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Mayor-elect John Carney Announces Reappointments of Wilmington Police Chief Wilfredo Campos and Chief of Fire John Looney

WILMINGTON, DE — Mayor-elect John Carney today announced his decision to reappoint Wilfredo Campos as Chief of the Wilmington Police Department and John Looney as Chief of Fire for the Wilmington Fire Department. Both leaders bring decades of experience and proven dedication to the safety and well-being of Wilmington residents.

Mayor-elect Carney praised both chiefs for their leadership and service: “Chief Campos and Chief Looney have demonstrated unwavering commitment to Wilmington, fostering strong relationships with our residents and ensuring the safety of our city. Their reappointments reflect my confidence in their ability to continue leading their departments with experience and innovation,” said Mayor-Elect Carney. “I look forward to working together to keep our communities safe.”

Chief Wilfredo Campos, a 28-year veteran of the Wilmington Police Department (WPD), made history in January 2023 as the City’s 33rd Police Chief and the first person of Hispanic descent to serve in this role. Raised on Wilmington’s West Side, Chief Campos has held numerous roles within the department, including assignments in the Uniformed Services Division, Community Policing Unit, Criminal Investigations Division, and the Human Resources Division. He has also served as a WPD Detective with the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives Task Force and is a veteran of the United States Army Reserve.

Chief Campos is deeply involved in the Wilmington community, serving on the boards of WestSide Family Healthcare and Los Jardines Senior Housing. Under his leadership, the Wilmington Police Department has launched several innovative initiatives, including the Community Engagement Unit, which assigns officers to districts to address neighborhood concerns collaboratively. Additionally, he spearheaded the Partners in Care program, pairing



mental health clinicians with police officers to respond to service calls, and introduced a wellness program to support the physical and mental health of officers and staff.

Chief John Looney, appointed as Wilmington's 14th Chief of Fire in May 2021, brings over 31 years of experience with the Wilmington Fire Department. Chief Looney has served in various critical capacities, including as a Firefighter/Emergency Medical Technician with Heavy Rescue Company 1 and as a Fire Inspector/Investigator in the Fire Marshal's Office. He was promoted to Battalion Chief of Safety and Training in 2017, commanding multiple recruit academies and ensuring the department maintained the highest standards of safety and preparedness. The reappointments of Chief Campos and Chief Looney reaffirm the administration's dedication to public safety and community engagement, setting a foundation for continued collaboration and progress for Wilmington's residents.

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