

RG Waring, III
Mayor



Richard Waring, IV
Fire Chief

Summerville Fire-Rescue

300 West Second
North Street
Summerville, SC
29483
843-873-5107

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Contact: Captain Jeremiah Lee, Public Information Officer
Jlee@SummervilleSC.gov | (843) 371-0881

Summerville Fire & Rescue Announces The Retirement of Chief Waring

SUMMERVILLE, S.C. (Friday, March 10, 2023) – Fire Chief Richard G. Waring IV has announced his plans for retirement from Summerville Fire & Rescue after serving more than 30 years in the fire service. Chief Waring began his career as a volunteer firefighter after graduating from Summerville High School in 1992. A few short months later, he decided to make firefighting a profession and joined the Charleston Fire Department where he would spend the next 20 years. While there, he rose through the ranks to the position of Battalion Chief. While serving in Charleston, Chief Waring continued his education at Columbia Southern University, earning an associate degree in Fire Science. Along with that he took advantage of many other educational opportunities, both formal and informal, and has been committed to being a life-long learner. Throughout his professional career in Charleston, Chief Waring served on the Department’s Hazardous Material Team, Maritime Assistance Team, and the Lowcountry Incident Management Team. He assisted in ushering in improvements to the Charleston Fire Department in the wake of the tragic Sofa Super Store incident where 9 Charleston Firefighters died in the line of duty. Chief Waring was appointed Fire Chief in Summerville in 2011. Throughout his years in Summerville, Chief Waring has continued to guide the department, keeping up with the demands of serving one of the fastest growing communities in the state. This continued work resulted in national recognition, in 2017, by the Insurance Services Office (ISO) naming Summerville Fire and Rescue a Class 1 Fire Department. Through the years, he has continued to be involved with many community organizations, serving on the South Carolina Firefighter’s Association Legislative Committee, and Past President of the Summerville Rotary Club. Chief Waring plans to continue to live in Summerville and serve in different capacities after retiring this June while also enjoying more free time with his wife Alison and their three beautiful daughters. A few other accomplishments during Chief Waring’s time serving in Summerville are:

- Oversaw the construction of 4 fire stations.
- Oversaw the rebuild of the departments training facility.
- Instituted an in-house recruit school to better train and retain Summerville Firefighters.
- Established a special operations team making Summerville Fire & Rescue a true “all hazards” response agency.
- Collaborated with other area emergency response partners and establish common firefighting procedures.
- Enhanced the department’s community outreach programs
- Maintained a positive work culture by regularly communicating with rank-and-file firefighters.

You can visit Summerville Fire Rescue’s website for more information at [Summerville Fire & Rescue \(summervillefireandrescue.com\)](http://summervillefireandrescue.com)

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