

COUNTY OF PLACER

Commendation



BOARD

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IN THE MATTER OF A COMMENDATION RECOGNIZING GEORGE MORRIS III FOR HIS DEDICATED SERVICE AND EXEMPLARY LEADERSHIP

WHEREAS, Chief George Morris III served as the CAL FIRE Nevada-Yuba-Placer Unit Chief, and as the Placer County Fire Chief from December 12, 2014 to December 1, 2018; and

WHEREAS, Chief Morris consistently went above and beyond to ensure that CAL FIRE/Placer County Fire protected lives, property and natural resources; most notably during the 2015 Lowell Fire that threatened the community of Dutch Flat, the 2016 Trailhead fire that threatened the community of Foresthill, the devastating wind driven fires in the fall of 2017 that threatened many areas in Placer County, the Oroville Dam Crisis in 2017, and overseeing investigations leading to the arrest of several arsonists in 2018; and

WHEREAS, Chief Morris also demonstrated his commitment to public service in sometimes surprising ways. One morning in 2016, while caught in a traffic jam on I-80 as he was driving to work, Chief Morris was waved down by a man whose pregnant wife lay in the back seat of their car in advanced stages of labor. Chief Morris escorted the family through heavy traffic to the emergency room where the baby was safely delivered shortly thereafter; and

WHEREAS, Chief Morris consistently demonstrated his commitment to building effective partnerships by working closely with the Placer County Board of Supervisors, the Sheriff's Office, the County Office of Emergency Services, the County Executive Office, and other public safety stakeholders on emergency preparedness and response; and

WHEREAS, Chief Morris was always available to answer questions and provide clarity of understanding to complex situations regarding county fire services and emergency response. Yet he also remained self-effacing, allowing his staff to demonstrate their knowledge base and to receive due recognition and praise.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE KNOWN, that the above COMMENDATION was duly passed by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Placer, on behalf of its citizens at a regular meeting held on December 4, 2018. The Placer County Board of Supervisors expresses its gratitude and appreciation for the dedicated service and exemplary leadership that Chief Morris brought to the roles of CAL FIRE Unit Chief and Placer County Fire Chief. We wish him well in his promotion to Assistant Region Chief for the CAL FIRE Northern Region.

Jim Holmes, Supervisor District 3
Chair 2018

JACK DURAN
Supervisor
District 1

ROBERT M. WEYGANDT
Supervisor
District 2

JIM HOLMES
Supervisor
District 3

KIRK UHLER
Supervisor
District 4

JENNIFER MONTGOMERY
Supervisor
District 5