

TO OUR RESIDENTS

As the Chief Financial Officer of the Norwood Park Fire Protection District, I would like to set the record straight. There is a candidate running for President of the Village of Norridge who is distributing incorrect information. He is stating that the Norwood Park Fire Protection District has raised taxes 29% in the last three years. This is incorrect, a misrepresentation of the facts and grossly overstates our tax levy.

1. Our levy over the last three years went from \$4,544,284 for the 2008 tax levy to \$4,819,560 for the 2011 tax levy. That's an increase of \$275,276 over three years, which represents a compounded increase of 6.06% over three tax levies or an average of 2.02% per year for the last three years, not 29% as stated in the mailers. The numbers are inflated dramatically over the real tax levy assessed. These levies are evidenced in our agency tax rate report which the Cook County Clerk issues annually based on our levy request.

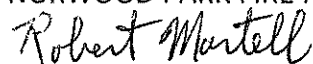
2. Our ability to raise taxes is limited by state tax law. The "tax cap law" or Property Tax Extension Limitation Law (PTELL) prohibits our taxing body from increasing taxes to the lesser of 5% or the increase in the national Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the year preceding the levy year. This is a widely known Illinois State Law that has been in effect since 1994 applied to taxing bodies in our county. By law, we were limited to an increase of 0.1% in 2008, 2.7% in 2009, 1.5% in 2010, and 3.0% in 2011. For 2012, we are allowed no more than a 1.7% increase. It's impossible, by law, for our district to have raised taxes by the inflated and misrepresented numbers that the campaign literature claims.

3. The tax levy is the amount of taxes that our taxing body requests of the property owners in our district. The budget is not the amount that we tax. It's the plan which we anticipate to spend funds if we receive revenues. Our spending is always below budget. The annual tax levy which we file with the Cook County Clerk is where information about the amount of taxes we assess can be found. That is the best and most reliable source for information on our tax levies. The campaign literature references our budget information, which would be the incorrect source to determine our tax levy.

If you have any questions, please contact Chief Kevin Stenson at 708-867-5428 or chiefnfpd@comcast.net

Sincerely,

NORWOOD PARK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT



Robert Martell

Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer