



Assistant Chief Tom Dillon Retires



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Western Springs, IL December 30, 2021: Assistant Chief Tom Dillon will retire from the Western Springs Department of Fire and EMS on December 31, 2021, after 33 years of dedicated service. Chief Dillon joined the Fire Department in January of 1988 as a paid-on-call (POC) firefighter and is currently the longest serving active member of the Department.

Chief Dillon was promoted throughout his career, achieving the rank of Lieutenant in 2006, Captain in 2011, and Assistant Chief in 2016. Throughout his 33-year career he dedicated himself to not only serving the Department and Village, but also to managing a full-time career as an attorney and raising his family in Western Springs.

Chief Dillon was instrumental in updating the Department's policies and procedures, and for many years he taught the nationally recognized *Courage to Be Safe* program, which focused on teaching firefighters and fire officers best practices to prevent line of duty deaths. He never had a serious firefighter injury or firefighter death at an emergency incident he commanded.

Chief Dillon is known for his leadership, guidance, and ability to calmly handle any situation, whether on the emergency scene or in the fire station. Fire Chief Mike Kelly said, "We wish AC Dillon the best in his retirement, and thank him for his service to the residents of Western Springs for over three decades. Tom has certainly left his mark on the Department, and we all appreciate having the opportunity to serve with him."

The Department is planning to formally recognize AC Dillon for his service at a later date.

For more information, please contact Public Information Officer: Fire Chief Mike Kelly, 708-246-1800, ext. 171