

# PRESS RELEASE

*Caldwell Fire Department Promotes Ives and Kerbs, Plus Hires Fire Prevention Officer Stewart*

**Caldwell, July 16, 2018:** Caldwell Fire Chief, Mark Wendelsdorf has announced the promotion of Firefighter Jacob Ives and Firefighter Kolby Kerbs to Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator effective June 10, 2018.

Apparatus Driver/Operator Ives and Kerbs will be responsible for driving department vehicles to emergency and non-emergency calls for service, which include emergency medical calls, structure fires, fire alarms, rescue operations, and any disaster situations that arise in our community. Both Ives and Kerbs will also perform equipment and vehicle inspections and maintenance; ensuring that they are ready for response. The work of this position is performed under the direct supervision of the Battalion Chief.

Fire Apparatus Diver/Operator Ives has been in the fire service for 13 Years beginning with North Ada County Fire and Rescue, then serving with Eagle fire until joining the Caldwell Fire Department in 2015 as a firefighter. During Ives' Career with Caldwell Fire, he has managed the department's hose and nozzle maintenance program. Ives has had numerous achievements throughout this career including Volunteer Firefighter of the year with Eagle Fire Department, and he is a two-time City of Caldwell Employee of the Month. Jacob and his wife are celebrating their 15-year anniversary this October. Along the way, they have been blessed with 4 children and are currently in the process of adopting a child from Haiti.

Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator Kerbs has been in the fire service for 11 years beginning with Eagle Fire Department as a volunteer in 2007. Kerbs is a graduate of the January 2016 Treasure Valley Academy and joined the Caldwell Fire Department in 2015, as a firefighter. In Addition to his assignment of Apparatus Driver Operator, Kerbs is tasked with ensuring Caldwell firefighters are up to date in Personnel fire safety equipment such as proper turnouts, boots and helmets.

The Caldwell Fire Department held a private recognition ceremony on July 16, 2018, to congratulate Apparatus Driver/Operator Ives and Kerbs with their friends and family.

Additionally, Caldwell Fire Marshal, Andrew Cater welcomed Brad Stewart as the Fire Prevention Officer. Stewart will assist the Caldwell Fire Marshal in tasks and operations for the Fire Prevention Division of the Caldwell Fire Department and the Caldwell Rural Fire Protection District including inspections, code enforcement, communications, life safety and public education.

Stewart is an Idaho native attending Boise high and graduating from Boise State University then began his professional life in the construction industry. For the past 18 years, Stewart has been in the fire service with Eagle Fire Department holding various positions and obtaining several certifications with a focus on investigation and prevention including Firefighter I,II,III; Fire Officer I,II Fire; State and National Fire Investigator; and many more. Stewart believes in giving back to his community including being a volunteer for the Boise Samaritan for 11 years. Stewart is ecstatic about joining Caldwell Fire and collaborating with the community to be an additional resource to keep Caldwell safe.