

Fire Department

8501 Veterans Highway, Millersville, Maryland 21108
Phone 410-222-8200 • Fax 410-987-2904 • TDD 410-222-8747
www.aacounty.org

John R. Leopold, County Executive
John Robert Ray, Fire Chief

December 17, 2008

Ms. Brooke Doswell, President
Oyster Harbor Community Association
P.O. Box 3174
Annapolis, MD 21403

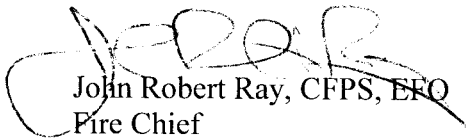
Dear Ms. Doswell,

Thank you for your letter on behalf of the community of Oyster Harbor recognizing the efforts of emergency responders on Sunday December 7, 2008. The conditions observed that night were indeed extreme, beyond those normally observed by any community and I genuinely hope that such conditions do not occur again. The actions of the community since the fire in wrapping their collective arms around the families affected by the fire are to be applauded and commended.

Without question, some of the risks that were brought into sharp focus during the fire are beyond our fire department (or any fire department's) ability to quickly and easily control. Having said that, I have tasked Division Chief Timothy Mikules to serve as the Department's point of contact to work cooperatively with you and the other members of the community to identify and control those risks that may be within reach and develop a risk-reduction plan for the future. Fire safe communities are borne out of such relationships and it is my hope that this will lead to a safer and ultimately more prosperous community.

Thank you again for taking the time to write during this most difficult period.

Sincerely,



John Robert Ray, CFPS, EFO
Fire Chief

cc: The Honorable John R. Leopold, County Executive
The Honorable Joshua Cohen, Anne Arundel County Council
Deputy Chief John M. Scholz, Operations Bureau
Deputy Chief Reinhold Strobel, Planning Bureau
Division Chief Timothy Mikules, Operations Bureau
Battalion Chief Matthew Tobia, Public Information Office
File.

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ANNAPOLIS FIRE DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF

1790 FOREST DRIVE
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401-4487

410-263-7975
410-268-1846 FAX
410-263-7943 TDD

December 17, 2008

Ms. Brooke Doswell, President
Oyster Harbor Citizens Association, Inc.
P O Box 3174
Annapolis, MD 21403

Dear Ms. Doswell,

Thank you for the kind note you sent me regarding the assistance you received from our Department for the fire in your community last week. I will share this with our personnel and want you to know we all appreciate your generous words and thoughts.

Again, I appreciate the time you took in writing to me about your positive experience with our personnel. If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

Jerome W. Smith,
Fire Chief

cc: File

JWS/jsc

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