

*Leo P. Trambukis*

COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC SAFETY



*Leonard W. Reilly*

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC SAFETY  
209 FOUNTAIN ST., PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02903

Mr. Vincent Vespia  
Clerk of the City of Providence  
Office of the City Clerk  
City Hall

Dear Mr. Vespia:

I have conducted the study cited in the attached City Council Resolution (No. 683, Dec. 26, 1976). The following is a report of my findings and recommendations.

The Fire Department and this office support the concept of blood pressure examinations for our citizens which unquestionably is in the best interests of good public health. However, the implementation of this health program, as proposed, would present some problems for the Fire Department and inconveniences for the public.

The suggestion is that the examinations take place at designated fire stations and be conducted by trained personnel of the Fire Department. As the Council is aware, the activities of the fire companies and rescue units have increased considerably in recent years, such units being out of quarters frequently and for extended periods of time.

For the most part at the present time, the emergency medical technicians comprising the staff of the rescue squad units are the only Fire Department personnel fully trained to administer such examinations. (Additional personnel are in training at this time.)

Despite careful planning and scheduling for such examinations at selected times of day, interval periods, and fire station locations, it is almost certain that interruptions of examination services would occur as calls for rescue unit responses are received.

One solution for the above problem is to have the examinations carried out by trained emergency medical technicians (rescue unit personnel) "called back" to duty. This would involve a minimum of 4 hours' pay at the time-and-one-half hourly rate. Depending on the number of locations involved and the frequency of examinations (bi-weekly, monthly, bi-monthly, etc.), the city's costs could be minimal or substantial.

An analysis of the costs for the service of off-duty personnel called back to duty for the required minimum 4-hour period may be seen in the following: On a monthly basis at four selected fire station locations and with one man conducting the examinations at each location, the total monthly cost would be \$ 159.36. (It is assumed that any apparatus, materials or supplies would be made available at no cost by the Rhode Island affiliate of the American Heart Association.)

Another alternative might be to have these examinations conducted by volunteers from the above organization which is sponsoring the so-called "Heart Sunday" activity on February 6th. These trained volunteers will be administering these examinations on that date from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M. at all Providence Fire Stations. It is possible that the Association might agree to undertake the same action at fire stations on a regular basis. In any event, the public's response to the February 6th activity could preview (to some extent) the popularity of the program set forth in the resolution.

Respectfully submitted,

*Leo P. Trambukis*

LEO P. TRAMBUKIS

Commissioner of Public Safety

IN CITY COUNCIL  
FEB 3 1977

READ:

WHEREUPON IT IS ORDERED THAT  
THE SAME BE RECEIVED.

*Constance Rogers*  
CLERK

**CITY OF PROVIDENCE**

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

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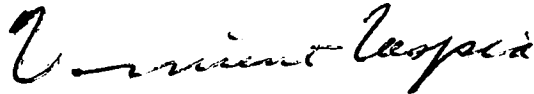
**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

*No.* 683

*Approved,* December 26, 1976

RESOLVED, that the Commissioner of Public Safety is requested to undertake a study of the feasibility of establishing Blood Pressure Examination Centers within certain designated Fire Department Stations, the same to be manned by trained personnel of the said Department.

A true copy,  
Attest:



Vincent Vespia,  
City Clerk.