



# COUNTY OF NORTHAMPTON

## Department of Administration Division of Emergency Management Services

100 GRACEDALE AVENUE  
NAZARETH, PENNSYLVANIA 18064-8430

Telephone: (610) 746-3194 ext. 230  
Fax: (610) 746-3199

### NEWS RELEASE

#### For Further Information:

Contact: Robert F. Mateff, Sr., ENP, Director  
Division of Emergency Management Services  
Telephone: 610-746-3194, ext. 226

For Immediate Release: 06/18/2010

### COUNTY RECOVERS COSTS RELATED TO ROUTE 33 HAZMAT INCIDENT

(Nazareth, PA) - Northampton County Emergency Management Services recovers \$138,621 for joint response costs incurred for a Hazardous Material incident on Route 33. The incident, which occurred March 21, 2009, made national headlines when a tractor-trailer carrying 33,000 pounds of Anhydrous Hydrofluoric gas overturned after the driver allegedly swerved to avoid hitting a deer.

The County Emergency Management Services Division recovered the costs using its Joint Response Cost Recovery Program, a program that assists local response organizations recoup costs from incidents involving hazardous materials. "Utilizing this program, we were able to recoup the costs directly from the responsible party" said Robert Mateff, Director of Emergency Management Services.

According to Mateff, "Under PA Act 165, response organizations are able to send an invoice to the party directly responsible for the incident. The County was able to streamline the joint billing process so that our response agencies can focus on what they do best— respond to emergencies."

Eight organizations submitted for reimbursement under the County's cost recovery program. Recouped costs cover supplies, apparatus, equipment and personnel dispatched to the response that

ensured the public safety of County residents. Examples of supplies and equipment that were eligible for reimbursement include: EMS units for transportation, shelter costs, flares, food, mileage, portable lighting, EOC personnel, brush unit, rescue units, fire police.

A breakdown of individual organizations receiving reimbursement is outlined below:

Company Name	Amount to be Reimbursed	
Pen Argyl Area School District	\$	2,081.84
Suburban EMS	\$	18,280.00
Bushkill Twp. Volunteer Fire Company	\$	21,570.50
Washington Township Volunteer Fire Company	\$	4,781.60
Plainfield Township Volunteer Fire Company	\$	30,345.25
Lehigh County Special Operations (HazMat Team)	\$	8,430.00
Borough of Wind Gap Emergency Management on behalf of Fire, EMS, and Police	\$	22,892.59
Northampton County Emergency Management Services	\$	30,239.99
<b>Total Amount Received</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>138,621.77</b>

# # #