



PRESS RELEASE

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St. Lucie County
FIRE DISTRICT

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For Immediate Release

Spera Selected as Next Fire Chief by St. Lucie County Fire Board

St. Lucie County, FL – Interim Fire Chief Nate Spera was appointed to Fire Chief at a rescheduled January Fire Board meeting this afternoon. The Fire Board of Commissioners voted to discontinue the Fire Chief search and appoint Interim Fire Chief Nate Spera as the permanent Fire Chief.

Nate Spera joined the fire service in 1984 as a volunteer firefighter for the City of Coral Springs. After meeting the Florida Professional Firefighter standards and becoming a Florida Certified Paramedic, he was employed by the St. Lucie County Fire District in 1991. During his tenure he has served as a firefighter paramedic, field training instructor, station officer, administrative officer, and chief officer in the Operations Division.

On April 15, 1999, Spera was one of hundreds of firefighters involved in fighting the largest conflagration in the Fire District's history when a brush fire consumed over 2,500 acres and 43 homes in Port St. Lucie. He served the Fire District during hurricanes Francis, Jeanne, Wilma, Matthew and Irma. He was deployed to western Mississippi in the wake of Hurricane Katrina as part of the Florida Fire Chiefs response plan.

In 2011, he was recognized by the Governor and Cabinet as Professional Firefighter of the Year for the State of Florida and has received several accolades for his involvement in the Boys and Girls Club of St. Lucie County where he has served as a board member since 2005, including two terms as Board President.

He holds a Bachelor's degree in Organizational Management from Warner Southern University, and a Master's degree in Public Administration from Troy University. Karen, his wife of 26 years, is a speech pathologist for the St. Lucie County School District. They have three children, Kaitlyn, Danielle, and Sal.

"I am honored and humbled to be offered this great opportunity to lead one of the finest fire rescue organizations in the county. The men and women of the St. Lucie County Fire District are dedicated professionals that serve with pride and distinction and I am proud to stand with them in service." - Fire Chief Nate Spera

