



CANDIA FIRE DEPARTMENT

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PRESS RELEASE

Candia Fire Department Announces Appointment of New Fire Chief

The Town of Candia and Candia Fire Department announce the appointment of Michael Kelley to Chief of Department effective 1/1/26.

Chief Kelley joined the Candia Fire Department in 2019 and has consistently demonstrated strong leadership, professionalism, and dedication to service. In 2022, he was promoted to the rank of Captain and in this position established the department's ambulance transport service and has helped developed our EMS providers.

Chief Kelley began his career in the fire and emergency medical services in 2003 while attending Norwich University, the Military College of Vermont. He has held various positions in departments throughout his career. He holds fire officer, fire/EMS instructor, and technician-level certifications and has earned a master's degree in public administration in Fire & EMS. His extensive background has contributed significantly to operational readiness and service delivery of Candia Fire.

In addition to his service to Candia, Chief Kelley has been a professional Firefighter/Paramedic since 2016 and is employed by the City of Concord Fire Department. He simultaneously has been an active member of the Army National Guard and holds the rank of Major, with various deployments around the globe, bringing 20 years of distinguished military leadership experience.

Chief Kelley resides in Candia with his wife, Erin (Pepin), a lifelong Candia resident, and their two sons, Kadan and William. He enjoys spending time outside, is an avid boater, and loves coaching Kadan's baseball team. He has a strong sense of pride in this family and for the town of Candia.

Chief Kelley's combined experience in the fire service, emergency medical services, and military provides a strong foundation for leading the fire department into the future. We are confident that he will continue to uphold the department's mission, values, and commitment to excellence in serving the citizens of Candia.

Please join us in congratulating Fire Chief Michael Kelley on his well-deserved appointment. The point of contact for this release is Lt. Isaiah Soucy and can be reached at 603-483-2202.

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