



The Village of Glenview

NEWS RELEASE

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DEPUTY CHIEF ENSIGN TO BE GLENVIEW'S NEW FIRE CHIEF

October 7, 2014 – Deputy Fire Chief Ralph Ensign has been picked to become the Glenview Fire Department's new chief.

Ensign will succeed Chief Wayne Globerger, who retires December 19, 2014 after 27 years with the department, the last eight as chief.

"This was an easy decision. Ralph Ensign was the obvious choice to lead the department," Village Manager Todd Hileman said. "He has a strong work ethic, impeccable integrity and a solid relationship with the Fire Department employees."

A native of Northfield and graduate of New Trier High School, Ensign joined the Glenview Fire Department in February 2008 as Deputy Fire Chief.

He started his fire service career as a firefighter/paramedic with the Winnetka Fire Department in 1976, after earning a bachelor's degree in fire service management from Southern Illinois University. He served "on loan" as temporary Fire Chief of the Winnetka Fire Department in 2010, while a permanent chief was sought.

Hired by the Highland Park Fire Department in 1978, he was promoted to lieutenant in 1989; to captain in 1991, and left in 2008 as a battalion chief.

Ensign has also been a paid-on-call and paid-on-premise firefighter with the Northfield Fire-Rescue Department, where his father retired as assistant chief in 1979.

As Deputy Fire Chief, Ensign has been responsible for managing daily operations for the department's more than 80 employees and five fire stations. For the last two years, a major task for Ensign has been planning and managing construction of a replacement fire station in the downtown Glenview area. Fire Station 6 at 1815 Glenview Road was torn down to make way for Midtown Square, a retail and apartment complex under construction on the 1800 block of Glenview Road. The new Fire Station 6 being built just south of Village Hall, at 1215 Waukegan Road, is expected to be operational by the end of the year.

Ensign was a founding member of and assisted in the development of the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS) Division III Hazardous Materials Response Team. MABAS Division III is a partnership of 19 north suburban communities to provide personnel, equipment and resources to one another when needed.

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