

Mayor Nominates Leads for Fire, Sheriff Departments

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Denver Mayor Mike Johnston has announced the nomination of two cabinet positions, pending City Council approval. Chief Desmond G. Fulton is nominated to continue as Chief of the Denver Fire Department, and Sheriff Elias Diggins is nominated to continue leading the Denver Sheriff's Department.

Both Chief Fulton and Sheriff Diggins will play instrumental roles in collaborating with local agencies, community stakeholders, and city officials to ensure the seamless delivery of public safety services to the City and County of Denver.

"These are leaders who have grown up in this community, have served this community, and share our vision for bringing public safety to every neighborhood in Denver," said Mayor Mike Johnston. "I look forward to working with them shoulder to shoulder to deliver a safer Denver."

Desmond G. Fulton - Chief, Denver Fire Department



Fire Chief Desmond G. Fulton has proudly served the City & County of Denver as a member of the Denver Fire Department for over 25 years. He was first appointed as Fire Chief in October of 2020.

With his beginning as a skills-based firefighter, and having a passion for strategy and tactics, Chief Fulton is a leader with a desire for serving and protecting the community, and the very same firefighters he serves with every day.

Chief Fulton attended the University of Northern Colorado and studied Sociology. He was a prior member of USAR (COTF-1), is a current IAFF Executive Fire Officer, credentialed Chief Fire Officer through the Center for Public Safety Excellence, and has written numerous articles for Fire Rescue Magazine. He has also served on numerous boards and committees throughout his tenure in the department, was appointed to the Denver Latino Commission, and proudly serves on the Mayor's Office of Equity Reconciliation Task Force.

Fulton was born and raised in northwest Denver and is an active member of his community. He and his wife Brianna have been married for 27 years and together have two children, one CU-Boulder alum and one current CU Buffalo.

Elias Diggins - Sheriff, Denver Sheriff Department



Elias Diggins was first sworn in as the Sheriff of Denver in July 2020. He has served the Denver Sheriff Department since 1994, holding all uniform ranks with various assignments during his career.

As an advocate for the mental health community, he created a cabinet-level position in his administration titled, "Chief of Mental Health Services," and hired a licensed psychologist to fill the role. Also during his time within the department, he introduced an initiative titled "Gender Equity in Jails Across America," which has also been adopted by the Department of Justice-National Institute of Corrections.

Sheriff Diggins is a nationally recognized law enforcement and corrections leader. He is a past-president of the American Jail Association, and through the American Correctional Association (ACA), he is a former auditor, former commissioner, and past-chair for ACA's Commission on Accreditation for Corrections. He is the recipient of several honors from various organizations,

including recently earning the Community Hope Award from Shorter Community AME Church in Denver.

Sheriff Diggins holds a Master of Public Administration degree from the University of Colorado and a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice and Criminology from Metropolitan State University of Denver. He was born and raised in Denver and graduated from Montbello High School. He and his wife Leslie have five children. Together, they love to attend live music festivals, try new restaurants, and enjoy Colorado's beautiful mountain towns.