

December 12, 2011

The Honorable Terry Bellamy, Mayor
Asheville City Council
70 Court Plaza
Post Office Box 7148
Asheville, NC 28802

RECEIVED DEC 16 2011

✓ The Honorable David Gantt, Chair
Buncombe County Board of Commissioners
82 Church Street
Asheville, NC 28801

Dear Mayor Bellamy and Chairman Gantt:

The tragic death of Captain Jeff Bowen of the Asheville Fire Department on July 28, 2011 at the 445 Biltmore Building in the City of Asheville remains fresh in all of our hearts and minds. I am writing to you with the request that you assist in helping erect a permanent memorial to our fallen hero.

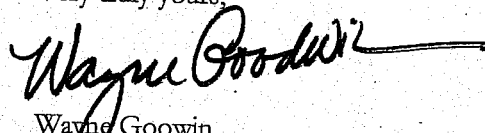
Accordingly, as your North Carolina State Fire Marshal, and on behalf of Chief Scott Burnette and the members of the Asheville Fire Department, President Tom Kelly and the members of the Buncombe County Firefighters Association, President Jeff Allman and the members of the Buncombe County Chiefs Association, and President Mike Marshall and the members of the Asheville Fire Department Union (AFFA IAFF 865), I hereby respectfully request that your governing bodies, either jointly or separately, pass a Resolution naming the Smoky Park Bridge located in the City of Asheville in memory of Captain Jeff Bowen. This bridge was selected due to its proximity to Captain Bowen's Fire Station and insofar as we can determine, it is presently undedicated.

My office has been in touch with Ms. Wanda Proffitt who serves on the DOT Board for the Western District and it is my understanding that such a Resolution should be passed on to the North Carolina Department of Transportation in care of: J. J. Swain, Jr., P.E., Division Engineer, 55 Orange St., Asheville, NC 28801 for review with a copy to Ms. Proffitt at 423 West US Highway 19E By Pass, Burnsville, NC 28714.

I would appreciate your favorable consideration of this request in the hopes that we can all join together in establishing a permanent memorial honoring Captain Bowen by the dedication of this bridge.

With best regards, I am

Very truly yours,



Wayne Goodwin
Commissioner of Insurance
State Fire Marshal

Cc: Chief Scott Burnette, Asheville Fire Department
Chief Tom Kelly, Buncombe County Firefighters Association
Chief Jeff Allman, Buncombe County Chiefs Association
Chief Mike Marshall, AFFA IAFF 865
Ms. Wanda Proffitt, Department of Transportation Board Member