

Media Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 22, 2016

Norristown Fire Department receives improved Public Protection Classification rating

NORRISTOWN, PA – The Norristown Fire Department is pleased to announce that effective September 1, 2016 for the first time in 40 years, the community Public Protection Classification (PPC) program has enhanced the municipality's rating from a 4 to a 3, an improvement of one rating class. The Municipality joins a distinguished list of only 116 out of 2400 fire departments in Pennsylvania and 3056 out of 48,000 fire department nationwide that have this distinct public protection classification. "This accomplishment directly reflects the commitment, compassion and professionalism members of the Norristown Fire Department display everyday", said Fire Chief Thomas O'Donnell.

The evaluation completed May 2016 by the Insurance Services Office (ISO), a private firm, rates fire departments on a scale of 1-10, with "1" being exemplary. ISO provides information to insurance companies regarding property/casualty risk through a number of programs, one of them being the PPC Program. Improving the PPC from Class 4 to a Class 3 should favorably affect commercial and residential property insurance rates for all property owners in the municipality by helping insurers identify communities that invest in their firefighting services, "It will hopefully mean lower insurance premiums for some our home and business owners. We urge you to contact your insurance company today and apprise them of this new rating," said Municipal Administrator Crandall Jones.

The evaluation focused on three main areas of the municipality: emergency communications, fire department and water supply. In addition a community risk reduction section recognizes community efforts to reduce losses through fire prevention, public fire safety education, and fire investigation. The PPC program provides a useful benchmark that helps fire departments measure the effectiveness of their efforts and plan for improvements.

For more information on the PPC program or rating please contact Fire Chief Thomas O'Donnell at 610-292-8281.

###

CONTACT:

Gabriela Prete, Public Information Officer
Norristown Municipality
235 East Airy Street
Norristown, PA 19401
O: 610-270-0429
C: 484-614-0393
F: 610-275-0687

