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Be Proactive

Effective FD Relationships with Township & Borough Officials – A Seminar for Leaders

All Fire Departments in Pennsylvania must interact with Boroughs and Townships. Elected and appointed officials hold tremendous power over the FD. Too many times FDs only communication with local government at budget time or when a crisis occurs. Positive relationships with officials are essential to providing the best possible service to your community. This session will identify why unclear expectations between public officials and leaders of the FD can lead to problems. Solutions to those problems may be easier than expected. After attending this seminar: The student will be to:

- Describe traditional methods of communication between officials and FDs
- Describe individual responsibilities of local government and the FD
- Identify problems that lead to poor relationships
- List the organizational differences that lead to misperceptions
- Recognize the differences and accountability in a chain of command
- Identify key questions that public officials want to know about your FDs
- Recognize the importance of a local government budgeting timeline
- Describe the importance of planning
- Identify how to conduct research of alike communities
- Define an “annual report” and how to effectively communicate the report.

The Pennsylvania Fire & Emergency Services Institute is an educational, non-profit association of emergency service organizations, emergency responders, industry and public service professionals who research, exchange information, and cultivate relationships among constituents about the issues affecting emergency response and life safety in the state of Pennsylvania. Our mission is to use combined knowledge and efforts to better protect the industry and those who serve within it.

This 2 to 2.5-hour seminar can be offered onsite or via Zoom for a reasonable investment! ($450)

Recommended attendees:

- FD President
- Treasurer
- FD Board Members
- Chief Fire Officers
- Township Supervisors
- Borough Council
- Mayors
- Municipal Managers

For more information or to schedule a seminar please contact Jerry Ozog at 717-497-5306 or jozog@pfesi.org