



## ST. JOHN'S FIRE DISTRICT

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January 5, 2024

To: Executive Committee  
South Carolina State Firefighters' Association  
Attn: Executive Director Joe Palmer  
111 West Park Boulevard  
Columbia, South Carolina 29210

Re: Letter of Intent for 4<sup>th</sup> Vice President Candidacy

Dear Executive Director Palmer, Executive Committee, and Association Members:

Please accept this letter as my official notice of intent to announce my candidacy for 4<sup>th</sup> Vice President of the South Carolina State Firefighters' Association.

My journey in the fire service commenced in 2001 when I became a volunteer firefighter with the Tigerville Fire Department in Greenville County. In 2003, I became a career firefighter with the Piedmont Park Fire District where I rose through the ranks as a firefighter, engineer, lieutenant, and captain. In 2016, I joined the Greenville City Fire Department where I served in various roles including fire inspector, administrative captain, and special operations chief. In 2021, my family relocated to the Charleston area where I accepted the position of Assistant Fire Chief with the St. John's Fire District. I continue to serve the St. John's Fire District as the Deputy Fire Chief.

My academic credentials encompass a bachelor's degree in fire administration from Waldorf University. Additionally, I have completed the South Carolina Firefighters' Association Leadership Institute and the South Carolina State Association of Fire Chiefs' Chief Fire Officer program. I proudly hold the designation of Chief Fire Officer (CFO) from the Center for Public Safety Excellence (CPSE) and the title of Member (MIFireE) with the Institution of Fire Engineers (IFE). Currently, I am a student in the National Fire Academy's Executive Fire Officer Program.

I have served the Association in several capacities including as a member of the Strategic Planning Committee, and most recently as the Chairperson for the Strategic Planning Committee since January of 2023. I have served on the South Carolina State Emergency Response Task Force since 2019.

As 4<sup>th</sup> Vice President, I will strive to work with our Association members, executive committee, and staff to progress the South Carolina fire service into the future while remaining rooted in the heritage and traditions of the Association that has existed since 1905. I will work to enhance and expand wide-ranging training opportunities for our membership. Collaboration, Cooperation, and Commitment to the Association, its members, and our partner agencies are at the forefront of my vision.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kenneth Henson".

Deputy Fire Chief  
St. John's Fire District  
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k.henson@stjfd.org