



CALIFORNIA PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTERS

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California Firefighters Endorse Gavin Newsom for Governor

Largest statewide firefighter group cites strong pro-firefighter record in backing 2018 front runner

(OAKLAND) Citing an unflinching record of support for public safety and firefighters even in tough times, California Professional Firefighters, the state's largest organization representing front line firefighters, today announced it has endorsed Gavin Newsom for governor.

"At a time when California faces a grave and growing threat from fire and other natural disaster, it's essential that the next governor offer more than lip service to public safety," said Lou Paulson, president of California Professional Firefighters. "Throughout his public life, Gavin Newsom has built a record of standing up for public safety and the men and women on the front lines, even in tough times. He has earned our endorsement."

"As mayor and as lieutenant governor, I've been proud to stand with our firefighters, who put their lives on the line to keep our state and our communities safe," Newsom said. "I'm honored to receive CPF's support and am committed to ensuring that the men and women on the front lines are respected in deeds, as well as in words."

As other big city mayors were laying off firefighters and shutting down stations during the recession, Gavin Newsom held the line on public safety as mayor of San Francisco. Newsom also implemented long-overdue upgrades to the city's Emergency Operations Plan, implemented emergency warning systems and sponsored a bond measure that upgraded the city's water system.

"When our firefighters needed a champion at City Hall, Gavin Newsom stood up to those who wanted to roll back fire and emergency medical response," said Tom O'Connor, president of San Francisco Fire Fighters Local 798. "He kept his commitment to public safety as mayor, and we believe he will stand up for our firefighters as governor."

"The next governor will play a huge role in decisions that will affect our firefighters and the people we protect," said Tony Gamboa, president of United Firefighters of Los Angeles City Local 112. "On the central issues that affect the lives, health and safety of firefighters, we believe Gavin Newsom is the best choice for governor."

California Professional Firefighters is the largest statewide firefighter organization in California, representing 30,000 front line first responders in more than 180 affiliates, including local state and federal firefighters. CPF is the state council of the International Association of Fire Fighters, which represents over 300,000 firefighters in the U.S. and Canada.