



**\*\*\*MEDIA ALERT\*\*\***

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**State Auditor Julie Blaha receives Minnesota Professional Fire Fighters and AFSCME Council 65 endorsements**

ST. PAUL, Minn. — Minnesota State Auditor Julie Blaha received endorsements from Minnesota Professional Fire Fighters (MPFF) and AFSCME Council 65 this week.

The MPFF represents over 2,000 firefighters, emergency medical technicians, paramedics and dispatchers in 46 cities throughout Minnesota. As Auditor, Blaha represents Minnesotans on boards that deal with issues such as pensions.

“Those closest to an issue are the ones who are closest to the solution,” Blaha said. “The same goes for fire fighters when it comes to leading on their own pensions. If we trust them to go into a burning house to save our lives, we have to trust them to lead on their own pension plans.”

AFSCME Council 65, an affiliate of the AFL-CIO, which Blaha served as Secretary Treasurer for the Minnesota branch prior to being elected to office, represents about 13,500 members across Minnesota, South Dakota and North Dakota.

“AFSCME Council 65 has been a strong advocate for workers in our state,” Blaha said. “I’m proud to have their endorsement and many other labor organizations endorsements.”

Blaha has received numerous endorsements this cycle: The National Association of Social Workers, Women Winning, Planned Parenthood, EMILY’s List, Minnesota Nurses Association, Minnesota AFL-CIO, Education Minnesota, LiUNA Minnesota and North Dakota, AFSCME Council 5, UFCW Local 1189, Teamsters Joint Council 32, Minneapolis Regional Labor Federation, Inter Faculty Organization, the Minnesota Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party (DFL), DFL Rural Caucus, Stonewall DFL and was awarded Protect Minnesota Advocacy Fund’s Orange Star.

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