May 15, 2015 Allouez Village Board RE: Naming the Allouez Fire Station

Village Board,

We the undersigned would like to propose that the Board take action to name the Allouez Fire Station after one of the founding members of the Allouez Fire Department. Currently the Station is known as Green Bay Metro Fire Department Station #8. We are asking that the Station additionally be named after Captain Harold Koch.

Harold Koch was originally a member of the Green Bay Fire Department, but was one of four top members to retire from Green Bay, in order to form the Allouez Fire Department. Harold served in various positions for Green Bay, but when he left he was the Training Captain. He assumed the same role in Allouez- including setting up the department 6 months (July 1972) before it actually went "in service" (January 1973). He took part in ordering the Fire Trucks, assembling the hydrant/street books, setting up the training and preparing to hire the original 9 Career Firefighters and up to 25 Paid On Call Firefighters.

Harold stayed until his retirement in 1978- that's when he "passed the torch" of his great knowledge and commitment of the Fire Service. He was beloved by every Firefighter that worked with him. Captain Bryan Becker was hired many years after his retirement, but had many opportunities to talk with him, as he would visit on Saturday mornings for coffee. When Captain Becker told him that he was the current Training Captain, Harold gave him some pointers, and Captain Becker would use some of his training material from "the olden days".

Harold still resides in the Village of Allouez at a local retirement home. He is 98 years old. One of Captain Becker's greatest joys before the merger between Green Bay and Allouez, was to give Harold a ride in his antique fire truck. It was the first AFD Captain and the last AFD Captain riding together.

We have absolutely no doubt that the merger between departments is a complete success. We have come full circle from Green Bay members helping with a great start, to helping us continue to provide a great service to the Citizens of Allouez.

Thank you for you consideration to this matter.

Captain Bryan Becker Allouez Fire Department 1992- 2012 Green Bay Metro Fire Department 2012- present

Assistant Chief Michael Nieft Green Bay Metro Fire Department

Petition to name Fire Station 8 after Captain Harold Koch

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