

# Fourth Ward Report

**Council President Barbara Johnson**  
**Minneapolis City Council**



January, 2013

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## Minneapolis 311

Dial 311 from any phone in the City limits. Outside of the City call: 612-673-3000

E-mail 311:  
[minneapolis311@minneapolis.gov](mailto:minneapolis311@minneapolis.gov)

311 Online Services:  
<http://www.minneapolis.gov/311/>

## 4<sup>th</sup> Ward Neighborhood Group Links

Cleveland  
Folwell  
Lind Bohanon  
Jordan  
Shingle Creek  
Victory  
Webber Camden



## Fire Department to Accept Applications for New Firefighters in 2013

For the first time since 2006, the Minneapolis Fire Department will accept applications for new firefighters beginning Jan. 31, 2013.

The fire department will be seeking a diverse pool of applicants to fill future openings in the department as the department is preparing for retirements among many long-time career firefighters in the coming years. Accepting applications is the first step in creating a new firefighter eligibility list that will be used to hire fire fighters as positions open up.

### Minimum Qualifications

Firefighters must meet a number of basic job requirements. They must be 18 or older at the time of application, have a valid driver's license, have the ability to read at a 10th grade level and hold a high school diploma or GED equivalent.

### Application process

Applications will only be accepted in person and only on these three days: Jan. 31, and Feb. 1-2, 2013. Applications must be submitted in person at the Northeast Armory, 1025 Broadway St. NE. Details about the application and testing process can be found on the [Fire Department's website](#). Applications will be available at any Minneapolis Fire Station or the Minneapolis Human Resources Office, 250 South 4th St. - Room 100, beginning Jan. 24, 2013.

### Examination process

Submitting an application is the first step in a thorough process, which includes several steps. Applicants will be asked to take a pass/fail reading comprehension exam and a scored job inventory exam in March. The top scoring applicants will be asked to then participate in a scored oral interview and pass/fail physical agility test in spring/summer. Those applicants that complete those exam components successfully will be put on the eligibility list for future hiring within the next two to three years. Before an applicant is hired, the last step in the examination process is to pass a criminal background check, medical exam and pre-employment drug and alcohol screening.

### About the job

Firefighters work as a team to save and protect life and property at fires or life-threatening emergencies. In addition to fighting fires, firefighters also provide:

- Emergency medical services
- Hazardous materials response
- Confined space and collapse rescue
- Water rescue
- Inspections
- Community outreach

## Contact Us

**Phone:** 612-673-2204

**[E-mail Contact Link](#)**

### Mail:

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<http://www.minneapolis.mn.gov/council/ward4/>

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## New 4<sup>th</sup> Precinct Police Commander

Chief Janeé Harteau recently appointed Inspector Mike Kjos to 4th Precinct commander. Inspector Michael Kjos joined the Minneapolis Police Department in 1988. As a patrol officer, he worked in the 3rd Precinct, and in 2004, he was promoted to Lieutenant and assigned to 1st Precinct. He oversaw the implementation of the SafeZone collaborative radio network, which provides a communication path between police officers and private security. Inspector Kjos was the direct supervisor of a multi-agency foot beat consisting of Minneapolis police officers, Hennepin County deputies, Metro Transit Police and Minnesota State Troopers. Inspector Kjos was transferred to the Training Unit in 2007, and for the past four years, Kjos has served as the Commander of the Business Technology Unit, overseeing all police technology initiatives, including the installation of digital video systems in patrol cars. I would also like to thank Mike Martin for his outstanding job as 4th Precinct Commander. Some of the biggest crime reductions in the city were under his watch.



## Railroad Complaints

I occasionally receive complaints about railroad traffic or signal issues, especially at the Humboldt crossing. Railroads are regulated by the Federal government. Canadian Pacific Railroad (CP) would like you to call their Community Connect Line at 1-800-766-7912 to report complaints or concerns so CP can address them in a timely manner. You can also email them at **[Community\\_Connect@cpr.ca](mailto:Community_Connect@cpr.ca)**

## Stay Safe this Winter and Avoid Carbon Monoxide Poisoning

Carbon monoxide (CO) incidents increase during the winter months and CO is often called the silent killer. CO is a colorless, odorless, tasteless gas and when inhaled, it enters the blood stream preventing proper absorption of oxygen, which can lead to illness and even death.

According to the Minnesota Poison Control Center, there are thousands of deaths each year as a result of carbon monoxide, making it the leading cause of death due to poisoning. Additionally, the Minneapolis Fire Department response to non-fire related CO incidents increases by 10 percent during the winter.

