

SQUAW VALLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Press Release

Date: April 7, 2017

**Contact: Pete Bansen
530/583-6111**

Allen Riley to be Squaw Valley's New Fire Chief

Olympic Valley, CA - Squaw Valley Public Service District is pleased to announce that Captain Allen Riley has been selected as the new Fire Chief for the Squaw Valley Fire Department.

Captain Riley began his service to the community of Squaw Valley in 1993 as a volunteer, and starting in July will assume the role of the Department's 5th Fire Chief in its 47-year history. He will take over leadership of the Department from Chief Pete Bansen, who will retire in late June after a 36-year career at the Squaw Valley Fire Department, including 24 years as Fire Chief.

Mike Geary, Squaw Valley PSD's General Manager commented: "Allen was selected based on his experience, leadership qualities, work ethic, education, integrity, communication and dedication. He continues to foster relationships within our organization, the community and the partner agencies with whom our men and women train and serve. I have complete confidence in his expertise, experience, and commitment to serve as Chief. His drive for success of the organization along with the talent of the entire Department, from part-time Firefighter through Captain, is expected to result in levels of service that the residents, businesses and visitors of Squaw Valley will be proud of."

Captain Riley commented: "I am honored and humbled to have been selected to serve as Squaw Valley Fire Department's Fire Chief. I look forward to working with our community members, business interests and the men and women of Squaw Valley Fire to continue to provide progressive, professional, emergency response to our customers. This is an exciting time for our organization and I am enthusiastic about leading the organization into the future."

Chief Bansen remarked: "It is validating that our Board and General Manager have the confidence in the direction of our Department and the talent pool within the organization to fill my position from within. I am particularly proud of the fact that we had two outstanding candidates within our ranks. I know Chief Riley will continue to improve the level of service to the community while encouraging his staff to grow and reach their potential. I'm indebted to the Squaw Valley PSD Board of Directors and our community for their confidence in me and the terrific support they have shown our organization through the years. Most of all, it has been my great honor and privilege to have worked with the men and women who have served our Department and our community for the last 36 years: your courage, compassion and professionalism make me very proud to be your leader."

Chief Riley grew up on the east coast where he found a passion for the outdoors and skiing. In 1989, he moved from Vermont to the Lake Tahoe area, working in the ski and service industries and building construction. After joining Squaw Valley Fire as a volunteer, he became a part-time employee in 1994 and a full-time Firefighter in 2000. He promoted through the ranks to become B Shift Captain and has been the Department's Fire Prevention Officer. Chief Riley has a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Nevada, Reno.

A Badge Pinning Ceremony will take place on June 27, 2017, at the monthly Squaw Valley PSD Board Meeting.