

<u>News for Immediate Release</u>: Thursday, January 21, 2016 <u>For More Information Contact</u> Gabe Osterhout: 607-341-3154/gosterhout@co.broome.ny.us

Tom Vroman named as new County Fire Coordinator

Binghamton, NY – Broome County Executive Debbie Preston joined Broome County Legislature Chairman Dan Reynolds, Legislators Scott Baker, along with Emergency Services Director Jerry Marinich to announce that Tom Vroman has been chosen as the new full-time County Fire Coordinator.

"The choice of Tom Vroman for this full-time position was a no brainer," says Broome County Executive Debbie Preston. "Not only does he have over 50 years of experience in fire service, he's also been the deputy fire coordinator for the past 35 years and was the acting fire coordinator since last summer so he knows this position well and can take it to even greater heights for the people of Broome County."

"As a fellow firefighter and having worked with Tom Vroman for a number of years, I applaud his selection as Broome County Fire Coordinator", said Public Safety & Emergency Services Committee Chairman Scott Baker. "When the Legislature pushed for the Fire Coordinator to be a full-time position in the 2016 Budget to ensure that the public's safety needs were being met, we envisioned someone with Tom's experience to fill the position and his credentials speak for themselves. I know he will do an outstanding job!"

"Tom Vroman is a dedicated member of the fire service community and has the support not only of my office, but of the fire departments in the area," says Director of Emergency Services Jerry Marinich. "Looking at his credentials, there isn't a better man for the job than him."

Vroman has been a member of the local firefighting family since 1965 when he joined the Hillcrest Fire Department. Since that time, he's also served as a fire protection specialist in the Air Force, as a forest fire lookout with the state Department of Environmental Conservation, a bomb technician with the Endicott Fire Department, a senior investigator in charge of the Bureau of Fire Investigation for Broome County Emergency Services, as well as the County's Deputy Fire Coordinator since 1980. He was also the Captain of the Endicott Fire Department.

"I am grateful to the County Executive for this opportunity," says Vroman. "I am hoping to be able to use my years of experience to help train the new classes of firefighters while also helping to assure the people of Broome County that we are prepared to extinguish any fire."

Vroman has been the acting Fire Coordinator since former coordinator Brett Chellis left the position in 2015.

During his time as Deputy Fire Coordinator, Vroman responded to the scene of numerous emergencies including disaster throughout the state of New York including hurricanes, floods, blizzards, ice storms and tornadoes.