



## News Release for Colerain Fire



### For Immediate Release

Date: **December 31, 2014**

Today marks a bittersweet milestone for the membership of the CTFD. Today we mark the end of an era as Chief Bruce Smith begins the transition to a new leadership team at CTFD. In November, Chief Smith announced his retirement after almost 45 years with the Fire Department. Chief Smith will officially begin his retirement in June; however he is beginning the transition on January 1st. The Township Board of Trustees has already named Assistant Chief Frank Cook to the position of Fire Chief beginning on January 1st, 2015.

The membership of CTFD wants to extend our heartfelt appreciation to Chief Smith and all he has done for us and for the community over these last many years. Chief Smith took over the reigns of the Department from Chief Corky Snyder in 1987. During Chief Smith's tenure, he has always positioned CTFD to be on the region's leading edge of emergency services. He began paramedic services in 1989, expanded the roster to almost 200 certified firefighter/EMT's and Paramedics, opened a new fire station serving our north east residents and has been active both locally and regionally in political process affecting the safety and health of our firefighters.

Chief Smith's vision has taken our department to heights never thought possible...and he has done this while fostering and maintaining a "family feel" within the ranks of the membership. Firefighting is a dangerous business as was tragically demonstrated on April 4th, 2008 with the sudden deaths of Captain Robin Broxterman and Firefighter Brian Schira. Chief Smith led the Department through this tumultuous time and spearheaded an investigative report that made major changes to the way we conduct our operations. Today our emergency operations are more efficient and safer as a result of Chief Smith's leadership.

We want to thank Chief Smith for his tireless support of our firefighters and residents. His leadership and legacy have set the bar pretty high. Our Department is a much better place for him having been at the helm and we will miss him in this position.

Thank You Chief Smith!

Questions or inquiries into this incident may be directed to either Public Information Officer: Captain Steve Conn at 513-615-8698, [sconn@colerain.org](mailto:sconn@colerain.org), or Captain Darian Edwards at 513-623-0078, [dedwards@colerain.org](mailto:dedwards@colerain.org) .



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