Battalion Chief

Interview Questions

1. Please take a few moments to tell us about yourself.

2. Please describe your education, experience and training as they relate to the position of Battalion Chief.

3. Describe what the fire department can do to meet its affirmative action goals.

4. Describe a situation in which you had to deal with an irate citizen. How did you handle it?

5. Describe your experience in dealing with outside agencies. How will these experiences make you a better Battalion Chief?

6. What is the most challenging assignment that you have ever worked? What did you learn from it and how will this experience make you a better Battalion Chief?

7. You are assigned as a new Battalion Chief to a crew that breeds negativity and mistrust of the department. How would you handle this situation?

8. A neighbor of one of your local fire stations has come to the station and is complaining that the firefighters use the siren too often. You are meeting with the citizen. How would you handle this situation?

9. How would your current crew describe you?

10. Please describe how you, as a supervisor, will uphold the harassment policy.

11. Are you prepared to make the uncomfortable decisions that accompany the position? Please give an example of a decision that you made that was unpopular with the work group.

12. The two Captains at Station 3 are not getting along. It is impacting morale and working conditions at the fire station. Please outline your plan to deal with this situation.

13. Please explain the firefighter bill of rights.

14. You are sitting in your office on a quiet Sunday morning when you receive a phone call from one of your Captains at another station who states he believes a member of his crew is intoxicated. Please describe your actions.

15. Please describe the paperwork process that accompanies a minor injury. When you are finished please do the same with a major injury.

16. You have just been called to a major sewer leak. Upon your arrival you find a a manhole cover has been blown off and a liquid substance is flowing down the gutter and entering the storm drain. Please describe your actions.

17. You receive a sick call from an Engineer who is assigned to one of your stations. This is the third shift in a row that he has called in sick. Please describe your actions.

18. You are making your station rounds and you see a cartoon pinned on the bulletin board in the kitchen that depicts an Asian driver who has been in a traffic accident. The caption has been erased and replaced with the words “Chong has yet another accident”. You believe this is in reference to Engineer Chong’s recent on duty traffic accident where he struck a pole in the supermarket parking lot. Please describe how you would deal with this situation.

19. The older Captains in your Battalion say you have changed since you became a Battalion Chief. Their favorite quote is, “I remember you when……” What would you do and why?

20. Describe your plan to deliver an unpopular message from the Chief regarding a new policy. If fact, you don’t necessarily agree with the policy. How would you deliver this message?

21. A Firefighter on your crew has been critically injured while fighting a fire. Paramedics and ultimately the hospital staff are treating his injuries. Now that the dust has settled, what are your concerns?

22. You are selected to head a committee that is setting high-rise hose packs. How would you go about selecting committee members and what would your recommendations be?

23. You have been asked to receive an award of recognition for the fire department's service to the community by a local church. You are of a different religion. What would you do and why?

24. What will be the greatest challenge you will have if you are promoted to Battalion Chief?

25. What will you do to enhance relationships between management and the floor personnel?

26. Please outline the expectations meeting you will have with the Captains in your battalion.

27. We have covered everything we wanted in this interview. Is there anything that you would like to add in closing?