

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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#### **NEWS MEDIA CONTACT:**

Katie Casey, Communications Manager (805) 816-4330 | katie.casey@oxnard.org

#### Alexander Hamilton Appointed Oxnard's Fire Chief

OXNARD, Calif. – City Manager Alexander Nguyen has appointed Alexander Hamilton as Fire Chief, effective February 20, 2021. Hamilton has served as the Interim Fire Chief for the City following the retirement of Chief Darwin Base on August 31.

"Alex has thrived in the Interim Chief role, and I have faith in his ability to modernize fire services and enhance the fire department's role protecting the safety of our community," said City Manager Alexander Nguyen.

"I am honored to be given the opportunity to lead the men and women of the Oxnard Fire Department," said Chief Hamilton. "I look forward to continuing to provide our residents with excellent service, while also exploring ways to innovate and modernize this department."

Chief Hamilton will take the oath of the office on March 2, 2021 at the City Council meeting.

A 16-year fire department veteran, Hamilton started his career with the Oxnard Fire Department as a Firefighter in 2005, and worked his way up through the ranks of the department with a series of promotions to Fire Engineer, Fire Captain, Battalion Chief and then Assistant Chief in 2017.

Chief Hamilton will oversee a department of 128 firefighters and administrative staff that provides emergency services to Oxnard businesses, residents and visitors while continuing to manage various projects the department has underway.

As the department's leader, Hamilton will focus on modernizing the City's fire services operations, improving service delivery to residents, increasing community collaboration with all stakeholders, developing improved recruiting and employee wellness programs, as well as enhancing emergency management and community risk reduction.

Hamilton holds an MBA from Pepperdine University. He also received a Bachelor's Degree in Fire Protection Administration and a Chief Fire Officer certification from the Center for Public Safety Excellence.

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### PARA PUBLICACIÓN INMEDIATA: CONTACTO CON LOS MEDIOS:

Katie Casey, Gerente de comunicaciones (805) 816-4330 | katie.casey@oxnard.org