



San Miguel Consolidated Fire Protection District

Serving the communities of Bostonia, Casa de Oro, Crest, Grossmont/Mt. Helix, La Presa, Rancho San Diego, Spring Valley, and unincorporated areas of El Cajon and La Mesa

April 25, 2012

Chris Winter, Board President
San Miguel Fire District
2850 Via Orange Way
Spring Valley, CA 91978

Dear President Winter:

This letter serves as my notice to retire effective May 16, 2012. At the Board of Directors pleasure, I am available to work as a retired annuitant to support the needs of the Board until a permanent Fire Chief recruitment process is developed and a selection is made or a contract for services is developed with CALFIRE.

I have been honored to serve the San Miguel Consolidated Fire Protection District (the District) over the past 6 years. With the support of the Board of Directors, staff and our employees, we have accomplished a great deal in that period of time. Together we have developed and implemented fiscal policy toward the long-term sustainability of District services and infrastructure; established and maintained performance metrics for emergency and non-emergency services; successfully consolidated with the former East County Fire Protection District; developed guidelines and policies that insure organizational and personal accountability while reducing risk and liability to the District; established a Labor Management Initiative process that has the potential to develop an improved labor/management partnership toward accomplishing goals for the District and the communities we serve; lead the effort to phase build, at no cost to the District, a state of the art Fire and Public Safety Training Center within our District; developed, implemented, and sustained model Fire Prevention and Community Education and Readiness programs for our businesses and communities. These are but a few of the things we have accomplished together as we managed our District through the most significantly challenging economy since the Great Depression.

My decision to retire prior to my initial target date of January 27, 2013, is to begin the transition process into true retirement for my family and I, to spend more quality time with my grandchildren, and to provide the Board of Directors the time to identify and implement a Fire Chief replacement or alternative services plan. It has been a true honor to serve you, the District and its citizens. I could not have imagined working for a better organization than San Miguel.

Respectfully, and with fondness,

August F. Ghio
Fire Chief

2850 Via Orange Way, Spring Valley, California 91978-1746
(619) 670-0500 • (619) 670-5331 Fax • www.smgfire.org