



NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Storm Smith, PIO, 503-681-6273, 503-615-6666 PIO pager



(Hillsboro Fire Hires New Logistics Chief and Promotes Two Others)

New Personnel

Hillsboro Fire Department has hired a new battalion chief in charge of Logistics. 41-year old Dennis Bonin is a former battalion chief from Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue. He will be supervising all of the fire department's facilities, the fleet of fire engines and other apparatus, and communication equipment and processes.

"We are excited about bringing someone with Dennis' qualifications and experience to our department," said Fire Chief Gary Seidel. "He will help us finish our accreditation process and ensure professional practices and policies are followed in the equipment and apparatus acquisition."

Bonin began his fire service as a volunteer with the Banks Fire Department in 1983 at the age of 15. In 1989 he was hired at Metro West Ambulance as a paramedic, gaining valuable experience in the field of emergency medicine. He later worked as firefighter/paramedic for Gresham Fire Department. Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue recruited Bonin in 1991, where he moved rapidly up the ranks to battalion chief. Battalion Chief Bonin replaces Battalion Chief Scott Magers who moved into a daily response supervisor role following a fellow chief officer's promotion.

Bonin is no stranger to Hillsboro. As a fire officer for TVF&R, he worked at or supervised firefighters in that agency's Aloha and Somerset Stations responding to many mutual aid incidents in Hillsboro. As a TVF&R battalion chief, Bonin responded to many of Hillsboro's larger incidents as a second chief officer to ensure safe supervision of the larger numbers of firefighters.

"I have worked with many Hillsboro firefighters and officers on incidents and look forward to working with all the Department's personnel on a daily basis," said Bonin.

Promotions

Hillsboro Fire Department has promoted Greg Nelson from Battalion Chief to Operations Chief. Nelson has served Hillsboro Fire Department for over 29 years. He began here in 1980 and rose through the ranks from firefighter to his current position. During that time he developed high rise and large capacity building firefighting protocols, managed the conflagration program, and trained recruit firefighters. Nelson will now supervise all firefighting personnel. He replaces Mike Burnett, who left the Department earlier this year to take a position as Fire Chief at Chelan County Fire District #1 in Wenatchee, Washington.

Hillsboro Fire Department has also promoted Lieutenant Jason Blount to the position of Battalion Chief – Emergency Medical Services (EMS)/Special Operations. Blount has been with the department for 18 years. He has been a Lieutenant for the past nine years and has been focused on EMS, technical rescue and training. He will supervise the Emergency Medical Services of the fire department as well as Special Operations. Special Operations includes Technical Rescue and Water Rescue. Personnel in those two programs have additional training and are used when special rescue circumstances require rope, trench or water rescue. For fire and life safety information, visit: www.ci.hillsboro.or.us/fire or call 503-681-6166. For periodic information on what is happening at Hillsboro Fire Department, visit our blog at www.hillsborofire.blogspot.com.

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Photo Caption: Bonin 6622.jpg

Battalion Chief Dennis Bonin will supervise Hillsboro Fire Department's facilities, fleet and communications equipment along with assisting in completing the Department's accreditation process.