed in the same manner that the employee may grieve another Employee action.

- 36.8 Changes to this Article regarding applicable statues and DOT standards pertaining to substance abuse and a drug free workplace will be addressed in labor management.

ARTICLE 37 -- TECHNICAL RESCUE TEAM

- 37.1 The City agrees to pay up to a maximum of nine (9) bargaining unit members specialty pay for participation on the Technical Rescue Team ("TRT"). Such pay shall be equal to three and one half percent (3.5%) of top step Firefighter pay per month starting on the date of appointment to the team.

TRT members shall, at a minimum, be trained to meet the requirements of Technical Ropes, Confined Space Rescue, and Trench Rescue Technician meeting NFPA 1670 and 1006 requirements. Additional disciplines may be added to meet operational needs in the future. In the event that the selected candidate does not already have the minimum required training, the cost of attaining the certification/training shall be covered by the City.

- 37.2 When there are less than nine (9) Department members on the TRT, the City shall post openings for a minimum of thirty (30) days. Team members shall be selected from applications received by the Department. Selection and appointment to the team will be based on:

- 1) Review of the applicants' qualifications as submitted in their application packet.
- 2) A statement of the applicant's commitment in writing.
- 3) A recommendation from a supervising officer.
- 4) A written recommendation from at least one current TRT member.
- 5) Approval of the Fire Chief or designee.

- 37.3 In the event that the appointing authority judges two or more applicants to be equally qualified, the position will go to the member with the highest seniority. The appointment shall be made within ninety (90) days of the written notification of a team opening to the Fire & Emergency Services Director.

- 37.4 Off-duty team members shall be paid at their regular overtime rate of pay for the following items:

- a) All emergency response time,
- b) Required TRT meetings,
- c) All required training time (drills and classes).

- 37.4.1 On-duty members shall be replaced as needed for required meetings and required training. Said training and meetings shall not impact other bargaining unit member's rights to use their leaves (including moving of Kelly Days).

- 37.4.2 TRT members shall be required to attend a minimum of twenty-four (24) hours of team training per year.
- 37.4.3 The TRT Coordinator may recognize up to eight (8) hours of approved outside training in lieu of eight (8) hours of team training.
- 37.4.4 Approved required team training time, while on duty, shall be allowed when operations permit and call-ins shall be utilized when operations does not permit.
- a. TRT operational and training policies and procedures will be developed by the Department with input from team members.
 - b. TRT members shall instruct non team members on technical rescue issues on an as needed basis. Should this occur off duty then the TRT member shall be compensated at the applicable overtime rate.
 - c. Non team members shall continue to provide support for team training and operations commensurate with their training. Non team members may be included in team training while on duty.

ARTICLE 38 -- DEFERRED COMPENSATION

- 38.1 In accordance with the City's plan document and limitations of federal law, regular full and part time employees are eligible to voluntarily participate in the City's Internal Revenue Code ("IRC") Section 457 plan or the IAFF-FC Section 457 plan.
- 38.2 The City shall match employee contributions in deferred compensation to four and one-half percent (4.5%) of top step Firefighter. After fifteen (15) years of service, the City shall continue to pay the four and one-half percent (4.5%) to deferred compensation with no match required from the employee.
- 38.3 Employees may select either the City's 457 plan or the IAFF-FC Section 457 plan during the City's open enrollment period each year.

ARTICLE 39 -- PERSONNEL RECORDS

Human Resources shall maintain a complete personnel file on each employee. Employees may review this file by setting up an appointment with a member of the Human Resources staff.

ARTICLE 40 -- WSCFF MEDICAL EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT PLAN

- 40.1 The City's MERP contribution shall be one hundred-and-fifty dollars (\$150) per month.
- 40.2 The Union and the Employees agree to hold the City harmless and indemnify the City from any and all liability, claims, demands, law suits, and/or 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.
- 40.3 Under no circumstances whatsoever will the City be liable for direct pay of any MERP benefit to the employees and/or retired employees and/or their beneficiaries.

