

FIRE CHIEF CITY OF SANTA CRUZ, CALIFORNIA

The City of Santa Cruz, California is seeking a new Fire Chief. This is an extraordinary career opportunity to lead and chart the future of a highly respected fire department in a premium community that offers an exceptional quality of life.

The Santa Cruz Fire Department serves a population of nearly 65,000 residents over an area of 15.8 square miles. The department is a non-transport BLS/ALS provider. In the City of Santa Cruz, fire and emergency medical services operate within a highly diverse geographic region combining urban, suburban, forested mountain and marine environments. The Santa Cruz Fire Department operates four (4) engine companies and one (1) ladder company from four (4) fire stations strategically located within the city's boundaries. All companies are staffed and equipped to provide ALS level services. In 2013, the Fire Operations Division responded to over 8,000 calls for service with more than 80% of those for life safety and medical emergencies. The department has earned a Class 2 ISO rating.

The new Fire Chief will administer a 2015 operating budget of approximately \$15.4 million (combined suppression, EMS and fire prevention) and provide leadership to a staff of 62 full-time and 71 part-time/seasonal employees. The Fire Chief is supported by a Deputy Chief – Operations; a Fire Marshal/Division Chief and Deputy Fire Marshal; four Battalion Chiefs; and a Marine Safety Fire Captain. The department is organized into four divisions: Fire Administration, Fire Operations, Fire Prevention and Marine Safety. Santa Cruz Fire recently completed a landmark consolidation of operations and resources between the City of Santa Cruz and the University of California, Santa Cruz for the provision of fire and emergency services. The new consolidation adds the university fire station, fleet, personnel and resources to the department's city operations and will allow it to better serve the public safety needs of the students, faculty and staff of the university.

In operation for over 100 years, the reputation of the Santa Cruz Fire Department within the region well known – the department is viewed by its peer agencies to be at the forefront of leadership in the provision of fire/EMS services and training.

For additional information about the Santa Cruz Fire Department and the City of Santa Cruz, please visit the city's website at: <http://www.cityofsantacruz.com>

To qualify for consideration, a minimum of five years of previous management experience in a similar size department or larger at the Battalion Chief rank or higher is required. A Bachelor's degree or above from an accredited college or university with major course work in Fire Science, Fire Business, Public or Business Administration or a closely related field is also required. A candidate's career path should demonstrate knowledge of fire department operations and management, public administration of local governments, best practices in the management of municipal fire and emergency services, and principals and practices of emergency preparedness and disaster response. An Executive Officer Certification from the National Fire Academy and an Emergency Manager Certification is desirable but not required. It is preferred that the new fire chief live within the Santa Cruz area and will become an active and visible member of the community.

Please view the comprehensive recruitment brochure provided below.

If you may be interested in being considered for this exceptional career opportunity serving a premier community, please submit *electronically* your cover letter (explaining why you believe you are a good fit for the position), resume, salary history and four professional references no later than **February 2, 2015**, to:

Clark Wurzberger, The Mercer Group, Inc.

Email: cwurzberger@mercergroupinc.com

Tel. (530) 637-4559; Fax: (530) 637-1048.

Submissions due electronically by: **February 2, 2015, by 5:00 p.m.**

The City of Santa Cruz is and **Equal Opportunity Employer** and values diversity at all levels of its workforce. **Women and minority candidates are encouraged to apply.**

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