

Governor Kotek,

I am a resident of Sisters Oregon and my home was in the direct path of the recent Flat Fire.

I pen this email not as an ordinary citizen but as a seasoned fire professional having served as fire chief of Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue, President of the International

Fire Chiefs and both President and Executive Director of the Western Fire Chiefs who's mission encompasses wildfire.

First, let me compliment the entire coordinated fire attack. It was the best I've ever witnessed. Interagency cooperation was without blemish, integration of structural, ground and air operations was worthy of a case study. I cannot offer higher compliments to the entire operation.

Worthy of specific mention is the Office of State Marshal's structural protection task forces. Under the command of State Fire Marshal Mariana Ruiz-Temple, these structural protection task forces have become refined into an efficient fire fighting force. Using Oregon's existing structural fire agencies to form these task forces is financially and operationally efficient when they combine into such a cohesive force.

State Fire Marshal Ruiz-Temple is the finest state fire marshal I have witnessed during my 47 year fire service career and is worthy of recognition and decoration for her performance.

Regards,

Jeff Johnson

Jeff Johnson, Chief (Ret.)

Western Fire Chiefs, Chief Emeritus

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