

PROPERTY INSURANCE ASSOCIATION OF LOUISIANA

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April 28, 2010

Fire Chief David Roberts
Jonesboro Fire Department
104 Fourth St.
Jonesboro, La. 71251

RE: Public Fire Protection Survey for: Jonesboro (Jackson Parish)

Dear Chief Roberts:

We wish to thank you and others for the cooperation given to us during our recent survey. We have completed our evaluation of the Public Fire Protection Classification for the Town of Jonesboro and wish to advise that a change is now pending in the Classification to Class 4 for residential and commercial properties. The new Classification is a retrogression from Class 3.

The primary reasons for the retrogression are:

- 1. Average volunteer response to working fires in 2009 was only 8.62 firefighters. This was down From an average of 11.75 in 2004
- 2. The number of documented training classes was lower and the average volunteer members participating in training classes was significantly lower than 2004.
- 3. Credit for your Training Grounds was reduced because your documentation showed the props there were only used twice during 2009. To receive full credit, the training grounds must be used for a minimum of 8 drills if all drills are multi-company night drills.
- 4. Lack of water available at target locations within town.

For your reference and use, attached is a copy of the <u>Classification Details</u> and <u>Rating Impact Statements</u>. The Classification Details sheets display the score received for each graded category. The Rating Impact Statements list areas that are in need of improvement and areas that should continue to receive attention. Where the maximum score was attained, current activities should be continued to avoid a negative impact on any future grading. In addition, other activities are listed that could improve the grading on items where less than the maximum score was attained. Also attached is a copy of the <u>Hydrant Flow Data Summary</u>.

If this retrogressed Public Fire Protection Classification is placed in effect, fire insurance rates for commercial and residential properties within the Town of Jonesboro may be increased. Before implementing any change in the Class, we need to know if the Town of Jonesboro can develop a program to retain Class 3.. If it is your decision to make improvements to regain Class 3 and avoid implementation of the retrogression, provide this office within at least thirty (30) days from the date of this letter, a written plan identifying the improvements you intend to make and the time frame necessary to complete each improvement.

Depending on your intentions, we will implement a course of action based on the following options:

- 1. If an improvement plan is not submitted within thirty (30) days, the new Classification will be placed in effect.
- 2. If a proposed plan of improvement is submitted to us, it will be reviewed for acceptability. The key factors that will be considered are the likelihood of completion and the time frame needed for completion. Only tangible improvements (purchase of equipment, increased water shuttle, etc.) will be considered. Deficiencies in historical areas (truck response, testing, training, etc.) will be addressed at your next grading.

If the submitted plan is acceptable, we will postpone the retrogression until the proposed completion date and then conduct a re-survey. However, in no event will this potential postponement extend beyond six (6) months.

 In the event that the proposed plan is not acceptable, we will proceed with the retrograding and await your advice concerning any future improvements that you feel would positively effect the grading.

The survey was conducted under the authority of R.S. 22:1405. The purpose of the survey was to gather information to determine the proper Public Fire Protection Classification for the Town of Jonesboro. This Classification will be used by member companies of the P.I.A.L. to develop fire insurance premiums. It was not conducted for property loss prevention nor life safety purposes. Nothing in the survey, whether expressed or implied should be taken as a comment, evaluation, observation, critique or statement concerning property loss prevention or life safety matters, for such concerns are beyond the scope of the survey and the authority, duties and responsibilities of the Property Insurance Association of Louisiana.

If you have any questions concerning the Classification, we would be pleased to hear from you.

Sincerely,

Randall K Loe

Municipal Field Rep Supervisor

RKL/sao

Attachment

Cc: Honorable Leslie Thompson, Mayor