



GREENFIELD TOWNSHIP VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

424 Route 106, Greenfield Township, PA 18407



PRESS RELEASE

April 18, 2008

Greenfield Township - Fire Chief Certifies

Greenfield Twp, PA 4-18-08 - The Greenfield Township Volunteer Fire Company announced today that the National Professional Qualifications Board (NPFSQB) and the International Fire Service Accreditation Council (IFSAC) has nationally certified Fire Chief Fred Bales as a Certified Fire Officer Level 4., the highest certification officer certification available, under the provisions of NFPA 1021, *Standard for Fire Officer Professional Qualifications*, published by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA).

A person certified at this level has demonstrated competency in the skills, knowledge, and performance required to develop, manage, and administer public fire protection services, including an in-depth knowledge of laws relative to hiring, promotion, EEOC, labor relations, fire master planning, and strategic planning for public fire protection.

In order to receive certification, testing is conducted to measure an officers ability to perform risk assessments, determine target hazards and affected populations, develop and deliver and manage complex hiring practices, master planning, and probability analysis, as provided by NFPA 1021, *Standard for Fire Officer Professional Qualifications*, published by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA).

Chief Bales is a 30-year veteran of the fire service, currently serving as Greenfield Township Fire Chief. Chief Bales is the Fire Protection Manager for Engineering and Safety services, division of the Insurance Services Offices (ISO). He serves as a Local Level Instructor for Bucks County Community College. In addition to this recent certification, Chief Bales holds certifications as:

- Fire Fighter Level II
- Fire Instructor Level III
- Driver Operator – Engine
- Driver Operator - Tender
- Rescue Technician – Vehicle/Machinery
- Rescue Technician Confined Space
- Fire Inspector II
- Incident Safety Officer
- Health and Safety Officer
- Hazardous Materials Technician
- Public Fire and Life Safety Educator

Additionally, he is certified by the NFPA as a Certified Fire Protection Specialist (CFPS); and by the NFPA and the International Codes Council (ICC) as Certified Fire Inspector – II (CFI); and by the Pennsylvania Department of Health as an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT). Fred holds several certifications as a SCUBA Diver including Advanced Open Water, Rescue Diver, and Training Assistant.

To date, Greenfield Township Fire Fighters hold a number of national certifications including all of those listed above. The *Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Voluntary Fire Fighter Certification Program* was created by Act 112 of 1989, and amended by Act 61 of 1995. Commonwealth emergency responders, 18 years of age or older have an opportunity to participate in and be recognized as a certified fire professional at various levels in accordance with nationally recognized and sanctioned professional qualification standards.

Greenfield was the first department in Pennsylvania recognized under the State Fire Commissioners Voluntary Certification Recognized Program.