

**RESOLUTION
Of the
Borough of Longport**

Resolution 2024-44

**A RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH AND REGULATE A
JUNIOR FIREFIGHTER AUXILIARY**

By Ordinance 2024-11 the Borough of Longport established a Junior Firefighter Auxiliary. The Commissioners of the Borough of Longport by Resolution hereby establish and regulate the Junior Firefighter Auxiliary as follows:

Junior Firefighter Auxiliary Program

I. Purpose.

In order to attract people into the emergency services while they are young by fostering relationships and engaging youth in learning about, and ultimately becoming members of the emergency services, the Borough of Longport hereby establishes the Longport Junior Firefighter Auxiliary pursuant to N.J.S.A. §40A:14-95.

II. Requirements for membership.

A. A candidate for membership in the Longport Junior Firefighter Auxiliary shall complete the same application required for adult applicants to the Longport Volunteer Fire Department and Ambulance Squad (hereinafter referred to as the “Department”) and submit the completed application to the Chief of the Department for review and acceptance into the Longport Junior Firefighter Auxiliary.

B. A candidate for membership in the Longport Junior Firefighter Auxiliary shall be required to pass a Department physical examination as prescribed by the Chief of Department.

C. No person who is less than sixteen (16) nor more than eighteen (18) years of age shall be eligible for membership in the Longport Junior Firefighter Auxiliary, and a candidate for membership in the Longport Junior Firefighter Auxiliary shall be required to provide proof of age prior to acceptance into the program. The candidate shall be a permanent resident of either the Borough of Longport or Margate City.

D. No person may remain a member of the Longport Junior Firefighter Auxiliary after attaining eighteen (18) years of age.

E. Prior to acceptance into the Longport Junior Firefighter Auxiliary, every candidate for membership in the Longport Junior Firefighter Auxiliary shall appear for an interview before the Department’s Membership Committee accompanied by the candidate’s parent or legal guardian.

The parent or legal guardian of the candidate must be present during the interview with the candidate.

F. The parent or legal guardian of the candidate and the candidate shall provide telephone numbers and email addresses where they can be reached in emergencies and for the purpose of receiving notices from the Chief of the Department.

G. A copy of this Ordinance and the Rules and Regulations of the Department relating to the Longport Junior Firefighter Auxiliary will be provided to the candidate and the candidate's parent or legal guardian at the time of the interview before the Department's Membership Committee, and the candidate and the candidate's parent or legal guardian shall be required to sign an acknowledgement that they have received the Rules and Regulations of the Longport Junior Firefighter Auxiliary, had an opportunity to review them, and agree to abide by them.

H. Prior to admission into the Longport Junior Firefighter Auxiliary, the candidate and the candidate's parent or legal guardian shall sign permission and release of liability forms, which will acknowledge the parent's or legal guardian's permission for the candidate to participate in the Longport Junior Firefighter Auxiliary and releasing the Borough of Longport and the Department and their agents, servants, workmen and/or employees from liability for any and all injuries or damages suffered by the candidate and/or the candidate's parent or legal guardian arising out of the candidate's participation in the Longport Junior Firefighter Auxiliary.

III. Training.

A. Training of Junior Firefighter Auxiliary members (hereinafter sometimes referred to as "junior firefighter") shall include all instruction, which the Chief of the Department deems appropriate or necessary. Any such training shall not involve fire, smoke, toxic or noxious gas, or hazardous materials or substances.

B. After acceptance into the Longport Junior Firefighter Auxiliary, the junior firefighter will commit to such training as required by the Fire Department. They may attend a junior firefighting or emergency medical technician course with the prior approval of the Chief of the Department.

C. Members of the Longport Junior Firefighter Auxiliary shall not perform any task or participate in any activity prohibited by applicable state or federal law.

IV. Duties.

A. Members of the Longport Junior Firefighter Auxiliary shall obey all lawful orders and directions given to them by any officer of the Department, and in the absence of an officer of the Department, by any active member of the Department. No order or direction shall place the junior firefighter in an unsafe situation or area that poses the risk of injury to the junior firefighter.

B. If a seat is available, members of the Longport Junior Firefighter Auxiliary may ride in the fire apparatus, ambulances, and other Department vehicles in a seated position with seat belts securely fastened at all times. Members of the Longport Junior Firefighter Auxiliary must always relinquish

their seat in the fire apparatus, ambulance, and other Department vehicles to active members of the Department.

C. A junior firefighter may ride in the fire apparatus, ambulances, and other Department vehicles only when a seat is available in such vehicle at the time the vehicle departs the firehouse. Under no circumstances shall a junior firefighter ride on the outside of any fire apparatus, ambulance, or other Department vehicle.

D. Junior firefighters may wash, roll, and repack fire hose; clean equipment and apparatus; clean the firehouse; and on the fire ground, assist with repacking and putting equipment away as long as such activities are conducted in an area that does not present a risk to the health or safety of the junior firefighter. Under no circumstances shall a junior firefighter be permitted to enter a structure that is on fire or has been damaged by fire, or any area that has been or may be contaminated by a hazardous material or gas.

