



City Manager's Office

MEDIA ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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City Manager
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City Announces the Selection of Battalion Chief Anthony Galagaza to Lead Bakersfield Fire Department

City Manager Alan Tandy announced today that he is appointing Bakersfield native Anthony Galagaza as the new Fire Chief for the City of Bakersfield. Galagaza, a twenty-six year veteran with the Bakersfield Fire Department, most recently served as a Battalion Chief since 2013.

Galagaza graduated from Bakersfield College with an Association of Arts degree in Fire Science in 1998, completed his Bachelor of Arts Degree with Columbia Southern University in 2012 and is currently working on obtaining his Master's Degree in Business Administration. His career with the Bakersfield Fire Department began in 1992, when he was hired as a firefighter. He subsequently progressed through the ranks of supervisory positions as Fire Engineer, Fire Captain, to his most recent position of Battalion Chief.

Galagaza is a second generation Bakersfield Firefighter; his father, Mike is a retired Captain. He is a father of two children, Sarah and Luke, 21 and 19 respectively. Galagaza is heavily involved in the community including the Greater Bakersfield Chamber of Commerce, Youth Leadership Bakersfield, the Bakersfield Firefighters Burn Foundation, and the Kern American Red Cross to name a few. He also served as President of the Bakersfield Professional Firefighters for seven years.

Commenting on his selection of Galagaza as the City's new Fire Chief, City Manager Alan Tandy said, "Chief Galagaza is extremely bright, well spoken, and has demonstrated exceptional leadership skills during his tenure with the Bakersfield Fire Department. He is poised to lead the department in a very positive direction in the future."

Current Fire Chief Doug Greener who has served nine years as Fire Chief is retiring at the end of the June. Thanks are due to Chief Greener for his exceptional contributions over that time.

Chief Galagaza can be reached at 661-331-1131.

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