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City of Vallejo Fire Department · 970 Nimitz Avenue · Vallejo · CA · 94592 · 707.648.4526

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**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

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**COMMAND STAFF PROMOTIONS AND BATTALION CHIEF RETIREMENT; FIRE SERVICES RESTORED WITH ENGINE 21**

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The Vallejo Fire Department is pleased to announce the promotion of two new Battalion Chiefs.

Battalion Chief Mark Sharpe

Effective this week, Fire Chief Ron Prince has promoted Captain Mark Sharpe to the position of Battalion Chief – Training Division. Sharpe's most recent assignment was as the Acting Battalion Chief in charge of Training for the department.

Sharpe is a 25 year veteran of the Department, having served in the positions of Firefighter, Fire Inspector, Fire Captain and Acting Battalion Chief.

Battalion Chief Sharpe earned his Bachelor of Science in Business Management from the University of Phoenix in 2006 (with honors). He continues to serve the department with distinction and has the well-deserved respect of every member of the department.

Battalion Chief Cliff Campbell

With the recent retirement of Battalion Chief Ray Jackson, Chief Prince has promoted Captain Cliff Campbell to the position of Battalion Chief. Campbell's most recent assignment was as a Captain on Engine 25.

Campbell started his interest in the fire service as a Vallejo Fire Department Cadet in 1989. He became a Reserve Firefighter for American Canyon Fire Protection District in 1994. After earning his paramedic license, he worked for Medic Ambulance Service and then as a Firefighter/Paramedic for the Vacaville Fire Department.

In 2001, Campbell was hired by the Vallejo Fire Department where he was promoted to the position of Fire Captain.

Battalion Chief Campbell has been a very active member of the department and is responsible for mission critical assignments, including communication equipment and paramedic liaison duties.

### Battalion Chief Ray Jackson

After 27 years of dedicated service to the City of Vallejo, Battalion Chief Ray Jackson retired at the end of August 2013. Starting his career as an Apprentice Firefighter in 1986, Jackson promoted through the ranks of Engineer in 1989, Captain in 1996, Acting Battalion Chief in 2009, Battalion Chief in 2012 and Interim Fire Chief in 2013.

Battalion Chief Jackson contributed to the department in many ways over the course of his career, including serving as the Chairman of the Wellness Committee for over 20 years, Academy Instructor, Firefighter Emergency Rehabilitation Program Coordinator and chair of several internal working committees. He will always be recognized as a leader and very well respected member of the Vallejo Fire Department family.

Chief Prince stated that he is excited and encouraged about the future of the Vallejo Fire Department, and is confident that the two newly appointed Battalion Chiefs will help lead the organization towards continued excellent service to the community.

### Federal SAFER Grant Helps Restore Fire Service at Fire Station 21 – 1220 Marin Street

In July of 2010, as a necessary budget reduction measure, the Vallejo Fire Department discontinued service of Engine 21, leaving only the Ladder Truck staffed with three firefighters at Station 21.

In 2012, the City Council accepted a Federal SAFER (Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response Program) Grant, which provided funding for nine Firefighter positions for a two year period. Recruitment for those positions concluded in the Spring and a 15-week Academy started in June. With the Recruit Academy graduation taking place tomorrow, September 20, Interim Fire Chief Ron Prince plans to begin staffing Engine 21 once again on Saturday, September 21.

“By having this extra emergency response capability, the Department will accomplish several service delivery improvements,” said Chief Prince. These efficiencies include: quicker response times to all fire and medical calls (for the last three years, the Ladder Truck responded to these calls and due to the nature of this large piece of apparatus, response times are inherently slower); improved capacity to deliver large volumes of water at fires in the downtown area; provide quicker response to greater alarm fires throughout the City; and significantly reduce the wear and tear on the highly specified and expensive Ladder Truck via a reduction of required medical responses by this vehicle in Station 21’s district.

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