ARTICLE 41 -- WELLNESS/FITNESS PROGRAM

- 41.1 The City and Union agree to work toward a Wellness/Fitness Program with the IAFF/IAFC Initiative being the template and ultimate goal.

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IN WITNESS THEREOF, the parties hereto have set their hands this 25 day of July, 2023.

CITY OF RICHLAND, WA


INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
FIREFIGHTERS, Local #1052



Jon Amundson, ICMA-CM Date
City Manager

Raul Marroquin

Raul Marroquin Date
President, IAFF Local #1052



Tom Huntington Date
Fire Chief




Timothy Birch Date
Secretary, IAFF Local #1052

Lacey Paulsen

Lacey Paulsen Date
Human Resources Director

ATTEST:



Jennifer Rogers Date
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Heather Kintzley

Heather Kintzley Date
City Attorney

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APPENDIX A

2023-2025CLASSIFICATIONS & WAGES

Effective the 1st payroll period of the 2023 payroll year (December 19, 2022), the wage schedule reflects an 8.50% increase (5% COLA, 3.5% market adjustment).

Job #	Position	A	C	E	F
1000	FIREFIGHTER EMT	6,282	7,382	7,808	8,157
1002	FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC	7,383	8,483	8,909	9,258
1010	FIRE LIEUTENANT EMT			8,780	9,171
1012	FIRE LIEUTENANT/PARAMEDIC			9,846	10,237
1050	FIRE CAPTAIN EMT			9,655	10,085
1052	FIRE CAPTAIN/PARAMEDIC			10,721	11,151
1120	ASST FIRE MARSHALL EMT			10,617	11,090
1123	ASST FIRE MARSHALL/PARAMEDIC			11,683	12,156
1138	MEDICAL TRNG COORD PARAMEDIC				10,237
1139	DEPUTY FIRE MARSHALL EMT				9,136
1140	DEPUTY FIRE MARSHALL PARAMEDIC				10,237
1141	TRAINING PROGRAM OFFICER EMT			10,617	11,090
1142	TRAINING PROGRAM OFFICER PARAMEDIC			11,683	12,156
1190	EMS PROGRAM OFFICER EMT			10,617	11,090
1192	EMS PROGRAM OFFICER PARAMEDIC			11,683	12,156

Effective the 1st payroll period of the 2024 payroll year (December 18, 2023), the wage schedule reflects a 4% COLA increase.

Job #	Position	A	C	E	F
1000	FIREFIGHTER EMT	6,533	7,677	8,120	8,483
1002	FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC	7,678	8,822	9,265	9,628
1010	FIRE LIEUTENANT EMT			9,129	9,536
1012	FIRE LIEUTENANT/PARAMEDIC			10,239	10,646
1050	FIRE CAPTAIN EMT			10,038	10,486
1052	FIRE CAPTAIN/PARAMEDIC			11,148	11,596
1120	ASST FIRE MARSHALL EMT			11,038	11,531
1123	ASST FIRE MARSHALL/PARAMEDIC			12,148	12,641
1138	MEDICAL TRNG COORD PARAMEDIC				10,646
1139	DEPUTY FIRE MARSHALL EMT				9,501
1140	DEPUTY FIRE MARSHALL PARAMEDIC				10,646
1141	TRAINING PROGRAM OFFICER EMT			11,038	11,531
1142	TRAINING PROGRAM OFFICER PARAMEDIC			12,148	12,641
1190	EMS PROGRAM OFFICER EMT			11,038	11,531
1192	EMS PROGRAM OFFICER PARAMEDIC			12,148	12,641

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Effective July 1, 2024, the wage schedule reflects an 1% market adjustment.

