



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mayor Dellums Appoints Interim Fire Chief

Oakland, CA – 10.27.08 - Mayor Ron Dellums named Chief Gerald Simon as Interim Fire Chief for the City of Oakland. Chief Simon was Oakland's fire chief from 1999 to 2004.

“Gerald Simon is a dedicated and proven leader in fire service,” said Mayor Dellums. “I am very pleased that he has agreed to help us through this transition as we undertake a national search for a permanent replacement. Chief Daniel Farrell served our city with great dignity and honor and I thank him for his extraordinary service to Oakland.”

Current Fire Chief Daniel Farrell - a 28-year Oakland Fire Department veteran – announced his plans to retire last week.

Chief Gerald Simon has been in the fire service since 1976. He has served for 12 years as a Fire Chief for the cities of Oakland, Santa Clara and Union City. He recently served as Interim Fire Chief for Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Chief Simon has been corresponding secretary of the Black Chief Officers Committee of the International Association of Black Professional Fire Fighters. He is a former president of the Fire Chiefs Section of the League of California Cities, and has served on the League's Board of Directors. In January 2004, Chief Simon served as an instructor for the Executive Development Course at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland.

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