



MAYOR BYRON W. BROWN

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, April 7, 2020

Contact: Aaron Fallon
afallon@city-buffalo.com

MAYOR BYRON W. BROWN ANNOUNCES KEY LEADERSHIP APPOINTMENTS IN THE BUFFALO FIRE AND POLICE DEPARTMENTS

*Leadership additions will continue to ensure the delivery of quality
public safety services during the City's COVID-19 response*

Buffalo, NY – Today, Mayor Byron W. Brown and Buffalo Fire Commissioner William Renaldo named Captain Ron Barrett and Captain Paul Eason, Jr. to the positions of Deputy Fire Commissioner of the Buffalo Fire Department (BFD). Barrett joined the BFD in 1998 and has served in many roles including Captain of Fire Prevention and EMS Captain. Eason began his BFD career 18 years ago and most recently served as Captain of Training for the Department. They join Deputy Fire Commissioner Ramon J. Suarez, Sr. in advancing the Brown Administration's commitment to strengthen public safety throughout the City of Buffalo.

Mayor Byron W. Brown said, "During an emergency of this magnitude, we must have strong leadership at the top to properly manage the hundreds of firefighters in the City of Buffalo Fire Department." He continued, "The BFD continues to work on the front lines daily to serve and protect residents and businesses during this COVID-19 emergency and I thank them all for their hard work during our greatest time of need. I am confident in the experience, skill and leadership displayed by Deputy Commissioners Barrett and Eason and know that they will continue to deliver stellar results in their new roles."

Deputy Commissioner Barrett attended and completed over 100 state and federal classes at the NYS Fire Academy in Montour Falls, National Fire Academy at Emmitsburg Maryland, State Preparedness Training center in Oriskany, and the Energetic Material Research and Testing center in Socorro, New Mexico. He is currently working on completing dual degrees in Emergency Management and Paramedicine. As Captain of the Training Bureau, Deputy Commissioner Eason taught NYS certified fire curriculum to Buffalo Fire recruit classes and first line supervisor classes, resulting in the learning development of over 250 firefighters. As an Erie County Fire Instructor, Eason trained members of other Fire Departments in fire techniques, supervised live fire training demonstrations and assisted other local departments in developing fire training plans.

"As Commissioner, I have had the privilege of seeing Deputy Commissioners Barrett and Eason's incredible work ethic firsthand," Buffalo Fire Commissioner Renaldo said. "I know that they will continue to be valuable assets to the Department and the citizens of Buffalo they have faithfully served for decades. I am proud to have them as part of our leadership team."

Commissioner Renaldo also announced more key promotions at the Fire Department. Ramon Suarez, Jr. and Aimee Kinsley are being promoted to the rank of Captain. Emil Barnes, Joseph Marchitte and Michael Andrews will be promoted to the rank of Lieutenant.

Mayor Brown and Commissioner Byron Lockwood today announced the appointment of Joseph Fahey to the position of Buffalo Police Chief of D-District, effective immediately.

“During an unprecedented response to COVID-19, a time when our City residents rely on our dedicated public servants more than ever, I’m pleased to announce the appointment of Joseph Fahey as the new Police Chief of D-District. This outstanding leader in the Buffalo Police Department has made significant contributions to our community and I’m grateful for his dedication and continued commitment to public safety and the residents of Buffalo, particularly during this challenging time,” said Mayor Brown.

Police Commissioner Byron C. Lockwood stated, “Chief Fahey’s strong dedication and leadership has not gone unnoticed, which was only reinforced when I tapped him to take over the Northwest District. Throughout his BPD career, he has shown himself to possess the character and temperament necessary to manage a police district. I am very pleased he has accepted the position, and know he will serve the City and its residents well.”

Chief Fahey has served the Department since 1997 and has worked his way up over the years. Chief Fahey was instrumental in the Department receiving accreditation, the largest City law enforcement agency to do so in New York State.

Chief Fahey was sworn in as a probationary police officer in the Buffalo Police Department on July 31, 1997, and was assigned to D-District where he stayed for the next 12 years. In November of 2009, he was promoted to the position of Lieutenant. In this new role as a Lieutenant, he received praise throughout the department for his work at A-District, the Mobile Response Unit, and with 911. Fahey played an instrumental role with the Buffalo Police Accreditation Unit, writing and implementing policies and practices to ensure BPD met and exceeded the 110 standards established by the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services Accreditation Council (DCJS). His hard work paid off. Today, BPD is the largest City accredited law enforcement agency in New York State. In April 2019, Chief Fahey was recognized by the CJS with the John Kimball O’Neill Certificate of Achievement for his work on this project.

BuffaloLIT honors medical professionals and first responders

As the COVID-19 pandemic sweeps across the globe, nurses, medical teams, doctors, first responders, and other essential workers are on the front lines of the response, going above and beyond to provide lifesaving medical care. Tonight, in partnership with the Buffalo Landmark Illumination Team (BUFFALOLIT), Mayor Byron W. Brown announced that on April 7, 2020, our City’s landmark buildings and structures will be lit in BLUE AND GREEN in recognition of World Health Day. Mayor Brown thanked the health care professionals who are working around the clock in Buffalo, and in cities across the world, for putting their own health at risk in order to care for others. He also encouraged Buffalo residents to keep these brave individuals in their thoughts and prayers.

Mayor Byron W. Brown also asked BUFFALOLIT to join the City of Buffalo in lighting BLUE on Thursday, April 9, 2020 in support of the NFL’s ‘Light It Blue’ event, a night when stadiums across the country, including New Era Field, unite in a show of blue in support of first responders, medical staff and teams on the front lines of the COVID-19 virus.

The Broadway Market: Open Easter Week (8 am- 6 pm)

Mayor Byron W. Brown reminded people that the Broadway Market’s year-round vendors are open. The Mayor urges people to shop safely by utilizing the special curbside pick-up option now through Saturday, April 11, 2020. For more information about the Broadway Market Curbside Pick-Up program and a list of participating vendors, go to www.buffalony.gov.

Complete Your Census

Mayor Brown continues to stress the importance of residents completing their 2020 Census forms. Because of a serious undercount during the 2010 census, the City of Buffalo lost hundreds of millions of dollars in federal funding to power vital community programs. As of today, April 7th, the City of Buffalo’s response rate is 35.6%. Please visit 2020Census.gov to fill out your form.

Local Companies are hiring!

Local job experts continue to help residents impacted by the COVID-19 emergency. If you are looking for work, call the Buffalo Employment and Training Center at 856-JOBS. Employment counselors are available for one-on-one counseling sessions.

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