

Fire Department

**Aaron Lipski**  
Acting Chief

**David Votsis**  
Assistant Chief

**Joshua Parish**  
Assistant Chief

**Andrew Timm**  
Acting Assistant Chief

April 29, 2021

To The Honorable  
The Board of Fire and Police Commissioners  
200 East Wells Street, Room 706  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

Dear Commissioners:

I respectfully nominate Fire Captain Nickolas D. Trost to the rank of Battalion Chief. My reasons for recommending him for promotion are found below.

Fire Captain Trost has 20 ½ years of service with the department. He joined the rank of Fire Cadet in September 2000, was appointed as a Firefighter in April 2001, was promoted to Heavy Equipment Operator in October 2006, to Fire Lieutenant in April 2014, and to Fire Captain in March 2020.

Fire Captain Trost has shown dedication to this department, to the citizens of Milwaukee, and to his own advancement as a certified Fire Officer Level I & II, Emergency Service Instructor through the State of Wisconsin, along with being a certified Safety Officer through the National Fire Academy. Further, he has dedicated many hours towards his growth and development in the field of hazardous material response with certifications in various specialized training such as radiation response, weapons of mass destruction, and other chemical specific expertise.


He has passionately been an active member on the Milwaukee Fire Department's Safety Committee, specifically cancer prevention; his unwavering dedication manifesting itself in purchases made by the department to keep firefighters safe from the ill health effects of their dangerous career, and in such, successfully limiting the liability to the City of Milwaukee. Fire Captain Trost has consistently been an excellent example of a strong leader and mentor. His 16 years of dedication to the HazMat Team, currently serving as the team's director, along with his commitment to our training division as an adjunct instructor, has put him atop our list of assets that improve responses, achieving the mission promised to the citizens of Milwaukee.

Fire Captain Trost's mentoring extends beyond his career through coaching youth sports and being a mixed martial arts coach to a diverse group of young men and women assisting them in their pursuit of personal goals.

Ultimately, Fire Captain Nickolas Trost is uniquely qualified for the position as an individual with respected and valued experience who has never shied away from a challenge or from difficult work, reliably exceeding the expectations of the department; the most recent example being managing the department's firehouse sanitation program to combat the spread of COVID 19. His education in the incident command system, and his experience being a master instructor for the IAFF have prepared him for the upcoming challenge of Battalion Chief.

I recommend Fire Captain Nickolas D. Trost for promotion to the position of Battalion Chief.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Aaron Lipski". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "A" and "L".

AARON LIPSKI  
Acting Chief

AL/cf  
F&P\Trost Support – BC 05/2021