



GREENFIELD TOWNSHIP VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

424 Route 106, Greenfield Township, PA 18407



PRESS RELEASE

July 25, 2007

Greenfield Township - Fire Chief Certifies

Greenfield Twp, PA 7/26/07 - The Greenfield Township Volunteer Fire Company announced today that the National Professional Qualifications Board (NPFSQLB) and the International Fire Service Accreditation Council (IFSAC) has nationally certified Fire Chief Fred Bales as a Public Fire and Life Safety Educator. A person certified as a Fire and Life Safety Educator has demonstrated competency in the skills, knowledge, and performance required to educate the public on the hazards of fires and general life safety concerns.

In order to receive certification, testing is conducted to measure a officers ability to perform risk assessments, determine target hazards and affected populations, develop and deliver education programs to reduce the probability of harm to those identified groups, as provided by NFPA 10351, *Standard for Public Fire and Life Safety Educators*, published by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA).

Chief Bales is a 29-year veteran of the fire service, currently serving as Greenfield Township Fire Chief. Chief Bales is the Fire Protection Manger 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 Officer Level III
- Fire Instructor Level III
- Driver Operator – Engine and Tanker
- Rescue Technician – Vehicle Machinery and Confined Space
- Fire Inspector II
- Incident Safety and Health and Safety Officer
- Hazardous Materials Technician

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.