

re ref.

EDWARD F. DUFFY

Attorney at Law

2630 EAST CHESTNUT AVENUE, SUITE C-3
VINELAND, NEW JERSEY 08361

PLEASE REFER TO
FILE NUMBER 4534

TELEPHONE
(856) 692-0960
FAX (856) 692-2317

March 9, 2007

Wayne Chatten, Fire Chief
Delmont Volunteer Fire Company
P.O. Box 96
Delmont, NJ 08314
(Sent by regular and certified mail)

Flora Chatten, Commissioner
Maurice River Township Fire District No. 5
P.O. Box 96
Delmont, NJ 08314
(Sent by regular and certified mail)

RE: Maurice River Township Fire District No. 5/Delmont Volunteer Fire Company

Dear Fire Chief and Board Chairman:

In regard to the above-referenced matter, this correspondence is to confirm the admonition placed on the record at the Emergency Joint Meeting of the Township and Fire District last evening that neither the District itself nor the Fire Company is to sell, transfer, convey, or otherwise dispose of property presently maintained by either entity. A number of assets had been provided by virtue of State Grants or Federal monies and strict accountability regarding same will be required herein. If any items go missing, there may be criminal and civil liability asserted against individuals.

In addition, the District should not enter into any purchase agreement, lease or other obligation at this time.

Thanking you for your cooperation, I remain

Very truly yours,



Edward F. Duffy, Esquire

EFD/cmd
CC: J. Roy Oliver, R.M.C./C.T.C.

RECEIVED

MAR 12 2007

MAURICE RIVER TWP.

MAURICE RIVER TOWNSHIP

ORDINANCE NO. 575

AN ORDINANCE OF MAURICE RIVER TOWNSHIP, CUMBERLAND COUNTY, NEW JERSEY AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 360 AND DISSOLVING FIRE DISTRICT NO. 5 (DELMONT AREA)

WHEREAS, the Township previously adopted Ordinance No. 360 Establishing Fire District No. 5 (Delmont Area) In Maurice River Township, Cumberland County, New Jersey on July 20, 1989; and

WHEREAS, due to significant concerns relating to the operation of the subject Fire District and the quality of fire suppression services contracted for by the subject district with the Delmont Fire Company, the Township Committee of the Township of Maurice River in the County of Cumberland, State of New Jersey is of the opinion that the public interest will best be served by dissolving said Fire District No. 5 (Delmont Area) and assigning said fire suppression and emergency duties to the adjoining fire districts, Fire District No. 1 (Leesburg Area) and Fire District No. 2 (Heislerville Area).

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Township Committee of the Township of Maurice River, County of Cumberland, State of New Jersey (not less than two-thirds of the full membership thereof affirmatively concurring) as follows:

1. That the Fire District No. 5 (Delmont Area) located in Maurice River Township, Cumberland County, New Jersey as set forth in Ordinance No. 360 which consists of Metes & Bounds, the description as set forth below, shall be and is hereby dissolved.

2. That all funds of the dissolved District No. 5 as set forth in Schedule "A", be transferred to the adjoining Fire District No. 1 (Leesburg Area) and Fire District No. 2 (Heislerville Area).

3. That all debts of the dissolved District No. 5 shall be assumed and paid by the adjoining Fire District No. 1 (Leesburg Area) and Fire District No. 2 (Heislerville Area) as set forth in Schedule "B".

4. That all equipment and personal property of the dissolved District No. 5 be inventoried and attached as Schedule "C" be transferred to the adjoining Fire District No. 1 (Leesburg Area) and Fire District No. 2 (Heislerville Area).

5. The metes and bounds of said Fire District No. 5 are as follows:

BEGINNING at a point in the West Creek at its termination into the Delaware Bay (Cape May County/Cumberland County line); thence, North along the center line of West Creek being the boundary line between Cape May County and Cumberland County to it's intersection with Mosslander Road; thence, Northeastwardly along the boundary line between Cape May County and Cumberland County to the boundary's intersection with the Eldora Road; thence, Northwardly along the boundary line between Cape May County and Cumberland County to it's intersection with the Leesburg-Belleplain Road; thence, Westwardly along the center line of the

Leesburg-Belleplain Road to its intersection with Old Stagecoach Road; thence, South on Old Stagecoach Road approximately 359 feet to a point; thence, in a straight line from that point to Delsea Drive at Pole Creek; thence, South along the center line of Delsea Drive to its intersection with Riggins Creek; thence Southwardly along the center line of Riggins Creek to the Delaware Bay; thence, Eastwardly along the Delaware Bayshore to the point of Beginning at West Creek.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED AND ENACTED by the Township Committee of the Township of Maurice River, County of Cumberland and State of New Jersey that this Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon the adoption and publication of notice of adoption as prescribed by law and approval by the New Jersey Local Finance Board pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 40A:5a-6*.

