

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Female Fire Lieutenant Climbs to Highest Ranking Level in the History of Miami Beach

Miami Beach, FL – The first female firefighter to ascend to the rank of division chief in the history of Miami Beach Fire will be presented at the commission meeting this Wednesday, June 11 at 9:15 a.m., along with several other promotional appointments. Lieutenant Digna Abello will be promoted to support services fire division chief.

In her new role, Abello will now oversee recruit and department wide training, along with logistics and overseeing the fire shop that performs all of the work on the fire engines and rescue trucks. She became a firefighter/paramedic for the City of Miami Beach in 2005.

“I am confident that Lieutenant Abello’s experience, dedication and commitment will enhance the training programs our department needs,” said Miami Beach Fire Chief Virgil Fernandez. “She has an uncompromising devotion to the City of Miami Beach Fire Department.”

Other new Miami Beach Fire appointments include:

- Assistant Fire Chief Dwayne Drury
- Shift Fire Division Chief (A-shift) Timothy Howarth
- Shift Fire Division Chief (B-shift) Matthew Fisikelli
- Fire Division Chief of Fire Prevention Juan Meizoso
- Fire Division Chief of Operations Juan Mestas
- Ocean Rescue Division Chief Vincent Canosa

“This team of dedicated professionals will provide our residents and visitors with the highest level of safety and security through the delivery of fire suppression, emergency

medical services, disaster response, ocean rescue, fire prevention and public education programs,” added Fernandez.

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