

RANCHO SANTA FE
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FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
Rancho Santa Fe, California 92067-0410

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FIRE DISTRICT NAMES TONY MICHEL AS NEW FIRE CHIEF

RANCHO SANTA FE, Calif. — The Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District (RSFFPD) is pleased to announce the appointment of Tony Michel as the new Fire Chief. He will fill the role being vacated by Chief Nick Pavone, who is retiring.

Chief Michel began his career in 1983 as a Cadet Firefighter for the RSFFPD. Since that time, he has worked his way up through the ranks of the Fire District, serving as a Student Firefighter, Firefighter, Engineer, Captain, Deputy Fire Marshal, CERT Program Manager, and Deputy Chief of Training. Most recently, Michel served as the RSFFPD's Deputy Chief in charge of operations. Along the way, he also earned an AA degree in Fire Science and his California State Chief Officer Certification. He is currently finishing his Bachelor of Science degree in Fire Administration through Cogswell College.

"I am very honored and excited to be presented with this opportunity," said Michel. "I am humbled by the confidence the Board of Directors has shown in me and, while I know the position comes with many challenges, I am looking forward to serving the Fire District in this capacity."

As the Fire Chief, Michel will be responsible for managing the fire protection and life safety resources for the RSFFPD. He will provide recommendations and technical staff assistance to the Board of Directors as well as serve as the district's Finance Officer. Chief Michel's other duties will include implementing and enforcing the rules and regulations governing the Fire District, continuing the implementation of the district's Strategic Plan, and coordinating activities with other fire and governmental agencies.

Chief Pavone will retire effective October 31, 2010, at which time Chief Michel will be installed as the Fire Chief. The date and time for his installation ceremony will be announced at a later date.

The mission of the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District is "To protect life, property, and environment through prevention, preparedness, education and emergency response." Formed in 1946, the Fire District now spans approximately 42-square miles and protects over 29,000 citizens. The Fire District currently operates out of four full-time fire stations and serves the communities within and surrounding Rancho Santa Fe and 4S-Ranch.

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