

**TOWNSHIP OF MAHWAH
ORDINANCE NO. 1986**

ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MAHWAH, COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING SECTION 2-17, FIRE DEPARTMENT, TO ESTABLISH AN ASSOCIATE DIVER PROGRAM WITHIN THE RESCUE 1 RESCUE AND RECOVERY TEAM

WHEREAS, the Township of Mahwah wishes to establish a new Associate Diver Program within the Rescue 1 Dive Rescue and Recovery Team that currently exists within the Mahwah Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, the current dive team consists of firefighters who are specially trained to perform underwater search, rescue and recovery operations; and

WHEREAS, the Associate Diver Program would allow volunteer divers to join the existing dive team and become Associate Team Members without being required to complete firefighter training.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Council of the Township of Mahwah, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter 2, Administration, § 2-17, Fire Department, is hereby amended to add new subsection 2-17C, Rescue 1 Dive Rescue and Recovery Team Associate Diver Program, to read as follows:

§ 2-17C. RESCUE 1 DIVE RESCUE AND RECOVERY TEAM ASSOCIATE DIVER PROGRAM

- a. **Established.** There is hereby established the Associate Diver Program within the Mahwah Fire Department's Rescue 1 Dive Rescue and Recovery Team. Associate Team Members (ATMs) shall consist of persons who meet the membership qualifications set forth below.
- b. **Purpose.** The purpose of the Associate Diver Program is to allow volunteer drivers to join the Rescue 1 Dive Rescue and Recovery Team and become Associated Team Members (ATM) without having to complete firefighter training.
- c. **Qualifications of Associate Team Members.** ATMs must satisfy each of the following Mahwah Fire Department application requirements and be approved by the Township Council:
 1. Complete Rescue 1 ATM application.
 2. Be 18 years of age or older.
 3. Pass the required diver physical and provide proof of the medical doctor conducting the exam signing off that the diver is medically fit to dive. ATMs must be current with hepatitis and tetanus vaccinations.
 4. Possess a valid open water diver certification card from a nationally accredited institute.
 5. ATMs are exempt from Fire Department FF1 Certification requirements.

d. **Probationary Period.** New ATMs shall serve a probationary period of one year, during which the ATM must satisfy the following requirements:

1. Maintain a 75% meeting and drill percentage during the probation year. If the ATM fails to meet this requirement, excluding medical or personal leave of absences, their membership status is forfeited. ATMs may request a meeting with the Membership Committee if membership becomes an issue.
2. Demonstrate a working knowledge in the team Standard Operating Guideline (SOG) and equipment to the Rescue Captain and Dive Coordinator.
3. Demonstrate proficiency in all tender operations and skills prior to becoming an active diver.

e. **Compensation.** All ATMs shall serve on a volunteer basis without compensation from the Township. ATMs not subject to LOSAP.

SECTION 2. If any section, paragraph, subsection, clause or provision of this ordinance shall be declared invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of this ordinance as a whole or any part thereof.

SECTION 3. All ordinances or parts of ordinances of the Township heretofore adopted that are inconsistent with any terms and provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

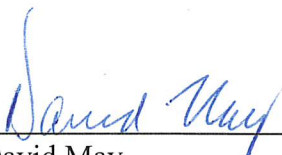
SECTION 4. This ordinance shall take effect twenty (20) days following final passage, approval, and publication as required by law.

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Dated: November 3, 2022

Attest

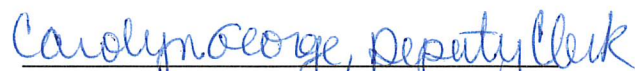


David May
Council President



Kathryn G. Coviello
Municipal Clerk

I, Kathryn G. Coviello, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Mahwah, hereby certify that the within Ordinance was passed and adopted at a meeting of the Township Council held on the 13th day of October, 2022.



Kathryn G. Coviello, RMC/CMC/MMC
Municipal Clerk