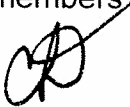


Office of the City Manager

Date: December 24, 2012
To: Honorable Mayor and Councilmembers
From: Christine Daniel, City Manager 
Subject: Interim Fire Chief

As you know, the City's Fire Chief, Deby Pryor, is retiring on December 28, 2012 after 27 years of public service. Chief Pryor has had an exemplary career in the Fire Service and has continued the tradition of leading an exceptional Fire Department here in the City. We are grateful for her leadership and commitment to the Berkeley community for so many years. The Fire Department's leadership team includes Deputy Chief Gil Dong who has served the Department in a variety of capacities since 1990. I have asked Chief Dong to serve as the Interim Fire Chief.

Chief Dong joined the Berkeley Fire Department in 1990 as a Firefighter-Paramedic. He was promoted to Apparatus Operator in 1994, Lieutenant in 1998, and Fire Captain in 2000. During his tenure he served as Assistant Director of Training, Paramedic Program Supervisor, and as Station Commander of Fire Stations 3 and 5. In 2005, he was promoted to Assistant Fire Chief and served as Fire Marshal and Office of Emergency Services Manager. He was promoted to Deputy Fire Chief in 2007.

Chief Dong received an Associate of Science Degree in Fire Technology from the College of San Mateo, a Bachelor's Degree in Management and a Master's Degree in Leadership from Saint Mary's College in Moraga. He also holds certificates from the Emergency Management Institute, Federal Emergency Management Agency and California State Fire Marshal's Office. He received his paramedic training from Stanford Hospital-Foothill College.

Chief Dong is the highest-ranking Asian-American chief officer to serve the Berkeley Fire Department. Please join me in welcoming Gil Dong to his new position as Interim Fire Chief.

cc: Ann-Marie Hogan, City Auditor
Department Directors