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Salt Lake City Selects New Fire Chief

Tom Shannon Brings 20 Years of Fire Experience to Salt Lake City

SALT LAKE CITY – Following a nationwide search, Salt Lake City has hired Tom Shannon to serve as the new Fire Chief. Shannon brings 20 years of experience to the position, impressing Salt Lake City officials with his energy, vision and enthusiasm. Shannon has most recently served as Assistant Fire Chief in Glendale, Arizona where he notably oversaw the Glendale Fire Department’s response to Super Bowl XLII, which was held in Arizona last February.

“Tom Shannon is known across the nation as a rising star in the world of fire fighting. We are pleased he has decided to bring that leadership and expertise to Salt Lake City. I look forward to working with Tom to further develop methods for keeping our residents safe and secure in the event of an emergency,” remarked Mayor Ralph Becker.

Shannon began his career in the Glendale Fire Department in 1988 as a firefighter who was quickly promoted to Fire Captain and later to Battalion Chief of Special Operations.

After serving as Captain for five years, Tom was promoted to Battalion Chief over Special Operations and eventually to his current rank in Glendale as Assistant Fire Chief.

Shannon earned a Bachelor’s degree from Northern Arizona University as well as his Paramedic certification and Master’s degree in Educational Leadership. He is currently completing the Executive Fire Officer Program and is enrolled in the United States Department of Homeland Security Naval Post-Graduate School to obtain a Master of Arts degree in International Studies in Homeland Security.

As chief of the Salt Lake City Fire Department, Shannon will command a department of 393 employees and 14 fire stations deploying 13 engines, three ladders, one heavy rescue and four ARFF units. The Salt Lake City Fire Department operates two battalions and covers 114 square miles.

Shannon is expected to begin his new post with Salt Lake City on November 17, pending the approval of his appointment by the City Council. This appointment marks the first time in over a year and half that the Salt Lake City Mayor’s executive team is fully staffed.

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