

Kevin Mohammed

7/4/2026

Board of Directors

Timberline Fire Protection District
Gilpin County, Colorado

Re: Letter of Intent for Appointment to the Board of Directors

Dear Members of the Board,

Public service has been the defining purpose of my professional life. After retiring from a twenty-five-year career with the City of Miami Fire Rescue Department, my wife and I chose to make Gilpin County our permanent home. After spending most of my life in a large metropolitan city, moving to Gilpin County was the first time I truly felt that I belonged to a community. I have been deeply impressed by the way neighbors genuinely care for one another, and it wasn't long before I found myself feeling that same connection. This community has given my family so much in a relatively short time, and serving on the Board of Directors of the Timberline Fire Protection District would be an opportunity to give something back while helping ensure that the District remains a trusted, well-managed, and forward-looking organization dedicated to protecting the people who call this place home.

Throughout my career, I learned that exceptional emergency services depend on much more than the firefighters who respond to calls. Behind every successful department are leaders who establish sound policies, exercise responsible fiscal oversight, plan for the future, and earn the confidence of both their personnel and the public. Having worked under several Fire Chiefs and alongside city administrators, I developed a deep appreciation for the importance of thoughtful governance and the role it plays in the long-term success of a fire department.

Although my career was spent in a large metropolitan department, I understand that the priorities of a rural mountain fire district are unique. Wildland fire preparedness, emergency medical response across challenging terrain, volunteer recruitment and retention, aging infrastructure, and responsible management of limited resources require careful planning and prudent decision-making. While I bring decades of fire service experience, I also recognize that every community is different. My goal is not to bring "big-city" answers to a mountain community, but to listen first, learn from those who know the District best, and contribute my experience where it can be most helpful. I believe the best solutions are developed by working collaboratively with residents, firefighters, command staff, and fellow Board members to address the unique needs and values of the Timberline community.

My career has allowed me to view the fire service from multiple perspectives—as a firefighter, paramedic, Driver Engineer, hazardous materials specialist, instructor, and member of committees responsible for evaluating, budgeting, specifying, and purchasing major fire apparatus and specialized hazardous materials equipment. Those experiences taught me that the best decisions

are made when operational knowledge is balanced with thoughtful governance, careful financial planning, and a long-term commitment to serving the public.

One area where my experience aligns particularly well with the responsibilities of a Board member is financial stewardship. During my career, I participated in the planning, specification, budgeting, evaluation, and purchasing of fire apparatus and hazardous materials equipment. Those responsibilities required balancing operational needs with available resources, evaluating long-term value, working collaboratively with manufacturers and vendors, and ensuring that public funds were invested wisely. I understand that every budget decision represents a commitment of public trust, and I believe maintaining firefighter safety and operational readiness must always be balanced with responsible stewardship of district resources.

Since retiring from Miami Fire Rescue, I have continued serving in public safety as an Operational Specialist and Instructor supporting the Counter Terrorism Operations Support program at the Nevada National Security Site under the U.S. Department of Energy and the Department of Homeland Security. In that role, I help train emergency responders from across the country, reinforcing the importance of preparedness, collaboration, and disciplined decision-making in high-consequence environments. Together with my military service and graduate education, these experiences have strengthened a leadership philosophy centered on preparation, accountability, collaboration, and continuous learning. I have found that the strongest organizations are those where people with different experiences listen to one another, ask thoughtful questions, and work together toward common goals. That is the approach I would bring to the Board.

I fully appreciate that the role of a Director is one of governance rather than operations. The Board establishes policy, provides financial oversight, plans for the future, and supports the Fire Chief in accomplishing the District's mission without becoming involved in the day-to-day management of the department. I respect that distinction and believe my experience has prepared me to provide informed, objective oversight while allowing the District's professional leadership to successfully manage its daily operations.

Retirement marked the conclusion of my operational career, but not my commitment to public service. If appointed, I will approach the responsibilities of a Board member with the same integrity, preparation, and dedication that have guided me throughout my career. My goal is not simply to lend my experience, but to earn the trust of this community and contribute to an organization that protects the people who have made Gilpin County feel like home. It would be an honor to serve the Timberline Fire Protection District and help ensure it remains a strong, trusted, and responsive public institution for generations to come.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I would welcome the opportunity to meet with you and discuss how my experience, values, and commitment to public service can contribute to the future of the Timberline Fire Protection District.

Respectfully,

Kevin Mohammed