

Fire Department

Aaron Lipski

Joshua Parish Assistant Chief David Hensley Assistant Chief Schuyler Belott Assistant Chief

September 3, 2024

To The Honorable
The Board of Fire and Police Commissioners
200 East Wells Street, Room 705
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

**Dear Commissioners:** 

I respectfully nominate Fire Captain Belinda K. Bradley to the exempt position of Survive Alive Director. My reasons for recommending her for promotion are found below.

Fire Captain Bradley has 27 years of service with the department. She was hired as a Fire Equipment Dispatcher in June 2002, and was appointed as a Firefighter in April 2003, was promoted to Fire Lieutenant in April 2017, and to Fire Captain in October 2023.

She has had formal training through the Milwaukee Fire Department Professional Development Program and four years at the Carl Holmes Executive Development Institute (one of the nation's largest and renowned organizations that offers quality professional training in the fire service). In the promoted role of Fire Lieutenant, she supervised and lead crews of firefighters with professionalism and determination to excel at service to others. Now as a Captain, her charge extends to the supervision of lieutenant officers and managing a firehouse that includes setting policy and expectations, building management, overseeing ordering, scheduling, and budgeting.

Captain Bradley has experience serving on committees such as the Milwaukee Brotherhood of Firefighters, School Governance, and Alcorn State University Alumni committees. She was presented with plaques of acknowledgment from the City's Common Council and former State Senator Lena Taylor on leadership and inspiration to colleges and the community, as well as recognition from the Amalgamated Transit Union for bravery. She is a volunteer instructor with Secure Futures which teaches high school students on the subject of basic finance. She has taught 5th graders through the MFD Staying Alive Program. She is a volunteer with a girl's mentoring program, Camp Hero. On her own time, she's always willing to attend forums, career fairs and give speeches to girls and children's organizations in the community about women in non-traditional jobs and, specifically in the communities where Black women in her position are not normally seen.



She has met and collaborated with school administrators and elementary school educators to develop an updated instruction style and curriculum for the Survive Alive House Program. She is passionate about giving children a safe space to learn, express their ideas, and be themselves. She believes in sticking to the rules while being understanding, and having cultural awareness and inclusivity, welcoming and valuing people of all backgrounds.

Given her extensive work mentoring youth, along with her dedication to learning and encouraging personal growth, I recommend Fire Captain Belinda K. Bradley for promotion to the exempt position of Survive Alive Director.

Sincerely,

AARON LIPSKI

Chief

AL/cf

F&P\Bradley Support - SAH DIR