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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Camden County and City of Kingsland Fire Chiefs Earn Georgia Fire Chief Certifications

WOODBINE, GEORGIA – April 28, 2017 The Camden County Board of County Commissioners and the City of Kingsland recently announced that two of its fire chiefs -- Chief Mark Crews and Chief Terry Smith -- earned their Georgia Fire Chief certifications from the Georgia Association of Fire Chiefs (GAFC).

“We are incredibly proud of Chief Crews and Chief Smith for this accomplishment,” said Steve Howard, Camden County Administrator. “Their certifications ensure that Camden County citizens have qualified, credentialed, and professional leaders overseeing fire services.”

Chief Crews -- currently directs fire and emergency medical services as well as emergency management. He has more than 30 years of service in public safety. Since he began his firefighting career as a volunteer when he was a senior in high school, he has held the positions of firefighter/paramedic, lieutenant, squad captain, battalion chief, training officer, assistant chief, and fire chief.



Chief Mark Crews (Left) and Chief Terry Smith

Chief Smith began his career as a volunteer with Kingsland Volunteer Fire Department in 1985, and was assigned as a full-time firefighter in 1990. In 2012, he became captain of Kingsland Fire Rescue before being appointed interim fire chief in 2014. He independently manages the 24 full-time and seven part-time firefighters that make up the staff of Kingsland Fire Rescue.

Applicants for the Georgia fire chief certification must meet four pre-requisites, including holding a Georgia Firefighter Standards and Training Council (GFSTC) State Certification in at least one of the current Fire Service Certifications and serving as a minimum of a battalion chief or division supervisor.

Applicants are also assessed on a point system that includes their years of service, higher education achievement, level of fire office certifications, and recognition for additional credentials.

“The City of Kingsland is delighted to celebrate this milestone accomplishment for both Chief Smith and Chief Crews. We recognize their dedication and commitment in serving our community at the highest caliber,” said Lee Spell, City Manager.

About Camden County: Located in the extreme southeast corner of Georgia, Camden County truly is “Georgia’s Coastal Community of Choice.” Originally formed in 1777, Camden County is best known for its rich history, natural scenic beauty and Southern hospitality. Our mission is to deliver defined county services with exceptional customer service and in a financially sustainable and transparent manner.

About GAFC: The Georgia Association of Fire Chief’s dates back to 1952 and is based in the Georgia Municipal Association’s (GMA) Atlanta office. GAFC works to advance fire services in Georgia and represents more than 700 chief fire officers statewide.

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