

JEFF BOWMAN, FIRE CHIEF SAN DIEGO FIRE-RESCUE DEPARTMENT

Chief Jeff Bowman was appointed as Fire Chief of San Diego Fire-Rescue Department on May 6, 2002. Prior to his appointment, he was Fire Chief of Anaheim Fire Department. His fire service career with Anaheim Fire spans over 28 years and six moves up the departmental ladder has kept him involved in his community-from job responsibilities to volunteer efforts.

Chief Bowman joined the Anaheim Fire Department in 1973 as a Firefighter. He graduated Paramedic training in 1976 and was promoted to Captain in 1979. In 1983, he was promoted to Battalion Chief, followed by a move to Division Chief two years later. On December 9, 1986, he reached the top rung, that of Fire Chief.

Throughout his career, Chief Bowman has involved his fire department staff in the community by sponsoring activities for young and old, including an immunization clinic, a holiday party with Santa, a haunted house and a Learn Not to Burn program.

Youth has been the primary focus of Chief Bowman's volunteer hours. A founding member, he was president of the Boys and Girls Club of Anaheim Board of Directors from 1988 to 1994. He was fund raising chairman for the Orange County Boy Scouts and Leukemia Society of Orange County. He has coached soccer Little League and has been a National Junior Basketball instructor.

Chief Bowman has been a celebrity waiter for Paint Your Heart Out Anaheim, chairman of Firefox, a former calendar that featured firefighters, and was an advisor for the 911 Bowl police/fire football game.

Professionally, Chief Bowman has been president of both the California Fire Chief's Association and the Orange County Fire Chief's Association. He is both Chairman of the Fire Apparatus Committee and the Ground Ladder Committee of the National Fire Protection Association, and was the IAFC's appointee to the Operation Life Safety Steering Committee. In Orange County, Chief Bowman is or has been a board member of the Emergency Medical Care Committee, Paramedic Advisory Committee, Medical Quality Assurance Board, and Hazardous Materials Joint Powers Authority.

Governor Pete Wilson appointed him to the State Board of Fire Services in 1997. He has also been named 1993 Fireman of the Year by the Anaheim Firefighters Association and was the Boys and Girls Club's Man of the Year. Orange County Fire Services presented him with both the Overachiever Award and the Monsignor Sammon Award for outstanding community service, and in 1987, he received the Distinguished Service Award from Sertoma. He has served as a Board Member of Anaheim Memorial Medical Center, where he also served a 2 ½ year term as Chairman. In 1998, the Cypress College Foundation Board selected him "Citizen of the Year" for Anaheim. Chief Bowman also was recognized in August of 1998 as one of the first six California fire chiefs to receive the distinction and recognition by Governor Pete Wilson as a "certified fire chief" in the State of California.