

June 16, 2020

South Carolina State Firefighter's Association
111 West Park Boulevard
Columbia, South Carolina 29210

Attention: Executive Director Charlie King

Re: Letter of Intent

Dear Executive Committee and Association Members:

My name is Robert Van Pelt, Deputy Fire Chief with the Taylors Fire Department. Please accept this letter as my formal intent to announce my candidacy for 4th Vice President of the South Carolina State Fire Fighter's Association in 2021. As a 38 year veteran of the Taylors Fire Department TFD and a member of the SCSFA, I would like the opportunity to further serve the firefighters of South Carolina.

I began my firefighting career as a nineteen year old who was looking for an opportunity to serve others while being part of a team. During my 38 years at TFD, I have gained trust, experience, and responsibility by working my way through the ranks. Serving in the TFD has offered me the opportunity to gain vast experience in areas of leadership and management while meeting the challenges of formulating and implementing policies, procedures, and directives.

Under my leadership I have assisted TFD in its transition from an ISO Class 3/9 to an ISO Class 1. We are now a DHEC EMT Fire Department and are currently working to become an Accredited Fire Department. These organizational accomplishments prove that I have gained valuable experience in planning, implementing, overseeing and meeting organizational goals. I have served as President of the Greenville County Fire Chief's Association twice during my career as a Chief Officer. I am confident that my unique combination of: professional management experience, training, accomplishments and personal strengths would make me a valuable asset to the South Carolinas Firefighter's Association Executive Committee. Additionally, I am a 2019 graduate of the SCSFA Leadership Institute.

Our State is moving in the right direction and our association is leading the way. If elected, I will enthusiastically work with the executive committee to continue this forward movement of our association.

I am grateful for your time and I look forward to meeting the members of the committee and hopefully serve our state's fire service in a further capacity.

Respectfully,

Robert Van Pelt, Deputy Fire Chief
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