

Cheri Breneman

From: Berger, Ted [Ted.Berger@Illinois.gov]
Sent: Friday, December 04, 2009 5:42 PM
To: rmbuhs@aol.com; pdevaney@affi-iaff.org; cheri@iafpd.org; mdavidson@iml.org; Margaret Vaughn; Chuck Vaughn
Cc: Defraties, Dave; August, M. Joseph; Fennell, John; Schrage, Jodi; Pukelis, Louis
Subject: Public Act 96-0436: Notice and Information
Attachments: Official Notice of a LODD from the OSFM 11-25-09.pdf; Official Proclamation - Terrance Freeman.PDF

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To Whom It May Concern:

Governor Quinn recently signed Public Act 96-0436 into law, which amends the Flag Display Act. This public act requires the Governor to sign a formal proclamation ordering US national and State flags at State facilities to be flown at half staff, in honor of a firefighter line of duty death (LODD).

The public act requires the State Fire Marshal to officially notify the Governor of such an occurrence so the flags may be lowered for the day of the funeral and the two days preceding that day. In order to ensure compliance with this statute, the OSFM is currently reviewing a formal process by which we can be notified.

Please advise your member organizations of this new responsibility. In the event of a LODD, please provide us with an initial notification by contacting both Acting Fire Marshal Dave DeFraties and me via email: We can be reached at Dave.Defraties@illinois.gov and Ted.Berger@illinois.gov. We would also request that you follow this email with a phone call to me; I can be reached at (217)299-3561 any time, day or night.

Our temporary policy will require the department's chief (or designate) to notify the OSFM in writing that the death is being considered as a LODD by the local department. In this letter, please include the name and home address of the firefighter, the known circumstances, and a statement that the department considers this death to be in the line of duty.

On November 25th, Governor Quinn signed a proclamation in honor of Terrance Freeman of the Rockford Fire Department. This represented the first time such a proclamation was issued to honor a firefighter LODD under this new public act. I have attached a copy of the Acting Fire Marshal's request along with a copy of the official proclamation.

This new public act is a significant honor to the dedication and sacrifice of the fire service in Illinois. We intend to fulfill this commitment so the memories of our fallen firefighters are not forgotten.

Ted Berger

Legislative Liaison

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