



**Fire Department**

**Aaron Lipski**  
Chief

**Joshua Parish**  
Assistant Chief  
**Sharon Purifoy-Smoots**  
Assistant Chief  
**De Wayne Smoots**  
Assistant Chief

September 12, 2022

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 John J. Mathaus to the rank of EMS Supervisor. My reasons for recommending him for promotion are found below.

Fire Lieutenant Mathaus has 15 years of service with the department. He was appointed as a Firefighter in August 2007, became a licensed paramedic in June 2009, was promoted to Fire Lieutenant via a special process in March 2020, sliding laterally to Fire Lieutenant via the Fire and Police Commission eligible list in March 2021.

He is in the process of earning his Paramedic Science Associate Degree from Gateway Technical College, and Fire Science Associate Degree from MATC. Additionally, he has sought out programming opportunities from the UWM School of Nursing. Fire Lieutenant Mathaus has worked within our EMS Division taking on roles as a lead EMT and CPR instructor, teaching fire cadets and other department members, as well as civilians. He is passionate about education and the success it brings to not only the incumbent; however, also to the department, and the community as a whole.

He has been an active Community Paramedic in the Mobile Integrated Healthcare Program since its inception in 2018, and a Paramedic Bike Responder. In May 2020, Fire Lieutenant Mathaus was asked to run the COVID Testing Team of up to 120 Milwaukee firefighters based out of Clare Hall, a COVID-positive homeless shelter. His roles included scheduling, testing, ordering supplies, data graphing, budgeting, time cards, creating policy, disciplining, and logistics for ordering supplies and equipment. This team's actions reduced the exposure and spread of the virus.

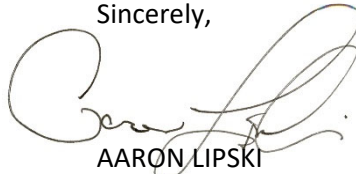
When COVID turned from testing to vaccinations, Fire Lieutenant Mathaus oversaw staffing of MFD team members providing vaccinations at the Wisconsin Center, then later for door-to-door home vaccinations. While performing the neighborhood vaccinations, his team assisted with vaccinating hundreds of people and installed over 600 smoke alarms in homes.

He humbly received a certificate of Appreciation from the United States Secret Service, recognizing him for his outstanding contributions during the Democratic National Convention. It is clear to see that Fire Lieutenant Mathaus is dedicated to the tasks to which he is assigned, coming up with creative ways to enhance success. He is organized, punctual, and willing to take on new challenges. He has an aptitude to

help others, and performs his tasks with empathy, integrity, and a commitment to the department, working well with other community advocates to reach common goals.

I recommend Fire Lieutenant John J. Mathaus for promotion to the position of EMS Supervisor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Aaron Lipski', with a large, stylized initial 'A'.

AARON LIPSKI  
Chief

AL/cf  
F&P\Mathaus Support – EMS SP 0922