



Vernon Fire District
25 CR 3142
PO Box 400
VERNON, AZ 85940
(928) 537-4895

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: April 22, 2025
Subject: Hiring of Fire Chief
Contact: Sarah Petersen-Jones
(928) 537-4895
Sarah.Petersen@vfdmail.org
Captain/EMT/Public Information Officer
Vernon Fire District

Following an extensive interview process the Vernon Fire District is pleased to announce the hiring of John Connolly as its next Fire Chief. Connolly will succeed Interim Chief Collin Dewitt who has been assisting the department with this transition since October 2024.

Connolly brings with him more than two decades of experience and leadership in the fire service, having served with the City of La Verne Fire Department and more recently with the City of Calimesa Fire Department. He holds a bachelor's degree from California State at Long Beach and is a certified Paramedic.

Connolly will begin his new role as Vernon Fire Chief beginning April 28, 2025.

We are excited that Chief Connolly will be leading the men and woman of our fire district, and we know he will provide energetic, enthusiastic, and skilled leadership. We look forward to his command and fresh perspective. Please join us in welcoming Chief John Connolly.

##