

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Township Seeks to Resolve Fire/EMS Contract Billing Dispute
Declaratory Judgment Requested to Force Arbitration

Twinsburg Township, Summit County, Ohio – October 6, 2011 – After months of waiting, repeated requests, and no response regarding a longstanding payment dispute, the Board of Twinsburg Township Trustees on October 4, 2011 filed suit against the City of Twinsburg in Summit County Common Pleas Court. The complaint for declaratory judgment and specific performance of contract seeks the Court to enforce the current (2008) Fire/EMS contract, which provides for arbitration where certain disputes remain unresolved for more than 60 days.

The Township has contracted with the City of Twinsburg for Fire/EMS service for many years, with current year service payments calculated based on prior year operating costs and eligible capital costs. The pending dispute pertains to the provisions, meaning, and interpretation of a term transition that occurred between the prior (February 1, 2006 to January 31, 2008) contract and the current (May 1, 2008 through December 31, 2011) contract. The dispute covers approximately \$45,000.00 that the City claims it is owed for an *additional* month of service under the contract. The dispute has gone on for more than two years, since early 2009. Both parties in February 2011 agreed to submit to arbitration on the disputed amount. Per the contract, each party selects an arbitrator, and the two selected arbitrators jointly select a third, for a three-member panel. The Township in March 2011 selected its arbitrator and assumed that the

City would immediately do the same. Over the following six months, however, the City selected no arbitrator and ignored multiple Township requests to do so, leaving the Board of Trustees with no choice but to do what it now has done in seeking Court intervention.

Although this dispute is limited in its scope, its side effects have included a delay in calculating current year service costs, as well a halt in negotiation of contract terms beyond December 31, 2011. The Board of Trustees regrets that the billing dispute has gone unresolved for so long and hopes that the City will promptly comply and finally submit to arbitration, as required under the contract, so that the parties can move on to more pressing issues and concerns. In the mean time, the Board of Trustees remains extremely committed to securing efficient and effective Fire/EMS service for Township residents and businesses.

About Twinsburg Township

Twinsburg Township was founded in 1817, had a population of 2,828 in 2010, and will soon celebrate its bicentennial with great pride. The Township is home to an unparalleled combination of rich history, abundant natural resources, outstanding parks, well-planned neighborhoods, thriving businesses, and top-notch institutions. Whether you're looking for a great place to live or do business, or just a spot to spend a quiet afternoon, you'll find it all right here in Twinsburg Township. So stop by and see us sometime, and if you can't make it in person, please check out www.twinsburgtwp.com to get a glimpse of all that Twinsburg Township has to offer. For more information, contact Robert S. Kagler, Township Manager, via telephone at (330) 425-4497 or via e-mail at rkagler@twinsburgtwp.com.

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