

Administrative Services Bulletin: Monday, November 22, 2010

Doug Schrage, Chief

Fire

What's New?

I would like to use this opportunity to introduce myself. October 6 was my first day as your new fire chief and I have been very busy getting to know the department and the people on campus and in the community. Everybody has been so welcoming and supportive, and I really feel that I am part of a TEAM.

The University Fire Department is a fully functioning fire and emergency medical service that protects the campus and its students, employees, and visitors. We also contract with the Borough to provide these services and operate an off-campus fire station as well. The unique part is we are staffed entirely by UAF students trained and supervised by a career staff of nine people.

My career in the fire service started here as a student firefighter from 1981-85, after which I went to work for the Anchorage Fire Department. I retired as the Deputy Chief after 25 years and am so excited to come back to my alma mater.

I'd like to also acknowledge the outstanding job that Battalion Chief Jim Styers did as interim chief after Chief Curry retired and up until my arrival. If you get the chance, please thank him for his dedication and professionalism.

What's Next?

One of our most immediate priorities is to fill the fire marshal position, which has been vacant since July. We are doing our best to meet the fire safety needs of the campus and university programs. Until then, your patience is greatly appreciated!

We will also be working in the coming months to revamp our training program, working more closely with the CTC Fire Science and Emergency Services programs. We have a very high placement rate for our graduates and want to make sure this trend continues.

Other priorities include developing a health and safety program, updating our operating policies, and developing a capital replacement plan.

If you haven't been by the station for a tour, please come in! We are located just across Yukon Drive from the Wood Center.