



**PUGET SOUND
REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY**
INTERNATIONALLY ACCREDITED FIRE AGENCY
Jim Schneider Fire Chief

*Professionally and
compassionately helping people*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Finalists Announced for Fire Chief

Kent, Wash – July 5, 2017 – The four finalists for the position of Fire Chief with the Puget Sound Regional Fire Authority have been selected by the stakeholders group to replace current Fire Chief Jim Schneider, who will be retiring at the end of August.

The four finalists are (alphabetically):

Steven Heitman – Currently the Fire Chief of the Mercer Island Fire Department, Washington.

Jeff Helm – Currently Division Chief with Sioux Falls Fire Rescue, South Dakota.

Matthew Morris – Currently Fire Chief of the Henderson Fire Department, Nevada.

Gordon Olson – Currently Fire Chief of the Thornton Fire Department, Colorado.

These four finalists were selected as the best qualified to lead Puget Sound Fire and will be introduced to the department and community at an upcoming public reception on July 24th.

A final assessment of the candidates will be conducted beginning July 25th by several stakeholder groups with the final selection made by the RFA Governance Board. The Board is scheduled to approve the new Fire Chief at the August 16th Governance Board meeting.

The public is encouraged to come and meet the four finalists at the reception. The candidates will be given the chance to introduce themselves and the public will have the opportunity to leave comments for the department's consideration.

Reception:

Date: July 24, 2017

Time: 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Location: Kent Senior Center

600 E. Smith St.

Kent, WA 98031

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