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Chattanooga Fire Fighters Association Endorses Tim Kelly for Mayor

CHATTANOOGA, TN — The Chattanooga Fire Fighters Association (IAFF Local 820) on Wednesday endorsed Tim Kelly for Mayor of the City of Chattanooga, citing his commitment to public safety and his crisis management experience.

Tim Kelly is a proven leader with a track record of effective crisis management, and he understands the importance of public safety in Chattanooga. Tim Kelly will work with the Chattanooga Fire Fighters Association in his first 100 days in office to develop and begin implementation of a pay plan that will resolve pay disparities while enhancing recruitment and retention efforts. Additionally, Tim Kelly will partner with department leaders to develop a common-sense capital plan to ensure that first responders have the equipment and resources to keep Chattanooga safe.

"As firefighters, we know how important it is to remain cool under pressure, and we need a mayor who can handle the heat of this critical public office," said Jack Thompson, President of the Chattanooga Fire Fighters Association. "Tim Kelly has the experience, judgement, and temperament to lead our city. He knows the value of firefighters and the risks they take to keep our community safe. We're proud to endorse him to be the next Mayor of Chattanooga."

The Chattanooga Fire Fighters Association represents approximately 250 professional firefighters in Chattanooga and Hamilton County. These firefighters are engaged in our community through charitable organizations, nonprofit groups, and civic activities. A diverse group of public servants, the Chattanooga Fire Fighters Association works to educate the public and elected officials while advocating on behalf of the men and women who are available around the clock to protect the lives and homes of Chattanoogans.

After interviewing a number of mayoral candidates, the Association determined that Tim Kelly would be the best leader to move Chattanooga forward amid the challenges of a pandemic, while keeping Chattanoogans safe.

"Firefighters save lives every day in Chattanooga and I am honored and grateful for their support," said Tim Kelly. "I look forward to a very productive, working relationship with the Chattanooga Fire Fighters Association to develop a fair pay plan, expand mental health support for firefighters, and ensure that all firefighters are properly trained and equipped."

The Chattanooga Fire Fighters Association endorsement is one of the most sought-after endorsements for any mayoral campaign and reflects growing momentum for Tim Kelly's campaign to build a Chattanooga that works for everybody.

Election day is March 2, 2021, with early voting February 10, 2021 through February 25, 2021.

For more information about Tim Kelly and the Chattanooga Fire Fighters Association, please visit www.local820.org