

TO: Civil Service Commission
FROM: Michelle Sutherland, Secretary Examiner
DATE: February 11, 2025
SUBJECT: Probationary Period Extension

1) Recommended Action:

Approve the City's request to extend Fire Fighter Christian Metzler to end after his shift on September 19, 2025

2) Background:

Firefighter Christian Metzler was hired on May 19, 2024, as a lateral entry firefighter. During hose deployment training on June 8, 2024, he sustained injuries to his shoulder and chest. These injuries resulted in his absence from work and subsequent light duty assignments. Due to his time away and the nature of his light duty, we recommend extending his probationary period.

Metzler's injury occurred while performing 2 ½" hose deployments at the training center, causing him to miss 24 shifts. He returned to work on September 3, 2024, and was assigned to light duty on Battalion T-1 for 13 shifts. On October 26, 2024, he began light duty on the engine, where he conducted EMT assessments, observed engine company operations, and participated in crew training. Despite his physical limitations, his contributions during this period were valuable.

Metzler was cleared for full duty on January 13, 2025. Given his progress during his light duty on the engine, I recommend extending his probation to end after his shift on September 19, 2025. This extension accounts for his recovery period off work and time on Battalion T-1. I am confident that Metzler will complete all required physical training outlined in his probationary manual by this date

3) Alternatives:

No alternatives suggested.

4) Attachments:

A. None