



LAKELAND FIRE DEPARTMENT

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MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Lakeland Fire Chief Selected as West Central Regional Director for Florida Fire Chiefs' Association

The Lakeland Fire Department's (LFD) Fire Chief, Douglas E. Riley, has been selected as the Florida Fire Chiefs' Association's (FFCA) new West Central Regional Director.

Since 1958, FFCA has served career, combination and volunteer departments. The Florida Fire Chiefs' Association is Florida's leading management education organization for fire & emergency services professionals. The association is dedicated to promoting and supporting excellence in fire & emergency services management. FFCA represents over 2,200 members across the state of Florida.

Of his appointment Fire Chief Riley shares "I am humbled to have been selected as the West Central Regional Director of the FFCA. I look forward to the opportunity to build relationships and to contribute to this great organization, that has been a part of my career for nearly a decade. It is an honor to represent the interest of fire departments in my region."

Counties in the West Central region include Citrus, Hernando, Hillsborough, Manatee, Pinellas, Pasco, Polk, and Sumter.

More about Fire Chief Douglas Riley:

Douglas Riley was hired as a firefighter with the City of Lakeland on March 9, 1987. Throughout his career he has held several positions at the department, preparing him for his current role as the department's Fire Chief. He has worked as a Driver/Engineer (March 1992), Fire Lieutenant (January 1995), Battalion Chief (June 2004), and Assistant Chief of Operations (January 2010) prior to his promotion to Fire Chief in December of 2018. Douglas graduated from Lakeland Senior High School in 1984. He earned Associates degrees from Polk Community College in both Fire Science and Nursing. He graduated from the University of South Florida with a Bachelor's degree in Business in 2012. In addition to his degrees, Douglas holds certifications as a Registered Nurse, Paramedic, Fire Officer I, Fire Instructor, and Fire Inspector. He is a graduate of the Florida State University's prestigious Certified Public Manager program and the Florida Fire Chiefs' Association's Emergency Services Leadership Institute. He is also certified as a Florida Public Employer Labor Relations professional. Douglas has been a member of the Florida Fire Chiefs' Association for nine years. He is also a member of the International Association of Fire Chiefs. He currently serves as the Statewide Emergency Response Plan (SERP) Coordinator for Polk County, Florida in addition to his new role with the FFCA.

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