WHY C3FAC WAS FORMED

CODE 3 FOR A CURE ® was formed out of one firefighter's struggles. President and Founder Lorenzo Abundiz, Firefighter/ Engineer (Santa Ana, California), a 27-year firefighter, was compelled to form C3FAC in 2008 after battling two different types of occupational cancer (sarcoma and bladder) and witnessing many of his comrades suffer and die from the disease. He has since fought a third cancer (prostate).

Because the City in which he served denied the claim that the highly aggressive first cancer was job related, Lorenzo was forced to rely on his HMO insurance for timely treatment, and his urgently needed second surgery to resection the tumor was delayed for a month, causing its re-growth. Unfortunately, despite numerous studies pointing to a causal relationship between firefighting and cancer, as well as presumptive laws that have been passed in certain states, Lorenzo's case is not an isolated one. Since C3FAC was formed, there have been many financial assistance applications received from firefighters who are struggling to: get the proper medical care they need, stay on top of mounting medical bills, keep their homes, and continue to support their families.

The term "Code 3" refers to an emergency vehicle going to the highest level of response. Its meaning in the context of this organization is, let's move to the highest level of response to cure the effects of cancer for one group who is among the most heavily afflicted by it.

Read more about how Code 3 for a Cure began: **c3fac.org/story.html**

WHO WE ARE

CODE 3 FOR A CURE ® (C3FAC) is a national non-profit 501(c)3 public charity dedicated to addressing cancer in the fire service. C3FAC is a centralized organization located in California, is led by 2 Officers and a 5-member Board of Directors, and does not have any chapters or affiliates. For a detailed explanation of our purpose: **c3fac.org/purpose.html**

HOW WE CAN HELP

In addition to heightening awareness regarding the risks of occupational exposures firefighters face and how they can minimize those risks, we provide financial assistance and support to firefighters (whether active or retired and whether salaried, paid call, or volunteer) who are battling cancer and are in need. For a financial assistance application packet, including eligibility criteria, firefighters can send an email to: **appforms@c3fac.org**.

NOTE: Issuance of funds, and timeliness thereof, are based on current level of funding available.

GET INVOLVED

There are many ways you can help the cause:

- Like us on Facebook: **facebook.com/c3fac**
- Follow us on Twitter: **twitter.com/code3foracure**
- Shop in our online store: **c3fac.org/store.html**
- Donate securely via our website, **c3fac.org**
- Become a C3FAC athlete. Learn how: **c3fac.org/be_a_c3fac_athlete.html**
- Give via the United Way through payroll deduction. Consult your payroll department for details.
- Organize a fundraiser. Email your fundraising proposal to **firefighters@c3fac.org**.

Find more ways to get involved: **c3fac.org/give.html**