



## PRESS RELEASE

Ogden Mayor Ben Nadolski Announces Recommendation of Mike Slater as Ogden's Next Fire Chief

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OGDEN, UT—Ogden Mayor Ben Nadolski announced today that he will forward Deputy Fire Chief Mike Slater's name to the Ogden City Council as his recommendation for appointment as the next Chief of the Ogden City Fire Department. The recommendation follows a comprehensive national search and a competitive, multi-phase interview process.

With decades of service to the Ogden community and a career built within the very department he is now poised to lead, Deputy Chief Slater is a respected and seasoned leader. He is known for his calm under pressure, collaborative approach, and deep commitment to public safety. His career has spanned nearly every Ogden Fire role, including key regional leadership positions and work with the National Fire Academy.

"Mike Slater exemplifies everything we value in public service and leadership," lauded Ogden Mayor Ben Nadolski. "He has risen through the ranks with humility, earned the trust of his peers, and always put service to our people first. Throughout this selection process, it became clear that the Ogden Fire Department is well-known and widely respected in the fire service community. In consultation with our employee union and through many conversations with department members and partners, I've heard a consistent message—the culture is strong, our people are proud of the department they have built, and they're ready and energized to continue building on that legacy of excellence. Mike's experience in the department and his local, regional, and national insights make him the right leader to bring new energy and fresh ideas to the job while building on the foundation that defines this department. I'm proud to forward his name to the City Council as my selection for Ogden's next Fire Chief."

If confirmed, Deputy Chief Slater would succeed retiring Fire Chief Mike Mathieu, whose nearly four-decade career helped shape Ogden Fire into one of Utah's most respected and innovative fire service agencies.

"Mike Slater has been an integral part of the fire department leadership team," reflected Fire Chief Mike Mathieu. "He is positioned and prepared to move the organization forward and lead with innovation and creativity to build upon the strengths of the Ogden City Fire Department."

Deputy Chief Slater has earned the trust and respect of his colleagues throughout his career. His reputation for leading with empathy, operational excellence, and a deep sense of duty to his team and the public made him the clear choice to guide Ogden Fire into its next chapter.

"Being considered for the role of Fire Chief of Ogden Fire is the greatest professional honor of my life," added Deputy Chief Slater. "I am excited, humbled, and ready for the opportunity to lead. This department is built on a legacy of service, sacrifice, and excellence. I believe the best way to honor that

legacy is by leading with love—love for our team, our mission, and the community we proudly serve. If confirmed, I will move forward with purpose, compassion, and an unwavering commitment to protecting Ogden. The future is bright, and I would be proud to serve as part of it."

Ogden Firefighters' Union Local 552, representing approximately ninety percent of the Ogden Fire Department, recently endorsed Deputy Chief Slater. President of the Union, Alexander Sanders, stated, "Deputy Chief Slater has repeatedly proven that he has Ogden's best interest in mind, and his tenure with our department has earned him the trust of our firefighters. He has consistently shown a desire to listen and collaborate with the firefighters, and he leads by example. We have faith in his job-specific knowledge because we have worked alongside him in the field. He has never lost sight of what it means to serve Ogden, and we believe he is the best choice for citizens and the firefighters."

The Ogden City Council will consider Mayor Nadolski's recommendation during its regular meeting on July 15. If confirmed, Chief Slater's appointment will become effective immediately.

Ogden Fire remains committed to providing exceptional service and safety to its residents. With strong leadership and a culture rooted in service, the department is well-positioned for the future.

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