



News Release of March 4, 2020



FIRE DEPARTMENT WARNS OF CHARITY SCAM

The Alpena Fire Department has become aware of telephone and mail solicitors contacting Alpena-area residents on behalf of the “Firefighters Charitable Foundation” of Farmingdale, New York. The material states that proceeds will be used to aid victims of fires and support for volunteer fire departments. While the organization boasts a post office box in Madison Heights, Michigan, there is no evidence that it provides support for anyone in Michigan and certainly not in the Alpena area.

Solicitors reportedly tell residents that the money will stay in their community and help their local fire department. This is not the case.

Local fire departments have many needs and our community has been most generous in meeting those needs wherever possible. To donate to your local fire department, contact the department in the city or township where you live, through the local government offices.

Emergency support for fire victims is provided in Northeast Michigan by the American Red Cross and Salvation Army.

For more information, or for contact information for each community, contact Alpena Fire Chief Bill Forbush at 989-354-1850 or email billf@alpena.mi.us.

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