



County of Putnam
BUREAU OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

Robert McMahon
Commissioner

Mario Rampolla
Director,
Emergency Management

Robert E. Rogan
Deputy Director,
Emergency Management

Robert Cuomo
Director,
EMS Education

Dear Business Owner,

Putnam County's fire departments and emergency ambulance services provide a vital lifeline to the communities they serve. What many people do not realize is that these agencies are staffed entirely by VOLUNTEERS. These dedicated individuals donate countless hours of their time to protect life and property 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. In doing so, they provide this service to their respective communities at far less cost than fully paid departments would.

In their efforts to provide these emergency services, the current cadre of volunteers is being pushed to their limits. Not only is there is an urgent need to bring new members into the system, but we need to find ways to offer incentives for volunteerism in order to keep the ones we have. Surprisingly, there are few such incentives that exist today.

I am asking for your assistance in this regard. We are in the process of recruiting local businesses that would be willing to offer discounts to individuals that can document their active membership in a Putnam County volunteer fire department or ambulance corp. We would like to encourage your business to join with us in this program, known as the Putnam County Volunteer Incentive Program (VIP). The amount and terms of the discount, of course, would be left up to you. This simple act will help demonstrate the community's appreciation for their emergency services volunteers, and would provide a much-needed incentive to remain active.

Documenting active membership will not be difficult. Volunteers will be required to present a current fire dept. or ambulance corp. membership card in order to receive the discount.

I have enclosed some documents that will help get you started with the program. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at 845-228-1510, extension 104.

Thank you for your consideration and support.

Sincerely,
Robert Cuomo
EMS Director

40 GLENEDIA AVENUE - CARMEL, NEW YORK 10512
Tel. (845) 228-1510 / Fax (845) 228-1201
Emergency Management Office (845) 225-3896 / Fax (845) 225-8777

VOLUNTEER INCENTIVE PROGRAM - FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. Who will benefit from this program?

A. All Putnam County residents and visitors. By providing an incentive for our fire and EMS volunteers to remain active as volunteers, we will be able to continue to provide these vital services to our community, in the most cost-effective way.

Q. How will my business benefit?

A. Your business will receive publicity throughout the fire and EMS community. Your business name will be on flyers that will be sent to all volunteer fire departments and ambulance corps. in the county. You will also receive a window decal that will identify you as a participating business, and will show the public that you support the community's emergency services.

Q. What is the purpose of the program?

A. There are very few incentives in existence today that encourage people to remain active as a volunteer in the fire and EMS services. This program would provide a small token of thanks to show our volunteers that we appreciate their efforts. We also want to provide an incentive for the recruitment of new volunteers to support our increasing call volumes.

Q. Who will this discount be available to?

A. It will be available to all active Emergency Medical Services and Fire Department volunteers.

Q. How much of a discount will be required?

A. The amount of the discount you offer is totally up to you.

Q. How will this program be administered?

A. All volunteer fire departments and ambulance corps will be issued a supply of ID cards, which each agency will distribute to active members in good standing if requested by the member. The cards must be signed by an agency official. In order for the member to receive a discount, he/she will be required to present this card at the time of purchase or use of service.

Q. What is the expiration date of these cards?

A. The cards will expire 1 year after date of issuance. New cards will be issued by the agency after they have verified the member's active status.

Q. What is my commitment?

A. Your commitment is up to you. The only thing we ask is that you display the window sticker that will be provided to you and that you notify us immediately of any changes to your discount/service offer.

Q. How many people can this program apply to?

A. There are approximately 1,500 dedicated volunteers providing emergency response 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.



Putnam County Volunteer Incentive Program
Business Commitment Form

Business Name:

CEO, President, or Manager's Name:

Business Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Phone #:

Fax #:

Email:

Please describe what service or discount your business will offer:

Are there any limitations attached to your service/discount? Describe below:

Please return completed form to: **Putnam County Bureau of Emergency Services**
40 Gleneida Ave.
Carmel, NY 10512

Authorized Signature:

Date:

Office use only

Received by:

Date: