

February 8, 2010

Michael Jones, Acting Fire Chief
Milwaukee Fire Department Headquarters

Dear Chief Jones,

A Communications File has been opened requesting information from the Milwaukee Fire Department relating to the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS) and other Fire Department related matters. The File will be heard by the Public Safety Committee of the Common Council. We ask that you specifically address the following:

- How was mutual aid provided prior to the enactment of MABAS in 2006?
- What was the impetus for the enactment of MABAS?
- What are the benefits of the system?
- Are there any drawbacks to the system that may need attention?
- Are suburban firefighters sufficiently trained and experienced to fight the type of fires for which mutual aid is most likely to be requested?
- What are the issues and solutions to apparent connectivity problems related to different hose connectors?
- What is the status of communication capabilities between various fire departments and municipalities during an event for which mutual aid is requested?

We look forward to your presentation and answers to our questions.

Sincerely,

Ald. James Witkowiak, 12th District

Ald. Robert Donovan, 8th District

Ald. Joseph Dudzik, 11th District