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A VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION

Galena Volunteer Fire Department

INCORPORATED
301 WEST 7th STREET
GALENA, KANSAS 66739

Member of the
Kansas State Firemen's Association
National Firemen's Protective Association

Fire Chief Bill Hall
Asst. Chief Steve Hall

Telephone
Business (620) 783-5134
Fire only (620) 783-1311

FEBRUARY 8, 2013

TO: CHAIRPERSON
FEDERAL AND STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
TOPEKA, KANSAS

REFERENCE: RAFFLES "IMPORTANCE"

DEAR SIR:

IN 1975, THE GALENA VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT TOOK OVER THE OPERATION OF THE ANNUAL GALENA DAYS CELEBRATION, HELD THE FIRST WEEKEND IN JUNE. THIS IS A FAMILY ORIENTED FOUR-NIGHT, ACTION-PACKED WEEKEND OF FESTIVITIES WHICH HAS BEEN THE LIFEBLOOD FOR OUR ORGANIZATION TO PURCHASE MUCH NEEDED EQUIPMENT. THE CELEBRATION, INCLUDING ALL THE STAGE ENTERTAINMENT, IS FINANCED THROUGH DOLLAR TICKET SALES CONDUCTED IN LARGE PART BY A "MISS GALENA" CONTEST WITH OUR LOCAL GIRLS RECEIVING TEN PER CENT OF WHAT THEY SELL. THIS IS A GREAT WAY FOR THE YOUNG LADIES TO MAKE MONEY FOR THE SUMMER AND CERTAINLY MAKES OUR CELEBRATION POSSIBLE.

WE GIVE A TOP PRIZE OF \$10,000 PLUS LARGE NIGHTLY PRIZES OF ITEMS FOR THE HOME. GALENA DAYS HAS MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR THE DEPARTMENT TO PURCHASE SUCH ITEMS AS THE "JAWS OF LIFE", THERMAL IMAGING CAMERA, PERSONAL WALKIE TALKIES, PAGERS, SLIDE-IN UNITS FOR THE GRASS TRUCKS AND FIRE TRUCKS. WITHOUT GALENA DAYS, OUR DEPARTMENT WOULD NOT HAVE GROWN TO SERVE GALENA AND SOUTHEAST KANSAS AS WE HAVE.

NOT ONLY DOES THE FESTIVITIES FINANCIALLY PROMOTE OUR DEPARTMENT, MANY OTHER CHURCH GROUPS MAKE GOOD MONEY BY SELLING FUNNEL CAKES, ICE CREAM, WATER, SODA POP AND CONDUCTING NIGHTLY DINNERS. OUR LITTLE LEAGUE MAKES ALMOST HALF OF THEIR SUMMER EXPENSES BY OPERATING THE BINGO GAMES. WHEN PEOPLE PURCHASE OUR DOLLAR TICKETS TO WIN PRIZES, THEY KNOW THAT IF THEY DO NOT WIN, THEY STILL ARE DONATING TO A GOOD CAUSE. GALENA DAYS PROMOTES A SENSE OF SHARING AND HELPING TO BUILD A STRONG VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT. IT WOULD BE VERY DIFFICULT FOR THE GALENA FIRE DEPARTMENT TO OPERATE WITHOUT "GALENA DAYS".

PLEASE CONSIDER OUR REQUEST FOR NOT DISCONTINUING RAFFLES IN KANSAS.

SINCERELY,

BILL HALL, FIRE CHIEF
GALENA VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Sn Fed & State
Attachment 6
2-14-13