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For Immediate Release

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City of Ventura announces selection of new Fire Chief

City Manager Mark Watkins announced that he has selected Assistant Fire Chief David Endaya to take over for retiring Fire Chief Don McPherson on March 24. Recruitment for the new Fire Chief was highly competitive and included candidates from throughout the country. Endaya has worked for Ventura City Fire full-time since 1997, and was one of the first paramedics hired when the department's new paramedic program was launched.

"David brings a commitment and passion to his job every day, along with his exceptional technical expertise," Watkins said. "I couldn't be more pleased that one of Ventura's own clearly emerged as the top candidate in this intensive interview process."

Endaya began his career with the Ventura City Fire Department as a Firefighter/Paramedic and was promoted to Engineer, Captain, Battalion Chief and most recently Assistant Fire Chief. He holds a State Paramedic license, is a certified hazardous materials specialist, and has been active in the Urban Search and Rescue Program. In 2013, Endaya was accepted into an elite Postgraduate Executive Fire Officer Program at the United States Fire Administration's National Fire Academy.

Chief Don McPherson says, "David's background and dedication will continue the department's mission of serving the community by protecting life, property and the environment through prevention, education and emergency response services."

A recruitment to fill Endaya's former Assistant Fire Chief position has not yet commenced.

This release is available on the City of Ventura website at www.cityofventura.net. ---###---