



Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 8, 2019

Ekaitis Selected as New Troup County Fire Chief

Troup County, Ga. July 8, 2019 – The Troup County Board of Commissioner is pleased to welcome John Ekaitis as new Troup County Fire Chief, effective July 29, 2019.

Ekaitis has over twenty-nine years of professional experience in Fire and Emergency Services, where he demonstrated proven success in fire prevention, regulatory compliance and policy coordination, as well as increasing operational efficiencies and productivity. His extensive knowledge and experience in fire services, public safety, incident command, budgeting, grants, and ISO ratings, along with his education and training in fire safety, administration, and emergency management will make him a great asset to the Fire Department and the community.

He is excited to begin the role as Fire Chief and is eager to bring awareness and improvements to the Fire Department, “I look forward to meeting and getting to know the personnel that will ultimately serve beside me, becoming involved in community activities, reviewing the current apparatus fleet and facilities, and understanding and developing future improvements for fire services in Troup County,” said Ekaitis. Within the first 90 days of his position, he will spend time understanding the potential of the organization before implementing changes where needed.

Prior to joining Troup County, he served as Fire Chief for Sumter County Fire Department, where he was responsible for overseeing the day-to-day operations of fire and rescue services. While acting as Fire Chief, he successfully reduced the ISO rating from a 6/6y to a 4/4y, introduced a recruitment and retention program for volunteer firefighters, and produced the first Standing Operating Guideline for the department. He also served other fire service departments in South Carolina and North Carolina as Fire Chief after leaving the United States Army in 1982.

He graduated from Keiser University with an Associate of Science Degree in Fire Science and Grand Canyon University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Public Safety Administration. Additionally, he also maintains a certification in emergency management for the state of Georgia and is affiliated with numerous fire protection/emergency management associations.

Ekaitis currently resides in Americus, Georgia with plans to relocate to Troup County as soon as possible. He has three children and four grandchildren.

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