

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

November 14, 1996

In Reply Refer To:
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Information Bulletin No. 97-37

To: SDs, CDs

From: Director

Subject: Partnership Agreement with the International Association
of Black Professional Fire Fighters

On October 15, 1996, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) signed a partnership agreement with the International Association of Black Professional Fire Fighters (IABPFF).

The IABPFF is an international organization that represents over 8,500 African American Fire Fighters across the Nation. The IABPFF collects and evaluates data on conditions affecting all areas where minorities exist, addresses concerns within the fire profession, and assists in implementing actions to correct these issues.

The purpose of the agreement is to join the BLM and IABPFF in a collaborative effort that will enhance opportunities for African Americans in the wildland fire community. This initiative will help us achieve our goals for a diversified workforce that is more representative of the public we serve. In part, the agreement commits the BLM to develop strategies to improve the hiring, retention, education and development of African American firefighters within the Bureau. The Office of Fire and Aviation will be contacting the State Fire Management Officers to collect information concerning the states FY97 fire needs. We hope to have strategies in place that will produce results for the 1997 fire season.

Lee Allen and Jay Theitten will be coordinating the implementation of this agreement. Lee and Jay will be working with the Field Committee, the Director of the Office of Fire and Aviation, the Assistant Director for Human Resources Management and with your field offices.

If you have any suggestions or questions regarding the agreement, please call Lee Allen, at (303) 236-6652 or Jay Tbietten at (202) 208-5099.

1 - Attachment

1 - "Partnership Agreement - Between USDI-BLM and International Association of Black Professional Fire Fighters Foundation" (2 pp)