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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Oak Brook Fire Department Achieves an I.S.O. Class 2 Certification**

**Oak Brook, Illinois – May 13, 2014** – On May 5, 2014, the Oak Brook Fire Department received notification that the department will be reclassified by the Insurance Services Organization (ISO) as a Class 2 community. The Department is now ranked among the top 1.5 percent of all departments across the United States for its fire protection capabilities. Nationally, of 49,010 rated departments, there are only 750 departments comparable to the Oak Brook Fire Department's Public Protection Classification. Fire Departments receive classifications between a top rating of Class 1 and the lowest rating of Class 10 based on several aspects of the Department's ability to protect its community for fire suppression. Oak Brook's previous classification was a Class 3.

The ratings are based on a scale that evaluates multiple criteria of the department: personnel, equipment, the water system, training and communications, which is provided by DuComm. "The reclassification of Oak Brook as a Class 2 community is a strong indication of the great department we have and will help Oak Brook remain a premier community for residents and businesses," said Village President Gopal Lalmalani.

The ISO Public Protection Classifications are used by the insurance industry to estimate insurance costs for businesses and homeowners within the community. Having a better ISO rating may lower insurance costs within a community. The new Class 2 rating will reflect insurance rate changes for businesses within the Oak Brook community, and may affect the rates of some homeowners as well. Businesses and residents should check with their individual insurance companies to determine if they will benefit from this reclassification.

The upgrade in the Village's classification reflects the ongoing cooperation within the Village's Fire and Public works Departments as well as with surrounding area fire departments in sharing services, equipment, training and personnel.

The new Public Protection Classification will be effective on August 1, 2014.

For further questions about the new ISO 2 classification, please contact Battalion Chief Jeff Marciniak at 630-368-5210.

### **About Oak Brook:**

Founded in 1958, the Village of Oak Brook is located 15 miles west of downtown Chicago and is in proximity to the junction of Interstates 88, 294, and 290. The Village consists mostly of residential



subdivisions, with the exception of the Oak Brook Center shopping mall, other retail and office properties along 22nd Street and Interstate 88. Oak Brook is the home of many corporate offices, most notably, the world headquarters of McDonald's Corporation, Ace Hardware, Tree House Foods, Inland Real Estate and the service club organization Lions Clubs International. Oak Brook is also known for being one of the few municipalities in the Chicago area that does not levy a property tax on residents or businesses. To learn more about Oak Brook, please visit <http://www.oak-brook.org>.

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