



# **ALBEMARLE FIRE DEPARTMENT**

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## **For Immediate Release**

August 10, 2017

For more information contact:  
Shawn Oke, Fire Chief  
704-984-9477

The City of Albemarle is pleased to announce the hiring of Michael Roark as our next fire marshal. Michael will be assuming the role left vacant by Brian Taylor who left the department to be the Assistant State Fire Marshal for the North Carolina Office of State Fire Marshal.

Michael brings a great deal of experience to the fire department and City of Albemarle as he has been the Stanly County fire marshal since March 2007. Prior to coming to Stanly County, Michael spent five years as a fire prevention specialist with the Town of Boone, NC. The knowledge of our community and relationships he has developed over the past ten years is going to allow Michael to quickly fit into the systems currently in place with the city.

One of Michael's primary responsibilities will be working closely with the City of Albemarle Planning and Community Development office to assist current and future businesses with the issues they face related to the fire code. As part of this relationship with Planning and Community Development, Michael's office will be located at City Hall so he is more easily accessible to citizens who need his services. In addition to working with the Planning and Community Development office, Michael will assume the role of Emergency Management Coordinator for the city. This role will place Michael in charge of coordinating with all city departments for disaster planning and management.

Michael will oversee the fire department's two part-time fire inspectors who are charged with conducting fire inspections for all businesses in the City of Albemarle. He will also be responsible for conducting fire investigations for the city.

Fire Marshal Roark will assume his duties with the city on August 28.

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