Washington State Fire Service Line of Duty Death Guidelines and Procedures

- **Level III: Death of an Inactive, Retired or Affiliate Uniformed Member**

Level III: Death of an Inactive, Retired or Affiliate Uniformed Member

This level of service shall be offered to the family of a retired fire or EMS member from the agency they served. This level of service can be offered to the family if they wish the assistance of the Agency. If the family requests pipers/drum corps, and/or an American Flag, they will be responsible for the occurring cost.

- Badge Shrouds
  - Worn by home department day of service until 1700 hrs.
- Flag Protocol
  - Firefighter Memorial Flag flown from 0800hrs until sunset day of the service
- American Flag Presentation
  - Casket: Flag is tri-folded prior to service and presented to the family
  - Urn: Flag is tri-folded prior to service and presented to the family
- Honor Guard
- Pallbearers, Honorary
- Bell Ceremony
- Bag Piper for Amazing Grace

Honors Considerations

Flag Presentation
Purchase a cotton flag, the same size flown over the station. Fly this flag over the station the firefighter worked for one minute per years of service. (5 mins for 5 years of service). Present this flag to the family with a card stating the location and amount of time the flag was flow.

Military
Military Honors include a presentation of the American Flag and Taps by a military honor guard and should be rendered graveside. If there is no graveside service, these honors can be rendered at the funeral/memorial. If the fallen firefighter is receiving a flag for their military service they may also receive a flag for their fire service. It is suggested that the fire service flag be an Honor Flag or a tri-folded fallen firefighter memorial flag.

Family
It is important to communicate very clearly with the family which costs the agency will cover and which the family will be responsible for. Make sure to do this while in the planning stages so there will be no surprises. Additionally, ensure that the family's wishes are first and foremost as there will be requests from a variety of sources to do more.

Procession
It is suggested that there be no procession or escort for this level of service.

Level III: Death of an Inactive, Retired or Affiliate Uniformed Member Suggested Order of Service

Family is pre-seated prior to the start of the service

- Pre-Service Protocol Announcement
- Posting the Colors by Honor Guard
    - National Anthem or Pledge of Allegiance (Optional)
- Invocation
- Chiefs Welcome
- Funeral Service (Family Minister)
    - Eulogy
    - Homily/Message
    - Family/Friends Memories
    - Video Slide Show
- Fire Service Honors/Military Honors
    - Military Honors (See Military Considerations)
        - Presentation of Flag and Taps
    - Chief or designee talks about the Retiree's Fire Service Career
    - Flag and/or Fire Service Flag Presentation(s)
    - Bell Ceremony
    - Amazing Grace – Single Piper
- Closing Comments
- Benediction
- Retire the Colors
- Dismissal