

June 1, 2007

Dear Chief:

In the fall of 2001, the U. S. Fire Administration (USFA) initiated a National Fire Department Census. To date, over 25,000 fire departments have registered with the census. It is estimated that there are more than 30,000 fire departments in the United States.

The purpose of the census is to get an accurate picture of the Nation's fire service. Basic identifying information provided by your department will be shared through the USFA web site, and the registered departments will serve as a pool from which future sample studies may be conducted.

To determine if your department is accurately registered with the census, please search the on-line census directory at the following USFA web page:  
<http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/applications/census/search.cfm>

If your department is not registered with the census, you may register on-line or complete the enclosed census form and fax it to (301) 447-1601 or mail the form in the enclosed envelope to:

U.S. Fire Administration  
Carole Dingle, SCSC  
16825 S Seton Ave H Bldg Rm 026  
Emmitsburg, MD 21727

If your fire department is registered with the census, and you would like to update the data for your department, please visit the "Change Listing" page on the census web page.

For more information about the census, visit the "About the Census" web page. Please use the feedback form on the "Contact Us" web page to send questions or comments regarding the census or contact Teresa Neal at (301) 447-1024.

To insure that your organization's needs and interests are considered in Federal decision-making, register your department today. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Alex H. Furr  
Director, National Fire Data Center  
U.S. Fire Administration