

## Resignation Statement of San Diego Fire Chief Jeff Bowman

It is with much pride in the many accomplishments we have made as an organization over the last four years that I announce my resignation as chief of the department effective June 30, 2006.

I believe I have fulfilled all of the commitments I made when I was recruited to come here, and that further progress to improve the services we provide to this community are contingent upon new resources being provided the Fire-Rescue Department. Given the magnitude of issues our new mayor is facing, and trying to resolve, it is apparent that the city's current financial challenges may take years to resolve.

As such, I believe it is in the best interests of my family to move on to other ventures. I've spent 33 years (nearly 20 as a fire chief) doing something I love, and expect to continue contributing to the fire service – just in different ways.

I'd like to thank every one of you for your service and dedication to excellence. We at the staff level exist to provide you with the tools, equipment and training to do your jobs well, and I believe your future is bright. The mayor and his leadership team have bold plans for San Diego's future, and I think that our Strategic Plan and Accreditation process have created a blueprint for the future success of our department. I have mentored our leadership team, and have every confidence that they are ready to continue with the established agenda. That, however, will be decided by Mayor Sanders.

I wish you and your families good health and happiness, and that you'll all continue to represent this great department with the leadership, accountability, and trust our citizens deserve. It has been a privilege to work with you, and I hope I've at least made a small contribution during my time here.

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