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Mayor

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Mayor Stratton Announces Five Promotions in Schenectady Fire Department

SCHENECTADY – Mayor Brian U. Stratton today announced five promotions within the Schenectady Fire Department. All promotions have been made in order to fill critical vacancies that have resulted from recent retirements.

Captain Vincent Krawiecki has been promoted to Deputy Chief, Lieutenant Douglas Faulisi, Jr. has been named Captain, and Firefighter/Paramedics Joel Metz, Daniel Minersagan and William Rockenstyre are now promoted to the rank of Lieutenant.

Mayor Stratton said, “It is my honor to announce the promotions of these five individuals today, and to congratulate them on the next step in their careers. Public Safety Commissioner Wayne Bennett and I look forward to working with them to ensure the highest level of safety and service for our citizens.”

Public Safety Commissioner Wayne E. Bennett added his message of congratulations to all newly promoted Fire Department personnel. “These individual officers have demonstrated their commitment to the fire service throughout their careers, but I particularly wish to note that they have sought out additional training over and beyond normal expectations, to further enhance their professional skills. The residents of this city and the Fire Department are most fortunate to have such individuals in their service.”

Fire Chief Robert Farstad said that the candidates being promoted are exemplary. “All show great dedication and commitment to the fire department and the City of Schenectady. Their level of professionalism is second to none. I feel very confident these fine officers will show tremendous leadership in the department in the years to come. My congratulations to all.”

The following are brief bios of each of the candidates:

Fire Captain/Paramedic Vincent Krawiecki: Captain Krawiecki has been a member of the Schenectady Fire Department since 1993, was promoted to Lieutenant in 2002, and was

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promoted to Captain in 2006. He has been a New York State certified paramedic since 1995. Captain Krawiecki is a NYS certified Municipal Fire Instructor, is certified in the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and is trained as a NYS Public Information Officer. He has received advanced Technical Rescue training and holds an Associates' degree in Applied Science from Hudson Valley Community College.

Captain Krawiecki has received the Departmental Medal of Merit three times, twice for the rescues of unconscious fire victims, and for his service with the New York State Urban Search and Rescue Team at Ground Zero immediately following the World Trade Center attacks. Captain Krawiecki received a field promotion to Rescue Team Manager during search and rescue operations after the 9/11 disaster. He has also been the recipient of numerous Commendations for Meritorious Service related to rescues and reversals of cardiac arrest. Captain Krawiecki organized the Schenectady Youth Summer Fishing Program in Central Park and has served as a Paramedic for the Special Olympics.

Captain Krawiecki has been involved in construction specifications and inspection of new fire apparatus and currently has responsibility for firefighter training and maintenance of all Schenectady Fire Department equipment. Captain Krawiecki's father, Joseph Krawiecki retired from the Schenectady Fire Department in 1999.

Lieutenant/Paramedic Douglas Faulisi, Jr.: Lt/PM Faulisi joined the Schenectady Fire Department in 1992 and was promoted to Lieutenant in 2003. He is a NYS certified Hazardous Materials Specialist and has attended training nationwide related to his position on the Haz-Mat Team. Lt/PM Faulisi was valedictorian of his class at the First Line Supervisors Training Program in New York City. Lt/PM Faulisi has taken many college level courses, both in Business Administration and Building Construction. He has taken Fire Science classes at SCCC and advanced training at the New York State Fire Academy at Montour Falls.

Lt/PM Faulisi has been involved with the New York State Urban Search and Rescue Team, including specialized rescue training and deployment to the World Trade Center disaster following the September 11 terrorist attacks in 2001. Lt/PM Faulisi has received several Departmental commendations and was the recipient of the Schenectady Fire Department Medal of Merit in recognition of his service at Ground Zero. He was recently recognized for his life-saving efforts for the young victim of a lightning strike. Lt/PM Faulisi has served the Department many times as a preceptor in the Paramedic training program and is certified as a Weapons of Mass Destruction Radiological Instructor. Lt/PM Faulisi is a third generation Schenectady Firefighter. His grandfather, Lt. Frank Campolieto, and his father, FF Douglas Faulisi, Sr. also served with the department.

Firefighter/Paramedic Joel Metz: FF/PM Metz has been a member of the Department since 1999. He is a New York State Certified Hazardous Materials Technician and has attended several related training courses. FF/PM Metz is one of the most senior department members up for promotion and has distinguished himself by his dedicated, consistent, and dependable attention to his duties as a firefighter. He is recognized throughout the Department as a leader, during both routine tasks and emergency

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incidents. His practical knowledge of building construction is unsurpassed. FF/PM Metz is a second generation Schenectady Firefighter; his father, FF Edward Metz, retired in 1990.

Firefighter/Paramedic Daniel Minersagen: FF/PM Minersagen has been a member of the Department since 2002. He is a Hazardous Materials Technician and has served as a preceptor for Paramedic training through the Regional Emergency Medical Organization (REMO). FF/PM Minersagen has taken Fire Science classes at Schenectady County Community College in his off-duty hours and has served as a Paramedic for several local EMS agencies.

Firefighter/Paramedic William Rockenstyre: FF/PM Rockenstyre joined the Department in 2002 and worked prior to that as a Public Safety Dispatcher in the City of Schenectady. FF/PM Rockenstyre has Associates degrees in Business Marketing and from the HVCC Paramedic Program. He is currently enrolled in college classes working on a BA in Emergency Management. FF/PM Rockenstyre is a New York State Hazardous Materials Specialist, a higher level of certification and training, and has taken numerous courses related to fire protection technology and Haz-Mat. He has also received several commendations as a result of his work as a dispatcher and as a firefighter.