



City of Denison

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

December 16th, 2021

City of Denison Names Kenneth Jacks as New Fire Chief

Denison, Texas – The City of Denison is excited to officially name Kenneth Jacks as the new Chief of Denison Fire Rescue. Jacks has been serving as Interim Fire Chief since October 2021. He will begin his full-time position on January 3rd, 2022.

The City received applications for the Fire Chief position from all over the nation - thirty-six (36) applications from thirteen (13) different states. Fourteen (14) candidates were invited to submit a questionnaire related to the position based on their knowledge, skills, ability, and experience. The top five (5) candidates were invited to participate in interviews with two different interview panels comprised of community stakeholders, including executive level staff, fire personnel, and community members from across different walks of life.

The interview panels selected the two finalists, who were invited to interview with the City Manager, and attend a 'Meet and Greet' with Denison Fire Rescue staff and members of the City Council.

"The City is excited to bring Kenneth on as Chief of Denison Fire Rescue. He is more than qualified for this position and has done an outstanding job serving in the Interim Fire Chief role. His management experience, professionalism, and expertise in the department make him the perfect candidate to continue to lead Denison Fire Rescue," said City Manager Greg Smith.

Jacks started his career in Richardson, spending twenty-seven (27) years with the Richardson Fire Department, working his way from Firefighter Paramedic to Training Chief, the role he held when he retired from the organization. He then served as Fire Chief for New Braunfels until 2019, and most recently served as Interim Fire Chief for Tomball, TX. Jacks has a degree in Fire Science from Columbia Southern University and is a Texas Commission on Fire Protection Certified Master Firefighter, Master Fire Investigator, Master Fire Inspector, and Master Fire Service Instructor III. He is also certified as a Fire Service Chief Executive Officer from the Mays Business School at Texas A&M University.

"I'm honored and excited to be selected as the permanent Chief of Denison Fire Rescue. With the quality of personnel in this organization and their strong work ethic, I have no doubt we will successfully meet the new and exciting challenges ahead of us," said Chief Kenneth Jacks.

Chief Jacks and Denison Fire Rescue will schedule a public 'Meet and Greet' after officially beginning his permanent role in January.

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About Denison Founded in 1872, the City of Denison is located 40 minutes North of the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex in Grayson County. The city comprises a population of approximately 25,000. The city offers an exemplary school district, a vibrant historic district, a robust housing market, excellent quality of life amenities, and an expanding business climate. Denison is moving forward and kicking back. For more information, visit us at www.cityofdenison.com