



MEMORANDUM

TO: Hon. Mayor and Board of Commissioners

THROUGH: Robin Gomez, City Manager

FROM: Clint Belk, Fire Chief

DATE: 8/28/2024

RE: Presentation to Lt. Andrew Childers

Background

Lieutenant Andrew Childers began his employment with the Madeira Beach Fire Department in July 2012. He was promoted to Lieutenant on October 13, 2014, and was recognized as the 2014 EMS All-Star and the 2021 MBFD Firefighter of the Year.

Shortly after his promotion, Lt. Childers assumed the responsibilities of the Department's Training Officer and Peer Fitness Coordinator. He is a certified Fire Instructor and teaches at the SPC Fire Academy. Lt. Childers developed a fitness training protocol with required evaluations to ensure the overall health and fitness levels of MBFD firefighters. He also took on the responsibility of overseeing the Department's Water Rescue Program, creating protocols for training requirements, assignment of duties for each member, and the replacement/repair of all water rescue equipment. Lt. Childers serves as the liaison between MBFD and Pinellas County Fire/EMS for the County's Water Rescue Program. In addition to these extra assignments, he coordinates the department's run cards, served on the Truck Committee for the 2017 and 2022 acquisitions of Rosenbauer fire apparatus, and took on the role of Union DVP. In recent years, Lt. Childers volunteered to step down as Training Officer and was assigned the duties of Operations Officer. This newly created role was designed to streamline day-to-day operations within the department, and Andy has excelled in this position as well.

The appreciation for his commitment to improving the Department and the relationships he has built with neighboring departments and City Officials is echoed throughout the MBFD staff. "I have complete faith in him as a leader and respect his ongoing efforts to strengthen our team and help us continue to learn and grow," said one colleague. Others note, "He always leads by example, and I know he has our backs no matter the situation," "He is very knowledgeable and displays patience when instructing others," and "He pushes us all to be better and work better together," adding, "He loves his job, and it shows."

It is bittersweet as we bid farewell to Lt. Childers. After 12 years of outstanding service, his last day with the Madeira Beach Fire Department will be September 2, 2024.

