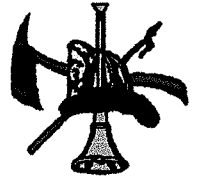




Milwaukee County Association of Fire Chiefs



December 16, 2008

Chief Gregg Cleveland, Chairman
Structural Collapse Work Group
La Crosse Fire Department
726 5th Avenue South
La Crosse, WI 54601

Dear Chief Cleveland:

Today I received the final report of the Collapse Working Group and have found it to be accurate and complete as agreed upon by the members of the working group. I did however notice that Madison Fire Chief Amesqua was not included on the signature page and have since heard that Chief Amesqua is unwilling to partner with the rest of the State Task Force Teams to put forth the recommendations of the Collapse Work Group. It was my understanding and also that of the Milwaukee County Association of Fire Chiefs, that official department representatives carried the authority to speak on behalf of their fire chief. It is unfortunate, considering all of the hard work and participation put forth by Division Chief Martinez of Madison, since I believe he was participating in good faith and representing the best interests of his department. I am also concerned that the progress made by this group could be lost without the unified voice of all the Task Force Departments, including Madison. The Milwaukee County Fire Chiefs recommend that the Task Force Departments move forward with the recommendations in this report without the support of the City of Madison as we believe that these recommendations are in the best interest of the State of Wisconsin and the communities we serve.

As a direct result of the Structural Collapse Work Group meetings, the MABAS Division 107 Chiefs of Milwaukee County and Milwaukee Fire Department Chiefs, Division 109, have already agreed to meet on December 22, 2008 to start the process of finding ways to work together by discussing alternatives as they relate to HURT and future cooperative efforts.

As President of the Milwaukee County Association of Fire Chiefs, I want to tell you how much I was encouraged by the progress and accomplishments of the Structural Collapse Work Group and on behalf of all the Milwaukee County Fire Chiefs, I would encourage you to continue and "go forward" in the development of a true state collapse team resource.

Sincerely,

Fire Chief Jay Behling
President, MCAFC

Representing Fire Chiefs from:

- Cudahy - Hales Corners - Franklin - Greendale - Greenfield - Milwaukee -***
- Milwaukee County Airport - North Shore - Oak Creek - South Milwaukee -***
- St. Francis - Wauwatosa - West Allis - Wisconsin Air National Guard -***