

Bristol Town Administrator

From: Bristol Fire Department <bristolfiredepartment@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 13, 2020 7:25 PM
To: Bristol Fire Department Google Group
Cc: Bristol Town Administrator
Subject: Announcement: B.F.D. Resignation

To all B.F.D. Members,

It's with mixed emotions that I inform you of Will Elwell's resignation, effective immediately, from the Bristol Fire Department. Losing a dedicated and skilled firefighter is never an easy thing and he will be a loss for B.F.D. However, I am excited for him that he is following his passion as an EMT, beginning a new chapter of his emergency services career and will also be continuing to serve as a firefighter with a new organization.

Will has been a good friend to many of us and I know we all wish him the best in this next chapter of his life.

Brett LaRose
Chief
Bristol Fire Department

Bristol Town Administrator

From: Bristol Fire Department <bristolfiredepartment@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 13, 2020 12:25 PM
To: William Elwell
Subject: B.F.D. Resignation Acknowledgment
Attachments: 2020_VSFA_Firefighter_of_the_Year-William_J_Elwell.pdf

Hi Will,

Thanks again for taking the time to speak with me yesterday. I know resigning was a difficult decision for you to make but you did it with the utmost sincerity. Walking away from something that you have invested so much of yourself in is not an easy thing to do. I commend you for recognizing that it was time to make a change and invest your knowledge and passion for the emergency services elsewhere. I can see how much you enjoy EMS, it's so obvious.

I'm also happy to hear you will continue working as a Firefighter. I know you have your reasons for leaving Bristol FD and I truly do hope you find what you are looking for in New Haven. Bristol Fire Department's loss will be the New Haven Fire Department's gain. They will be lucky to have someone with as much knowledge and experience as you have. You are a professional in every sense of the word and I do wish you all the best in this next chapter of your life.

Take care of yourself Will Elwell, you will be missed.

Sincerely,
-Brett

p.s. The VSFA Firefighter of the Year nomination letter I shared with you yesterday is attached.

Brett LaRose
Chief
Bristol Fire Department

BRISTOL FIRE DEPARTMENT

P.O. BOX 249 – BRISTOL, VT 05443



June 28, 2020

BFD Recognition and Awards Committee

V.S.F.A. Awards Committee:

On behalf of the Officers and Members of the Bristol Fire Department, we would like to submit to the Vermont State Firefighters Association the name of Firefighter William D. Elwell for the 2020 V.S.F.A Firefighter of the Year Award. We believe Will's dedication to the fire service and to his community make him a worthy recipient of this prestigious award.

Will Elwell has served the Bristol Fire Department for the past 10 years as a Fire Cadet and now as a Firefighter. In 2010 Will had the honor and distinction of becoming the Department's first ever Fire Cadet joining the newly established program at the age of 15. For the next three years Will actively participated in all aspects of the Department operations from assisting with monthly apparatus and equipment inspections to supporting firefighters at the scene. Will even got involved with the Department's fundraising initiatives supporting them any way he could.

As a Cadet Firefighter Will enrolled in the Mount Abraham Union High School Firefighter Training Program. This program was offered to any student as part of their daily curriculum. This program supported by the Vermont Fire Service Training Council provided High School students an opportunity to learn about the fire service all while earning credits towards their diploma. During this same time period, Will enrolled in the VT Fire Academy Firefighter 1 program setting himself up for his pro-board certification as a Level 1 Firefighter upon his 18th Birthday. Will was a very mature and responsible young man which set him apart from many of his peers. During Will's time as a Cadet he attended the Vermont State Firefighters' Association – Fire Cadet Academy each summer. The Cadet Academy leadership recognized Will's desire and his capabilities and because of this he was appointed a Fire Cadet Lieutenant his final two years attending the Academy.

Will can be characterized as the embodiment of a volunteer firefighter providing service that is professional, unselfish, dedicated and knowledgeable. His participation and contributions to the department can be seen at every level and aspect from his attendance at calls-for-service, attendance at Department training sessions and serving on Department committees. In addition to his duties as a Firefighter, Will also serves as one of the Board of Directors for the N.H. Munsill Hose, Hook & Ladder Co, the Department's non-profit corporation.

Outside of the Department Will is very active with both the Addison County Firefighters' Association (A.C.F.A.) and the Vermont State Firefighters' Association (V.S.F.A.). Will's involvement includes his role in planning the annual Fire School as a member of the A.C.F.A. Training Committee, attending every Quarterly Meeting, and as one of the two A.C.F.A. Delegates to the V.S.F.A., Will attends all the County Advisory Board meetings. In addition to the time Will gives to the Bristol Fire Department, A.C.F.A. and V.S.F.A., he also finds time to work for the Bristol Rescue Squad as an EMT running multiple shifts a week.

Will's 10 years of service and experience to the Bristol Fire Department make him a great firefighter to work with. He knows his tasks, and completes them with skill, efficiency and is a constant professional. He is a leader for the less experienced firefighters and is always there to lend a hand and keeping the safety of all firefighters at the forefront of each situation

Will Elwell's experience and contributions to the Bristol Fire Department and to the Fire Service Family are notable and set him apart. For all these reasons and more, the Bristol Fire Department Recognition and Awards Committee believe that Will Elwell is a strong and deserving candidate for the V.S.F.A Firefighter of the Year Award.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carl Gile

Carl Gile, Chair