



## UNITED PUBLIC SERVICE EMPLOYEES UNION

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 825-C

January 14, 2009

FAX TO: 518-356-5514

Ken Runion  
Town Supervisor  
Town of Guilderland  
5209 Western Turnpike  
Guilderland, NY 12084

Dear Ken:

On January 14, 2009, I was advised of a serious safety concern affecting the Guilderland Emergency Services.

As we identified recently, your proposed reduction from 3 to 2 Paramedics on duty would seriously compromise response capabilities, citizen safety and effectiveness of the EMS department. At approximately 1:00 AM at the intersection of Rt. 155 & Rt. 20 there was a serious accident that Guilderland EMS responded to. The two medics on duty had to be utilized at the serious MVA with several patients involved. While the only 2 medics were providing care at the accident scene a 2<sup>nd</sup> 911 call in the Town occurred for a serious priority one medical emergency. Our Medics could not respond because they were working the MVA. Albany County ALS was notified immediately but because of their distance from this Priority I call it took 22 minutes for them to arrive on the scene. This situation placed the patient and the Town in unnecessary jeopardy and could have been avoided if the Town had maintained the 3<sup>rd</sup> Guilderland medic on duty as per what has been the policy of the Town.

Our medic would have been to the scene in 3 to 5 minutes instead of a 22 minute response from another community. The reduction of manpower truly jeopardizes public safety and this recent event validates what we said would happen.

We respectfully request that the Town maintain the 3<sup>rd</sup> medic on duty in the interest of the public's safety and the effectiveness of the department.

Sincerely,



Gary M. Favro  
Labor Relations Representative

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