



ABINGTON TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT TO BE AWARDED 2011 FIRE SAFETY EDUCATION AWARD

ABINGTON – The Abington Township Fire Department (ATFD) received notice this week that it will be awarded the 2011 Chief Robert W. Little Jr. Memorial Fire Safety Education Award this September during the Annual Convention of the Firemen’s Association of the State of Pennsylvania.

The Fire Safety Education Award is presented to the top nine fire companies or departments (three per division) who have done an outstanding job of providing fire safety education programs to their residents. The ATFD won first place in Division A, which is for departments serving a population of 10,000 or more. First prize recipients will receive an engraved plaque and \$800.

In order to be considered for the award, participants had to submit a three-ring binder with materials to substantiate the contestant’s efforts to promote fire safety, as well as a 250-word essay describing related programs.

The ATFD has a comprehensive fire safety education program that includes regular observances of Fire Prevention Week during which visitors can receive valuable fire safety education information; annual visits to nursing homes and assisted living facilities as well as public, private and parochial schools; and participation in annual community events like National Pre-Night Out and NAACP Unity Day, where ATFD tents are set up to include educational materials and other props designed to teach visitors about fire safety.

One of the most innovative fire safety education initiatives the department completed in 2010 was the production of five public service announcement videos that can be viewed on the township cable channel or the ATFD website (AbingtonFD.org). These announcements were original productions that featured the on-camera talents of volunteer firefighters delivering seasonal messages

about fire safety in the winter, fall and summer months, as well as important safety lessons on home escape plans and fire hazards in the home.

“The ATFD is strongly committed to fire safety education and each year makes many efforts to reach out to citizens of all ages to make sure they understand what they can do to prevent or escape from emergency situations. It is gratifying to know that our efforts have been recognized by our peers,” said Jeff Glynn, ATFD’s Community Service and Public Education Specialist. “Without the commitment and dedication of our volunteers, we wouldn’t be able to deliver such a comprehensive program. We are proud of their service, which ultimately helped us to win this award.”

The ATFD is an all-volunteer force made up of five fire companies all operating within Abington Township. The five companies that form the ATFD are Abington, McKinley, Weldon, Edge Hill, and Roslyn. The service area is made up of approximately 15 square miles of Abington Township and is comprised of residential, commercial, educational, medical, light industrial, and other suburban properties. The ATFD serves approximately 55,000 residents. The ATFD headquarters is located at 1176 Old York Road in Abington. For more information, call (267) 536-1055 or visit AbingtonFD.org.

