



**Government of the District of Columbia  
Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department  
Washington, D.C. 20009**



Muriel Bowser  
Mayor

Gregory M. Dean  
Fire & EMS Chief

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Michael Meers  
MID CITY

**FROM:** Robert J. Callahan  
DFCOP

**Co/Plt:**

**DATE:** November 29, 2016

**SUBJECT:** Brentwood Shopping Center

Dear Mr. Meers,

I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank you on behalf of our department for allowing us the opportunity to train on the soon to be demolished Brentwood Shopping center. This commercial occupancy allows us to sharpen our skills and prepare for fighting fires in these types of establishments. While our training academy provides prompts that allow us to simulate operating at a commercial occupancy, there is nothing quite like working on an actual structure.

During the three days of training which were conducted on Friday, Saturday and Sunday (November 25, 26 and 27<sup>th</sup>) we were able rotate several hundred Fire Fighters through this property for 3 hour blocks of training. Specific skills that were taught and reinforced were large area search and rescue, roof top vertical ventilation, steel roll up gate forcible entry techniques and hose line advanced into commercial occupancies’.

I cannot overstate how valuable this training has been to our members and would like to relay the thanks and praise each member expressed to me for providing the practical training venue which of course was through your permission. In closing I would once again thank you for this opportunity and would like to work with you on any future properties that might become available.

Signature.....

The above statement was prepared by me. I certify that it is true to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand that making a false statement is criminal and punishable under D.C. law. I also understand that the Department may initiate adverse action against me making a false statement.

Sincerely,  
Robert J. Callahan  
Deputy Fire Chief of Operations Platoon One

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Signature.....

The above statement was prepared by me. I certify that it is true to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand that making a false statement is criminal and punishable under D.C. law. I also understand that the Department may initiate adverse action against me making a false statement.