

Kearney Fire & Rescue Protection District

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PRESS RELEASE

October 18, 2016

The Kearney Fire and Rescue Protection District has hired a new Fire Chief. Kevin Pratt will assume the duties effective January 1, 2017. Pratt began his career with the District as a volunteer in 1986. In 1991 he was hired as one of the first career firefighters for the District. He progressed through the ranks to Lieutenant in 1998, shift captain in 2005, and deputy chief in 2008. He completed his Associate Degree in Fire Science in 2006. He is a member of the International Association of Fire Chiefs, serves as the co-chair of the Heart of America Fire Chiefs professional development committee, is a board member of the Northland Fire Chiefs Council, and is a board member of the Mid-America Regional Council Emergency Response Committee. During his career he has received five life saving certificates from the Firefighters Association of Missouri.

Pratt is a graduate of Kearney High School and has been active in the community including the Kearney Schools Long Range Facilities Planning Committee, coaching youth sports, Kearney Schools Music Boosters, and the First United Methodist Church Building Committees. He and his wife Staci along with their two children reside in rural Kearney.

The Board retained the services of The Management Edge from Blue Springs to guide the hiring process from reviewing applications through an assessment center process. The assessment center process consisted of six panels of experienced active and retired fire safety personnel, independently selected by the Board's consultant, who interviewed and evaluated the candidates for the fire chief position on relevant management and labor issues. The Board relied on the evaluations from the assessment center to make its selection of Pratt.

