



**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**  
Hon. Stephanie A. Miner, Mayor

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
DATE: June 28, 2017

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**MAYOR MINER ANNOUNCES NEW ISO SCORE FOR THE  
SYRACUSE FIRE DEPARTMENT, THE HIGHEST RATING IN  
THE DEPARTMENT'S HISTORY**

*Insurance Service Organization Issues Syracuse a New Rating of 95.64, One of the  
Highest Scores in NYS*

*ISO Rating Helps Keep the Cost of Commercial Insurance Lower*

*Miner: I am Proud of the High-Quality Fire Service We Bring to the People of  
Syracuse*

SYRACUSE, N.Y. – Mayor Stephanie A. Miner today stood at Fire Station 1 to announce that the Insurance Service Organization (ISO) issued a new score to Syracuse Fire Department (SFD). The score, a 95.64, is the highest in the history of the Department and one of the highest in New York State. The SFD continues to maintain its ISO Class-1 rating – the highest rating possible.

“The city of Syracuse has superior fire protection and one of the best trained, best equipped Departments in the nation. I am proud of the high-quality fire service we are able to bring the people of Syracuse,” said **Syracuse Mayor Stephanie A. Miner**. “The story of our Fire Department is one of good leaders making hard choices in difficult situations. Through the determination and dedication of the men and women of this Department, we see sustained progress. I commend them for their excellent work and continued success.”

"ISO commends the leadership of the Syracuse Fire Department for being able to improve the fire protection services provided to city residents and businesses. Considering some of the pressures they needed to manage, it is an impressive accomplishment and we congratulate them," said the Insurance Service Organization.

The ISO rates fire departments once every five years. In 2012, the last time the city was rated, the ISO score was 93.84. The new score is 95.64. The ISO score is based on four categories: Fire Department, the Water distribution system, the receipt and transmission of fire Alarms (using the Onondaga County 911 Center), and Community Risk Reduction. The categories look at specific elements of fire department operations, including equipment, personnel, community water system quality, code enforcement standards, and the 911 system.

Part of ISO's analysis includes an analysis of deployment statistics, including the percentage of the community within 1.5 miles of fire stations housing engines. This leads to a nationally recognized standard response time

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requirement of less than four minutes. The city of Syracuse Fire Department has an average response time of 2 minutes, 20 seconds for structure fires in 2017. A map of the fire stations can be found here:

<http://bit.ly/2tps8UC>.

An improved ISO score leads to lower insurance rates for commercial property owners. Syracuse is one of only five fire departments in New York State with an ISO Class 1 rating (a score of 90 or higher). More than 2,000 departments across New York State are rated by ISO. Syracuse is the only ISO Class 1 department in Central New York and one of only 2 in Upstate. The other ISO Class 1 departments in New York are New York City, Yonkers, White Plains, and Rochester.

The SFD currently has more than 350 firefighters and 10 fire stations serving the 144,000 residents of Syracuse.

High resolution photos of today's event can be found here: <http://bit.ly/2tYYPFt>.

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