



NEWS RELEASE

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Mayor Stephanson appoints Eric Hicks to lead Everett Fire Hicks to become chief in January 2017

EVERETT – Mayor Ray Stephanson announced Wednesday that he has selected Eric Hicks to serve as the City’s next fire chief. Hicks will begin the new role in January 2017, following Chief Murray Gordon’s retirement.

“Eric has been an incredible leader and example within the department,” said Stephanson. “He and I share a vision for an effective, community-based fire service that adapts to the changing needs of our city.”

Hicks, who currently serves as assistant chief and fire marshal, has 22 years of experience as a firefighter. He grew up in Seattle, and served both as a volunteer and salaried firefighter with King County Fire District 20 before joining Everett Fire in 1999.

“I joined the fire service because I enjoy the sense of community that comes with this role, and the opportunity to improve someone’s life on a daily basis,” said Hicks. “I have great respect for the men and women in our department, and it will be an honor to serve as their chief.”

Hicks has held a variety of roles in his time with Everett Fire, including firefighter, fire inspector and investigator, and assistant fire marshal. He belongs to several professional organizations, including Snohomish County Fire Prevention Association, Washington Fire Chiefs and the International Association of Fire Chiefs.

“Eric is dedicated to the success of our fire department and to the wellbeing and safety of every employee,” said Gordon. “I have the utmost respect for him, and I am confident that he is the right person to guide Everett Fire going forward.”

Hicks will be sworn in at the City Council meeting on Jan. 11, 2017.

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