

Brandon L. Wade

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AN ESTABLISHED STRATEGIC LEADER EXPERIENCED IN SOLVING COMPLEX
PROBLEMS AND BUILDING HIGHLY EFFICIENT AND EFFECT TEAMS

AUSTIN FIRE DEPARTMENT, City of Austin, Texas

1998-Present

ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF-EXECUTIVE TEAM

2019-Present

- **Chief of Emergency Operations** 2020-Present
 - Responsible for strategic planning and fiscal management of an annual division-operating budget of approximately \$145.5 million.
 - Directing the fire suppression and medical response division, which includes more than 900 uniformed personnel who serve on 73 fire response units at 51 fire stations across the city.
 - Responsible for regional coordination of automatic aid with 16 different fire agencies for a standardized fire and medical response
 - Representing the organization on the Capital Council of Government Homeland Security Task Force Committee for regional response in a 10-county region and grant allocation for homeland security response
 - Representing the department as the senior executive for fire on the City of Austin's Cross Department Homeless Committee, which included leading the city on developing a unified-command structure for improved efficiency and effectiveness in utilizing city funds and prioritization of encampment cleanup
 - Coordinated all response modifications and staffing for the global pandemic of Covid-19. Developed operating procedures for the month's long civil unrest that took place in the City of Austin. Managed the response for Winter Storm Uri which AFD responded to a record number of incidents during a few days' time.

- **Chief of Logistics, Facilities & Fleet** 2020-Present
 - Responsible for strategic planning and fiscal management of an annual division-operating budget of approximately \$5 million.
 - Oversee the construction projects for new fire stations, which in the past three years have completed construction on three fire stations and beginning on the fourth station. Currently in design phase of fifth station.

- Responsible for current major renovation projects to upgrade current fire station for gender equity and firefighter wellness. Project management budget for each station ranges from \$800,000 to \$7 million.
- Manage the operating fleet for the entire organization with over 350 vehicles across all divisions.
- Responsible for all equipment purchased and placed on apparatus and logistics cache for operations.
- Supervise the Air shops section for maintenance, new purchases, and compliance for the most critical piece of firefighter protection equipment.

➤ **Chief of Homeland Security/Special Operations** 2019-2020

- Managed the 16-discipline special operations response within the department to include hazardous materials, technical rescue, and water rescue.
- Managed the homeland security and intelligence responsibilities with personnel assigned to the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force and Austin Regional Intelligence Center/State Fusion Center.
- Oversaw the special operations yearly training program and certification program for the division.
- Responsible for strategic planning and fiscal management of an annual divisions staff, training, and equipment operating budget of approximately \$1.7 million.

➤ **Chief of Airport Operations** 2019-2020

- Managed the Aircraft Rescue Station and responsible for the compliance of FFA standards.
- Developed a strong working relationship with the Austin-Bergstrom International Airport to ensure safe and efficient operations for all aspects of passenger travel, within the terminals and during aircraft movement.
- Responsible for strategic planning and fiscal management of an annual division-operating budget of approximately \$14 million.

➤ **Chief of Wildfire** 2019-2020

- Managed the coordination of the city's overall wildfire management plan across landowning city departments.
- Successfully helped implement, along with Fire Prevention the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) Fire Code for new development and construction in the WUI regions of the city.
- Lead the department's wildfire mitigation efforts and training plan for the department.
- Oversaw the wildfire community outreach which included 20 Fire Wise communities and coordination of the Community Wildfire Protection Plan

- Responsible for strategic planning and fiscal management of an annual division-operating budget of approximately \$3.6 million.

➤ **Chief of Communications and Dispatch** 2019-2020

- Managed the dispatching responsibilities and 911 call takers for the department to ensure an effective response is appropriately dispatched to emergencies in the city.
- Ensured the department's integration with the Greater Austin Travis County Emergency Radio System continued to meet the demands of emergency response and special events command.
- Responsible for strategic planning and fiscal management of an annual division-operating budget of approximately \$6.6 million.

DIVISION FIRE CHIEF-EXECUTIVE TEAM ***2017-2019***

➤ **Homeland Security/Special Operations/Airport Operations** 2018-2019

- Directly responsible for strategic planning and fiscal management of an annual divisions staff, training, and equipment operating budget of approximately \$15.7 million
- Directly supervised the 16 disciplines within special operations response to include but not limited to hazardous materials, technical rescue, and water rescue.
- Managed the homeland security and intelligence responsibilities with personnel assigned to the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force and Austin Regional Intelligence Center/State Fusion Center.
- Oversaw the Special Operations yearly training program and certification program for the division.
- Managed the Aircraft Rescue Station and responsible for the compliance of FFA standards.
- Developed an intimate working relationship with the Austin-Bergstrom International Airport Operations Director to ensure safe and efficient operations for all aspects of passenger travel and employees, within the terminals and during aircraft movement.
- Served as the lead for the coordination of the first full City of Austin boil water notice and lead the coordination of water distribution for the city.

➤ **Education Services / Medical Operations/Recruiting** 2017-2018

- Responsible for the strategic planning and management of \$2.9 million operating budget.
- Coordinated all cadet training for the department.

