

The Village of Northfield Fire Department

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April 8, 2014

For Immediate Release

RE: The Village of Northfield Fire Department's Revised I.S.O. Score

To Members of Council, Residents and Business Owners in Northfield,

Northfield Village Fire Department is thrilled to release the results of our recent ISO evaluation that occurred in October of 2013. The fire department was last evaluated in April of 1999, and received a rating of 6 on a 1-10 scale (Lower is Better) at that time. **Our new rating is a 3. This ranks us in the top 6% of fire departments in the country!** The improvement in rating may lead to decreases in insurances premiums that all village residents and business owners pay. **The new rating will take effect July 1, 2014.**

The improvement in fire department classification would not have been possible without a number factors over the past year. Mayor Nehez and council showed tremendous support to the fire department in allowing them to acquire much needed training, equipment and manpower. Daily staffing was increased to three firefighters 24/7 in 2013. Additionally, a part time fire chief working 20 hours a week and a fire prevention officer working 12 hours a week were also added. These positions were a major factor in improving the department's classification.

The addition of a dedicated part time fire chief has allowed the department to operate much more efficiently. Records are kept more accurately, tasks and maintenance are completed in a more timely fashion, and oversight exist on day to day operations to ensure smooth delivery of services. By being well organized, the ISO evaluators were presented with all the required testing records, documents, maintenance records and files to be used to help determine the department's classification.

Northfield Village Fire Department also greatly improved the classification due to increases in fire prevention and public education programs. NVFD added a part time fire inspection program to ensure all village businesses were inspected. They also conducted building plan reviews, fire protection systems testing oversight and annual fire inspections. Public information was increased through the creation of the department's Facebook page and contributions to the Village's newsletter. Fire safety information being provided to the public and businesses increases the safety of all of our residents and visitors. This education is highly valued by ISO and in turn helped us achieve a better final classification.

"Our Family Protecting Yours"

In addition to the manpower and fire prevention that was added in 2013, Northfield Village Fire Department entered into Automatic Mutual Aid Agreements with Macedonia Fire Department and Fire District 27 last year. By automatically responding to fire alarm calls and training together, all departments in the Nordonia Hills area have received a tremendous boost in their ISO classification. Over the past year the Nordonia Hills area fire departments are working better together than ever in their history and in turn providing a higher level of service overall. I would like to thank Chief Tim Black and Chief Frank Risko for all of their continued support.

Summary of Results

New ISO Classification - 3

- NVFD scored in the top 3220 Fire Departments out of 49,010 departments nationwide
 - This equates to scoring in the top 6% in the country, ahead of the other 93%
- Base ISO score improved from a 46.28 to a 79.34
 - o NVFD is less than a point away from being a class 2 department
 - o NVFD will attempt to improve to the next class over the next year
- Communications Score improved from a 5.58 to 8.4 out of 10 possible points
- Fire Department Overall Score improved from a 15.9 to 32.91 out of 50 possible points
- Water Supply Score improved from a 36.88 to 40 out of 40 possible points
- Fire Prevention / Education improved from a 0 to 4.87 out of a possible 5.5 points
- Divergence decreased from 12.08-6.84 (It's a fire department "handicap", lower is better)

Again, I would like to thank Mayor Nehez, the council, Macedonia Fire, and Fire District 27 in supporting us and making this possible. Furthermore, I would like to thank our firefighters and fire officers on their dedicated service to the public. It is them that faithfully and professionally serve, and this improvement in classification shows the fruits of their hard work and expertise.

If you have any question regarding this improvement, please feel free to contact me at anytime

Respectfully Submitted,

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