



BURLINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

136 S. Winooski Avenue, Burlington, VT 05401
Phone: (802) 864-4554 Fax: (802) 865-5387

Michael LaChance

Chief, Burlington Fire Department
March 17, 2025

The Honorable Mayor Emma Mulvaney-Stanak

Mayor, City of Burlington
149 Church St
Burlington, VT 05401

Dear Mayor Mulvaney-Stanak,

With deep gratitude and reflection, I formally submit my intent to retire as Chief of the Burlington Fire Department, effective June 30, 2025. After 26 years of service to this great city and its residents, this decision comes with a mixture of emotions: pride in what we have accomplished, appreciation for the dedicated men and women I have had the honor to serve alongside, and a heartfelt connection to the community we have protected.

Serving as Chief has been the privilege of a lifetime. From my earliest days in the department to my tenure leading it, I have witnessed our firefighters' unwavering commitment, bravery, and professionalism firsthand. Their selfless service in the face of adversity inspires me every day. I am deeply proud of our department's progress in enhancing emergency response capabilities, improving firefighter safety and training, and strengthening our partnerships within the community.

I want to express my sincere appreciation to you, the City Council, and the people of Burlington for the trust and support you have shown me throughout my career. Your commitment to public safety has played a vital role in our department's ability to grow and adapt to our city's evolving needs.

While stepping away from this role is bittersweet, I do so with confidence in the department's future. Burlington is in the hands of an exceptional team of professionals who will continue to uphold the highest standards of service and dedication. I look forward to assisting in the transition in any way I can to ensure a smooth leadership handover.

As I prepare for this next chapter, I do so with immense gratitude for the memories, friendships, and lessons that have shaped my journey. Burlington will always hold a special place in my heart, and I will remain a steadfast supporter of this community and the fire service.

Thank you again for the opportunity to serve. I leave with deep respect for our city's leadership and an enduring appreciation for the honor of having been Burlington's Fire Chief.

With sincere respect and gratitude,

Michael D. LaChance

Chief, Burlington Fire Department