

Dear Chief,

I am writing you this letter as I wanted to express my gratitude and appreciation for the Campton Hills Police Department. On Friday, June 18th, my home in Fox Creek was struck by lightning and the attic caught on fire. My wife and son were in the home and I was at work. Officer Mathis just happened to be driving by (nobody had called 911 yet.) He quickly grabbed a fire extinguisher from his trunk and ran into my home. My neighbors assisted him with getting him into the attic and he began fighting the fire that the lightning strike created. He came out of the attic with soot from head to toe (not to mention the white stuff all over him from the fire extinguisher.) I understand that it took Elburn and Geneva fire departments almost 15 minutes to arrive at my home. I wasn't home at the time and Officer Mathis was gone by the time I got home.

The fire chief from Elburn told me that if it hadn't been for the quick actions of Officer Mathis, my home could have been a blaze and I could have lost a lot more than I did. I understand that Officer Mathis is a police officer and not a fireman, and for this I really feel that he went above and beyond what I would have expected.

You should be proud of this officer and he should be commended for going above the call of duty and doing what he did. My family and I are grateful for his actions as he helped us avoid what could have been a catastrophic event.

Thanks again for all that you have done. My family truly appreciates the value and services your department provides.

Sincerely,

James M. Dudek, Jr.