



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CITY MANAGER DOHONEY NAMES NEW CHIEF TO LEAD CINCINNATI FIRE DEPARTMENT

Today, City Manager Milton Dohoney, Jr. announced Richard A. Braun as the City of Cincinnati's new Fire Chief. Braun, who has been serving as Assistant Fire Chief with the Columbus Division of Fire for the past 11 years, will start in mid-January 2011. He has been with the Columbus Fire Division for more than 36 years.

"Chief Braun's well-rounded experience in administrative functions, fire suppression, and medical services is important as the Cincinnati Fire Department (CFD) faces the challenges and opportunities ahead," said City Manager Milton Dohoney, Jr.

The CFD currently has 868 members in the Administration, Fire Prevention, Human Resources, and Operations bureaus. About 80 percent of the calls the CFD responds to are for medical care, while 20 percent are for fires. The department's proposed 2011 budget is \$62 million. City Manager Dohoney has fully apprised Chief Braun of the 2011-2012 budget recommendations that are currently before City Council. "This is where Chief Braun's abilities in strategic planning, resource allocation, and rapport building will be especially useful right off the bat," said Dohoney.

As Assistant Chief in charge of the Columbus Emergency Bureau since 2005, Braun has had responsibility for all emergency services operations, deployment, and emergency scene command, including EMS. He directly supervised payroll, recruitment, background investigations, and the professional standards unit for the bureau as well. Braun has overseen training programs as well as EMT Basic and EMT paramedic programs, developed a five-year training plan, and oversaw the disaster preparedness program. He has been instrumental in implementing technology-based solutions for the Columbus fire division, particularly for staffing and dispatch. He represented Fire in contract negotiations, resulting in contract ratification without third-party arbitration. He oversaw a \$158 million budget. Additionally, Braun has managed all operations at Columbus' 911 Call Center.

He holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Mount Nazarene University (Mount Vernon, Ohio); has training in instruction techniques for company officers, recognizing and identifying hazardous materials, incident command system, and fire arson detection from the National Fire Academy; has completed National Incident Command System training in NIMS 100, 200, 300, 400, 700, 800; and received training from the Federal Emergency Management Agency in emergency response to terrorism.

The City of Columbus is divided into seven (7) Battalions, which includes 32 Stations, 34 Engine Companies, 15 Ladders, 32 EMS (Advanced Life Support Transport Units) 5 Heavy Rescues, and 13 Rescue Boats

"I am honored to join such a well-respected department," said Braun. "I am looking forward to leading the men and women of the CFD in reaching their goals for serving the people of Cincinnati."

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