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Scott County Appoints First-Ever Fire Marshal to Lead Fire Prevention and Investigation Efforts

GEORGETOWN, KY (July 2025) — In a significant step toward strengthening public safety, the Scott County Fiscal Court has officially established a Fire Marshal position, effective with the new fiscal year beginning July 1. During last week's Fiscal Court meeting, the appointment of Josh Cromer as the first Fire Marshal for Scott County was approved.

Josh Cromer has served with the Scott County Fire Department since August 2018, rising to the rank of Lieutenant in 2023. With a deep commitment to professional development and operational excellence, Cromer has led the department's fire investigation efforts over the past two years, authored multiple standard operating procedures, and contributed to both training and administrative initiatives. He holds certifications from the International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI) and the National Association of Fire Investigators (NAFI), and is currently working toward his Certified Fire Investigator credential.

Chief John Ward of the Scott County Fire Department praised the milestone and Cromer's appointment:

"We are proud to welcome Josh Cromer as Scott County's first Fire Marshal. His appointment marks a major milestone in the continued growth and professionalism of our department. One of the most important aspects of our job is prevention, and this new position allows us to be proactive rather than reactive when it comes to fire safety. By strengthening fire prevention and public education efforts, we can better protect our community and reduce risks before emergencies occur. I look forward to the positive impact Josh will make for both the department and the citizens we serve."

Joe Pat Covington, Scott County Judge Executive said, "Establishing the role of Fire Marshal is a vital step forward in meeting the growing safety needs of Scott County, and I am grateful for the support and vision of the Fiscal Court. I can think of no better person to lead this effort than Josh Cromer. His dedication, experience, and leadership will make an immediate impact in our community and Fire Department. As our first-ever Fire Marshal, Josh will help ensure that we're not only responding to emergencies but actively working to prevent them. This appointment reflects our commitment to proactive public safety and a safer future for all Scott Countians."

In his new role, Cromer will oversee fire prevention, code enforcement, inspections, public education, and fire cause/origin investigations for the county, operating under state and national fire codes and safety standards. He will also act as the department's liaison with planning, zoning, and emergency management agencies.

The creation of the Fire Marshal position is a response to the county's growth and the increasing complexity of fire prevention and safety demands. The Fire Marshal will be responsible for ensuring fire code compliance across commercial and public facilities, managing public safety outreach, and serving as a technical resource for local emergency response teams.

In a formal letter of interest, Cromer wrote:

"I am deeply committed to advancing the Scott County Fire Department as a model agency, and I am confident that my qualifications, initiative, and leadership make me the right candidate for this position."

With Cromer's appointment, Scott County takes a major leap forward in fire prevention, education, and emergency preparedness, building a safer future for all its residents.