City of Milwaukee

Fire Department

Mark Rohlfing
Chief

Gerard Washington
Assistant Chief
Daniel Lipski
Assistant Chief

May 8, 2014

RECEIVED
MAY 08 2014
FIRE AND POLICE COMMISSION

To the Honorable
The Board of Fire and Police Commissioners
200 East Wells Street, Room 706
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

Dear Commissioners:

I hereby promote and appoint, subject to your approval,

Deputy Chief Daniel M. Berendt

to the position of ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF. The appointment is being made to fill an existing vacancy, and becomes effective June 8, 2014. In support of my nomination of Daniel Berendt, his current résumé is enclosed.

This appointment is submitted to your Board under the provision of your Rule XI, Section 12 as an exempt position.

Respectfully,

Mark Rohlfing

MARK ROHLFING
Chief

MR/jlb
F&P: 3/26/14 (Romas)
FPC/Exempt/ACBerendt 0514

Approved by the BOARD OF FIRE AND POLICE COMMISSIONERS

_____
Chair

_____

_____

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_____

_____ **Date** _____

_____ _____
Executive Director

711 West Wells Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53233 Phone (414) 286-8948 Fax (414) 286-8996

City of Milwaukee

Fire Department

Mark Rohlfing
Chief

Gerard Washington
Assistant Chief
Daniel Lipski
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May 9, 2014

RECEIVED
MAY 09 2014
FIRE AND POLICE COMMISSION

To The Honorable
The Board of Fire and Police Commissioners
200 East Wells Street, Room 706
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

Dear Commissioners:

I respectfully nominate Deputy Chief Daniel M. Berendt to the rank of Assistant Chief. My reasons for recommending him for promotion are found below.

Deputy Chief Daniel M. Berendt has 34 1/2 years of service with the department. He was appointed as a Firefighter in October 1979, was promoted to Lieutenant in June 1990, to Fire Captain in February 2001, to Battalion Chief in August 2009, and to Deputy Chief in April 2013.

Over his extensive career he has demonstrated leadership qualities and skills, including integrity, vision, strategic planning, effective committee/team performance, and mentoring. His emphasis has been on safety, customer service, and professionalism. Deputy Chief Berendt has been assigned to the Training Division twice during his career, facilitated re-establishing the Fire Investigation Unit, has worked closely with the Fire and Police Commission on recruit training and background investigations, and has been serving as the Acting Assistant Chief of the Bureau of EMS/Training/Education since February of this year.

Serving as the Deputy Chief of the Firefighting Division this last year, he has chaired the Blue Shift Incident Command Committee, and refined how paramedics receive their on-duty ALS Training.

Below is a list of just some of his accomplishments and activities beyond his day-to-day responsibilities over the course of his career.

- Twice elected to the position of President of the Chief Officers' Association. Primary duty is to formally represent twenty Battalion Chiefs and three Deputy Chiefs. Served as the MFD representative for background investigations for new candidates. Leader of blue shift Chiefs on the MFD Incident Command Commission.

- Captain and director of the Fire Investigation Unit; responsible for re-commissioning the unit after twenty-five years of hibernation. Served on the Milwaukee Area Fire Investigation Task Force, which is a coordinated effort with the Federal Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms, Wisconsin State Fire Marshall, Milwaukee Police Department and the Milwaukee County District Attorney.
- Captain assigned to the EMS/Training/Education Division; responsible for scheduling and training the entire department, including the training of recruits and cadets. Earlier in his career he was assigned to this same division as a lieutenant to train recruits and cadets.
- Possesses an Associate's Degree in Fire Science from MATC and 16 additional credits from UW-Milwaukee.
- Co-chaired the MFD Safety Committee. Worked with administration and union to institute the "Fit Test" and medical questionnaire procedures.
- Assisted in the development of high-rise firefighting guidelines and equipment.
- Going above and beyond in service to the community, originated and took the lead role twice in coordinating the annual "Respite Day" event at the Training Division; a public/private partnership that coordinates 120 volunteers with up to 65 special- needs children for a day of ability-appropriate activities, giving the children's caregivers a much needed and deserved "respite" day.

Deputy Chief Berendt is an excellent candidate for the position of Assistant Chief as he has the necessary experience, knowledge, and communication skills, along with department-wide respect. He is a man of vision who will work diligently to move the department forward, while maintaining his commitment to the community. I have the utmost confidence in his abilities; he has proven himself time and time again.

I recommend Deputy Chief Daniel M. Berendt for promotion to position of Assistant Chief.

Sincerely,

Mark Rohlfing

MARK ROHLFING
Chief

MR/cf
F&P\Berendt Support 0514