



Fire Department

Aaron Lipski
Chief

Joshua Parish
Assistant Chief

David Hensley
Assistant Chief

Schuyler Belott
Assistant Chief

August 29, 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 Lieutenant Carlos Velazquez Sanchez to the exempt position of Community Relations Director. My reasons for recommending him for promotion are found below.

Fire Lieutenant Velazquez Sanchez has 17 years of service with the department. He was appointed as a Firefighter in August 2007, and was promoted to Fire Lieutenant in February 2022.

During his career with the MFD, Fire Lieutenant Velazquez Sanchez has demonstrated a desire to be integral in many areas of the department. He has served on the Heavy Urban Rescue Team, Dive Team, Boat Team, and the Honor Guard. He has worked closely with my Administration, community leaders, and the residents of this city as a firefighter and liaison. He strongly believes that through education we can improve the lives not only of the people we serve, yet our members as well. He has served as a lead instructor at MATC for their Fire Science Program for the past three years. He has been part of the MFD's elite team of fire educators for over a third of his career, gaining experience about what works best for educating others about fire safety.

As the Director of the Survive Alive House, he brought the program back from its' virtual status during COVID-19 to face-to-face. He also expanded the number of schools which visit the center, collaborating with MPS to provide customized trainings to children and adults with disabilities, and worked on improving many technological and esthetic areas of the building.

He has been serving as the Director of Community Relations for about 1.5 years, striving to make our department equally proactive, as it is reactive. He promotes education and training within his fire education specialists' staff, as well as all the field companies he assigns to

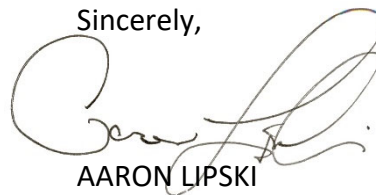
community education events, to ensure a well-developed end-product for the public. He engages in ongoing training opportunities for himself as well so that he can learn and share current and engaging practices. He is excellent at providing programs that hold the attendees' interest!

Fire Lieutenant Velazquez Sanchez is a person who believes in team work. He leads by example and does not expect people to do anything he wouldn't be willing to do himself. He strives to strengthen his team through diversity, equality, and inclusion. He is very passionate about fire education, and sets high expectations for himself and others, making sure the audiences are completely satisfied with the services provided.

He is very approachable and maintains healthy relationships between our department, other organizations, and the City's residents. He is innovative, expanding programs and services offered including child safety car seat education and installation, and juvenile firesetter intervention. He has also continued a healthy collaboration with Froedtert and the Medical College of Wisconsin with the Stop the Bleed Program, as well as collaboration with the American Heart Association for the Hands Only CPR. In addition, he has taken great pride in reconditioning our Mobile Survive Alive House Unit to provide a very interactive educational experience to participants on how to escape a residential fire, and ways to minimize fires from happening.

In a nutshell, Lieutenant Velazquez Sanchez really cares about the people he serves, he is an excellent teacher and communicator, he is dedicated to providing professional and exceptional experiences to all ages, and as such, I recommend Fire Lieutenant Carlos Velazquez Sanchez for promotion to the exempt position of Community Relations Director.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Aaron Lipski', written in a cursive style.

AARON LIPSKI
Chief

AL/cf

F&P\Velazquez Sanchez Support – COM REL DIR