Job #	Position	A	C	E	F
1000	FIREFIGHTER EMT	6,598	7,754	8,201	8,568
1002	FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC	7,755	8,911	9,358	9,725
1010	FIRE LIEUTENANT EMT			9,220	9,631
1012	FIRE LIEUTENANT/PARAMEDIC			10,342	10,753
1050	FIRE CAPTAIN EMT			10,139	10,591
1052	FIRE CAPTAIN/PARAMEDIC			11,261	11,713
1120	ASST FIRE MARSHALL EMT			11,149	11,647
1123	ASST FIRE MARSHALL/PARAMEDIC			12,271	12,769
1138	MEDICAL TRNG COORD PARAMEDIC				10,753
1139	DEPUTY FIRE MARSHALL EMT				9,596
1140	DEPUTY FIRE MARSHALL PARAMEDIC				10,753
1141	TRAINING PROGRAM OFFICER EMT			11,149	11,647
1142	TRAINING PROGRAM OFFICER PARAMEDIC			12,271	12,769
1190	EMS PROGRAM OFFICER EMT			11,149	11,647
1192	EMS PROGRAM OFFICER PARAMEDIC			12,271	12,769

The parties agree to reopen this Agreement in 2024 to bargain wages only for 2025.

OFFICER MEDICAL POSITION PAYS:

Effective 1/1/2023, EMT certification pay of \$35.00 per month is calculated into wage table above for Lieutenant and Captain EMT positions.

OFFICER / FIREFIGHTER PARAMEDIC CERTIFICATION PAYS:

Paramedic certification pay calculated into wage table above equates to 13.5% F Step Firefighter pay.

Pay Steps for lateral and entry level Firefighter are specified in the OJT Administrative Guide.

APPENDIX A -- NOTES

- 1) Above salaries provided 12% differential between Firefighters and Lieutenants; 10% between Lieutenants and Captains;
- 2) Day shift (40 hour per week) rates are set as listed below:
 - Deputy Fire Marshal – 112% of Firefighter pay
 - Assistant Fire Marshal - 110% of E or F Step Captain pay
 - Medical Training Coordinator – 112% of Firefighter pay
 - EMS Program Officer - 110% of E or F Step Captain pay
 - Training Program Officer – 110% of E or F Step Captain pay

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- 3) Base rate includes EMT pay.
- 4) Employees who obtain a Washington State Paramedic Certification will begin receiving paramedic pay when they have been approved by the Medical Program Director. Time without pay will not exceed six (6) months. The effective date of medical position pays shall be the date the Fire Department receives the appropriate written certification. Therefore, when the MPD's Protocols Test is passed and the Washington State Certification is in hand, whichever date is last is the effective date for beginning paramedic pay.
- 5) Position pays include reimbursement for meetings and recertification time necessary to maintain said certification (except as provided in [Article 27](#)).

APPENDIX B

PREMIUM PAY

Additional Monthly
Pay Per Certification

EMT with IV Endorsement 1.0% x F Step Firefighter

AEMT 2.0% x F Step Firefighter

APPENDIX C LEOFF TRUST CONTRIBUTION CALCULATIONS

The Intent of the document is to align the contribution to IAFF R&F/BC employees so that it is comparable to the benefit provided to Police Guild employees.

DEFINITIONS

Census Data: The total annual number of IAFF R&F/BC members as of October 31st of each year, and broken out into tiers, where applicable. Census data will only be calculated annually on October 31st for purpose of this calculation, and we must have the LEOFF Plan B Trust Rates.

Maximum Available Benefit: The maximum contribution the City shall pay for Police Guild employees.

Premium (Payroll Contributions): The final monthly cost an IAFF R&F/BC employee will pay for benefits provided.

Total Monthly Benefit Costs: The combination of City and Trust benefit costs provided to IAFF R&F/BC employees.

Tiered Structure: A tier may be comprised of Employee only or a combination of Employee plus dependents (spouse, child or children).

CALCULATION OF PREMIUM

For the purpose of calculating LEOFF Trust (Trust) Contributions for IAFF R&F/BC's benefit premiums, the following guidelines will apply:

- I. The City of Richland (City), shall determine the annual rates for Police Guild employees, prior to the Open Enrollment period designated by the City.
- II. Contributions for IAFF R&F/BC's benefits shall be calculated using the City's Tiered Structure. Due to different tier levels between the City and the Trust, the City shall combine the following Trust Tiers: Employee & Child and Employee & Children, and Employee, Spouse & Child and Employee, Spouse & Children into the comparable City Tier Structure.
 - a. Should City Tiers change over time, then the Trust Tiers shall be realigned to the new comparable City Tier Structure for calculation purposes.
 - b. Should the City add an additional plan in which a Police Guild employee could elect, the IAFF R&F/BC's premium calculation will be based on the City's lowest deductible health plan.

