

William Hussey
Peru

LENGTH OF SERVICE AWARD PROGRAM LD 1316MAY 10, 2021

GOOD MORNING, I AM WILLIAM HUSSEY, 34 YEARS AS PERU'S FIRE CHIEF. I AM IN SUPPORT OF LD 1014. PERU IS A SMALL TOWN OF 1550 RESIDENTS AND 46 SQUARE MILES WITH TWO MAJOR TRANSPORTATION ROUTES TRAVERSING THE TOWN. REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE HAS INCREASED BY 50% LAST YEAR AND APPEARS TO BE TRENDING THE SAME FOR 2021.

PERU HAS 20 FIREFIGHTERS, 8 ARE AT LEAST 50 YEARS OLD, 3 STUDENT FIREFIGHTERS, (under 18), THE REST ARE A MIXTURE OF AGES.

I AM A TRUSTEE OF THE LENGTH OF AWARD PROGRAM BOARD. (LOSAP). THE LOSAP PROGRAM IS A POSITIVE INCENTIVE TO RECRUIT AND RETAIN FIREFIGHTERS. MANY HOURS OF TRAINING, FIRE CALLS, MEETINGS AND MAINTAINING THE EXPENSIVE EQUIPMENT ARE REQUIRED TO EFFECTIVELY RESPOND TO EMERGENCIES. OUR MOST RECENT VOLUNTEER IS RETIRED. WE NEED TO ENTICE YOUNGER FOLKS TO BE PART OF OUR TEAM. THIS PROGRAM WILL BE THE KEY TO MAINTAINING TRAINED FIREFIGHTERS TO PROTECT THE CITIZENS OF MAINE.

I ASK THAT YOU SUPPORT LD 1316.

THANK YOU.

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