E. Junior firefighters may observe active members of the Department responding to emergency situations from a safe distance established by the Incident Commander. Junior firefighters shall remain with the fire apparatus until directed otherwise by the Incident Commander.

F. Junior firefighters may receive instruction and training on industrial fire systems; breathing apparatus; municipal water systems; hydrants and alternative water sources; the care, testing and handling of fire hose; types and uses of hand-held fire extinguishers; procedures for handling alarms; radio procedures; care, cleaning, and basic maintenance of apparatus; preparation of knots for use in emergency responses; safety measures when riding in apparatus; use of personal safety equipment; use of hand tools; theory of pumps and hydraulic fire systems; the use, care and testing of ladders; CPR; and use of an AED.

G. Junior firefighters shall comply with Department rules and regulations regarding personal protective equipment while performing any training duties; riding in the apparatus; or working on the fire ground.

H. Members of the Longport Junior Firefighter Auxiliary may not participate in Department activities more than eight (8) hours per day or forty (40) hours per week, and prior to 6:00 a.m. or after 11:00 p.m.

I. If a parent or legal guardian transports a junior firefighter to the firehouse in response to an alarm, the parent or legal guardian must remain at the firehouse until the fire apparatus departs the firehouse to make sure that there is a seat available on the fire apparatus for the junior firefighter. If no seat is available on the fire apparatus for the junior firefighter, the junior firefighter may not remain at the firehouse unsupervised and must leave the firehouse with their parent or legal guardian. However, the junior firefighter may remain at the firehouse with other active members of the Department who arrive at the firehouse after the fire apparatus has departed in response to an alarm. If a junior firefighter has personally transported himself/herself to the firehouse in response to an alarm, the junior firefighter shall be responsible for transporting himself/herself home.

J. When responding to the firehouse in their personal vehicle, junior firefighters shall obey all traffic laws and regulations, including speed limits. Junior firefighters shall not use blue lights on their personal vehicles.

K. Members of the Longport Junior Firefighter Auxiliary are subject to and shall comply with the constitution and bylaws of the Department.

L. Members of the Longport Junior Firefighter Auxiliary shall attend all drills of the Department but may be excused from attendance for good cause as determined by the Chief of the Department. Examples of good cause include, but are not limited to, school work, school activities, religious requirements, family commitments, and other volunteer commitments.

M. Members of the Longport Junior Firefighter Auxiliary shall not assist or participate in any drill or exercise conducted by any other fire department or other emergency response department without the prior approval of the Chief of the Department.

N. Members of the Longport Junior Firefighter Auxiliary shall not be permitted to respond to known, suspected, or reported hazardous material alarms.

V. Active status.

A. Upon reaching eighteen (18) years of age a junior firefighter shall be eligible to apply to become an active member of the Department.

B. A junior firefighter applying to become an active member of the Department must satisfy all requirements and conditions of the Department, and membership may be considered, in part, based on the junior firefighter's performance as a member of the Longport Junior Firefighter Auxiliary.

VI. Rules for Members of the Longport Junior Firefighter Auxiliary.

A. A junior firefighter shall obey all direct, valid, legal orders given by those supervising the junior firefighter and the rules and regulations of the Department.

B. No junior firefighter shall respond to an alarm or participate in Department drills and activities if prohibited to do so by the junior firefighter's parent or legal guardian.

C. A junior firefighter must maintain a "C" average or better (or the equivalent if the class does not give letter grades) in school.

D. Members of the Longport Junior Firefighter Auxiliary shall attend school as required by law and their parent or legal guardian. A junior firefighter may not be eligible to participate in the Longport Junior Firefighter Auxiliary if the junior firefighter has been suspended or expelled from school.

E. No junior firefighter shall engage in conduct that would reflect adversely on the good reputation of the Department.

F. No junior firefighter shall be in the firehouse or any fire apparatus, ambulance, or other Department vehicle without at least two (2) active (non-probationary) members of the Department being present.

G. No junior firefighter is permitted to have guests in the firehouse or any fire apparatus, ambulance, or other Department vehicle without the prior approval of the Chief of the Department.

H. No junior firefighter shall be permitted in the firehouse prior to 6:00 a.m. nor after 11:00 p.m.

I. A junior firefighter shall be permitted to attend the monthly meetings of the Department but shall not have a vote on any Department matter.

J. No junior firefighter shall participate in any Department activity, respond to alarms, or be in the firehouse when the junior firefighter is required to be in school or at home.

K. No junior firefighter shall start, drive, or in any other manner move any Department fire apparatus, ambulance, or other Department vehicles.

L. The Chief of the Department will issue to every junior firefighter a complete set of protective turnout gear, which will consist of the following: helmet; hood; turnout coat; bunker pants; boots; gloves; and accountability tag. All gear issued to junior firefighters shall remain the property of the Department and shall be returned upon request of the Chief of the Department or upon termination of the junior firefighter's participation in the Longport Junior Firefighter Auxiliary.

