

---

---

**October 7, 2013**  
*PRESS RELEASE*  
FOR IMMEDIATE DISTRIBUTION

CONTACT:  
FIRE CHIEF KENNY WEST  
(770) 467-4129

---

---

**SPALDING COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
**ANNOUNCES DEPUTY CHIEF PROMOTIONS**

Spalding County Fire Chief Kenny West announced today the promotion of Battalion Chief Jamie Clark as Deputy Chief of Operations & Battalion Chief Glenn Polk as Deputy Chief of Administration. Historically, the position structure for the Fire Department consisted of a Fire Chief & an Assistant Fire Chief. After the promotion of Kenny West, the position of Assistant Chief was eliminated and the positions of Deputy Chief (Operations & Administration) were established. These positions were created to enhance accountability in the various areas of operations and administration and was a part of the restructuring process.

The initial panel style interviewing process was conducted by Fire Chief Kenny West, Administrative Services Director Jinna Garrison, Human Resources Director Bill Gay & Captain Mike Byrd of the Georgia Fire Academy. After a very in-depth and extensive interview process, Clark & Polk were named the successful candidates.

Deputy Chief Polk began his career with the Spalding County Fire Department in October of 1988 as a Volunteer Firefighter. Upon successfully completing the mandated courses for firefighter he was hired full time in May 1991. Battalion Chief Polk has worked his way up the ranks as Lieutenant, Captain, Battalion Chief & now Deputy Chief.

Deputy Chief Polk, a lifelong resident of Spalding County, has an Associates of Science in Business Administration from Gordon College, Bachelor of Business Administration from Clayton State College, Master of Public Administration from Walden University, Executive Certificate of Homeland Security and Emergency Management from the University of Georgia, Fire Officer Designee from the Center for Public Safety Excellence, Emergency Medical Technician from Southern Crescent Technical College and is a Georgia Certified Emergency Manager from the Georgia Emergency Management Agency.

Deputy Chief Clark began his career with the Spalding County Fire Department in 1983. Upon successfully completing the mandate courses for firefighter, he was hired in 1985. Chief Clark has worked his way up the ranks as Sergeant, Lieutenant, Captain, Battalion Chief & now Deputy Chief.

Deputy Chief Clark, a lifelong resident of Spalding County, has an Executive Certificate of Homeland Security and Emergency Management from the University of Georgia, Certificate in Leadership and Influence from the University of Georgia, is a Certified Arson Investigator and also a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) instructor.

Spalding County Fire Chief Kenny West acknowledged, “Both Polk’s & Clark’s leadership and analytical skills have been a great asset to this Department. I appreciate their commitment, support and dedication and wish them well as they embark in these new positions.”

Spalding County Manager William Wilson acknowledged, “I have watched these two talented individuals ascend through the ranks at the Fire Department, taking on additional responsibilities at each level and excelling in each promotion. I am confident they will excel in their new responsibilities as well.”

The Spalding County Fire Department was established in 1978 to provide fire protection to unincorporated Spalding County. The Department began operations in 1979 with five stations, twenty employees and forty volunteers. The Department has grown to seven stations with a total of seventy fulltime employees and twelve volunteers. The Department responded to approximately 1736 alarms last year and works extensively in the local community and schools, promoting fire safety and education.

