



# FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENT

January 6, 2014

## INFORMATIONAL BULLETIN #14-02

**TO:** All Fire and Rescue Personnel

**FROM:** Kurtis R. Wilson, Division Chief/Operations *KRW*

**RE:** **New Battalion Chiefs and Rank Insignia**

The recent reorganization of Fire 4, 8, and 9 has been necessary to reduce the span of control for specialty units primarily USAR, HazMat, Marine, and ARFF. Each discipline has unique training requirements, equipment, budgets, and contracts with local, state, and federal agencies. Narrowing the span-of-control to nine District Chiefs still presents a problem when crossing shift lines. It becomes necessary for one chief to be the point of contact and person responsible for the specialty units.

JFRD Rules and Regulations define *Battalion* as a designated area of JFRD responsibility divided into Suppression and Rescue Districts or support functions. Battalions are headed by a Battalion Chief.

Effective January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2014, the following support functions will be managed by three new Battalion Chiefs: Battalion Chief of Special Operations, Battalion Chief of Marine & ARFF, and Battalion Chief of HazMat. One Battalion Chief will be located at Fire 4, Fire 8, and Fire 9 respectively.

Unlike Suppression and Rescue districts where *all* three Chiefs assigned to one unit are the rank of Battalion (Fire 1, Fire 5, and R103); only *one* per unit will be assigned to manage the support functions.

Daily staffing for these stations will still fall under Fire 1, Fire 5, and R103 but all additional *functional* responsibilities pertaining to the specialties such as meetings, grants issues, inter-agency liaison, future budget requests and requirements, and the like will be managed by these new Battalion Chiefs.

With this bulletin, the new rank insignia for all Battalion Chiefs will be three crossed bugles, with a solid gold background.

