

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Jan. 15, 2009

FIRE DEPARTMENT MOUNT JOY
111 New Haven St
Mount Joy, PA 17552

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**FIRE DEPARTMENT MOUNT JOY ISSUES POSITION
STATEMENT ON THE DONEGAL SCHOOL DISTRICT TAX
REFERENDUM QUESTION**

MOUNT JOY – Fire Department Mount Joy has not, and does not plan to take any position regarding the Donegal School District’s tax referendum issue.

On January 14, 2009, Fire Department Mount Joy officials received an email from a citizen in favor of the referendum question voicing displeasure with a sign against the vote that was placed on a utility pole in front of the fire station. The sign had not placed there by the fire department or any of its members. The sign must have been placed on the pole by a resident against the referendum question, and the fire department was never aware it was there.

Fire Department Mount Joy serves as a polling place and normally sees signs placed in and around the fire station before and during elections.

Philip Colvin, President of Fire Department Mount Joy stated the following, “We are very disappointed that our all volunteer non profit organization has been unjustly accused of placing the sign, and been drawn into this issue. We have not, and will not, take any position regarding this issue as an organization. Our organization is committed to serving and protecting our community, not taking sides on issues such as this.”

The email stated the sender would no longer donate to the fire department, and that the information was being circulated to five hundred other residents in the school district and asking that they not donate either. President Colvin added, “Our non profit community based organization depends on donations as one of our primary sources of income. Without the donation from the residents, we will have to find other sources of income which can be very difficult.”

Fire Department Mount Joy has also sent letters to the Donegal School District Superintendent and the County Board of Elections making them aware of the situation. Both have been asked to help with the damage control and sharing the neutral position of the organization regarding the issue.

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