



# City of Woodland

## REPORT TO MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR  
AND CITY COUNCIL

DATE: October 6, 2009

SUBJECT: Certificate of Appreciation for retired Willow Oak Fire Chief James A. Froman

### **Report in Brief**

Fire Chief James A. Froman retired on June 2, 2009 after serving the Willow Oak Community for over 47 years as a firefighter. Jim's dedication to the residents of Willow Oak, and his support to the Woodland Fire Department over those years has been outstanding and is worthy of recognition.

Staff recommends that the City Council sign and present a Certificate of Appreciation to James A. Froman for his over 47 years of service to the Willow Oak community and Yolo County.

### **Background**

Jim Froman began his service with the Willow Oak Fire Department as a Volunteer Firefighter on January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1962. Chief Froman spent many years as a Firefighter before being appointed as Fire Chief in July 1980.

Chief Froman was the founder and an active member of the Yolo County Fire Chief's Association during his tenure and his opinion was "gospel" to many of the younger fire chiefs in the County. Chief Froman retired on June 2, 2009 as the longest standing Fire Chief in Yolo County after 47 years and 5 months of service to the residents of Willow Oak.

### **Discussion**

Jim Froman has served his community with distinction for over 47 years. Rising from the rank of Firefighter to Fire Chief, Chief Froman has been a formative figure in the Yolo County fire service community and the voice of reason on many occasions.

As Fire Chief for the Willow Oak Fire Department, Chief Froman advanced the department forward from having no paid staff to providing one firefighter around the clock for coverage. Chief Froman was also instrumental in the formation of the Yolo County Firefighter's Association, the Yolo County Fire Chief's Association, and coordinating the annual fundraisers to help fund these groups. Chief Froman was one of the first Yolo County Fire and Rescue Coordinators serving to coordinate local resources for major local and State-wide emergencies. Chief Froman developed the specifications for each of the county-wide air supply trucks purchased over the years used to refill the firefighter's breathing apparatus bottles with fresh breathing air at major structure fires or hazardous material incidents. Finally, arguably the greatest accomplishment of Chief Froman's career was the development of the Agreement for Yolo County Fire Services Mutual Aid used to ensure all county fire agencies support each other with apparatus and personnel during major incidents.

The Woodland Fire Department works closely with the Willow Oak Fire Department responding together on borderline incidents, and supporting each other on fires and larger incidents. The City of Woodland has benefited many times from a Willow Oak fire engine and crew responding inside the City to help us with a structure fire and that is due to the commitment Chief Froman made to the City of Woodland and all other communities within Yolo County since 1980.

### **Public Contact**

Posting of the City Council agenda.

### **Recommendation for Action**

Staff recommends that the City Council sign and present a Certificate of Appreciation to James A. Froman for his over 47 years of service to the Willow Oak community and Yolo County.

Prepared by: Tod Reddish  
Fire Chief

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Mark G. Deven  
City Manager

Certificate of Appreciation for James A. Froman

# City of Woodland

## CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION RECOGNIZING JAMES ARTHUR FROMAN'S 47+ YEARS OF SERVICE

**WHEREAS**, Jim Froman began his service with the Willow Oak Fire Department as a Volunteer Firefighter on January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1962; and

**WHEREAS**, Jim Froman was appointed as Fire Chief in July 1980; and

**WHEREAS**, Chief Froman advanced the Willow Oak Fire Department forward from having no paid staff to providing one firefighter around the clock for coverage. Chief Froman was instrumental in the formation of the Yolo County Firefighter's Association, the Yolo County Fire Chief's Association, and coordinating the annual fundraisers to help fund these groups. Chief Froman was one of the first Yolo County Fire and Rescue Coordinators serving to coordinate local resources for major local and State-wide emergencies. Chief Froman developed the specifications for each of the county-wide air supply trucks purchased over the years used to refill the firefighter's breathing apparatus bottles with fresh breathing air at major structure fires or hazardous material incidents. And arguably the greatest accomplishment of Chief Froman's career was the development of the Agreement for Yolo County Fire Services Mutual Aid used to ensure all county fire agencies support each other with apparatus and personnel during major incidents.

**WHEREAS**, Chief Froman's knowledge and experience of the community, the department, and the fire service was a tremendous asset to both the Willow Oak community and to the City of Woodland; and

**WHEREAS**, Chief Froman retired June 2, 2009 with 47 years, 5 months of outstanding, professional, and loyal service to the Willow Oak residents and to the City of Woodland Fire Department; and

**NOW, THEREFORE THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WOODLAND DOES HEREBY** thank, commend and congratulate James Arthur Froman upon his retirement from the Willow Oak Fire Department and wish him well in his retirement and future endeavors.

DATED: October 6, 2009

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Marlin H. Davies, Mayor

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Artemio Pimentel, Vice-Mayor

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Martie L. Dote, Council Member

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William L. Marble, Council Member

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Jeff W. Monroe, Council Member