



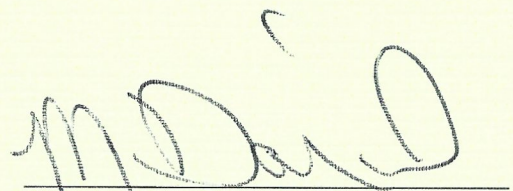
Certificate of Recognition

2026 Firefighter of the Year

Austin Williams

The Firefighter of the Year award, which recognizes one firefighter that exemplifies the true meaning of commitment and pride within an organization, has been decided through a vote by department members and awarded to Firefighter Austin Williams for 2026. Firefighter Williams began his career with the City of Dalton Fire Department in January of 2017. Over the last 9 years, he has worked tirelessly to perfect his craft and become a key contributor through continued training and professional development. Austin is nearing completion of all necessary training and certification to be a member of the department's Special Operations Team. This requires a level of commitment and dedication that speaks volumes about his loyalty to our department. In addition, Austin has recently looked beyond the physical demands of the job to focus on the mental health of his brothers and sisters in service. By completing the peer counselor certification course through the Georgia Department of Public Safety Peer Support Program, he has gained the tools necessary to support the mental well-being of firefighters both within our department and across the state. Firefighter Williams sets the example for others to follow and is humble in his approach and demeanor. It is for his commitment to the community, enthusiasm for the profession, and selfless acts that Austin has been chosen as the City of Dalton Fire Department's 2026 Firefighter of the Year.

2/17/2026
Date


Matt Daniel, Fire Chief