



### **Press Release**

250 S. IL Route 59, Bartlett, IL 60103  
(630) 837-0301 Office | (630) 837-9064 Fax  
[www.hanover-township.org](http://www.hanover-township.org)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**For information contact:**

Tom Kuttenberg, (847) 888-8329  
[tkuttenberg@hanover-township.org](mailto:tkuttenberg@hanover-township.org)

### **Hanover Township Emergency Services receives recertification from county**

The Cook County Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHSEM) presented the Hanover Township Emergency Services Department with formal Emergency Agency Certification at the Hanover Township Board of Trustees meeting on Tuesday evening. Certification by DHSEM recognizes the department's training program, disaster planning, and emergency response capabilities. The department is trained and equipped to assist public safety agencies serving Hanover Township residents on emergency scenes.

Hanover Township Emergency Services is the only entity to receive certification from Cook County DHSEM.

"During severe weather and emergency incidents, the Unit is often requested to assist in one or more of the Township's six municipalities and unincorporated areas," said William Burke, Hanover Township Director of Emergency Services. "Having this certification only further validates the professionalism and dedication of our volunteers that work alongside, and in coordination with, county and municipal first responders."

Certification from the county is valid through 2018.

Since April of 2015, Emergency Services members logged over 7,053 volunteer hours and were requested to respond to just over 70 emergency scenes. Throughout the year, the Unit provided traffic control and scene security at 115 special events throughout Hanover Township and the surrounding area.



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“Our volunteers come from all sorts of backgrounds, ages, and demographics,” said Brian P. McGuire, Hanover Township Supervisor. “The front line work they do in our communities allow for many police to go back on patrol and for fire personnel and equipment to return to their stations, prepared for the next emergency call outs.”

Part of the recertification process required the Township staff and officials to work through an emergency scenario that could last for days; like severe flooding, a winter storm, or a tornado touchdown. Township personnel developed plans for evacuating residents to safe locations and disbursing supplies while keeping buildings open to serve as shelters.

“This certification showcases the commitment the Hanover Township Emergency Services Department has to the safety and security of their residents,” said Ernest Brown, executive director of the DHSEM. “We are proud to have this agency as our partner and look forward to working alongside their dedicated personnel.”

For questions about the certification or for information on joining the Hanover Township Emergency Services Unit, please call (630) 837-0301 or email [hates@hanover-township.org](mailto:hates@hanover-township.org).

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