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- c. Should the City impose a cost share premium for the dental or vision benefits to Police Guild employees, then the IAFF R&F/BC's premium calculation will also be based on this change.
- III. The City shall use the census data of IAFF R&F/BC's as of October 31st of each year to determine the following year's premium contribution. Premium contributions shall be determined using the City's Benefit Rate Sheet (Rate Sheet) in use at the time, and based on the following:
- a. The City shall input the new IAFF R&F/BC's census data into the appropriate Tiers on the Rate Sheet; and
 - b. The City shall input the new monthly City Tiered rates into the Rate Sheet; and
 - c. The City shall calculate the Maximum Available Benefit for IAFF R&F/BC's by multiplying the census data against the monthly City tiered rates for medical and vision; and
 - d. The City shall input the new monthly Plan B Trust Tiered rates provided by the Trust into the Rate Sheet; and
 - e. The City shall calculate the Total Monthly Benefit Costs by aggregating the following:
 - i. Multiply the census data against the monthly Trust rates based on the medical/vision Trust tiers; and
 - ii. Calculate the monthly HRA/VEBA administrative costs; and
 - iii. Calculate the monthly HRA City contributions by tier. If an employee separates City service, the month in which they separate service will be prorated and no additional HRA contributions will be made. Additionally, this will not affect or change the census data; and
 - iv. Deduct the 1.75% F Step contributions.
 - f. The final IAFF R&F/BC's monthly employee premium contribution, shall be calculated annually as follows:
 - i. The City shall take the difference between the Total Monthly Benefit Costs and the Maximum Available Benefit divided by the total number of members in the census data.
 - ii. If the Maximum Available Benefit exceeds the Total Monthly Benefit

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Costs, the IAFF R&F/BC's monthly employee premiums shall be set at \$0. Any savings illustrated by the annual calculation of costs for the coming year will not affect a reduction in contributions. At no time will a credit be paid out to IAFF R&F/BC employees. Additionally, at no time, shall the City pay more contributions to IAFF R&F/BC employees than Police Guild employees.

- iii. The minimum contribution of 1.75% of F Step Firefighter will be added to the premium calculation in 111.f.ii, to determine the final monthly premium for employees with dependents. The final monthly premium for employee w/o dependents will also be calculated from 111.f.ii.
- IV. IAFF R&F/BC employee premiums will be divided and deducted from their paychecks on the first and second payroll periods of the month. No premiums will be deducted from the third paycheck in months in which there are three payroll periods.
- V. If the Police Guild transitions away from the City's offered insurance option(s), the City and the Union will open the Agreement to bargain the terms in this Appendix, including other potential comparator bargaining unit(s).

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EXAMPLE

**COMPARATIVE COST EQUATION VS. LEOFF TRUST COST
FOR 2023 Based on 2022 Contract & MOU
Data is based on 10/28/22 Census, 2022 F Step rate,
and LEOFF Trust rate increase of 1.5%**

2023 CITY PREMIUM CONTRIBUTIONS (POLICE GUILD)	CITY TIERED RATES	CENSUS	MONTHLY TOTALS
EE Only	\$1,074.09	8	\$8,592.72
EE Plus Spouse	\$1,589.84	15	\$23,847.60
EE Plus Child / Children	\$1,397.26	3	\$4,191.78
EE Plus Spouse Plus Child / Children	\$1,944.55	47	\$91,393.85
		SUB TOTAL	\$128,025.95
Monthly Vision Costs	\$20.91	73	\$1,526.43
		TOTAL	\$129,552.38

