Fire Department promotion ceremony for chief and assistant chief

- Friday, Feb 7, 10 a.m.-

Release date: Friday, Feb. 7, 2020

The Dayton Fire Department will hold a promotion ceremony on Friday, Feb. 7, 10 a.m. at City Hall (101 W. Third St., second floor, City Commission chambers).

Jeff Lykins will be sworn-in as fire director and chief. Lykins began his career as a firefighter with Dayton Fire in 1992. He was promoted to lieutenant in 2000, to captain in 2008, to assistant chief in 2015, and to deputy chief in 2017.

Director and Chief Lykins will oversee a department of 344 full-time employees, including 322 uniformed members (firefighters, lieutenants, captains, district chiefs, EMTs and paramedics).

Capt. Thomas M. Rice, a 19-year Dayton Fire veteran, will be promoted to assistant chief. Rice joined the department as a firefighter in 2001 and was promoted to lieutenant in 2012 and to captain in 2016. His certifications include safety inspection, paramedic, fire instructor, and hazardous materials technician.

Rice has served as commanding officer at the Dayton Fire Training Center, where he led the department's diversity initiative, including the Homegrown Heroes program.

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