



DATE: March 4, 2019

TO: Mayor Chelminiak and City Councilmembers

FROM: Nathan D. McCommon, Deputy City Manager, 452-7228  
*City Manager's Office*

SUBJECT: Achievement of Credential, Certified Fire Officer

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## FOR INFORMATION ONLY

On February 8 the Commission on Professional Credentialing, on behalf of the Center for Public Safety Excellence (CPSE), conferred upon Fire Chief Jerome D. Hagen the designation of Chief Fire Officer (CFO). This is the highest credential possible for a fire chief outside of a university diploma.

During the Council meeting of March 4, under the Reports of the City Manager, staff will share the importance of achieving the CFO credential and the mayor or designee will deliver to Chief Hagen the official certificate and CFO insignia pin for his uniform.

Standardized, peer reviewed credentialing by the CPSE includes membership in the United States and Canada. Its boards and commissions are comprised of professionals from numerous disciplines and respected organizations such as the International City Management Association, the International Association of Fire Chiefs, the International Association of Fire Fighters, the National Fire Protection Association, the Insurance Services Office, and the United States Department of Defense.

Candidates for CFO experience a rigorous process that evaluates demonstrated experience, educational attainment, research projects, fulfillment of professional development plans, professional contributions in service, community involvement, and much more.

Chief Hagen is now one of just 1,344 designees (not all fire chiefs) that have earned the CFO. The United States Fire Administration estimates that there are over 29,000 fire chiefs in the country.

The City of Bellevue, in support of its delivery of excellent public service, maintains up-to-date accreditation for many of its departments. In addition to teams earning high credentials, the City encourages professional staff to achieve their highest potential through education and training and celebrates each mile stone.

Attachment A: Center for Public Safety designation letter