



MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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NATIONWIDE SEARCH BEGINS FOR GRAND JUNCTION'S PERMANENT FIRE CHIEF

GRAND JUNCTION, Colo. July 30, 2025 – The City of Grand Junction will launch a nationwide search for a permanent Fire Chief. Deputy Fire Chief Gus Hendricks, who has served as the Interim Fire Chief for more than six months, will resume his role as Deputy Fire Chief. Hendricks has served the City of Grand Junction for nearly three decades, and has done so with the utmost dedication, integrity, resilience, and humility. The Grand Junction Fire Department (GJFD) is grateful for his work as Interim Fire Chief. Until the position is filled, Grand Junction Police Chief Matt Smith will serve as Chief of Public Safety, overseeing both fire and police. This is a temporary role until a new Fire Chief is selected and onboarded. Chief Smith will work closely with GJFD command staff and emergency services will not be impacted by the staffing change. The City will continue to provide excellent service that City residents and visitors have come to expect. Updates on the Fire Chief search will be forthcoming.

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