

## *Disability Update*

President Dugan and the Executive Board met today with the Department's Senior Staff to discuss the steps needed to complete the disability language as it relates to the amount of pay a member receives once they are retired from a line of duty injury. As you are aware, this is the major component of our beleaguered disability system for over 25+ years.

Working with the Department, the end goal is to have the Members of Tiers II and III receive the same benefit as the Members of Tier I 66 2/3 % for all performance of duty retirements.

The Executive Board has been successful in lobbying the City Council in extending the time limits on a member's POD injury. Previously, a member was only allowed to be in a non-full duty status for 64 tours. Recent legislation as extended that to 170 tours allowing a member additional time to recuperate from a more serious injury.

The Department now employs Martin Hamlette, who has considerable experience in writing Legislation and moving it through the Executive Branch. He comes from the Executive Office of Mayor Fenty and has first hand knowledge of our issue. He is committed to helping us resolve this issue and we hope to introduce language to the City Council in early 2009.

We shall keep the Membership notified as this effort to improve our Disability Retirement moves forward.