



Texas Fire Chiefs Association
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**Victoria Fire Department & Watauga Fire Department
Awarded Best Practices Recognition Status**

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**VICTORIA FIRE DEPARTMENT AND WATAUGA FIRE DEPARTMENT
AWARDED BEST PRACTICES RECOGNITION STATUS BY THE TEXAS FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION**

Austin, TX - On July 5, 2018 the Victoria Fire Department and Watauga Fire Department received the award and designation of "Recognized Best Practices Fire Department" from the Texas Fire Chiefs Association Best Practices Recognition Program.

Begun in 2013, the Recognition Program evaluates a Fire Department's compliance with over 117 Best Business Practices for Fire Departments in the State of Texas. These Best Practices were developed by Fire Service professionals to assist agencies in the efficient and effective delivery of service to communities. These Best Practices cover all aspects of Fire Department management and services including but not limited to Administration and Organization, Emergency Medical Service, Fire Prevention, Risk Reduction, Community Outreach, Safety and Health and Professional Standards and Conduct.

This voluntary process required the departments to conduct a critical self-review of the department's policies, procedures, facilities and operations. The departments began the lengthy process to become a "Recognized" Fire Department in the Best Practices Program by preparing proofs of compliance for each of the Program's areas of concentration. Upon completion of an internal review, an outside audit and review was requested. The final on-site reviews were conducted by trained Fire Chiefs and Assistant Fire Chiefs from other areas of the state. The result of this review was then sent to the Texas Fire Chiefs Best Practices Recognition Board for final analysis and decision to award "Recognized" status.

On July 5, 2018 the departments were notified they had received the coveted "Recognized Best Practices Fire Department" designation. The Victoria Fire Department and Watauga Fire Department become the seventeenth and eighteenth departments in the state of Texas to achieve this status.

The TFCA Best Practices program provides a pathway for a fire department to push its level of service to a level of excellence that is validated by independent experts. This designation demonstrates to customers of these organizations that their fire department is among the very best in the Texas fire service.

The TFCA Executive Board would like to congratulate Chief Tracy Fox of the Victoria Fire Department and Chief Shawn Fannan of the Watauga Fire Department and all members of their

departments for their dedication to the profession in undertaking the Best Practices Recognition Program.

The actual presentation of the awards will take place at a future City Council Meeting. The departments will also be recognized at the TFCA Executive Conference in Georgetown in March 2019.

More information and a description of the program can be found at www.txfirechiefs.org

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If you'd like more information on this topic please contact Betty Wilkes at 512.939.7277 or email Betty at bwilkes@txfirechiefs.org.

www.bestpracticetexas.org



Best Practices
RECOGNITION PROGRAM

www.txfirechiefs.org