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Press Release

The Morgantown Fire Department has recently fielded several phone calls from concerned citizens questioning a donation letter they received from the Star City Volunteer Fire Department.

The form letter, which contains the Star City VFD logo, letterhead and a title line exclaiming "WE NEED YOUR HELP", was inadvertently mailed to residents who live within the city limits of Morgantown. Approximately 5000 of these letters were mailed, with numerous letters being delivered to the residents in the Suncrest, Wiles Hill, and Evansdale neighborhoods.

While the letter does not intentionally mislead the residents into believing that the Star City Volunteer Fire Department is their primary fire company, it has raised questions concerning the payment of fire service fees and which fire department covers the areas in question.

"The homes and businesses of Morgantown which are located within the municipal boundaries of the city are protected by the Morgantown Fire Department." Chief Mark Caravasos noted. Home and business owners who have property located in Morgantown proper pay a yearly fire service fee for fire protection services.

City residents who received the mailer may choose to donate if they wish; however, they will not receive their fire protection services from the volunteer department.

Morgantown Fire Department operates out of three stations and is a division of the City of Morgantown. The department is staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week by paid firefighters. The department ran more than 2,800 calls for service in 2011.

Chief Mark Caravasos
Morgantown Fire Department