

**SERVICE COMMENDATION
ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF PAUL FIRTH AND
POLICE DETECTIVE PATRICK DYJEWSKI
ON BEING AWARDED FIRE INVESTIGATORS OF THE YEAR**

WHEREAS, Thirteen fires affecting cars, homes and businesses in Royal Oak occurred between 2015-2019 and a fire occurred in the City of Troy on April 14, 2019 when a truck burned at a local Troy business; and

WHEREAS, **Assistant Fire Chief Paul Firth** began investigating the truck fire, and began an investigation that linked to the Royal Oak fires. Through the collaborative investigation between Troy Fire Department, Troy Police Department, Royal Oak Police Department, and the Oakland County Sheriff, a suspect was ultimately identified; and

WHEREAS, Royal Oak Police Detectives interviewed the suspect who, when faced with the evidence, confessed to the fires. The suspect was charged with multiple crimes including, three counts of 4th degree arson, two counts of 2nd degree arson, six counts of 3rd degree arson, one count of breaking and entering, one count of larceny, and one count of possession of a firearm during a felony. The suspect plead guilty to 8 of 14 counts, and is serving 10-40 years; and

WHEREAS, The Fire and Police investigators from a number of local agencies conducted investigations on multiple fire scenes that ultimately lead to a solid case. That case was handled by Oakland County Prosecutor Denise Callous who not only wrote the warrant, she guided the case through the court where the suspect pled guilty; and

WHEREAS, **Assistant Fire Chief Paul Firth and Police Detective Patrick Dyjewski** were presented with Fire Investigator of the Year Awards by the Michigan Chapter - International Association of Arson Investigators (MI-IAAI). This award was presented to those responsible for the prosecution and conviction of a serial arsonist who was found guilty of burning real property in several communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT KNOWN, That the Mayor and City Council of the City of Troy take this opportunity to express sincere thanks to **Assistant Fire Chief Paul Firth and Police Detective Patrick Dyjewski** for their professionalism, dedication, and contributions leading to the arrest and conviction of a serial arsonist; and

BE IT FURTHER KNOWN, That the Mayor and City Council of the City of Troy, City Management, and the citizens of the City of Troy, extends appreciation to **Assistant Fire Chief Paul Firth and Police Detective Patrick Dyjewski** for their dedication and hard work within the Troy Fire Department and Troy Police Department for the betterment of the community and our region.

Presented the 6th day of December 2021.