M. All gear issued to junior firefighters shall remain in the firehouse unless needed for fire school.

N. Junior firefighters shall not respond to mutual aid requests.

O. The Chief of the Department shall designate the appropriate dress for junior firefighters when attending Department events and functions.

P. A junior firefighter shall not borrow or use any Department equipment or materials for personal use.

Q. During a water or ice rescue, junior firefighters must remain on shore at all times. Junior firefighters may not ride on the Department's fireboat while responding to an emergency. They will be permitted for non-emergent activities such as training or parades.

R. Junior firefighters may climb ground ladders or aerial ladders for training purposes under the direct supervision of a Department Officer or an instructor in conjunction with an organized, approved junior firefighter training program. Junior firefighters must wear full protective gear and use a ladder belt or approved safety harness while training with ladders.

S. Junior firefighters may utilize any non-powered hand tool and change self-contained breathing apparatus (“SCBA”) bottles only if the junior firefighter has received training to do so from the Department.

T. To comply with child labor laws in effect from time to time, under no circumstances shall a junior firefighter utilize any power or hydraulic equipment including, but not limited to, hydraulic extrication tools, cutting tools, and saws.

U. Members of the Longport Junior Firefighter Auxiliary shall not make or issue any public statements concerning any emergency incidents responded to by the Department. All requests for comment are to be directed to the Incident Commander or Chief of the Department. A junior firefighter, while acting in the capacity of a member of the Longport Junior Firefighter Auxiliary, shall not take photos or videos of incidents responded to by the Department or post the same on any social media without the express permission of the Chief of the Department.

V. No junior firefighter shall divulge information of the Department deemed to be confidential by the Chief of the Department, including, but not limited to, information involving personnel issues within the Department, and the personal information of victims and patients encountered by members of the Department when responding to an alarm or medical emergency.

W. All communications between the Department and the junior firefighter shall be via email from the Chief of the Department to the email addresses of the junior firefighter and the parent or legal guardian of the junior firefighter provided to the Department by the junior firefighter and the parent or legal guardian of the junior firefighter.

VII. Suspension and removal from the Longport Junior Firefighter Auxiliary.

A. A junior firefighter may be suspended or removed from the Longport Junior Firefighter Auxiliary for violation of any provision of this ordinance or the rules and regulations including, but not limited to, standard operating procedures, of the Department in effect from time to time.

B. Prior to the suspension or removal of a junior firefighter from the Longport Junior Firefighter Auxiliary program, a meeting shall be held with the Chief of the Department, at least two (2) Department Officers, the junior firefighter, and the parent or legal guardian of the junior firefighter to determine whether a violation of the ordinance or the rules and regulations of the Department has been committed by the junior firefighter and whether removal or suspension is appropriate and, if so, the length of the suspension. In the event that the junior firefighter and/or the parent or legal guardian of the junior firefighter fails to appear at the meeting, the Chief of the Department and the Department Officers present for the meeting may proceed to determine whether a violation of the ordinance or the rules and regulations of the Department has occurred and, if so, the appropriate penalty.

C. A junior firefighter under suspension by the Department shall not respond to any alarm or call and shall not participate in any Department drill or training session. A junior firefighter under suspension shall not be permitted to attend any Department meeting and shall not be permitted in or about the firehouse, fire apparatus, ambulances, and other Department vehicles.

VIII. Privileges.

A. Members of the Longport Junior Firefighter Auxiliary may be issued a Department pager if available. Pagers issued to junior firefighters by the Department remain the property of the Department and must be returned to the Department at the discretion of the Chief of the Department or upon termination of the junior firefighter’s participation in the Longport Junior Firefighter Auxiliary. Junior firefighters shall not take Department issued pagers to school.

B. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. §40A:14-97, the Borough of Longport shall provide members of the Longport Junior Firefighter Auxiliary with a minimum amount of workers’ compensation insurance coverage.

IX. Severability.

A. If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, or other part of this Resolution is adjudged to be unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder of this Resolution, but shall be confined in its effect to the section, subsection, paragraph, sentence or other part of this Resolution directly involved in the controversy in which said judgment shall have been rendered, and all other provisions of this Resolution shall remain in full force and effect.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED The Board of Commissions of the Borough of Longport hereby orders the establishment and regulation of the Junior Firefighter Auxiliary as set forth above.

RECORD OF GOVERNING BODY VOTE ON MOTION TO WITHDRAW						
COMMISSION	AYE	NAY	NV	AB.	MOT.	SEC.
RUSSO	X				X	
LEEDS	X					
LAWLER	X					X
X-Indicates Vote NV-Not Voting AB-Absent MOT-Motion SEC-Second						

This is a Certified True copy of the Original Resolution on file in the Municipal Clerk’s Office.

DATE OF ADOPTION:

4/17/2024

/s/ MONICA KYLE, RMC, MUNICIPAL CLERK