



LADDERS

The recruit newsletter of the South Euclid Fire Department

Climbing to a career as a firefighter in the South Euclid Fire Department, one rung at a time.

Issue One

Why Choose Firefighting As A Career?

Welcome to the inaugural edition of “**Ladders**.” The purpose of “**Ladders**” is to provide potential recruits information and news that improve their chances of obtaining a career in the fire service, specifically working for the City of South Euclid.

Thirty one years ago when I started my career in the fire service, times were similar to today. The country was recovering from a recession, the price of oil was rising and jobs were hard to find. I received some excellent advice from a family member, “start taking fire exams.” I did and here I am thirty one years later, nearing the completion of a successful and rewarding career. The job has changed some over the years, but the part that makes it great remains the same.

- 🔥 **Exciting work.** There isn’t much more exciting work than firefighting and providing Emergency Medical Service. When others are running out of buildings, we are going in. When people are seriously ill or hurt, we respond to treat them. If there is a serious emergency, we are going to be there finding a way to make things better.
- 🔥 **Rewarding work.** The feeling you get when someone thanks you for helping them or a family member can only be described as awesome. Knowing that you did your best and you made a difference is truly a satisfying feeling. This is one job where you can truly make a difference in people’s lives.
- 🔥 **Being part of a team.** Whether it is at a fire scene or at an EMS incident, everyone on the team has a vital role. Working as a team we are able to accomplish amazing things. Your teammates are there to support you and assist in providing the best care.
- 🔥 **Truly a career.** It is very rare for our firefighters to leave prior to retirement. The career provides opportunity for advancement and job satisfaction that tends to retain employees until reaching retirement age.
- 🔥 **Benefits.** Throughout my career, I have always been fairly compensated. The benefits include; hospitalization, vacation, holiday pay and uniforms. Firefighters are part of a public pension system and can retire after twenty five years of service. Class A pay which starts with your third year is \$66,174.
- 🔥 **City of South Euclid.** South Euclid is truly a great place to work. Our department is one of the finest around and our community provides the right mix that keeps us busy, but not overwhelmed. The City Administration provides excellent support for all of its employees. If I had to start over again in my career, South Euclid would be my first choice.

I hope this information has been helpful to you. Our goal is to provide additional information that you can use to start your career in the fire service. Look for additional newsletters every other month. Attached you will find some additional reading to help you in your journey.

Rick Huston, Chief
South Euclid Fire Department