



**MONTGOMERY CO
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Volunteer Firefighters Cry "Foul" over County Executive's Gross Misuse of Taxpayer Funds for Political Purposes

October 25, 2010 -- The Montgomery County Volunteer Fire-Rescue Association is holding a press conference on Tuesday, October 26, 2010, 11:30 am, to call attention to County Executive Isiah Leggett's gross misuse of taxpayer funds for overt electioneering activities in support of Question A – the Ambulance Fee legislation. The event will be held at the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Rescue Squad, 5020 Battery Lane, Bethesda, MD.

Despite an explicit provision in state law that bars county employees from engaging in political activities while on duty, the County Executive is orchestrating a massive electioneering activity that ignores this law. The Executive's use of County taxpayer dollars to lobby County voters is a gross misuse of government power and follows the Executive's attempt to use legal tactics and maneuvering (at County expense) to keep voters from having a say on ambulance fees in Montgomery County.

Examples of the County's misuse of taxpayer resources include:

- Use of on-duty career fire/rescue personnel to engage in express advocacy in favor of Question A
- Printing of tens of thousands of campaign flyers at tax-payer expense

The Voice of the Montgomery County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service

- Directing fire/rescue units out of their first-due response area for the express purpose of passing out Question A campaign literature
- Directing County employees to send electioneering messages in favor of Question A to community groups, citizen's organizations and others

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