Russell T. Greene to Join KF&RTI Staff!

The Kansas Fire & Rescue Training Institute recently conducted a national search for our next Fire Officer program manager. This opening was created by the retirement of Jerry Hallbauer in early June 2014. At the end of the search, we made an offer and I’m happy to announce that Russell T. Greene (we know him as “Rusty”) accepted the offer and will begin his duties in the near future.

Rusty will join our staff on September 2, 2014, after a system-required 30-day waiting period. Rusty is currently wrapping up his career with the Topeka Fire Department. His retirement there was effective July 29.

During his 27-year career with Topeka, Rusty has served as a firefighter, apparatus operator, lieutenant, training officer and training chief. In addition to this fire service expertise, Rusty has nine years’ experience in EMS advanced life support as an EMT, paramedic and an EMS educator (currently holds Training Officer 1 status with the Kansas State Board of EMS). Rusty graduated with honors from Western Illinois University with a bachelor’s degree in fire administration and management, and is currently working on his master’s degree in public administration. Along his educational path, Rusty also earned two associate’s degrees.

In his spare time, Rusty earned a certification as a Master SCUBA Diver Trainer and a certificate in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages, as well as maintaining his qualifications as an associate instructor for the Kansas Fire & Rescue Training Institute. Rusty has been active with the Institute teaching numerous Fire Officer and National Fire Academy programs since 2004.

Rusty has a true passion for training firefighters and has dedicated much of his career to improving himself and his ability to help other firefighters improve themselves. We are looking forward to his joining our team and the progress that he can bring to our Fire Officer program. Please join us in welcoming Rusty to the Kansas Fire & Rescue Training Institute!

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