



Quaker Springs Fire District #1  
107 Blodgett Road  
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Schuylerville, NY 12871  
518-584-3349

## **Workplace Risk Assessment:**

**Purpose:** This Workplace Risk Assessment attempts to define the dangers faced by QSFD members and attempts to determine how best to minimize or eliminate exposure to danger by our members.

- **Working in public settings, working late night or early morning hours:**
  - We work in public settings – sometimes at early and late hours.
  - Our members receive annual OSHA training that includes a discussion of the various hazards we anticipate and encounter and how to best handle them. In addition, all firefighters have safety training through state authorized classes and some have Fire Police training as well. At least one officer is always on scene and our officers have an additional level of training – including safety training.
- **Exchanging money with the public:**
  - We exchange money with the public at our annual coin drop and at fundraising dinners.
  - At the annual coin drop we use appropriate traffic control, high visibility clothing and markings – all to mitigate the danger of working in traffic. As a very visible fundraising event, we feel there is little risk related to the exchange of money.
  - At our fundraising dinners, we do not feel there is a risk due to the community nature of the environment and the presence of numerous QSFD members and community members when collecting money for dinners.
- **Working alone or in small numbers and working in areas of previous security problems:**
  - Typically, it would be an officer arriving at a scene alone before the first truck arrives. Officers have hand held radios and cellular phones and have the ability to maintain constant contact with Saratoga County through Fire Communications. Our radios are specifically designed with a trouble or mayday button which summons a special response from firefighters and law enforcement.
  - Officers and all members are trained to contact law enforcement in the event an unsafe situation arises.
  - The officers and many of the firefighters are registered as Fire Police which gives them the training and power to make arrests and detain people when on duty under the New York State Peace Officer law.
- **Uncontrolled access to the workplace:**
  - Both our fire stations have access controls systems in place to prevent unauthorized building access.
  - The officer in charge at any fire scene has responsibility for controlling who has access to the scene.