

# Memorandum



Date: September 17, 2010

To: Mayor Pro Tem Dwaine Caraway, Chair  
and Members of the Public Safety Committee

Subject: Dallas Fire-Rescue Paramedic/Firefighter Career Path

The Public Safety Committee will be briefed on the Dallas Fire-Rescue Paramedic/Firefighter Career Path on Monday, September 20, 2010.



Ryan S. Evans  
First Assistant City Manager

## Attachment

- c: Honorable Mayor and Members of the Dallas City Council
  - Mary K. Suhm, City Manager
  - Deborah Watkins, City Secretary
  - Tom Perkins, City Attorney
  - Craig Kinton, City Auditor
  - Victor Lander, Administrative Municipal Judge
  - Jill A. Jordan, P.E., Assistant City Manager
  - A.C. Gonzalez, Assistant City Manager
  - Forest E. Turner, Assistant City Manager
  - Jeanne Chipperfield, Chief Financial Officer
  - Helena Stevens-Thompson, Assistant to the City Manager Mayor/City Council Office

# DALLAS FIRE-RESCUE PARAMEDIC/FIREFIGHTER CAREER PATH

Daniel E. DeYear, Section Chief  
Emergency Response Bureau  
September 20, 2010



# Purpose

- At the August 16, 2010 Public Safety Meeting, the Chair requested a presentation on the Dallas Fire Rescue Career Path. This presentation will explain and clarify this process.

# Career Path

- Trainee Fire Rescue Officer
- Apprentice Fire Rescue Officer
- Probationary Fire Rescue Officer/ Paramedic
- Fire Rescue Officer/Paramedic
- Driver Engineer/ Paramedic
- Lieutenant/ Paramedic Supervisor
- Captain
- Battalion Chief

# Hiring Process

- Application
- Written Civil Service Test
- Accuplacer Test (math and reading test for acceptance into UTSW medical training programs)
- Physical Agility Test (CPAT)
- Background Check (Employment & Criminal History)
- Polygraph Test
- Interview
- Selection

# Trainee Fire Rescue Officer (TFRO) (Trainee I)

- Recruit School
- 6 month process (468 hours basic training)
  - Class room education
  - Practical skills instruction
  - Physical training
  - Dallas Procedures
  - Texas Commission on Fire Protection Certification (Written and skills testing)

# Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Training

- UT Southwestern
  - 215 hours, 5 week process
  - Classroom instruction
  - Practical Skills training
  - National Registry Testing
  - Certification by Department of State Health Services

# Apprentice Fire Rescue Officer (AFRO) (Trainee II)

- Assignment to the field on an Engine or Truck Company
  - Historically the time frame varies according to departmental needs (0-6 months)
- Paramedic School
  - 944 hours, 6 months
  - Classroom instruction
  - Practical Skills education
  - Clinical medical rotations
  - Internship on a Rescue
  - National Registry Testing
  - Certification by Department of State Health Services



# Probationary Fire Rescue Officer (PFRO) (Trainee III)

- Assigned to a permanent position at a fire station in a Rescue Rotation
- 6 months of mentorship, probation and on the job training
- Upon completion of the 6 month process the member becomes a Fire Rescue Officer (FRO)

# Fire Rescue Officer (FRO)

- Newest members serve as paramedics assigned to a station with a paramedic rotation
- All Paramedics are Firefighters
- Members will remain in this position until one of the following:
  - Promoted to Driver Engineer
  - Removed from the Rescue rotation and assigned to an Engine or Truck position

# Driver Engineer (DE)

- A Driver Engineer is assigned to each Rescue, Engine, Truck and Battalion Chief vehicle
- Paramedic Drivers are assigned to Rescues and Engines
- Paramedic Driver Engineers will remain in this position until:
  - Promoted to Lieutenant
  - Removed from the Rescue rotation and assigned to an Engine, Truck or Battalion Chief vehicle as a non-paramedic driver engineer

# Lieutenants

- Lieutenants are assigned to:
  - Engine Companies
  - EMS Shift Duty Officers
  - Staff Assignments
    - Training
    - Special Operations
    - EMS
  - Dispatch
- EMS Lieutenants are Paramedics and serve in EMS staff or as a Shift Duty Officer
- Paramedic Lieutenants will serve in this capacity until:
  - Promoted to the rank of Captain
  - Removed from EMS and assigned to an Engine or to staff

# Captains

- Captains are assigned to:
  - Truck Companies
  - Engine Companies at single company stations
  - Staff assignments
    - Training
    - Dispatch
    - EMS
- EMS Captains are assigned to Staff or shift
- EMS Captains remain in this position until:
  - Promoted to Battalion/Section Chief
  - Reassigned to an Engine or Truck Company

# Battalion Chief

- Battalion Chief

- Supervises a group of Fire Stations
- 10 Districts

- Section Chief

- Assigned to Staff positions

QUESTIONS?