

Minneapolis African American Professional Firefighters Association

History

MAAPFA was incorporated in 1989. It was created to address many issues ranging from hiring and promotional practices within the Minneapolis Fire Department (MFD), to the cultural environment in which firefighters worked, to addressing needs within the community.

Mission

The Minneapolis African American Professional Firefighters Association is an organization of men and women who have come together in an effort to discuss common issues and seek resolutions that pertain to our profession as fire fighters as well as to our communities.

As an association, it is our duty to improve the quality and work environment of our fire department. This can be accomplished by working together on topics that create a common understanding of diversity. Also, we wish to provide opportunities of recruitment and employment for people of African descent, and to aid in motivating our Brothers and Sisters to seek advancement to elevated ranks throughout the Fire Service.



MAAPFA members with the Henderson Brothers from the MN Vikings

Membership & Participation

- Come to monthly meetings. Participate by sharing your ideas and expressing your concerns
- Join a committee and/or work on a project
- Contribute \$15.00 per pay period
- Tell other firefighters on the department about MAAPFA and encourage them to get involved.
- Tell the broader community about MAAPFA and how we serve them



MAAPFA member showing Fire Protective equipment and technology to students at the Science Museum of Minnesota

Activities

This past November, we teamed up with Cub Foods, the Henderson Foundation and the Henderson brothers (E.J. & Erin) of the Minnesota Vikings to distribute **over 2000 turkeys to families in need.**

In December, MAAPFA along with Mayor R.T. Rybak and others donated toys to the Parents in Community Action/Head Start Kids Wish Tree **Christmas gift drive.**

In January, we teamed up with the Minnesota Council for Black Minnesotans and the Network for the Development of Children of African Descent (NDCAD) to read to children and distribute free books during the annual **Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. holiday and celebration.**



In February, we teamed up with the Science Museum of Minnesota for their **Melanie Rucker, Turkey African Americans is Giveaway at Cub Foods Science Day** to demonstrate safety equipment and emphasize that a scientific process went into developing firefighter safety equipment.

In partnership with the MFD, we have distributed and installed over **1000 smoke and carbon monoxide detectors** to Minneapolis residents.

We are proud supporters and contributors to the **2011 Miss Black Minnesota USA Scholarship Pageant.**

MAAPFA in partnership with **The Burn Center** at Regions Hospital in St. Paul helped send children burn victims to Cheley Children's Hospital Burn Camp in Colorado which helps kids of all ages deal with burn injuries.

We also work with the Minnesota Partnership for Action Against Tobacco (MPAAT) to help **reduce and eliminate smoking within our community.** We have operated booths at the State Fair, Juneteenth and the Urban League's Family Day to encourage and assist community members to stop smoking.

Last, but not least, MAAPFA has an on-going **commitment to our youth** from school involvement with our fire safety programs, fire service awareness and recruitment presentations, to stay-in school and graduate presentations. As a result of our great work, the International Association of Black Professional Firefighters' awarded MAAPFA with the **2008 Community Service Award.**



Minneapolis & St. Paul Black Firefighters with U.S. Rep. Keith Ellison

We are always looking for ways to team up with other organizations and businesses to further our mission.

Meeting Information

MAAPFA monthly meetings are held from 1:00 - 3:00 pm at the Urban League, 2009 Plymouth Avenue North, in Minneapolis. Please contact us for specific dates.

Conferences

North Central Regional/Tri-Regional Conferences

Spring 2011 Convention • Chicago, IL
April 20th - 23rd

IABPFF Conference

Fall 2011 Convention • Dallas, TX
November 6th - 13th



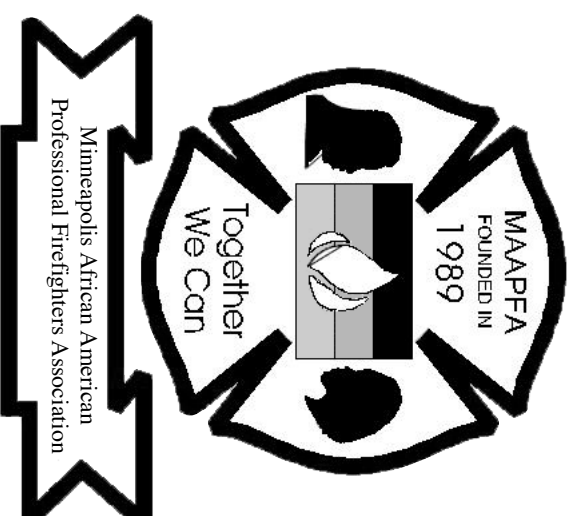
Executive Board:

- Charles Rucker, President
- Melanie Rucker, Vice-President
- Bilal Atiq, Secretary
- Tim Baynard, Treasurer
- Bryan Tyner, Trustee
- Michael Terry, Trustee
- Prentice Moore, Sergeant at Arms

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MAAPFA is not a union. MAAPFA members are members of and are represented by Local #82 in Minneapolis, Minnesota of the International Association of Fire Fighters.



“...Strengthen relationships and bonds among firefighters.”
“...Build upon the foundation of those who came before us.”
“...Continue our work and build upon the accomplishments of our recent past.”

2011

Member of the International Association of Black Professional Firefighters

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