The Minneapolis Fire Department together with CenterPoint Energy would like to remind folks of important safety tips about how to recognize the symptoms of and avoid CO exposure:

- Purchase a CO detection device with an audible alarm and digital display and install it no more than 10 feet from each sleeping quarter, as required by law. Fuel-burning appliances, equipment and combustible engines all produce CO that can reach dangerous levels if improperly operated or maintained.
- Have fuel-burning equipment regularly checked by a qualified technician (most manufacturers recommend annual check-ups).



- Never operate an automobile, lawn mower or any combustion engine, barbecue grill or similar equipment in an enclosed area such as your home, garage, tent, fish house, trailer or place of business, even with the door open. Any pollutants in the air from the garage, such as a car engine running, can travel into the structure and CO can accumulate.
- Never leave a fire smoldering in a fireplace.
- Check frequently for visible signs of problems, such as high indoor humidity and soot or water collecting near a burner or vent.
- Equipment that uses natural gas should produce a clear blue flame. A yellow or orange flame may indicate a qualified technician should check for a potential problem with the equipment. When natural gas equipment is properly operated and maintained, it usually will not produce CO.
- Provide adequate combustion air for all your appliances.
- Be certain fuel-burning equipment properly vents to the outdoors.
- Keep vents, fresh air intakes and chimneys clear of debris or other obstructions and check for vent pipes that have gaps, leaks, spaces or are rusted through.
- Never attempt to heat a room with a natural gas range, oven or clothes dryer
- Physical symptoms of CO exposure can resemble the flu causing headaches, nausea, fatigue, confusion and dizziness that disappear when a person breathes fresh air.
- Unusually high indoor humidity with persistent heavy condensation on walls and windows and soot or water collecting near a burner or vent stuffy or stale indoor air.

Carbon monoxide is created when fuels such as gasoline, wood, coal, natural gas, propane, oil or methane don't burn completely. Home heating and cooking equipment that burn fuel inadequately can be sources of carbon monoxide. If you suspect CO exposure, leave the area immediately taking your pets with you and tell others to do the same. Once you are safely away from the area, call 911 to report the suspected CO incident. Treatment for CO exposure is fresh air or oxygen. Severe exposure requires medical attention. Do not return to your home or building until the source of the problem is discovered and corrected. More information about natural gas safety is available at [www.centerpointenergy.com/besafe](http://www.centerpointenergy.com/besafe) or by calling 612-372-4727 or 1-800-245-2377.

## Foreclosed? Eligible Borrowers in Federal Settlement Must Submit Claim Form by Jan. 18

If your home was foreclosed in 2008-2011 and your mortgage loan was serviced by Wells Fargo, Bank of America, JP Morgan Chase, Citigroup or Ally/GMAC, you may be eligible for a financial payment. You must submit the national mortgage settlement claim form by Jan. 18 – or complete it online by the same deadline – to receive a payment. Eligible borrowers should have received claim forms in the mail in October 2012.

Rust Consulting, the national settlement administrator, and the Monitoring Committee expect to mail checks in May. If you are an eligible borrower or think you may be, you may call the administrator (Rust Consulting) at 1-866-430-8358 or visit [www.nationalmortgagesettlement.com](http://www.nationalmortgagesettlement.com) for more information. If you have questions on whether you are eligible for a payment or on how to fill out the claim form, call Rust Consulting at 1-866-430-8358. You may also call the Minnesota Attorney General's Office at 651-296-3353 or 1-800-657-3787. If you want to be sure the settlement administrator has your current address, contact Rust Consulting at 1-866-430-8358 or by mail at National Mortgage Settlement Administrator, c/o Rust Consulting, Inc., P.O. Box 8043, Faribault, MN 55021-9443. Be careful of mortgage settlement scams, and call Rust Consulting (1-866-430-8358) or the Minnesota Attorney General's Office (651-296-3353) if you have questions.

For more information about the process and answers to frequently asked questions visit the Minnesota Attorney General's Office website: [www.ag.state.mn.us](http://www.ag.state.mn.us). You may also find more information at [www.nationalmortgagesettlement.com](http://www.nationalmortgagesettlement.com).

## Top 5 Fourth Ward Service Requests to Minneapolis 311



*Minneapolis 311 is a simple, three-digit number residents, businesses and visitors can call to reach the City to inquire about services, report problems, check the status of issues, or get information.*

### December, 2012

| Rank | Department Name                        | Service Request Type             | Number of Service Requests |
|------|--|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1    | PW Transportation Maintenance & Repair | Sidewalk Snow & Ice Complaint    | 118                        |
| 2    | Regulatory Services                    | Residential Conditions Complaint | 48                         |
| 3    | PW Transportation Maintenance & Repair | Snow & Ice Complaint             | 42                         |
| 4    | Regulatory Services                    | Exterior Nuisance Complaint      | 26                         |
| 5    | Regulatory Services                    | Abandoned Vehicle                | 25                         |