

Contact:
Samantha D. Abell
City Manager
Office: (228) 497-8020
Email: citymanager@gautier-ms.gov

3330 Highway 90
Gautier, Mississippi 39553
www.gautier-ms.gov

CITY OF GAUTIER

PRESS RELEASE

Gautier, Mississippi October 31, 2013: On Tuesday, November 5, 2013, Captain Robert O. Jones will be sworn in as the new Fire Chief of the Gautier Fire Department. Robert has twenty-four (24) years' experience in fire prevention of which began with Gautier Fire Department. He was promoted to Fire Lieutenant in February 1991 and Fire Captain November 1994. On June 29th Captain Jones was named Interim Fire Chief after Ray A. Frair, former Fire Chief, announced his retirement. His experience includes EMT Training, Haz-Mat Technician School, Dive Master Curriculum and Managing and Leading Change at the National Fire Academy.

City Manager, Samantha D. Abell states, "Gautier had 25 eligible applicants for this position. The opportunity for the fire department as Gautier grows is enormous. As interim, Chief Robert Jones demonstrated that he is a natural leader, a strategic thinker and dedicated team builder. He is a lifelong resident of Jackson County who truly loves his community and its natural resources. We have worked side by side in recent months to explore opportunities with local, state and federal officials. He joins a top-notch professional team dedicated to moving south Mississippi forward. He is the right chief, at the right time."

*City Council Meeting will be held at Gautier City Hall located at 3330 Highway 90, Gautier, MS 39553 and will begin at 6:30 P.M.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, OCTOBER 31, 2013



On February 15, 1989, Captain Robert O. Jones began his career in fire service with the City of Gautier at the age of 22. Over the course of his twenty-four (24) year career with the Gautier Fire Department, Robert has obtained many accomplishments through dedication and hard work. Since his employment began, Robert has achieved certifications in: EMT Training, Haz-Mat Technician School, Dive Master Curriculum and Managing and Leading Change at the National Fire Academy along with many other professional development and leadership courses. He has been awarded a Certificate of Valor (team effort-life saved) and Gautier Firefighter of the Year. Currently Captain Jones holds a state EMT License and a US Coast Guard Merchant Marine Officer License.

Promoted to Captain in 1994, he was appointed Interim Fire Chief on June 29, 2013 by City Manager, Samantha D. Abell. As Fire Chief, Captain Jones plans to support the efforts of all fire personnel in carrying out the mission of the Gautier Fire Department with the utmost professionalism and efficiency. Robert states, "I look forward to committing full dedication and inspiration to managing the everyday operations of personnel and facilities while providing the training, discipline and educational needs to my department."

Jones has been a lifelong resident of the Mississippi Gulf Coast and has lived in Gautier for over 24 years. Robert is married to Janice and together they have five (5) children and four (4) grandchildren. After graduation from Pascagoula High School in 1985, he attended the University of Mississippi and Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College. Captain Robert O. Jones is the 4th Fire Chief to hold this position in the City of Gautier.