



For Immediate Release

Contact: Katelyn Crain
Sabo PR, 248.881.9906

Cascade Township Appoints Adam Magers as Fire Chief

Cascade Township, Michigan, Nov. 6, 2017 – Cascade Township has appointed Adam Magers as its new fire chief. He will begin his tenure leading the more than 30-member department on Nov. 27.

In his new role, Magers will ensure Township policies, ordinances and laws are followed, and will also be responsible for the department's operating budget, recruitment and hiring. Additionally, he will be responsible for coordinating mutual aid relationships with other municipalities and townships.

“We are extremely excited to welcome Adam to the Township as he leads our department through a period of positive transformation,” said Ben Swayze, Township manager. “As he transitions into this new role, his ability to communicate effectively with all stakeholders and delegate responsibility with measurable accountability will be vital in fostering a positive culture and engraining himself in our community.”

Currently, Magers serves as the battalion chief for the Battle Creek Fire Department. He has held this role since 2015, and has worked in the department since 2003. He also serves as the technical sergeant and assistant chief of operations for the Michigan Air National Guard's 110th attack wing, where he has been responsible for managing fire department operations for 25 soldiers, in both stateside and deployed locations. He has worked with the Air National Guard since 2002.

He holds several certifications and licenses through the Department of Defense, International Fire Service Accreditation Congress, State of Michigan and Federal Emergency Management Agency. He was awarded the Air Force Commendation Medal and Air Force Achievement Medal for his actions while deployed to Iraq and Kuwait to provide fire protection to the U.S. Air Bases in 2007 and 2013, respectively.

“I really got a sense of a close-knit family atmosphere with the department, and am most looking forward to getting to know the firefighters and working with them to build a department we can all be proud to be a part of,” said Magers. “My experience with the military – especially being deployed overseas – and in a busy department in Battle Creek has given me confidence in my abilities to lead the Cascade Fire Department.”

Magers received his bachelor's degree from Hope College and his associate degree in fire protection from the Community College of the Air Force. Most recently, he graduated from Eastern Michigan University's School of Fire Staff and Command Executive Leadership Program.

Magers was born and raised in Battle Creek and did not have plans to leave the area. However, when the position became available in Cascade, he was tempted to apply for more than just professional reasons.

“My wife is from the Grand Rapids area and her family still lives there,” said Magers. “We visit quite a bit, so I was already familiar with Cascade and how nice it is. I have three daughters and would love to raise them in the Township.”

Out of more than 30 applications received from a nationwide search, the five top candidates were invited to participate in in-person interviews. Monitored by three Michigan fire chiefs, the final process began on Oct. 2 and required candidates to complete a physical assessment and a managerial skills assessment focused on several categories.

On Oct. 14, candidates participated in interviews hosted by the Township as well as a public meet-and-greet. An offer was made to Magers on Nov. 2.

The department has been seeking a fire chief since April 2017. During this time, Lt. Ron Rowland served as interim chief and assumed responsibilities for day-to-day operations of the Township’s fire services.

About Cascade Township

Home to more than 18,000 residents, Cascade Township is committed to serving the public by providing the finest community services possible with respect, efficiency and integrity. With the Thornapple River at its heart, Cascade Township is recognized as an excellent place to live, work, recreate and raise a family. For more information, visit <http://www.cascadetwp.com/>.

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