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**Press Release** 

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## North Whatcom Fire and Rescue Fire Chief Completes International Professional Designation Process

Fire Chief William Pernett of North Whatcom Fire and Rescue has successfully completed the process that awards him the professional designation of "Chief Fire Officer" (CFO). The Commissioner on Professional Credentialing (CPC) met on December 13, 2016, to officially confer the designation upon Chief Pernett. Chief Pernett is one of only 1,204 CFO's worldwide.

The CPC awards the CFO designation only after an individual successfully meets all the organization's stringent criteria. The process includes an assessment of the applicant's education, experience, professional development, technical competencies, contributions to the profession, and community involvement. In addition, all applicants are required to identify a future professional development plan.

Chief Pernett has a rich knowledge of the emergency services profession and has far surpassed critical core competencies for personnel serving in senior fire officer positions.

The CFO designation program uses a comprehensive peer review model to evaluate candidates seeking the credential.

The Commission on Professional Credentialing, an entity of the Center for Public Safety Excellence, Inc., (CPSE) administers the CFO Designation Program. The CPC consists of individuals from academia, federal and local government, and the fire and emergency medical services profession. To learn more about CPC, visit <u>www.publicsafetyexcellence.org</u>.

Chief Pernett has been a member of North Whatcom Fire and Rescue since June, 2014.