



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **FORMER PEARLAND ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF SELECTED FOR TOP FIRE POSITION IN THE CITY OF TAYLOR** *Daniel Baum to Return to His Roots in Central Texas this April*

**TAYLOR, Texas** –After a nation-wide search, Interim City Manager Jeff Jenkins is pleased to announce that the City of Taylor has hired Daniel Baum to be the City’s new Fire Department Chief. Mr. Baum, who began his career in Fire Services in the Austin area, has served as the Assistant Fire Chief for the City of Pearland since 2013. He will begin his new duties with the City of Taylor on April 22, 2019, pending Council’s approval of his appointment on March 14. The City’s current Chief, Pat Ekiss, who announced his retirement effective March 31, will stay on throughout the month of April at the City’s request to assist with Mr. Baum’s orientation.

Mr. Baum holds a Master’s degree in Emergency and Disaster Management from American Public University and a Bachelor’s degree in Occupational Safety and Health from Columbia Southern University. He is a graduate of the Executive Fire Officer Program at the National Fire Academy, and recently earned his Fire Service Chief Executive Officer certificate from the Texas Engineering Extension Service at Texas A&M University. Prior to serving as the Assistant Fire Chief in Pearland, Mr. Baum also served for two years as Chief of the City of Pearland Emergency Medical Services. Before moving to Pearland, Mr. Baum served as EMS Division Chief and Lieutenant for the Buda Fire Department, and also served as a Paramedic with San Marcos/Hays County EMS.

“We are happy that Mr. Baum has decided to come back to Central Texas,” said Interim City Manager Jeff Jenkins. “The Fire Chief is an essential role in the City of Taylor, and it is really important that the person in that position not only has the right experience, but also is a good fit for the City. The Department Directors who met with him developed a good rapport with Mr. Baum during the interview process, and I know he will do well in Taylor. The rest of the staff and I look forward to working with him.”

Mr. Baum will be responsible for the oversight of the City of Taylor Fire Department, which provides not only fire suppression functions but also EMS first response, rescue, fire prevention public education, fire investigation, hazardous materials response, wildland response and pre-fire mitigation services. The department is also charged with emergency management oversight and duties.

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