



## **PRESS RELEASE**

**City of Akron 166 S. High Street Akron, Ohio 44308**  
**(330)-375-2345 Fax:(330)- 375-2468**  
**Web: [www.akronohio.gov](http://www.akronohio.gov)**

**For Immediate Release**

Contact: Stephanie York, Director of Communications  
[syork@akronohio.gov](mailto:syork@akronohio.gov) or 330-375-2345 (w) / 330-289-1467 (c)

### **Mayor Plusquellic Selects Fire Chief**

Akron, Ohio (June 8, 2012) - Mayor Don Plusquellic has selected one of the City of Akron's three deputy fire chiefs as the new Chief of the Akron Fire Department. Mayor Plusquellic chose 53 year old Rob Ross, who has been interim Fire Chief since January, 2011, when Chief Larry Bunner retired.

Ross officially leads the department of 325 uniformed personnel and 22 support staffers beginning today, after spending the last 18 months as Akron's interim fire chief.

Ross joined the AFD in October of 1981 as a firefighter. His promotional track took him to lieutenant 9 years later, to captain in 1997, district chief in 1999, and deputy fire chief in 2003. During his tenure as Interim Chief, the Akron Fire Department was evaluated by the Insurance Services Office and received an improved "Public Protection

Classification Rating,” which is a significant accomplishment. In 2012, the Akron Fire Department was also recognized by the State of Ohio EMS Board as the “Paid/Combination EMS Agency of the Year.”

Ross is also active in the Summit County Fire Chiefs’ Association, having formerly held the positions of trustee, Vice-President, and President. He is currently in his second full term as chairperson of the Summit County Emergency Management Executive Committee.

Mayor Plusquellic calls Ross a dedicated firefighter whose leadership has been present for many years.

“Experience is a solid foundation for good strong leadership, and Chief Ross has learned a great deal in his almost 31 years of service,” said Plusquellic. “Ross has proven he is a capable Chief over the past 18 months. He is well respected within the department and throughout the community.”

“The Akron Fire Department is an organization with a long history and reputation for providing efficient, effective service to the citizens of Akron,” said Chief Rob Ross. “It is my honor to continue my contributions to this department and the City of Akron, now as its Fire Chief. I do so proudly as the son of former Akron firefighter who served our department for 33 years. But I have to credit our successes to all the hardworking men and women of this department, they are the ones truly responsible for the good work we do.”

Chief Rob Ross’ annual salary will be \$113,921.60.

End.