ATTEST:

J. Roy Oliver, Township Clerk

Ronald D. Riggins, Mayor

Andrew Sarclette, Committeeman

Norman Franckle, Jr., Committeeman

First Reading: 03/15/2007

Publication: 3/24/07

Public Hearing: 4/19/07

Adoption: _____

Publication of

Notice of Adoption: _____



MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 590 MAIN ST., P.O. BOX 218, LEESBURG, NJ 08327

PHONE: (856) 785-1120

FAX: (856) 785-1974

February 22, 2007

Wayne Chatten, Chief
Delmont Volunteer Fire Co.
P.O. Box 96
Delmont, NJ 08314

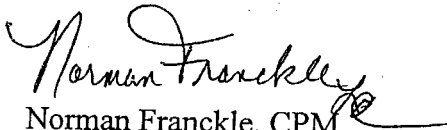
RE: Debriefing – 02/05/07 Incident
Moore's Beach Road

Dear Mr. Chatten:

During the LEPC meeting held last night, it was determined that the necessity for a debriefing is warranted regarding the fire on 02/05/07 at 49 Moore's Beach Road. Please advise the date, time and place when this will occur. It is imperative that the debriefing be held in a timely fashion.

I will await your immediate reply. I can be reached at 856-825-6797 (home) or 609-381-3402 (cell).

Very truly yours,


Norman Franckle, CPM
Township Committeeman/
Public Safety Commissioner

NF/lc

cc: Township Committee
Chief, Leesburg VFC
Chief, Heislerville VFC
Chief, Port Norris VFC
Chief, Mauricetown VFC
Chief, Laurel Lake VFC
Chief, Dividing Creek VFC
Chief, Belleplaine VFC
Bill King, Belleplaine Ambulance Corp.
Lt. Cuzzupe, NJSP



COPY

MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 590 MAIN ST., P.O. BOX 218, LEESBURG, NJ 08327

PHONE: (856) 785-1120

FAX: (856) 785-1974

February 8, 2007

Mr. Lawrence Petrillo, Director
State of New Jersey
Department of Community Affairs
Division of Fire Safety
101 South Broad Street
Trenton, NJ 08625

Dear Director Petrillo:

As a result of a fire on Monday, February 5, 2007 I am respectfully requesting that the Division of Fire Safety's Fire Department Preparedness Unit do a thorough investigation into Delmont Volunteer Fire Company's operation capability. I am Township Committeeman in Maurice River Township in Cumberland County and responsible for the Public Safety in our community.

I am sure you are aware that there is an investigation into the cause of a recent fire on Moores Beach Road in Delmont, by the New Jersey State Police Arson and Bomb Unit, as well as members of the Division of Fire Safety Arson Unit. Delmont Volunteer Fire Company responded to this fire which is within their district/response area. I have received numerous complaints about the way the fire scene was handled by Delmont Volunteer Fire Company including complaints of inadequacies of command and control, to allegations of incompetence.

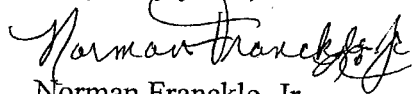
I am hoping that the Fire Department Preparedness Unit will determine whether the fire company is compliant with State Department of Labor, Division of Fire Safety regulations governing fire department operations, as well as any national fire protection association standards that may apply. I have serious concerns regarding Delmont Volunteer Fire Company's operational capabilities. I need assurances that we, the Township, are not opening ourselves up for a major lawsuit due to their inability to provide adequate fire protection for the residents of our Township in their first due response area.

I also caution you that I would have concerns whether or not they are capable of protecting Bayside State Prison and Southern State Correctional Facility, which houses approximately 3,900+ inmates plus staff that is within their coverage area. As you can see I need your agency's help to assure they are prepared.

We have had concerns for sometime that there may be issues in regard to this Fire Company and I have spoke to Mike Gallagher from the Fire Preparedness Unit in the past about my concerns. I have outlined my concerns on numerous occasions and am somewhat frustrated that we are still in the same position of uncertainty whether this fire company is operating correctly.

Once again I would appreciate your immediate response to this request as it is at the forefront due to the severity of complaints that have come to my attention since the recent fire. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 856-825-6797 or my cell number 609-381-3402.

Very truly yours,



Norman Franckle, Jr.
Public Safety Director
Maurice River Township

NF/lc

cc: Township Committee
M.R.T. Fire Dst. #5 Commissioners
Hon. Jon Corzine, Governor
Stuart Rabner, State Attorney General
George W. Hayman, Comm. NJDOC
Stephen B. Nolan, Acting Dir., NJDCA