



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR FACT SHEET



January 27, 2014

Randy Smith's Accomplishments as Interim Fire Chief

"Randy Smith has earned the trust and confidence of our citizens as Interim Chief of the Mobile Fire-Rescue Department. It is time for the Mobile City Council to approve his appointment as Chief and enable him to continue his work to build a world-class department for our city. The Fire-Rescue Department is a critical component to Mobile becoming the safest, most business and family-friendly city in America by 2020. We need our Chief. Anything less is holding the City of Mobile back."

- Mayor William S. Stimpson

Chief Smith's Accomplishments

- Mayor-elect Stimpson named Randy Smith as Interim Chief on October 25, 2014, saying his 26 years of experience and visionary plan for the Mobile Fire-Rescue Department made him an outstanding choice to lead the department.
- Since taking office with the new administration on November 4, Smith has worked diligently to enact his plan and deliver superior services to the people of Mobile.

Among Smith's accomplishments so far:

1. Began to heal the department through open and honest communication by having an open door policy and initiating regular scheduled meetings with staff and labor organizations.
2. Began the development of numerous employee committees, allowing everyone to have a voice and a chance to participate in taking the department to the next level, including:
 - Promotional Process Committee;
 - Employee Recognition Committee;
 - Apparatus Committee;
 - Waste Reduction Committee;
 - Suggestion Committee; and,
 - Strategic Planning Committee.
3. Established an On Call Executive Staff Officer policy to handle issues that may arise after regular working hours and responses to all major incidents.
4. Established a goal requiring ALL Chief Officers to spend 10 percent of their workweek interacting with the Fire-Rescue personnel in the field.
5. Established Pre-Assignment Officer and Driver Training Programs to ensure personnel are prepared to serve in the roles they are being promoted into.
6. Established a Dining Out Policy, allowing personnel to eat in restaurants and interact with the community, something departmental personnel have not been able to do in years.

7. Identified and addressing with the new administration staffing inaccuracies, such as more Captains in position than budgeted.
8. Discovered and addressing with the new administration the new fire station in Theodore housing Engine 28 and Rescue 28 along with Rescue 22 were unfunded and being staffed with overtime positions causing the department to go in excess of 1.5 million dollars over the overtime budget.
9. With the help of the Executive Staff, has worked diligently to develop strategies to cover the unfunded positions and complete an amended department budget in two weeks.
10. Will introduce two new community programs this week:
 - Safety First Day – the first day of every month – Public Service Announcements will be sent out and citizens will receive a 15 second phone call reminding them to check their smoke detector and when done, to be a community partner, reminding their neighbors or assisting them to checking theirs.
 - Firefighters will go door to door in a neighborhood within 48 hours following a house fire to provide a Home Fire and Safety Self-Inspection Checklist, to assist them in identifying and eliminating some of the common hazards that could contribute to a fire or another type of home accident.

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