- Lead the division in the first ever cadet class in which AFD merged a county fire emergency service district's firefighters within the ranks of the organization.
- Was responsible for the development of continuing education professional development for the department.
- Managed the inter-local agreement between the department and Austin Community College (ACC) for the department's college credits for training and professional development. This included an established reimbursement program for state training hours from ACC.
- Successfully managed the organization in a complete automatic defibrillator change out and new purchase.
- Oversaw the recruitment process to achieve the goal of increased diversity within the organization.

BATTALION FIRE CHIEF

2013-2017

- **Special Operations Battalion 6** 2017-2017
 - Directly supervised the emergency response for special operations battalion.
 - Managed the training plan for the battalion to include initial certification and continuing education

- **High-rise Battalion 1** 2016-2017
 - Directly supervised the emergency response for high-rise battalion.
 - Managed the training plan for the battalion to continuing education for high-rise response

- **Battalion 5** 2016
 - Directly supervised the emergency response for the battalion.

- **Education Services and Training** 2013 - 2016
 - Directly responsible for the management of \$2.9 million operating budget.
 - Coordinated all cadet training for the department.
 - Lead the division in reestablishment of the cadet academy program after the Department of Justice Consent Decree directive.
 - Was responsible for the development of continuing education professional development for the department.
 - Managed the inter-local agreement between the department and Austin Community College (ACC) for the department's college credits for training and professional development. This included an established reimbursement program for state training hours from ACC.

Captain, Lieutenant, Fire Specialist, & Firefighter responsibilities available on request 1998-2008

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Applied Science, Emergency Management Administration, West Texas A&M, Canyon Texas, 2020

Associate of Applied Science, Fire Science, San Antonio College, San Antonio, Texas, 2005

TRAINING AND CERTIFICATIONS

Advanced Security Training Institute Counter Terrorism Immersion Training Course - Israel
Texas Commission on Fire Protection

- Master Firefighter
- Fire Officer 4
- Incident Commander
- Fire Instructor 3 Master
- Fire Inspector
- Safety Officer
- Hazardous Material Technician
- Driver Operator
- Wildland Firefighter 2

Austin Police Department Executive Leadership Academy

Active Attack Integrated Response Train the Trainer FEMA

Urban Search & Rescue Task Force Leader Course

FEMA Urban Search & Rescue Task Force Safety Officer Course

Structural Collapse Technician 1&2

Rope Rescue Technician 1&2

Confined Space Technician

Swift Water Technician

Wide Area Search

SELECT MEMBERSHIPS & SPECIAL EVENT EXPERIENCE

Chair - Capitol Area Council of Governments Homeland Security Task Force

Chair – Regional Response Sub-Committee Capital Area Council of Governments

Safety Officer -FEMA Urban Search and Rescue: Texas A&M Task Force 1:

- Rescue Squad Office 2013- 2021 – Deployment to disaster across the State of Texas and Louisiana

Member- Capital Area Fire Chiefs Association

Member- International Association of Fire Chiefs

Member- Emergency Management Association of Texas

Member-Austin Firefighters Association Local 975

Member-Auxiliary to Local 975

Unified Command – South by Southwest Conference (multiple years)

Unified Command – Austin City Limits Music Festival (multiple years)

Unified Command – F1 Race COTA (multiple years)
Unified Command – Capitol Protest at State Department Operations Center
Unified Command – University of Texas Football (multiple years)
Unified Command – Hurricane Evacuee Operation (Austin Center)

SELECT PRESENTATIONS:

2021 Fire-Dex Podcast: Presenter on Fire Department Response during Civil Unrest
2019 Fire as a Weapon Conference – Co-Sponsor/Organizer & Presenter: Lessons Learned from Israel Response to Fire as a Weapon
2018 Fire Apparatus Manufacture Association / Fire Emergency Manufacturers and Service Association Speaker and Fire Chiefs Panel on Firefighter Life Safety 2018
2017 Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service Leadership Development Symposium:
• Featured Speaker 2015, 2016/ Inaugural Command Chat Presenter 2017
2017/2016 Fire House World San Diego: 2016, 2017
2017 Fire Department Instructor Conference Indianapolis: 2017
2017 Fort Worth Fire Department Cadet Graduation Keynote Speaker: 2017
2016 Austin South by Southwest Educational Conference: Co-speaker Disaster Preparedness for Schools
2010-2012 Homeland Security Exercise Evaluation Program Instructor: 2010-2012

DEVELOPMENT OF AUSTIN FIRE DEPARTMENT PROGRAMS:

Active Attack Response Protocols: Collaborated with local and state agencies to achieve a unified response to active attack / active threat to include pre-staged Rescue Task Force for immediate response to violent incident during planned events.

Austin Fire Department Leadership Course

Mandatory Added Time Program for Operations Staffing

Fire Ground Officer College: 8-day course designed to develop fire ground officers with skills and abilities to make critical decision on incident scenes.

Cadet Performance Percentile Scale: An analytical tool designed to assist in the evaluation of cadets during skills testing.

AWARDS

AFD Medal of Honor: The highest award in the Austin Fire Department and currently the only active Austin Fire Department member with the medal.

AFD Medal of Merit

AFD Phoenix Award: Multiple

AFD Meritorious Service

AFD Campaign Citations

AFD Distinguished Service Award

Firehouse Magazine Heroism Award Winner

Veterans of Foreign Wars Heroism Award Winner

Multiple Unit Citations