

# **NORTH KITSAP FIRE & RESCUE**

August 10, 2017

To the people we serve:

As many in our community have been following the civil case arising from the July 2014 fatal crash between one of our fire engines and Jason Foster, we are writing to share that NKF&R will not be pursuing an appeal of the jury verdict. After careful consideration of the time and cost involved in an appeal, it was decided to settle this case.

Following the verdict, our legal counsel and insurer initially felt there was a sound basis for appeal and we communicated this in our statement of May 26. However, after appellate counsel was retained, it was determined that the amount of the jury's award would likely withstand an appeal.

This was a fully insured incident, accurately reported, investigated and covered. The settlement comes at no financial expense to the communities of North Kitsap, and we have the continued assurance of our insurance carrier that this will not affect our premiums or ability to get insurance in the future.

We believe this decision was made for the best interest of everyone involved, and our thoughts and prayers will always be with the Foster family. We hope that concluding this matter will afford them the opportunity to heal and allow us to return our entire focus to serving you.

If you have a question or concern, please let me know directly. Call me at (360) 297-3619. Send a message to me at [smith@nkfr.org](mailto:smith@nkfr.org). Come to our Board of Fire Commissioners meetings on the second and fourth Mondays at 7:15 p.m. at our headquarters station near Kingston. We will do our best to answer your questions and respond to your concerns, to the full extent we are able.

Dan Smith  
Fire Chief

