



Milwaukee County Association of Fire Chiefs

PRESS RELEASE

Municipalities in Milwaukee County will gather on Monday May 12, 2014 to sign a new fire and emergency services mutual aid agreement that will provide enhanced services to residents of the Milwaukee Metro Area. The Cities of Cudahy, Glendale, Greenfield, Milwaukee, Oak Creek, South Milwaukee, St. Francis, Wauwatosa, West Allis, and the Villages of Bayside, Brown Deer, Fox Point, Greendale, Hales Corners, River Hills, Shorewood, West Milwaukee and Whitefish Bay are signatories on an updated fire and emergency services mutual aid agreement which will provide quicker response times in many emergencies by dispatching the closest emergency resource despite municipal boundaries.

"As a result of this new agreement, each community will be analyzing its fire and emergency response plans and determining whether neighboring communities might have resources closer to an emergency than the home communities' resource in order to provide a rapid response to critical emergencies," said Greendale Fire Chief Tim Saidler, the President of the Milwaukee County Association of Fire Chiefs.

Even though this agreement is just being signed today, it has taken nearly two years of fire and emergency services officials from these communities to ensure that the aid provided and given will be equitable between communities and that plans are in place that provide for commonality in management of critical incidents no matter what community they occur.

"Fire and emergency services agencies in the Milwaukee Area have worked well together for many years using the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS) and within the Milwaukee County Emergency Medical Services System, but this agreement enhances that relationship as we work together more frequently in the early stages of critical, evolving incidents," said North Shore Fire/Rescue Fire Chief Robert Whitaker. "In today's fiscal environment it is imperative municipalities work together to maintain and enhance service levels."

The ceremonial signing of the agreement will take place as part of the Intergovernmental Cooperation Council of Milwaukee County Meeting being held in the City of West Allis Council Chambers, 7525 W. Greenfield Avenue at 1:30 PM. For more information, please contact North Shore Fire/Rescue Chief Robert Whitaker, the Secretary/Treasurer of the Milwaukee County Association of Fire Chiefs at rwhitaker@nsfire.org.

Representing Fire Chiefs from:

- Cudahy – Hales Corners – Franklin – Greendale – Greenfield – Milwaukee –***
- Milwaukee County Airport – North Shore – Oak Creek – South Milwaukee –***
- St. Francis – Wauwatosa – West Allis – Wisconsin Air National Guard –***