



NEWS RELEASE

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SUFFOLK FIRE & RESCUE ANNOUNCE PROMOTIONS

SUFFOLK, VA (February 2, 2017) The Suffolk Fire & Rescue Department has announced the promotion of Charles Chapin to Fire Marshal and Richard Stephens to Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator. Suffolk Fire & Rescue Chief Cedric Scott noted, "I am very excited about the promotion of these two outstanding public servants. Both of them have demonstrated the character, dedication, and professionalism that is emblematic of the fire service profession. Their roles are very critical to the safety and preparedness of our community, and I am confident that they will do a terrific job for our City."

Fire Marshal Charles P. Chapin

Fire Marshal Charles P. Chapin has over 27 years in the fire service and began his career with Suffolk Fire & Rescue in March of 2002. He graduated from the Southside Regional Fire Academy in 2002 and served as president of his recruit class. Fire Marshal Chapin served in a variety of positions until he was assigned to the Fire Prevention Bureau in 2012 as an Assistant Fire Marshal.

Fire Marshal Chapin earned certifications as a Fire Inspector, Fire Investigator and Advanced Fire Code Official, and then graduated from the Virginia Fire Marshal Academy Basic Law Enforcement School in 2013. In April 2014, he was appointed Acting Captain / Acting Fire Marshal and Fire Code Official for the City of Suffolk, serving in that capacity until April 2016. Fire Marshal Chapin was promoted to Lieutenant in 2016 and remained in the Fire Prevention Bureau.

Fire Marshal Chapin serves as co-chair of the Hampton Roads Fire Marshal's Council. He is a member of the Tidewater Regional Arson Panel, Virginia Fire Prevention Association, International Association of Arson Investigators and serves on the Suffolk Public Schools Career and Technical Education Advisory Council.

Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator Richard L. Stephens

Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator Richard L. Stephens has 28 years in the fire service. He began his career with Suffolk Fire & Rescue in March 2009. He graduated from the Southside Regional Fire Academy in 1989 and received the first awarded Certificate of Accomplishment. Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator Stephens has served in a variety of positions in his career to include, Tillerman, Fire Marshal, and Fire Training Officer.

Deputy Coordinator Stephens has earned several certifications including Instructor 2, Officer 2, Fire Inspector, Fire Investigator, and the Virginia Department of Emergency Management Professional Development Series. He graduated from the Virginia Fire Marshal Academy Basic Law Enforcement School in 1996. He also graduated from the Hampton Roads Fire Officer Command School in 2013. He served as the Fire Training Officer until his promotion to Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator.

Deputy Coordinator Stephens has served in many organizations including the International Association of Fire Fighters, International Association of Investigators,

Tidewater Regional Arson Panel, Virginia Fire Prevention Association, and the Hampton Roads Training Officers Group. He is currently a member of the Virginia Emergency Management Association and is a member of the Suffolk Local Emergency Planning Committee.

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