

# T O R R A N C E

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## **Torrance Fire Chief Racowschi Announces Retirement After Over Thirty-Five Years of Service**

Torrance, Calif., Aug. 27, 2015 – Torrance Fire Chief William Racowschi announced his retirement today after over thirty-five years of service to the City of Torrance, Racowschi will officially leave his post at the end of the year.

Fire Chief Racowschi started his career at the Burbank Fire Department then at Hughes Aircraft. In 1980 Racowschi join the Torrance Fire Department, and has risen through the ranks. He was promoted to fire engineer in 1986, and fire captain in 1992, wherein he also served as training coordinator. In 1999, Racowschi rose to battalion chief, a position he held until his appointment as the eleventh appointed Fire Chief for the City of Torrance bringing the motto, “Participate in the change process or you won’t like how you’ll be changed.”

Torrance City Manager LeRoy J. Jackson notes, “Chief Racowschi has brought the fire department a wealth of command and administrative experience that he gained from the different roles he served throughout the years. He has displayed a strong commitment to serving the present and future needs of the Torrance community.”

William Racowschi received an associate arts degree in Fire Science from Los Angeles Harbor Community College and a bachelor’s degree in Professional Studies from California State University in Long Beach. Under his leadership, the Torrance Fire Department excelled as a Class 1 Fire Department and providing a high quality of service during challenging times.

Chief Willie shared that he is proud of and grateful for the service he has provided to the City, and humbled by the many special people he has had the opportunity to work with. He noted, ““I feel like it’s a good time for someone to take over—provide a different perspective, it’s been a great ride.”

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