



Fire Department

**Mark Rohlfing**  
Chief

**John Schwengel**  
Assistant Chief

**David Votsis**  
Assistant Chief

**Aaron Lipski**  
Assistant Chief

July 30, 2020

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 Darin T. Peterburs to the rank of Battalion Chief. My reasons for recommending him for promotion are found below.

Fire Captain Peterburs has 23 years of service with the department. He was appointed as a Fire Cadet in September 1997, Firefighter in February 1998, was promoted to Heavy Equipment Operator in June 2003, to Fire Lieutenant in June 2008, and to Fire Captain in July 2018.

Fire Captain Peterburs attended Milwaukee Area Technical College, and earned an Associate Degree in Fire Science in 2004, graduating with honors. He also successfully completed the Milwaukee Fire Department Professional Development Program (PDP) in August 2017. In addition to his degree and MFD PDP certificate, he has also furthered his education through countless seminars and continuing education courses throughout his career.

He is a firm believer of teaching by example, and has demonstrated the ability to educate and mentor through multiple avenues. He has worked as a hazardous materials instructor in the private sector, as well as internally, at the Milwaukee Fire Academy, and through the MFD's Hazardous Materials Team.

In regards to his leadership skills, Fire Captain Peterburs has successfully led three different firehouses, with his latest assignment being the Captain of Engine House 33, which includes being the Director of the MFD Hazardous Materials Team. He has successfully led the hazmat team during preparations for the 2020 Democratic National Convention (DNC), and through the COVID-19 pandemic.

In his current role, Fire Captain Peterburs is an integral part of the 2020 DNC planning, including being a member of both the Consequence Management, and Fire, Life Safety, and Hazardous Material (FLSH) subcommittees. He assisted in writing the MFD FLSH operational plan, and assisted in procuring grant items for the DNC.

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, he became committed to finding new ways to educate the 80-member hazmat team, while remaining dedicated to the safety of all members. He has secured personal protective equipment (PPE), helped to implement a firehouse decontamination program, scheduled members to fill positions to implement that program, and maintained fiscal responsibility.

Fire Captain Peterburs has proven that he has the qualities to be a Battalion Chief for the Milwaukee Fire Department. His education, leadership and mentoring abilities, as well as organizational skills have all prepared him to be successful in the position of Battalion Chief.

I recommend Fire Captain Darin T. Peterburs for promotion to the position of Battalion Chief.

Sincerely,

  
MARK ROHLFING  
Chief

MR/cf  
F&P\Peterburs Support 0820