



The City of York Pennsylvania

The Honorable Michael R. Helfrich, Mayor

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CHIEF MICHAELS RETIRING AFTER 28 YEARS OF SERVICE; DEARDORFF TO BE NAMED ACTING CHIEF

(January 18, 2019) York, PA — Today, Mayor Michael Helfrich announced the retirement of Chief David Michaels from the position of Chief of City of York Department of Fire/Rescue Services. Chief Michaels will be succeeded by Deputy Chief Chad Deardorff.

Chief Michaels was hired by the department as a firefighter in July of 1990. He received a letter of commendation for off-duty actions in 1998 and was promoted to Lieutenant on January 7th, 2000. He was named Firefighter of the Year in 2006 and received another letter of commendation from the department in 2007 for the rescue of a civilian from a fire on N. Penn Street. Michaels was promoted to Assistant Chief in October of 2008 and became Deputy Chief in May of 2010. He was appointed Chief of City of York Department of Fire/Rescue Services on April 29th, 2012.

He will be succeeded by Deputy Chief Chad Deardorff who will be named Acting Chief on February 2nd, 2019.

Deputy Chief Deardorff began his career with the department on March 6th, 1995. He is a graduate of Columbia Southern University where he earned a Master's Degree in Business and Public Administration. He is a member of the Pennsylvania Career Fire Chiefs Board, the Fire Chiefs and Firefighters Association of York County Board, EMS Section Board for the International Association of Fire Chiefs, and he is in his 3rd year of the Executive Fire Officer program at the National Fire Academy. Deardorff is the recipient of three department commendations, a unit citation, and was named Firefighter of the Year in 2005.

“On behalf of the entire City of York I want to thank Chief Michaels for almost 3 decades of service in our community.” said Mayor Michael Helfrich **“His leadership, vision, and dedication to developing the department will leave a lasting impact. I am thrilled that Deputy Chief Deardorff has accepted the Acting Chief position and I look forward to working closely with him.”**

Chief Michaels for his parting words said **“It has been a privilege and an honor to have served the residents and visitors of the City of York. I am proud of the work that**



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PRESS RELEASE

our firefighters do every day and retire knowing the future is bright for the York City Fire Department.”

“I am beyond excited to become the next Fire Chief of the City of York Department of Fire/Rescue Services. It is an honor to become the leader of the Department I love and to be able to lead the members that are family to me.” said Deputy Chief Deardorff “I would like to offer a sincere thank you to Chief Michaels for his leadership since the day he became a York City Firefighter. He has taught so many (past and present) within this department. He has groomed me for this opportunity and for that I thank him. Chief, you will be missed by many.”

Media Contact

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Your coverage is invited.

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