



CITY OF SEDALIA

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NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Deputy Fire Chief Harrell to Replace Fire Chief Ditzfeld Upon Retirement

(SEDALIA, MISSOURI): Meeting in closed session on June 19, 2017 to discuss personnel matters, the Sedalia City Council unanimously approved the appointment of Deputy Fire Chief Greg Harrell to replace Fire Chief Mike Ditzfeld when he retires on May 31, 2018. The early appointment provides departmental continuity as Chief Ditzfeld prepares to leave office next year.

Harrell, a lifelong Sedalia resident, has been with the Sedalia Fire Department for nearly 38 years. He has been Deputy Fire Chief since 2009. He is a Columbia Southern University graduate with a Fire Science Degree and is a member of the Missouri Association of Fire Chiefs. When he takes office next year, Harrell will be the 8th career Chief in the 130 year history of the Sedalia Fire Department.

Retiring Fire Chief Mike Ditzfeld, also a lifetime Sedalia resident, has served as Sedalia Fire Chief for over 31 years, which is longer than any of his predecessors. When Ditzfeld was appointed Chief, he was the youngest person to hold that position in the City's history. He began his career with the Sedalia Fire Department in 1974.

“Greg Harrell’s vast firefighting and administrative experience will be a great asset to the Sedalia Fire Department and City residents,” commented Chief Ditzfeld. “He is the ideal person to head a department that is recognized statewide for its excellence,” he concluded.

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