



January 8, 2021

Latest News

PSATS Executive Issues Statement on January 6 Violence

Yesterday, PSATS Executive Director David Sanko issued the following statement on vandalism and violence in the public sector:

“While peaceful protests were provided for by the founding fathers in the Constitution, violence and vandalism are not acceptable, whether directed at the U.S. Capitol (Wednesday), the White House (summer 2020), or even township buildings. Destruction of public property and threats to public servants are crimes punishable by law. Regardless of the source of violence and vandalism, offenders must be prosecuted.

“One of the reasons that local government works best is its closeness to the people. Folks in Washington and Harrisburg would do well to take some lessons from township officials. Common sense, civility, public discourse, absence of hyper-partisanship, building safe communities with a good quality of life, providing for needs before wants, and not spending more than you have are all key factors in maintaining public confidence.

All public officials serve those who elect them and answer to them at the ballot box.”

DEP Lifts Drought Watch in Ten Counties

The state Department of Environmental Protection has lifted a drought watch or warning for 20 counties, including Bradford, Cameron, Columbia, Cumberland, Elk, Forest, Jefferson, Juniata, Lycoming, McKean, Montour, Northumberland, Perry, Potter, Snyder, Sullivan, Tioga, Union, Warren, and Wyoming counties.

A drought watch remains in effect for Centre and Clearfield counties. Clinton County

has been moved from a drought warning to a drought watch due to improving conditions. [Click here](#) for more.

Virtual Farm Show Events Begin Tomorrow!

The Virtual Farm Show will begin tomorrow, January 9, and run through January 16. “In a normal year, we bring half a million people into our home in Harrisburg to experience Pennsylvania agriculture,” said Secretary of Agriculture Russell Redding. “This year, we’re not bound by geography and are excited for the opportunity to bring the Farm Show into your homes as a virtual event. We look forward to introducing a whole new audience to the industry that sustains life for us all and the people who make it thrive.” [Click here](#) to learn about highlights of the planned events and activities!

Reminder: Townships May Nominate Outstanding Firefighter for National Award

Jointly sponsored by the Congressional Fire Services Institute and Motorola Solutions, the Mason Lankford Fire Service Leadership Award recognizes exemplary leaders in public safety for their work to improve the delivery of fire and emergency services in the areas of prevention, mitigation, and response. The recipient will be honored at the 32nd Annual National Fire and Emergency Services Dinner and win a two-night trip to Washington, D.C., to attend the dinner.

The Mason Lankford Fire Service Leadership Award embraces the importance of advocacy and leadership on behalf of all firefighters and emergency services personnel. These key attributes epitomize Mason’s legacy as a fire service leader. The award is named in honor of the late-Mason Lankford, a distinguished fire service leader from the state of Texas. Mason committed his time, energy, and passion to the fire and emergency services within his home state and throughout the country. His primary mission was to make the profession safer for all who serve. He cared for all first responders and dedicated his career to building a stronger fire and emergency services without leaving anyone behind. [Click here](#) to learn more. Submissions are due **February 1**. [Click here](#) to learn more. Submissions are due **February 1**.

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