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## **HFD** names Marques Bush new Deputy Fire Chief of Support Services

HARRISONBURG, Va. – Marques Bush, a 24-year veteran of emergency services, has been selected as the new Deputy Fire Chief of Support Services for the Harrisonburg Fire Department.

Bush most recently served as an Assistant Chief with the St. Andrews Fire Department in Charleston, S.C. He holds a Master of Arts degree in Organizational Leadership and Public Administration from Waldorf University and a Bachelor of Science degree from Columbia Southern University. He also holds national credentials as a Fire Officer and Instructor.

During his time with St. Andrews Fire Department, Bush spearheaded several major projects, including: a comprehensive apparatus replacement program, personal protective equipment program, diversity and inclusion program, and community outreach programs. He is a member of the International Association of Fire Chiefs and serves actively with the Safety, Health, and Survival Section.



(Above) New HFD Deputy Chief of Support Services Marques Bush.

"I am thrilled to be welcoming Marques to our family," Fire Chief Matthew Tobia said. "Chief Bush brings a passion for the fire service that truly aligns with our core values. His journey to Harrisonburg has been punctuated by compelling experiences coupled with a commitment to continuous professional development."

Bush was selected after a rigorous process that drew more than 60 applicants. The process included written responses to a questionnaire, a series of interviews, and a timed exercise and presentation before a panel. Members of the Department at all ranks, including civilian and uniformed, as well as leaders from the city, participated.

Bush expressed humility in accepting the position: "My family and I are incredibly excited to make Harrisonburg our home," he offered. "I know that I have much to learn about the HFD, but I am already tremendously impressed with the Department's demonstrated commitment to excellence. I look forward to contributing as a part of the team to our shared success for our community."

Bush's first day is expected to be June 14. As the Deputy Chief of Support Services, Bush will oversee several programmatic areas including Health, Safety and Wellness; Human Resources; Training; Information Technology; and Logistics.

Bush is married to his wife, Katie, and they have three school-aged children: Aidan, Keegan, and Tierney.

*The Harrisonburg Fire Department* is an ISO-Class II All-Hazards agency providing essential emergency and non-emergency life safety services to the public who live, work and travel in Harrisonburg. More information about the Fire Department is available on-line at <u>www.harrisonburgva.gov/fire</u> or on Facebook<sup>©</sup>, Twitter<sup>©</sup> and Instagram<sup>®</sup>.

*The City of Harrisonburg* is centrally located in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. It is home to almost 55,000 people. More information about the City of Harrisonburg is online at <u>www.HarrisonburgVA.gov</u>.



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