



## Mayor's Monthly Newsletter

Written by Mayor Justin Ray

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### December 2015 – A Season of Appreciation in Jersey Village

Hello Neighbors, Residents and Friends,

Thanksgiving and the subsequent Christmas holidays are a time of reflection on the events of the past year and to reflect appreciatively on the blessings we have been given. As residents of the City of Jersey Village we have a number of blessings to reflect upon. We are fortunate to live in a vibrant area of business in the greatest State in the greatest Nation in the world. I want to draw particular attention to one blessing that would be the envy of many municipalities. That is the extraordinary City staff, Police and Fire Departments.

One of the keys to our success as a community is the dedication and competency of our City staff from the City Manager's office to the crews working the public works projects. Our staff has year in and year out provided an efficiently run and fiscally responsible municipal government. The financial health and services provided are truly the envy of other cities and can be directly attributed to our staff. They spend late hours consulting and working with City Council to achieve our community vision and goals. Most of those hours are spent in the offices of an antiquated and dilapidated City Hall.

It goes without saying that our Police Department is a blessing of enormous proportions. We have as active and professional a Police Department as there ever has been. The services and protections they provide give peace of mind to us all. In a day and age in which law enforcement are being second guessed at every turn, our community knows and understands what a tremendous blessing the Jersey Village Police Department is.

Lastly, I am sure we can all agree how grateful we are for the dedication and services provided by our Jersey Village Fire Department. Last January, I had the privilege to speak before the annual Fire Department banquet and I will conclude this newsletter with an excerpt from my speech:

*Often times at City Hall, Council members will praise the police and fire department during Council meetings. Most of the staff and volunteers don't get to hear those comments so I would like to express my, and I feel safe saying the rest of Council's, sincere gratitude to all the members of the fire department for the excellent job you do. Thank-you for being the committed public servants in the spirit of Benjamin Franklin. Thank-you for letting kids climb all over the fire trucks and saving the lives of our neighbors. Thank-you for being the number one selling point to life in Jersey Village. As an additional note, the residents of Jersey Village are especially grateful to the families of our fire department members. Our firefighters respond at all times of the day and night, stay on the scene for hours and pull all-nighters. We could not have such an effective Fire Department without the continued support of the members' families. Thank-you very much for supporting them as they handled over 1200 calls last year, a record. I will leave you with this. Thank-you Jersey Village Fire Department for spoiling the children of Jersey Village. In previous years, Santa Claus has come to our home on a fire truck, an absolute dream come true for 4 to 5 year old boys - Santa Claus and Fire Trucks. This past Christmas, we got on the list late and Santa couldn't make it to our house. Two weeks after Christmas, my five year old son Evan asked my wife Allison why Santa didn't come to his house on the fire truck. She told him we visited him at the mall - like we all used to do. Indignant, my son replied- but he's supposed to come to MY house. So thank-you for the elevated expectations of Jersey Village kids.*

All the Best,

Justin Ray, Mayor, Jersey Village, Texas