LEOFF TRUST PREMIUM 2023 - RENEWAL RATES Change in rates from 2022 (1.5%)	TRUST TIERED RATES	CENSUS	MONTHLY TOTALS
Employee, Spouse, Child	\$1,894.52	16	\$30,312.32
Employee, Spouse, Children	\$2,120.02	31	\$65,720.62
Employee only	\$687.89	8	\$5,503.12
Employee plus Spouse	\$1,465.98	15	\$21,989.70
Employee plus Child	\$1,116.43	2	\$2,232.86
Employee plus Children	\$1,341.94	1	\$1,341.94
			\$127,100.56

CITY CONTRIBUTIONS TO HRA		CENSUS	
HRA Renewal Admin Cost \$250.00/12	\$20.83		\$20.83
Plus HRA Monthly Admin	\$5.25 ppm	73	\$383.25
Plus HRA Monthly Contribution by City			
EE Only \$2250.00 / 12	\$187.50	8	\$1,500.00
EE Plus Family \$4500.00 / 12	\$375.00	65	\$24,375.00
			\$153,379.64

EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTIONS PER CBA		CENSUS	
Employee Only Tier (no additional contribution)	\$0.00	8	\$0.00
Employee + Dependents contribute 1.75% of 2022 F Step (2022 F Step = \$7,518 per month*)	\$131.57	65	\$8,552.05
			\$144,827.59

MAXIMUM AVAILABLE BENEFIT MONTHLY (ABOVE)		\$129,552.38
TOTAL MONTHLY BENEFIT COSTS (ABOVE)		\$144,827.59
DIFFERENCE THAT ALL EMPLOYEES MUST SHARE (Divided by 73)	\$209.25	\$15,275.21

MAXIMUM AVAILABLE BENEFIT ANNUALIZED		\$1,554,628.56
TOTAL MONTHLY BENEFIT COSTS ANNUALIZED		\$1,737,931.08
ANNUAL DIFFERENCE THAT ALL EMPLOYEES MUST SHARE		\$183,302.52

Additional per EE per Month		\$209.25
Divided by 2 Payrolls		\$104.62
Rounded for Each payroll Contribution 2023 No Dependents	\$104.62	\$209.25
*Rounded for Each payroll Contribution 2023 W/Dependents	\$170.41	\$340.82
<i>(With Dependents rate includes 1.75% of F step)</i>		

APPENDIX D

MOU # 2023-02-IAFF

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
Between
The City of Richland
And
The International Association of Firefighters Local 1052

RESTRUCTURE OF BARGAINING UNIT WORK AND FIRE DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL STRUCTURE

The Richland Fire & Emergency Services Department (“RF&ES”) projects continued growth necessary to serve our community. As our community grows so do nonoperational demands on RF&ES. The prevention division has seen a tremendous increase in community demand over the last ten years. This demand is expected to increase into the foreseeable future.

The parties recognize that the workload and complexity of fire plans review has increased to a pace that is no longer sustainable with the current workforce structure. In order for plan review to be completed timely, overtime is being expended, which is a financial burden to the City and upsetting to employee work/life balance.

The parties recognize that fire and life safety inspections as well as public education is core mission work that is currently not being done due to a lack of capacity within the bargaining unit. This work is essential to keeping our community safe, educated, and directly effects the Cities Washington Surveying and Ratings Bureau.

The parties recognize that the work performed in fire plans review, including building and life safety system review, pre-application meetings, and contractor/interdepartmental communications as well as fire and life safety inspection and public education is currently Union work.

The parties recognize that transitioning bargaining unit work to non-uniform positions is a mandatory subject of bargaining.

The Union agrees to continue to perform this work until the City can advertise, hire, train, and on-board employees to sufficiently carry out the work described.

The Union shall be allowed to assist with this work on an as needed basis at the discretion of the City to ensure continuity of business, offer technical expertise/advice, and ensure positive community engagement once it is fully transferred to management.

This MOA fully addresses the decision, impacts and effects of the Unions loss of such work for the bargaining unit. As identified below, the bargaining unit shall receive the benefits identified herein beginning January 1, 2023, until otherwise negotiated by the parties.

