



# NEWS



## News Headlines 04/01/2021

- Armstrong sworn in as Victorville's new fire chief, brings 24 years of experience to department

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Marin Estacio, Victorville Daily Press

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Jeff Armstrong is sworn in as chief of the Victorville Fire Department in City Council chambers on Monday, March 29, 2021. *Courtesy of City of Victorville*

The Victorville Fire Department officially has a new leader at the helm.

Jeff Armstrong, a 24-year veteran firefighter, was sworn in as fire chief Monday.

Armstrong comes to Victorville after previously serving as the head of two fire departments: Rio Vista, a city in Northern California; and California City, another Mojave Desert locale situated roughly 70 miles northwest of Victorville near Edwards Air Force Base.

“Chief Armstrong is a proven leader who is well-suited to lead our fire department with great integrity and professionalism,” Mayor Debra Jones said. “I am confident that under Chief Armstrong’s strong, capable leadership, Victorville Fire will continue to deliver the highest level of safety and fire protection for our community.”

Armstrong replaces John Becker, who was appointed to head the Victorville Fire after the sudden departure of Chief Greg Benson in August.

Benson was the first chief to oversee the department after the city transitioned back to running Victorville Fire. The city officially switched in 2019 after terminating its contract with San Bernardino County, which had provided fire services since 2008.

Jeff Armstrong was selected as the new chief of the Victorville Fire Department in an announcement by the city on Wednesday, Feb. 24, 2021.

Officials said Armstrong “will help guide the City’s efforts to expand public safety including medical aid services by standing up Fire Station 315 with new revenue generated by Measure P.”

The one-cent sales tax measure that passed in November is set to take effect April 1. It is estimated to bring in \$15 million in annual revenue.

<https://www.vvdailynews.com/story/news/politics/government/2021/03/31/armstrong-sworn-victorvilles-new-fire-chief-brings-24-years-experience-department/4825726001/>