



JOSEPH P. RILEY, JR.
MAYOR

City of Charleston
South Carolina

BARBARA W. VAUGHN
DIRECTOR
PUBLIC INFORMATION

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FIRE CHIEF CANDIDATES VISIT CHARLESTON

Mayor Joseph P. Riley, Jr. announced today the names of seven candidates for the position of Fire Chief of the City of Charleston who will visit the city as part of the selection process. The candidates were narrowed down from 141 applicants. Part of their visit will include an orientation and tour of the city and its neighborhoods.

On Monday, September 22, there will be an opportunity for members of city council to meet the candidates and hear a few words from each of them at a lunch meeting. The lunch will be at the Francis Marion Hotel in the Calhoun Room from 12:30 to 2:00. *NOTE: There will be set up space for media in the room.*

From 3:00 to 4:30, the candidates will have an opportunity to meet and greet members of the Fire Department at the Charleston Maritime Center. Since this meeting is to give the fire department an opportunity to meet the candidates, we ask that media not conduct interviews at this meeting. Cameras and reporters inside the room may be disruptive so we ask that you remain outside if you wish to be there for this event.

The Charleston Visitors Center will be the location of a reception from 6:00 to 7:30 for invited members of the community to meet the candidates. Again, we ask that you not conduct interviews during the reception.

Formal interviews with Mayor Riley and also with the two Advisory panels will take place on Tuesday. Mayor Riley said, "A lot of hard work has produced a pool of highly qualified and experienced candidates for Fire Chief. I look forward to this process and for the candidates to become familiar with our wonderful community. We have designed a unique process which will allow our community's leadership and the members of our fire department to meet these outstanding candidates. I take this process very seriously and it is probably one of the most significant duties of a mayor. I know my decision will be a difficult one."

The candidates for Fire Chief of the City Charleston are:

Chief Richard Brannon

- Deputy Chief of Operations, Mobile (AL) Fire-Rescue Department
- 30 years experience in the fire service, including the last 3 years as Deputy
- B.P.S. Memphis State University
- B.A. University of South Alabama
- Executive Fire Officer (NFA)
- Chief Fire Officer (CFOD)
- LCDR US Coast Guard Reserve

Thomas Carr

- Chief, Montgomery County (MD) Fire and Rescue Service
- 30 years experience in the fire service, including the last 4 years as Chief
- Fellowship, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University
- M.S. University of Maryland
- B.A. National University
- Certified Public Manager, George Washington University

Larry Collins

- Director and Chief (Ret.), Dayton (OH) Fire Department
- 30 years experience in the fire service, including 11 years as Chief
- B.S. LaSalle University
- ATS, Fire-Rescue Administration, Sinclair Community College
- Management Excellence Program, University of Virginia

Jamie Geer

- Chief, Clearwater (FL) Fire and Rescue
- 33 years experience in the fire service, including the last 4 as Chief
- M.P.A., State University of West Georgia
- B.S. Shorter College
- A.P.S. Midlands Technical College
- Chief Fire Officer (CFOD)

William Goodwin

- Chief (Ret.) Baltimore (MD) Fire Department
- 33 years in fire service, including 8 as Chief
- Fellowship, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University
- M.S. Johns Hopkins University
- B.S. University of Maryland

John Rukavina

- Director of Public Safety (Ret.), Wake County (NC)
- 36 years in fire service, including 14 as Chief and 8 as Director of Public Safety
- J.D. University of Minnesota

- FEMA Fellow and National Leadership Initiative, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University
- Executive Fire Officer (NFA)
- Chief Fire Officer (CFOD)

Thomas Solberg

- Chief, Lee's Summit (MO) Fire Department
- 30 years in the fire service, including the last 8 years as Chief
- M.S. Baker university
- B.A. Baker University
- A.A. Baker University
- Chief Fire Officer (CFOD)

Please call me with any questions you may have about these events.

FOR MORE INFO:

Barbara Vaughn, Director
Media Relations/Public Information
Phone: (843) 724-3746 Fax: (843) 724-3734
Email: vaughnb@ci.charleston.sc.us