

Jan. 29<sup>th</sup> 2012

Brothers and Sisters

As some of you may know, I was elected by the E-Board to attend the HR/ALTS conference in Florida last week. (Jan. 22-26) I learned a lot and could go on forever with the details. I will try to keep it short and sweet. Here is the list of classes I attended.

1. Dimensions of Leadership
2. Principles of Leadership
3. Diversity in the Workplace-Is it Important?
4. Dealing With Difficult People
5. Crisis Communication
6. Federal Sector Advanced Labor Relations Statute Training
7. Advanced Leadership: Conflict Resolution
8. Ethics for Union Leaders
9. How to Run a Meeting
10. Duty of Fair Representation

I learned a lot about myself. I was picked apart and shown my strengths and weaknesses as a leader. I also learned how others may or may not perceive my personality traits and how to effectively communicate with other types of personalities.

I got to know President Taska Elin and Everett VP Weylin Brown outside of arguing issues and talking shop. I learned their leadership styles and traits and I believe we will work better together because of the training we received. I also met and briefly talked to several regional and international officers including IAFF General President Harold Schaitberger.

Overall as a first time ALTS conference attendee, I was surprisingly overwhelmed by all the information but extremely grateful for the training. I look forward to improving our membership as I now better understand my position within the union.

Respectfully,

Mike Foreman  
Bangor VP  
IAFF Local F282  
Puget Sound Federal Firefighters