

**Memorandum
Fire Department**

To: Thomas Thomas, City Manager
From: Jeffrey C. Yerkey, Fire Chief *JCY*
Subject: Request from IAFF Local 26 Regarding "Fill the Boot"
Date: July 26th, 2016



The Rock Island Firefighters Association, IAFF Local 26, is seeking permission to conduct a fundraising campaign for the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA). This would consist of collecting donations as part of the annual Fill the Boot campaign at the intersection of 30th Street and 18th Avenue on the following dates and times:

Friday, September 2nd – 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm
Saturday, September 3rd – 10:00 am to 12:00 pm
Sunday, September 4th – 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

All of the necessary safety precautions will be put in place by the MDA, and the MDA carries an insurance policy on all active and retired firefighters who are volunteering on their behalf.

Enclosed is a letter from the Executive Director of MDA of Iowa/Western Illinois, as well as a copy of their Certificate of Liability Insurance.

CC: Aleisha Patchin

Recommendation: City Council approve IAFF Local 26's request to collect donations as part of their annual Fill the Boot campaign at the intersection of 30th Street and 18th Avenue on the dates, and during the times, listed above.



Dear Chief Yerkey,

Thank you in advance for your consideration in allowing Rock Island firefighters to support local families with muscle-debilitating diseases by collecting donations on duty. The annual Fill the Boot campaign to benefit the Muscular Dystrophy Association is a 62 year tradition between MDA and firefighters. It is a tradition that we at MDA are very proud of and we look forward to continuing our relationship with many outstanding departments, including the Rock Island Fire Department.

At MDA, we work with 280 fire departments across the state of Illinois many of which Fill the Boot while on duty. Examples of departments that collect on duty and on the street are Monmouth, Sterling, Rock Falls, Bloomington, Canton, Champaign, Springfield, Peoria, Galesburg, and Chicago to name a few. The ability to collect on duty allows departments to engage more members, provides visibility and positive publicity in the community, and has shown to increase the amount a department is able to raise through their Fill the Boot collection.

MDA takes every precaution to ensure that firefighters collecting on behalf of MDA are safe and protected. We carry an insurance policy that covers all active and retired firefighters, Cadets, firefighters in training, and EMTs working or volunteering for Fire Departments, while volunteering on behalf of MDA. Our insurance policy also allows for the city of Rock Island to be listed as additionally insured therefore tendering any claims made to MDA.

Funds raised by Rock Island's Fill the Boot collection goes to directly benefit 20 families in the Rock Island area and 85 in Rock Island County affected by muscle-debilitating diseases. At MDA, we are striving to do more for our families, vowing to double our research dollars, increase the number of families seen at the MDA Care Center at The University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics by 50 percent, and sponsoring even more children from the Rock Island area to attend MDA Summer Camp at Camp Courageous.

Thank you for your consideration. Please do not hesitate to reach out by phone or email with any questions.

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