

September 20, 2024

2024 IFC TAG Members,

*My name is David Fox, and I am the managing member of Red Hawk Fire Protection, LLC. I am requesting your support for the proposed amendment to WAC 51-54-0904. As a fire protection contractor in Washington, I must have access to a skilled workforce capable of performing the technical tasks outlined in this WAC.*

*The proposed amendment, which would allow current holders of a Journey certification through the Washington State Fire Marshal's Office and a COC-ITT to perform this work, ensures that only trained and qualified individuals within the fire protection industry are involved. At the same time, it addresses the significant challenge of workforce availability, which is currently limited to approximately 21 people statewide.*

*Without this amendment, the fire protection industry—and, by extension, business owners—will face a shortage of available contractors and workers. This shortage could lead to extended delays in critical repairs and installations, ultimately putting the public at significant risk by leaving fire suppression systems with deficiencies and few options for timely repairs.*

*I urge you to consider the paramount importance of this amendment and its potential impact on industry and public safety. Your support will ensure that fire protection work continues to be carried out by qualified professionals while addressing the urgent need to expand the workforce.*

*Thank you for your time and consideration.*

*Sincerely,*



David Fox

Red Hawk Fire Protection, LLC - Managing Member