



MAYOR
WILLIAM R. WILD



CityofWestland.com

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Westland Fire Department Celebrates Promotions and New Hires



Westland, Michigan (May 3, 2022) - The City of Westland's Fire Department celebrated promotions and swore in several members to the department on Monday. Hosting a Promotional Ceremony, the city's fire department also had the chance to promote Bella, the City's arson dog!

Captain Jeremy Wright began his career with the Westland Fire Department in 2013. Spending nine years with the Lincoln Park Fire Department, Captain Wright has found his home with Westland Fire. To celebrate his promotion, wife Valarie Wright was on hand to pin her husband.

Sergeant David Polite has been with the Westland Fire Department since 2011. Previously serving as a Paramedic IC, Fire Instructor 1 and 2 for Westland Fire, Sergeant Polite spent nine years with Farmington Hills and Livonia Fire. With a degree in Fire Science from Schoolcraft College, wife Rebecca pinned Sergeant Polite during the ceremony.

Firefighter Camden Ramirez has joined the department as one of the city's newest firefighters. Enrolled at Dorsey College for Paramedic, Firefighter Ramirez has previous experience with the Lyon Township Fire Department. During the ceremony, Firefighter Ramirez was pinned by his father, Eric Ramirez.

Firefighter Arron Tokarski has also joined Westland Fire Department as a new firefighter. Son of Battalion Chief of the Westland Fire Department Mitch Tokarski, Firefighter Tokarski attended Schoolcraft College's Fire Academy and studied EMT to

Paramedic at Dorsey and was pinned by his father.

Battalion Chief Bella, Westland Fire's arson dog, also received a special honor from the department. Considered paramilitary, The Westland Fire Department considers service dogs to be NCOs, or non-commissioned officers, and are given a rank higher than their handler just as that with military K9. Bella, who became a part of the department in June 2017, has risen to the rank of Battalion Chief and is the first accelerant detection canine in Western Wayne County with the ability to detect and analyze odors at a level 40 times greater than her human counterparts. Captain Jeff Stobbe honored Bella with her pinning during the ceremony.

"We always look forward to promoting within our ranks while also bringing new members aboard to continue the tradition and pride in the fire services," said Fire Chief James Morris. "Our arson dog, Bella, also plays a major role in helping to keep the community safe."

For more information, please call (734) 467-3200.

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The City of Westland, Michigan's 10th largest city, has a population of more than 85,000 residents and is located in western Wayne County; just minutes from downtown Detroit, 2 airports and major freeways. The City of Westland's Executive Branch is led by full-time Mayor William R. Wild, who was just re-elected to serve a four-year term in 2022. First elected in 2007, Mayor Wild is the City's longest serving Mayor. The Legislative Branch consists of seven City Council members.