

# Unit 3 Case Study

## Annual Subscription Rates

A fire department in an adjacent jurisdiction provides structural firefighting services to its community via a subscription service. Residents and commercial business owners are provided an opportunity to “subscribe” annually for the service. The benefits for residents and business owners to participate in the subscription service are that the fire department will actively and safely engage in structural firefighting for life safety and property protection.

Annual residential fire subscription rates are \$250.00. Annual commercial fire subscription rates are \$500.00. The fire department uses the revenue generated by the subscription service to recruit, train, and equip the volunteer firefighters. Additionally, revenue is used for fire apparatus maintenance and readiness.

The city council supports the fire subscription service through adopted ordinance within the city charter. Subscription rates are reviewed and evaluated annually.

The fire department recently responded to a confirmed residential structure fire in which the resident was not a paid participant in the fire subscription service. Upon arrival, the fire department confirmed with the resident that everyone was out of the house. The fire department protected the exposures of the adjacent houses (who were confirmed subscription participants) and let the house of the non-subscription resident burn to the ground. The incident gained national attention for the fire department “not doing their job by extinguishing the fire.”