

# Hillsborough County Fire Fighters, IAFF Local 2294



## **MEDIA ALERT**

*For Immediate Release*

Wednesday, March 21, 2018

(Tampa) - Local 2294 has spent more than 52 weeks in negotiations with Hillsborough County BOCC regarding the terms and conditions of employment that govern the three bargaining units covered under the employ of Hillsborough County Fire Rescue. The employees covered by those bargaining units overwhelmingly voted on this past Monday and Tuesday to reject those proposals that had been tentatively agreed upon by both negotiating parties. In the 45-year history of Local 2294's existence, this was an unprecedented showing from the employees in exercising their sentiment on the terms of the collective bargaining agreements with 80% of the employees voting. Our exit polls and interviews indicate no one issue took precedence over another; most employees had a number of issues within each of the collective bargaining agreements voted on. However, there was a general consensus amongst all those casting their votes of an overall low morale issue within the rank and file members of Hillsborough County Fire Rescue and this factor is being considered as well.

Local 2294's negotiation team is committed to staying at the table until a contract is in place. We anticipate the representatives from Hillsborough County BOCC share this same commitment as well. Local 2294 will be evaluating the concerns that have been raised by the represented employees and will use this information to find any common ground with the County's negotiating team. We are openly communicating with the County to begin the process of finding further common ground and anticipate scheduling a meeting with County representatives within the next 30 days. Chief Negotiator/Executive Officer Derrik Ryan and/or Executive Officer Chris Boles can be contacted for further comment.