



News Release

Sunrise Fire-Rescue Department
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For Release: IMMEDIATE

NEW FIRE CHIEF TO LEAD SUNRISE FIRE-RESCUE

(SUNRISE, FL) – Sunrise Fire-Rescue is proud to announce the appointment of John K. McNamara as the City’s new Fire Chief. McNamara was sworn in as Fire Chief by Sunrise Mayor Michael J. Ryan on Friday, November 3, following his recent appointment by City Manager Richard Salamon.

Chief McNamara began his Sunrise Fire-Rescue career in 1997 as a firefighter/paramedic. He rose through the ranks – rescue supervisor, Lieutenant, and Captain – before being named Deputy Fire Chief of Operations in 2014. He was appointed Acting Chief in June 2017, upon the retirement of former Fire Chief Thomas DiBernardo. His appointment to Fire Chief marks the third such internal promotion in Sunrise Fire-Rescue’s 40-plus year history.

“Chief McNamara has demonstrated tremendous leadership throughout his Sunrise Fire-Rescue career,” said City Manager Salamon. “He is well respected among his peers in the Department, and in the first responder community at large. With Chief McNamara at the helm, I am confident that Sunrise Fire-Rescue will continue to provide an outstanding level of service to the residents and visitors of our City.”

Chief McNamara first moved to the City of Sunrise with his parents in 1981. He and AnnMarie, his wife of 20 years, became Sunrise residents in 2004, and raised their two children, Kayla and Patrick, here. Chief McNamara earned a Bachelor’s Degree in Organizational Leadership and Management from St. Thomas University. He is also a graduate of the Emergency Services Leadership Institute program, and has completed professional-level coursework through the National Fire Academy

Chief McNamara is a steadfast champion for his brothers and sisters in the Fire Service. In addition, he has worked to help shape and improve the fire suppression and emergency medical service delivery system, both in Sunrise and throughout Broward County.

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