



COLORS

Red, black and green were the colors used by Marcus Garvey's black pride of African movement of the 1930's. The "Red" is for our blood, the "Black" is for the race, and the "Green" is for hope.

HAND

The hand was selected because of the number five (5). The five fingers represent the five founding organizations of the International, which were Phoenix Society, Hartford, CT.; Valiants, Inc. of Philadelphia, PA; Vulcan Pioneers of Hudson County, Jersey City, NJ; Vulcan Pioneers of NJ, Newark, NJ; and Vulcan Society, Inc., New York, NY.

CLENCHED FIST

Symbolized Strength and Power When the Fingers (Organizations) Came Together.

OUTLINE OF FINGERS

It was strongly felt by the designer that the Almighty had a guiding hand in bringing Black fire fighters together from across the nation. The outline of the fingers was shaped to form the Arabic word "Allah" which means "GOD".

FLAME

Represents the heat that is necessary to take something old (five groups), and forge them into something new (the International).

The IABPFF was formally organized in Hartford, Connecticut on October 3, 1970. The five founding organizations were Phoenix Society, Hartford, CT; Valiants, Inc. of Philadelphia, PA; Vulcan Pioneers of Hudson County, Jersey City, NJ; Vulcan Pioneers of NJ, Newark, NJ; and Vulcan Society, Inc., New York, NY. Presently, the association is divided into seven regions. Six in the United States and one in the Caribbean. It has over 8,500 members now and is currently establishing memberships in Canada and England.

Some of the major accomplishments that the IABPFF is responsible for are: 1) the increase of African Americans in the fire service, 2) the increase in African American Chief Officers, 3) the acceptance and increase of females into the American fire service, 4) the establishment of its own Executive Development Institute at Florida A & M University, 6) the introduction of new state-of-the-art technology in fire defense strategies to the fire service, 7) the assistance with many legal challenges to discriminatory hiring, recruitment, promotional and disciplinary systems within fire departments, and 8) the assistance with many national legislative initiatives that affects the fire service community.

We now have the IABPFF Foundation established which is designed to deliver the educational needs of the IABPFF membership. It will become the educational arm of the association as we continue to grow.

In closing, we shall "Keep The Fires Burning For Justice".