

## When a Local Municipality is Keeping Residents Safe, Hardenbergh is Keeping Their Employees Safe

### **The Challenge:**

The Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department for a South Jersey municipality were not actively participating in the municipality's safety program. The lack of participation from the Fire and Emergency Medical Services Departments jeopardized the municipality's ability to collect financial safety incentives. Moreover, it raised concerns regarding the overall commitment to safety.

As the Risk Management Consultant to the municipality, Hardenbergh Insurance Group proactively met with them to discuss the ramifications of continued lack of involvement of the Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department within the existing safety program for the municipality.

### **The Strategy:**

The Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department for the municipality are on a volunteer basis. Many of the volunteers also have full time jobs. Due to their work schedules, many volunteers are not able to attend safety training during normal business hours. Realizing this, Hardenbergh Insurance Group conducted an

informational seminar in the evening so that the timing would be convenient to volunteers that work during normal business hours.

The seminar focused on the direct correlation between their participation in the safety program and a reduction in workers' compensation injuries. Additionally, they were shown how their participation in the safety program qualifies the municipality for financial incentives which has a positive impact on all departments.

### **The Result:**

The Fire and Emergency Medical Services Departments participation in the safety program increased and the municipality did in fact qualify for the financial safety incentive award. In addition, the Fire and Emergency Medical Services Departments committed to address safety matters on "Drill Nights" when attendance was at its peak.

This will enable the municipality not only to qualify for future financial incentives but also to work with all departments to proactively manage their risk.



**HARDENBERGH**  
**INSURANCE GROUP**  
AUTO • HOME • BUSINESS