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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 13, 2014

DeKalb Interim CEO May Announces New Fire Chief

Former Fulton Deputy Chief Tapped for Top Job

DECATUR – DeKalb Interim CEO Lee May announced that Darnell Fullum, currently Deputy Fire Chief in Fulton County, will be the permanent chief of the DeKalb County Fire and Rescue Department.

“This has been an unprecedented process in which we solicited input from the Board of Commissioners, the front-line first responders and the public at large,” said Interim CEO May. “I am proud to announce that, after an extensive nationwide search, Darnell Fullum has accepted the position. DeKalb County will be in very capable leadership.”

In August, DeKalb County began a national search for a new Fire Rescue Chief. Human Resources conducted interviews with candidates deemed highly qualified for the job. From 110 applications, the field was narrowed to the top candidates who were interviewed by a panel of subject matter experts from surrounding jurisdictions, including a mayor from a city in DeKalb County and a representative from DeKalb County Board of Commissioners. Interim CEO May chose two finalists including Fullum and hosted two televised public forums in which candidates were interviewed.

Fullum has been with the Fulton County Fire Department for 26 years, rising through the ranks to the position of Deputy Chief, a position he has held since 2008. Fullum’s resume is attached.

(more)

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From left: Interim CEO Lee May, Interim Presiding Officer Sharon Barnes Sutton, Interim Police Chief James Conroy, Assistant Police Chief Michael Yarborough and Fire Chief Darnell Fullum

DeKalb County is Georgia's third largest county with more than 700,000 residents calling it home. Known for its business and education hub, growing international community and natural wonders, DeKalb County Government is administered by [Interim Chief Executive Officer Lee May](#) and legislative policy is set by a six-member [Board of Commissioners](#).

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(more)

DARNELL D. FULLUM

Summary

Progressive executive fire service manager with over 26 years of experience in positions of increasing responsibility in a metropolitan fire department with staffing levels as high as 450 members. Experienced in presenting to elected officials, and in developing and administrating fiscal budgets in excess of \$32.5 million, high-dollar/profile projects, and one/five-year strategic planning. Proven ability to provide innovative problem-solving and effective decision-making. Excellent track record of promoting fire safety and prevention through community involvement. A lifetime learner who is considered a result driven, change manager with a focus on customer service and teambuilding.

Accomplishments

- Directed the successful development of two FEMA, SAFER Grants (FY09 & 12), that resulted in the awards of \$2.8 million and \$3.2 million;
- Developed the Gender Equality Report and implemented the corrective actions that resulted in a 60% increase in female firefighter hiring;
- Numerous public speaking engagements, to include: Community Meetings, Citizen Forums; Career Events; FRI Conference, Atlanta, Georgia;
- Published research papers such as *Analysis of a Company Officer Promotional Assessment Center Validation Process*, available (online) at the National Fire Academy, Learning Resources Center;
- Served as the Interim Director of the Atlanta-Fulton County EMA (7/2010- 2/2011);
- Managed the development of the Multi-Jurisdiction (15 municipalities) Mitigation Plan Update;
- Serve as the Acting Fire Chief in place of the Director in his absence

Employment

DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF/SAFETY & MEMBER SERVICES <i>Fulton County Fire Department</i>	6/2008-PRESENT <i>Atlanta, Georgia</i>
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Direct the daily operations of several divisions to include: Human Resources, Fleet Maintenance, and Logistics, as well as serve as the Chief Fire Marshal and manage the inspections, arson, education divisions:

- Major participation in the development and administration of the department \$14,900,000 budget;
- Managed a station renovation/replacement to include design and construction of a \$2.4 million state of the art fire station;
- Managed a fleet replacement to include the recent purchase of two fire apparatus valued at over \$800,000;
- Direct and coordinate hiring, promotion processes, and disciplinary actions to include representing department at appeal and grievance hearings;
- Major development responsibility for all strategic planning to include performance measures and business plans.
- Prepare and review intergovernmental agreements and contracts for service;
- Collaborate with Personnel Department to develop job specifications and standard operating procedures which are in compliance with Federal, State, and local law;
- Routinely interact with elected officials in written and verbal communication during Board of Commissioner Meetings;
- Routinely serve as the Acting Fire Chief in the absence of the Director.

Employment

CHIEF FIRE MARSHAL/COMMUNITY RISKS REDUCTION
Fulton County Fire Department

12/2006-6/2008
Atlanta, Georgia

Oversaw the administrative functions and daily operations of several divisions to include: inspections, arson, education, logistics, and apparatus maintenance:

- Developed section priorities and workload assignments;
- Assisted with the development of a \$28 million department budget; manage logistics and fleet expenditures.
- Executed the responsibilities of the Fire Marshal as dictated by the State and Local ordinances;
- Served as the Acting Fire Chief in the absence of the Director.

BATTALION/DIVISION CHIEF
Fulton County Fire Department

01/2004–12/2006
Atlanta, Georgia

- Responsible for the compliance oversight of the multi-million dollar intergovernmental agreement (IGA) contracts for fire service with three municipalities during their transitions to incorporated cities;
- Managed the daily operations of a fire battalion of twenty-six personnel to include daily staffing requirements, direct supervision of six captains and provided management level direction during training exercises and emergency incidents in accordance with Incident Management System.

DEPUTY CHIEF (TEMP)/SAFETY & MEMBER SERVICES
Fulton County Fire Department

08/2002– 01/2004
Atlanta, Georgia

Managed the daily operations of the section to include, Human Resources Division, and Training and Member Development Division.

TRAINING CHIEF/TRAINING & MEMBER DEVELOPMENT
Fulton County Fire Department

01/2002 – 08/2002
Atlanta, Georgia

Managed the day to day operations of the Training Division and staff of nine personnel, while coordinating the development and implementation of all training programs and recruit classes;

FIRE CAPTAIN/COMPANY OFFICER-EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Fulton County Fire Department

1997– 01/2002

Atlanta, Georgia

LIEUTENANT/ COMPANY OFFICER
Fulton County Fire Department

1995 - 1997

Atlanta, Georgia

FIREFIGHTER
Fulton County Fire Department

05/1987 - 1995

Atlanta, Georgia

Military

SP4/ ACTING SERGEANT
United States Army

1983 - 86
Fort Polk, Louisiana

Honorable Discharge with Army Service Ribbon; Expert Infantry Badge

Education

AS Degree, Business <i>Shorter University</i>	2004 <i>Rome, Georgia</i>
BS Degree, Management: <i>Cum Laude</i> <i>Shorter University</i>	2006 <i>Rome, Georgia</i>
MA Degree, Leadership <i>Shorter University</i> Master Thesis: Contemporary Management Theories Practical Application to a Fire Department.	2008 <i>Rome, Georgia</i>
Chief Fire Officer Designation (CFO) <i>Center for Public Safety Excellence</i>	2013
Fire Service Executive Development Institute <i>International Association Fire Chief</i>	2013
Executive Fire Officer (EFO) <i>United States Fire Academy</i>	Anticipated Completion 2014

Certifications

- Georgia State Certified Firefighter
- Emergency Medical Technician
- 80-hour POST Instructor Training Certification
- Safety Officer
- Fire Safety Inspector
- Incident Management System I-400 level

Professional Affiliations

- Georgia Association of Fire Chiefs
- International Association of Fire Chiefs
- National Fire Protection Association
- National Society of Executive Fire Officers