

- I. **THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY**
- II. **ANY PERSONAL COMMENTS ABOUT PEOPLE OR PLACE**
- III. **YOU BELONG TO AN ELITE GROUP**
 - A. **CONCEPT OF VOL. FF STARTED WITH B. FRANKLIN IN COLONIAL PHILIE**
 - B. **CURRENTLY 90% OF 2467 FIRE COS. ARE PURLT VOL.**
 - C. **ALTHOUGH YOU'RE HERE AND INVOLVED BIGGEST PROBLEM IS RECRUITMENT**
 - 1. **PEOPLE DON'T HAVE ENOUGH TIME**
 - 2. **OTHER INTERESTS**
 - 3. **FUSTRATED WITH FUND RAISING ACTIVITIES**
 - D. **BUT IT'S ESTIMATED THAT IT WOULD COST ABOUT \$4.5 B TO REPLACE THE VOL. SERVICE**
 - 1. **IN WEST. CO. ALONE WOULD COST \$83.3 MILLION TO REPLACE ALL EQUIPMENT AND USE PAID EMPLOYEES.**
- IV. **SO WHAT ARE WE DOING IN HARRISBURG TO ENHANCE YOUR SERVICES PRECARIOUS POSITION**
 - A. **IN SOME WAYS ATTEMPTS TO HELP LEGISLATIVELY**
 - 1. **HB 39 - AMENDS WC ACT MAKING LUNG CANCER AN OCCUPATIONAL DESEASE FOR FF'S**
 - 2. **HB - 405 ESTABLISHES A GRANT PROGRAM FOR VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANIES IN ADDITION TO LOAN PROG.**

**(A) THE COST OF EQUIPMENT AND THE DEBT SERVICE
EVEN AT 2% IS OVERWHELMING**

**(B) WE NEED A BETTER WAY TO HELP YOU PAY FOR
YOU'RE NEEDED EQUIP. (BILLION DOLLAR SURPLUS)**

**3. HB - 42 AMENDS RELIEF ASSOCIATION ACT PROVIDING
VOL. FF'S RETIREMENT BENEFITS**

**B. IN DIRECT HELP PERHAPS 50% TAX DECREASE ON LOCAL
SCHOOL TAX (GENERALLY MAKE MORE MONEY AVAILABLE)**

(homestead)

1. LOCAL TAX REFORM SB #2

**2. PROBLEMS WITH LOCAL OPTION NO GURANTEE (BACK
DOOR REFEENDUM)**

3. AT LEAST 50% OF POP. WOULD RECEIVE TAX INCREASE

**4. RENTERS GET WAMED TWICE -- RENTAL PROPERTY NOT
CONSIDERED RESIDENTIAL**

**C. BUT WHAT IS HARRISBURG NOT DOING NOT TO HELP FOR
PERHAPS ACTUALLY MAKING YOUR JOB THAT MUCH MORE
DIFFICULT**

1. VOL LOAN PROGRAM

(A) BRAIN CHILD OF MY PREDESSOR

(B) WORKED WELL FOR TWENTY SOME YEARS

**(C) BUT RIDGE ADMINISTRATION WAITED ALMOST TO
FLOAT THE BONDS**

**(1) REASONS ARE SUSPECT (ENHANCE REVENUE
POSITION**

**(2) NOW HAS CREATED ALMOST A YEARS
PROCESSING TIME ON THESE LAONS**

**(3) OF COURSE, NOW WILL TAKE AN INFUSION OF
GEN FUND MONIES \$20 M TO JUST CLEAR UP THE
BACKLOG**

**(4) CREATES GREAT HARDSHIP FOR YOU AND YOUR
COLLEGUES IN THE FIRE SERVICE**

2. MONSTER TRUCK SNEAK ATTACK

(A) GAS TAX BILL

(B) PROCESS (UNCONSTITUTIONAL - 3 DAYS ON CAL.

**(C) REPEALS THE PERMITTING OF TRUCKS ON STATE
SECONDARY ROADS**

(1) 20 FT WIDE

(2) NOT RESTRICTED -

(3) 10,000 MORE LANE MILES OF ROAD

(4) INSPECTION DOUBTFUL

(5) LOCAL MUNICIPAL GOV'T PROBLEMS (EX. GBG.)

(D) SEC. ROADS NEVER BUILT FOR THESE SIZE VEHICLES

(1) UNDULATING, CURVY,

(2) RURAL AND SUBURBAN

(3) HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS AND SCHOOLS

(4) DISASTER WAITING TO HAPPEN

**(5) AND YOU ARE THE FIRST RESPONDERS SHOULD BE
AWARE OF THIS POTENTIAL**

(E) WHY? IT DOESN'T TAKE A GENIUS TO FIGURE IT OUT

(1) QUIET ABOUT TAX INCREASE

(2) ENHANCE POLITICAL SUPPORT

**D. SO HERE WE ARE SOME THINGS VERY POSITIVE AND OTHERS
VERY NEGATIVE**

**1. BUT YOU CAN BE SURE THAT THE FIRE SERVICE HAS A
LOT OF FRIENDS IN HARRISBURG**

**2. BECAUSE YOU ARE THE FIRST LINE OF DEFENSE AGAINST
SOMEONE LIVING OR DIEING EVEN IF IT MEANS GIVING UP
RISKING YOUR OWN LIFE AND THERE ISN'T A MORE NOBLE
CAUSE**

**3. ON BEHALF OF MYSELF AND MY COLLEAGUES I THANK
YOU, I SALUTE YOU AND I ASK GOD TO BLESS AND KEEP
YOU SAFE.**