



May 14, 2019

The Honorable Joe Courtney
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Glenn Thompson
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Courtney and Thompson:

On behalf of the National Volunteer Fire Council, which represents the interests of the approximately one million volunteer fire, EMS, and rescue personnel across the country, I am writing to thank you for introducing the Fire Police Fairness Act. Fire police officers perform a vital public safety function, carrying out traffic incident management duties at emergency scenes. Fire police are typically members of local fire departments, receive formal training and certification, and are integrated into emergency response operations. The services that fire police provide increase the staffing capacity of public safety agencies by allowing firefighters and police officers to focus their attention on other duties.

As you know, the Department of Justice has in several instances denied fire police officers PSOB awards based on the determination that they do not qualify as public safety officers. In those rare, unfortunate instances in which fire police officers are killed or disabled in the line of duty they should be eligible for PSOB.

Thank you again for introducing this critical legislation, which ensures fairness for fire police officers and their families. I look forward to working with you to enact the Fire Police Fairness Act.

Sincerely,

Steven W. Hirsch
Chair

7852 WALKER DRIVE, SUITE 375, GREENBELT, MD 20770

202.887.5700 | 888.ASK.NVFC (275-6832) | 202.887.5291 fax | nvfc@nvfc.org | www.nvfc.org