

Fire Department

Aaron Lipski

Joshua Parish Assistant Chief Andrew Timm Assistant Chief Russell Rivard Assistant Chief

April 14, 2022

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 Daniel C. Rode to the rank of Battalion Chief. My reasons for recommending him for promotion are found below.

Fire Captain Rode has 22 years of service with the department. He was appointed as a Firefighter in March 2000, was promoted to Fire Lieutenant in November 2007, and to Fire Captain in November 2015.

He earned an Associate's Degree in Fire Science from Milwaukee Area Technical College, and he possesses a Bachelor's Degree in Public Administration with specialization in Fire Science from Mount Senario College.

Captain Rode has been integrally involved with MFD Special Operations as a member of the Hazardous Materials Regional Response Team (19 years), Heavy Urban Rescue Team (HURT) (12 years), and the Dive Rescue Team (1 year).

During these assignments, he acquired technical rescue skills and leadership abilities through continuous training and education. Assignment to the Collapse and Rope Rescue Committee provided him the opportunity to train and educate 90 members of the HURT. As a co-director of the Hazardous Materials Regional Response Team for two years, he was responsible for training and educating 80 members, assisted in the specification process of a new response vehicle, assisted in emergency response planning for the Democratic National Convention, and facilitated purchasing of new equipment and technology to support the team.

He received the 2010 Fire Bell Club Community Service award for volunteer work in first responder rehabilitation and service at fires and emergency incidents, and in 2018 he was



nominated for an MFD Meritorious Service Award for a response to an explosion and hazardous material incident at Materion Corporation, a local chemical facility, responsible for the overall incident scene management, safety of emergency responders, coordination with outside agencies, and successful mitigation of the incident.

Over the years Captain Rode has also demonstrated his commitment to the department through volunteering his time for the betterment of the department with such committee participation on the MFD Strategic Plan, yearbook, recruitment, developing response guidelines, and through research, development and submission, secured funding of over ½ million dollars from the Assistance to Firefighter Grant for hand-held radios.

As an Acting Battalion Chief, he has over 1,800 hours of experience in performing the duties of a Battalion Chief to include responding to and coordinating operations, command, and safety at fires and emergency incidents while ensuring the safety of all members. Administrative duties include management of battalion staffing, coordination of training sessions, enforcement of department policies, guidelines, rules & regulations, and mentoring new company officers.

Captain Rode's external activities include Merit Badge Counselor and Advancement Chairperson for Boy Scouts of America (B.S.A.) Troop 531, mentoring and coaching scouts on the skills of leadership, communications, interpersonal skills, public speaking, time management, and organization.

I recommend Fire Captain Daniel C. Rode for promotion to the position of Battalion Chief.

Sincerely,

AARON LIPSKI

Chief

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