



Office of the Mayor  
Laurel Lunt Prussing

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January 28, 2015

To: Urbana City Council

Re: Appointment of Derrick Odle as Division Chief, Urbana Fire Department

Dear Charlie, Eric, Aaron, Bill, Dennis, Mike and Diane,

Captain Derrick Odle has been filling in for Division Chief Russell Chism during his long illness. Following the untimely death of Division Chief Chism, I am recommending the appointment of Captain Odle to the position based on the strong recommendation of Fire Chief Brian Nightlinger.

As the attached letter from Chief Nightlinger indicates, Captain Odle is highly qualified to assume the duties of Division Chief. Also attached please see his resume which outlines his experience with the Urbana Fire Department since 1996 as well as his work with Arrow Ambulance and the Cornbelt Fire Protection District.

Sincerely,

Laurel Lunt Prussing





**Urbana Fire Department**  
400 South Vine Street  
Urbana, Illinois 61801  
(217) 384-2420 - Phone  
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TO: Mayor Prussing, Council Members

FROM: Chief Nightlinger 

DATE: 01/27/15

RE: Division Chief Appointment

Please allow me this opportunity to recommend Captain Derrick Odle for appointment to the position of Division Chief. Captain Odle would be filling the vacant Division Chief's position previously held by Russell Chism.

Captain Odle began his service to the City of Urbana Fire Department in 1996 after serving the Mahomet Community as a firefighter for five years and working as a paramedic for Arrow Ambulance for five years. He has also served the Mahomet Community as President of the Cornbelt Fire Protection District for four years. Derrick has provided exceptional Service to the citizens of Urbana and was promoted to Lieutenant in 2006 and Captain in 2013. Derrick scored in one of the top positions on the last Division Chief exam. He has demonstrated his ability to function in the position, as he has served as the upgrade Division Chief during DC Chism's illness and has been performing all of the related administrative duties.

Captain Odle comes with multiple qualifications besides his years of experience. He has been a licensed Paramedic for 23 years and is the coordinator of our Emergency Medical Services. He is a Hazardous Materials Technician and manages the department's uniform program. Derrick is the chairman of the Local Emergency Services Advisory Committee (LEMSAC) and served for several years as the secretary of the UFD Foreign Fire Insurance Board. Derrick was the Urbana Fire Department's Officer of the year for 2012 and served on the interview panel for 2012 Firefighter hiring process. Derrick is an OSFM Certified Fire Officer II and a Blue Card Certified Incident Commander.

Captain Odle has been an unselfish member of our department and is always willing to do the extra work without seeking recognition or personal gain. Derrick exemplifies what I feel a member of our department should be and would be an excellent addition to our management team.

## **DERRICK ODLE**

### ***Urbana Fire Department (1996 – Present)***

- 18 years of service to the City of Urbana
  - Firefighter (1996-2006)
  - Promoted to Lieutenant (2006-2013)
  - Promoted to Captain (2013-present)
- Committee Involvement
  - Chairman, Uniform Committee
  - Chairman, Local Emergency Services Advisory Committee (LEMSAC)
  - Board Member, 2% Board
- Training and current certifications
  - Graduate of Illinois Fire Service Institute Academy
  - Hazardous Materials Technician
  - High Angle Rope Technician
  - Fire Apparatus Engineer
  - Fire Officer I and II
  - NIMS Compliant
  - Blue Card Certified
- Recipient of awards
  - Chief's Coin for investigation of aggravated arsonist (2012)
  - Officer of the Year (2012)

### ***Arrow Ambulance – AirLife Air Medical Services (1991-1997)***

- EMT/Paramedic
  - 23 years as licensed Paramedic
  - ACLS, PALS, BTLS certified
- Flight Paramedic

### ***Cornbelt Fire Protection District (1991-2000), Board of Trustees (2009-2012)***

- Volunteer Paramedic/Firefighter
- Elected to Board of Trustees (2009-2012)
- Elected President, Board of Trustees (2009, 2010, 2011, 2012)