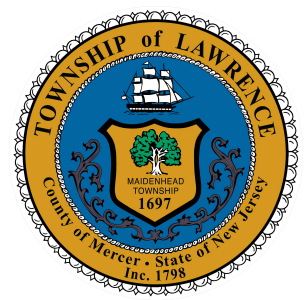


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



## **Lawrence Township Fire Department Announces Transition to 24-Hour Weekday Staffing Model**

**Lawrence Township, NJ — March 30, 2026**— Municipal Manager Kevin Nerwinski, Public Safety Director Chris Longo and Emergency Management Coordinator Jack Oakley are proud to announce a significant enhancement to its operational staffing model aimed at improving emergency response capabilities and service to the Lawrence Township community.

Effective April 13, 2026 at 6:00 a.m., the Department will transition from its current Monday–Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. staffing schedule to a Monday–Friday, 24-hour coverage model. This change represents a major advancement in ensuring consistent, around-the-clock fire protection during weekdays.

To maintain seamless emergency coverage throughout the entire week, Lawrence Township Volunteer Firefighters will staff duty crews on weekends. In addition, volunteer firefighters will continue to serve the community 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, responding to emergencies and supporting fire operations alongside career personnel.

“Our career fire staff is trained and prepared to respond to a wide range of emergencies,” said Public Safety Director Chris Longo. “The Township greatly values the service of our volunteer firefighters and sincerely appreciates their dedication and commitment to protecting our community. This transition reflects our continued investment in public safety while recognizing the critical role our volunteers play each and every day.”

FMBA Local # 96 Union President Todd Lenarski also expressed strong support for the transition, stating, “This is a significant step forward for public safety in Lawrence Township. Expanding to 24-hour weekday staffing ensures that our highly trained career firefighters are available when residents need them most, while continuing to work alongside our dedicated volunteer firefighters who remain an essential part of our department.”

The Lawrence Township Fire Department remains committed to a strong partnership between career and volunteer personnel, whose combined efforts are essential to maintaining the safety and well-being of the Township.

For additional information, please contact:

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