Key Understandings and Parameters:

1. There shall be no reduction of bargaining unit members who currently perform this work (Assistant Fire Marshal and Deputy Fire Marshal). It is also understood that no guarantees of future staffing levels are being made through this MOA.
2. Fire Prevention work that shall be reassigned to management includes but is not limited to:
 - a. Residential fire plan review
 - b. Commercial fire plan review
 - c. Building and life safety system reviews
 - d. Zoning changes
 - e. Subdivision and street plan review
 - f. Pre-application meetings
 - g. Issuing conditional use permits
 - h. Contractor/interdepartmental communications
 - i. Fire and life safety inspections
 - j. Public education related to fire and life safety
 - k. Tegris administrative responsibility
 - l. Project and plan in processing
 - m. Project and plan distribution

Benefits in Consideration for the Transition of Work to Management

In consideration of the above transition, the Bargaining unit members shall receive the following, to be defined by the CBA, unless and until the benefits are otherwise negotiated:

Sick Leave Annual Cash Out funding VEBA Contribution

Members shall participate in the annual cash out of sick leave as follows:

1. Every December and upon retirement/separation from employment, within a payroll period defined by management, bargaining unit members assigned to a 24-hour Shift during the designated pay period, and who have a Sick Leave balance over 1440 hours, shall sell back 50% of the hours over 1440, to a maximum of 150 hours, which shall be placed in the members' established VEBA account.
2. Every December and upon retirement/separation from employment, within a payroll period defined by management, those bargaining unit members assigned to a Day Shift during the designated pay period, and who have a Sick Leave balance of over 1196 hours, shall sell back 50% of the hours over 1196, to a maximum of 124 hours, which shall be placed in the members' established VEBA account.
3. The above maximum hours presumes the conversion method identified in Section 22.2 has been applied.

Signature Page to Follow

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF RICHLAND AND IAFF-RANK AND FILE, LOCAL #1052

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Dated this 25 day of July, 2023.

City of Richland:



Jon Amundson, ICMA-CM, City Manager



Tom Huntington, Fire Chief



Lacey Paulsen, Human Resources Director

IAFF Local 1052:



Raul Marroquin, President, IAFF Local 1052



Tim Birch, Secretary, IAFF Local 1052

APPENDIX E

MOU # 2023-02-IAFF

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between

The City of Richland

And

The International Association of Firefighters Local 1052

TOBACCO-FREE WORKPLACE

The City of Richland (“City”) and the Rank-and-File Unit (“Unit”) of the International Association of Firefighters Local 1052 (“Union”) enter into this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The City and Union are referred to herein as the “parties.”

The parties acknowledge the benefits of a tobacco-free workplace for overall employee health and wellness. The parties also acknowledge Unit employees were historically permitted to use non-atomizing, smokeless tobacco products (“Products”). Recognizing the need to transition over time to a completely tobacco-free workplace, the parties wish to enter into this MOU to aid in such efforts for employees hired by the City before January 1, 2023 (“Eligible Employees”).

The parties agree to the following terms and conditions:

1. The use of tobacco products in City-owned or -operated facilities and vehicles shall be governed by Richland Municipal Code Sections 2.58.010 through 2.58.060, as amended, provided that restrictions in the City Code do not apply to the use of Products for Eligible Employees. Eligible Employees must supply and maintain appropriate receptacles to dispose of such Product waste.
2. The parties shall review this MOU during negotiations for each successor Collective Bargaining Agreement to determine if this MOU shall end or be extended in writing.
3. The terms of this MOU only apply to Eligible Employees.
4. Unit employees hired on or after January 1, 2023, must fully comply with the Richland Municipal Code Sections 2.58.010 through 2.58.060, as amended.
5. This MOU may be modified by the parties’ mutual agreement in writing.
6. This MOU is effective upon full execution.

Signature page to follow

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF RICHLAND AND IAFF-RANK AND FILE, LOCAL #1052

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The parties have executed this MOU as their free and voluntary act on the dates below.

Dated this 25 day of July, 2023.

City of Richland:



Jon Amundson, ICMA-CM, City Manager



Tom Huntington, Fire Chief



Lacey Paulsen, Human Resources Director

IAFF Local 1052:



Raul Marroquin, President, IAFF Local 1052



Tim Birch, Secretary, IAFF Local 1052