

# **NEWS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**DATE:** August 21, 2019

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## **North Metro Fire Board President Leaves Behind Strong Legacy as He Resigns Due to Health Concerns**

**Broomfield/Northglenn, CO**— After seven years of service on the North Metro Fire Rescue District Board of Directors, Board President John Abboud is resigning from his position on Tuesday due to health concerns related to a recent cancer diagnosis. The remaining directors will nominate a new board president at Tuesday night’s board meeting.

Abboud has been a Broomfield resident since 2002 and was elected to North Metro Fire’s board in 2012. During his tenure, the fire district experienced rapid growth, and Abboud played a key role in ensuring the District was able to keep pace with the growing response needs.

“One of the proudest achievements I’ve had serving on the board is the work we did early on to appoint a great leader in Fire Chief Dave Ramos and to increase our funding, so our firefighters had the necessary resources to protect our community,” said Abboud. “More importantly, we’ve worked hard to ensure the fire district fulfilled its promises to the residents that were made during the 2014 mill levy campaign. We’ve continued to progress as a fire district, and I feel we are stronger today than we were a few years ago.”

During Abboud’s tenure on the board, North Metro Fire’s call volume increased by 34%. In response to the growth, the board voted to add more firefighters and purchased new apparatus to better protect the five counties that North Metro Fire serves. The fire district also established a capital improvements fund to plan for major purchases and construction projects without taking on additional debt, a directive supported by the board and made possible through the mill levy increase.

“I’ve worked for North Metro Fire for 35 years and have interacted with numerous board members over the years,” said Fire Chief Dave Ramos. “Director Abboud has stood out in his passion for learning about the fire district and the expertise he brings from his professional background. He has always carefully balanced his responsibility to taxpayers while supporting our first responders and their safety.”

“To say it has been an honor and privilege to serve with Director Abboud is an understatement,” said North Metro Fire Board Secretary Jenni Murphy from Northglenn. “Director Abboud has gone above and beyond in his service to the North Metro Fire family and residents. His dedication, compassion, knowledge, sense of humor, generosity, faithfulness, and love of others is evident in all aspects of his life.”

In addition to his service on the fire district board, Abboud has been a dedicated volunteer in the Broomfield community through his membership in the Broomfield Rotary Club. Abboud previously served as president for the Rotary Club and co-founded both the Frank Varra Memorial Police and Fire Golf Tournament and the Broomfield Trails Marathon, events that have raised tens of thousands of dollars for first responders, underserved populations and numerous charitable causes.

“One of the things I admire most about Director Abboud is that he is a man of action. He does more than just serve on boards or uphold membership in organizations. He is the driving force behind many events and initiatives that have made a large impact on our community,” said Ramos. “Director Abboud has been unwavering in his dedication and energy toward serving this city and fire district. We will definitely miss having him on the board but will always consider him a part of North Metro’s extended family.”

“I’m sad to be leaving my position on the board, but I’m confident in the direction the fire district is going. We have strong leadership, financial stability and the vision to become one of the best fire departments in the region,” said Abboud.

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**North Metro Fire Rescue District**

North Metro Fire Rescue District is dedicated to providing quality service to its residents through fire protection, emergency medical services, hazardous materials response and specialized rescue. Formed in 1946, the District now covers over 60 square miles with a population of approximately 123,000 people including the City and County of Broomfield, the City of Northglenn and unincorporated areas of Adams, Boulder, Jefferson and Weld Counties.