

MR. CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE BOARD --

GOOD MORNING AND THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO RECOGNIZE ONE OF OUR OWN FOR A NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENT THIS MORNING.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY IS LUCKY TO HAVE CHIEF DAVE DOWNEY LEADING OUR FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT. WE HAVE KNOWN THAT FOR THE TWO YEARS HE HAS SERVED AS CHIEF, AND NOW THE MAJOR FIREFIGHTING ORGANIZATION IN OUR STATE HAS ALSO RECOGNIZED HIM.

AS YOU ALL HAVE HEARD BY NOW, CHIEF DOWNEY WAS NAMED THE 2015 FLORIDA FIRE CHIEF OF THE YEAR BY THE FLORIDA FIRE CHIEFS' ASSOCIATION!

THIS AWARD IS THE MOST IMPORTANT HONOR THE FLORIDA FIRE SERVICE CAN BESTOW UPON ONE OF ITS FIRE CHIEFS.

IT IS GIVEN IN RECOGNITION OF LEADERSHIP, INNOVATION, PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, INTEGRITY, AND SERVICE TO THE PUBLIC AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE FIRE SERVICE. ALL ARE QUALITIES CHIEF DOWNEY CLEARLY HAS.

A 29-YEAR VETERAN OF THE FIRE SERVICE, CHIEF DOWNEY HAS SPENT 24 OF THOSE YEARS WITH MDFR.

HE HAS SERVED AS MDFR FIRE CHIEF FOR OVER TWO YEARS.

IN ADDITION TO HIS EXTENSIVE ON-THE-JOB EXPERIENCE, CHIEF DOWNEY HAS COMPLETED NUMEROUS PROFESSIONAL COURSES AND EVEN EARNED A MASTER'S DEGREE IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION.

HE ALSO HAS CERTIFICATIONS AS A TECHNICAL RESCUE TECHNICIAN, FLIGHT MEDIC, TASK FORCE LEADER AND A FIRE INSTRUCTOR.

CURRENTLY, HE SERVES AS A NATIONAL URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE (US&R) TASK FORCE REPRESENTATIVE WITH THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (FEMA).

CHIEF, THANK YOU FOR YOUR LEADERSHIP OF MDFR AND FOR ALL THAT YOU HAVE DONE TO ENSURE THAT OUR RESIDENTS HAVE THE BEST POSSIBLE FIRE SERVICE.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY IS LUCKY TO HAVE YOU AND I'M VERY HAPPY TO SEE YOUR COLLEAGUES AT THE

FLORIDA FIRE CHIEFS' ASSOCIATION HAVE HONORED YOU.

MR. CHAIRMAN, COMMISSIONERS, PLEASE JOIN ME IN CONGRATULATING MIAMI-DADE FIRE RESCUE CHIEF DAVE DOWNEY!

