

COUNTY OF SUFFOLK



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DEPARTMENT OF FIRE, RESCUE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

To: County Fire & EMS Agencies

From: Joseph F. Williams
Commissioner

Re: NEW SERVES Program

Date: December 1, 2015

I am pleased to announce the roll-out of the new version of the [Suffolk Educational program for Retention in the Voluntary Emergency Service \(SERVES\)](#), the result of a 2014 Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant from the US Department of Homeland Security.

The new SERVES offers more volunteers with the opportunity to improve their education while rendering volunteer service to their Volunteer Fire or EMS Agency, and ultimately improve service to the residents of districts throughout the county.

SERVES has been transitioned to a tuition reimbursement program, and student-volunteers must meet a new set of eligibility criteria identified in the SERVES Administrative Guide available on the Suffolk's Bravest Website: WWW.SUFFOLKSBRAVEST.COM /Benefits/CollegeTuition Reimbursement.

I respectfully request that due to the February 1, 2016 deadline for the initial SERVES semester this coming spring, you make every effort to learn more about the significant changes to the program and share this information with your entire membership as soon as possible.

As always, thank you for your continued help and cooperation. Should you (or a student-volunteer) have any questions, please feel free to contact Michael Fink, of my staff at 631-852-5264.

Cc: Members, SC Volunteer Recruitment Committee