



Fire Chief James Stables Accepts Position in Johnson City Tennessee

Palm Bay- After 20+ years with the City of Palm Bay, Fire-Rescue Chief James (Jim) Stables has accepted the position of Fire Chief for Johnson City, Tennessee. Chief Stables will stay on with Palm Bay through the end of August to ensure a smooth transition and assist in identifying a new Chief for the Palm Bay Fire Department.

"I am looking forward to bringing new leadership to Johnson City and excited about this opportunity for myself and for my family," explained Stables. "However, it's going to be tough to leave Palm Bay after being a part of this community for thirty years. A piece of my heart will always be here with my Palm Bay Fire-Rescue family."

Stables had been a finalist for the Johnson City position in 2010 and applied again when the position became available this year. Chief Stables was selected from a pool over 99 applicants to replace now-retired Johnson City Fire Chief Mark Scott.

"Jim has made a significant impact during his tenure as Palm Bay's Fire Chief and we are sad to see him go," said City Manager Gregg Lynk. "However, I am confident that the success of the department will continue under new leadership. Jim has served as a wonderful friend and advisor to me and I wish him all the best in this new opportunity."

About Chief Stables:

Chief Jim Stables originally joined Palm Bay Fire-Rescue in 1986, after serving as a firefighter/fire inspector for a year in South Florida. Stables left Palm Bay for brief time, serving as a captain and district chief with Brevard County Fire-Rescue, before he returned to Palm Bay in 2001.

Throughout his fire service career, he has risen progressively through the ranks. Chief Stables has over 30+ years of progressive experience in the fire service and holds a bachelor's degree in Public Administration. He holds various professional certifications, which include fire officer and fire service instructor, through the State of Florida. He also holds the Chief Fire Officer Designation through the Center for Public Safety Excellence.

