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cc: Adm.

**TOWNSHIP OF PARSIPPANY-TROY HILLS
1001 PARSIPPANY BLVD., PARSIPPANY, NJ 07054**

MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable Jon S. Corzine, Governor of the State of New Jersey

From: Judith I. Silver, Township Clerk *JIS*

Date: May 21, 2009

Re: **A Resolution of the Township Council of the Township of Parsippany-Troy Hills Opposing Governor Corzine's Proposal to Transfer Money from the EMT Training Fund**

Enclosed please find a certified copy of the above captioned resolution adopted by the Township Council of the Township of Parsippany-Troy Hills at its meeting of May 19, 2009. The Township opposes the intended re-appropriation of monies from the dedicated EMT Training Fund, which could (1) potentially shift the cost of Volunteer EMT Training to volunteer ambulance, first aid and rescue squads at a time when squads are experiencing a decrease in donations, (2) significantly impact the recruitment of new members as well as the retention of existing members since many will not be able to pay for their training, and (3) potentially place the burden of funding on already overstressed local municipalities.

Your consideration of this resolution is appreciated.

Enclosure

cc: Mayor and Township Council, Township of Parsippany-Troy Hills (via email)
J. Lim, Business Administrator, Township of Parsippany-Troy Hills (via email)
Members of the 26th Legislative District (w/copy of resolution)
Parsippany Rescue and Recovery Unit (w/copy of resolution)
Parsippany's Rockaway Neck First Aid Squad (w/copy of resolution)
Parsippany Volunteer Ambulance Squad (w/copy of resolution)
All Morris County Municipalities (via email or fax w/copy of resolution)

May 19, 2009

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF
PARSIPPANY-TROY HILLS OPPOSING GOVERNOR CORZINE'S PROPOSAL TO
TRANSFER MONEY FROM THE EMT TRAINING FUND**

WHEREAS, the Township of Parsippany-Troy Hills depends on two volunteer ambulance squads and one volunteer rescue squad to serve a community with a population greater than 50,000, not including daytime visitors; and

WHEREAS, the Township relies on our volunteers to provide emergency assistance and medical care of injured, wounded, sick and infirm persons in case of emergency by rendering pre-hospital basic life support (BLS) and transportation of those persons to hospitals or other like places for medical treatment and care; and

WHEREAS, the Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Training Fund was created by New Jersey P.L. 1992, Chapter 143 (N.J.S.A. 26:2K-54 et seq.) as a dedicated, non-lapsing, revolving fund, established to reimburse any private agency, organization or entity which is certified by the Commissioner of Health and Senior Services to provide training and testing for volunteer ambulance, first aid and rescue squad personnel who are seeking EMT certification and/or recertification, and for which that entity is not otherwise reimbursed; and

WHEREAS, the Fund has allowed thousands of Volunteer EMTs to earn and maintain their EMT certification without incurring out-of-pocket personal expense and without the need for funding from their volunteer squad or municipality; and

WHEREAS, the EMT Training Fund is not supported through the use of any tax money, but rather is supported by a \$0.50 surcharge, which has never been increased, on each fine, penalty and forfeiture imposed and collected by the State of New Jersey for motor vehicle or traffic violations; and

WHEREAS, on April 23, 2009 the Department of Health and Senior Services Office of OEMS informed the New Jersey State First Aid Council of Governor Corzine's intention to redirect \$4,000,000 from the dedicated EMT Training Fund to the general treasury of the State of New Jersey leaving only a proposed \$400,000 balance in the Fund; and

WHEREAS, a \$400,000 balance in the EMT Training Fund, which is currently running at approximately a \$1,000,000 deficit per year, is inadequate to meet the annual training needs of the Volunteer EMTs of this State and will result in severe cut-backs of state-paid EMT training for New Jersey's EMS Volunteer Community; and

WHEREAS, this plan to re-appropriate monies from the EMT Training Fund would potentially shift the cost of Volunteer EMT Training to volunteer ambulance, first aid and rescue and

recovery squads when the squads continue to see a decrease in donations, contributions and a short fall in fund raising; and

WHEREAS, it is fundamentally unfair to ask those who already volunteer their time to their communities to pay for their own training; and

WHEREAS, this will significantly impact the recruitment of new members as well as retention of existing members since many will not be able to pay for their training; and

WHEREAS, the burden of funding could potentially be shifted to already overstressed local municipalities, resulting in an increase in local municipal expenses and direct cost to the citizens during this time of economic hardship.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Parsippany-Troy Hills as follows:

1. The Township opposes the intended re-appropriation of monies from the dedicated EMT Training Fund, therefore shifting the cost of Volunteer EMT Training to volunteer ambulance, first aid, rescue squads and local municipalities.
2. The Governor and the Legislature of the State of New Jersey are requested not to remove any money from the EMT Training Fund and to return any money to the Fund that has already been removed for purposes other than those specified in New Jersey P.L. 1992, Chapter 143.
3. That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Honorable Jon Corzine, Governor of the State of New Jersey; the Members of the 26th Legislative District; Parsippany Rescue and Recovery Unit; Rockaway Neck First Aid Squad; Parsippany Volunteer Ambulance Squad and all Morris County Municipalities urging them to adopt similar resolutions in opposition to this proposal.

**THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE IS A TRUE AND
LAWFUL COPY OF A RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE
TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PARSIPPANY-
TROY HILLS, COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY
AT ITS MEETING OF** 5/19/09

Judith L. Silver
JUDITH L. SILVER, TOWNSHIP CLERK