



Dear Chief,

As the leader of your department, you make sure your members drill for and discuss every imaginable incident that could occur in your community so that everyone is ready to respond at a moment's notice. But should the unthinkable happen, and one of your members dies in the line of duty, do you have everything in order so their survivors can receive the assistance and benefits they need?

The National Fallen Firefighters Foundation is working with the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) to expedite the process for filing Public Safety Officer Benefit claims. As part of the process, the BJA is pre-certifying all qualifying organizations.

To achieve this goal, information about your department is needed. Please provide one of the following, based on your organization:

- If your department is a nonprofit/chartered corporation, provide a notarized statement, signed by an elected official, such as a Mayor, County Commissioner, etc., which states:

The (Name of the VFD) is legally organized and is authorized by the (gov't agency) to act on its behalf by providing fire services, as its primary function, to the community of (name of jurisdiction).

- If your department is a unit of government which utilizes volunteers, provide a statement, signed by an elected official and also notarized which states:

The (Name of VFD) is a unit of (level of) government, using volunteer fire fighters.

Please send all appropriate documentation at your earliest convenience to:

Linda Hurley
Director of Survivor Programs
National Fallen Firefighters Foundation
P. O. Drawer 498
Emmitsburg, MD 21727

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Linda at: (301) 447-7693 or e-mail: lhurley@firehero.org. If you received this request via fax or e-mail, please acknowledge receipt to the sender.

We appreciate your attention to this matter. By providing this information you will help to ensure that the survivors of the fallen receive the benefit and assistance they need and deserve.

Sincerely,

Chief Ronald Jon Siarnicki
Executive Director

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