

Wilmington, Delaware
October 7, 2021

WHEREAS, Chapter 3 of the Wilmington City Code establishes the functions of the
Sponsor: Wilmington Fire Department (the “Fire Department”); and

**Council
Member
Darby** **WHEREAS**, the Wilmington Fire Department currently serves approximately 70,000
people within the limits of the City of Wilmington; and

WHEREAS, the Center for Public Safety Excellence’s (the “CPSE”) Commission on
Fire Accreditation International (the “CFAI”) provides an accreditation process for fire
departments nationwide. It is a process of voluntary agency self-assessment, which shows to
the community that a fire department continually self-assesses, looks for opportunities for
improvement, and is transparent and accountable through third party verification and
validation; and

WHEREAS, the benefits of accreditation include peer assessment, improvement of
safety and wellness, providing rationale for funding, and building trust in the community;
and

WHEREAS, it may take from three (3) to five (5) years to work through the
accreditation process to achieve accredited status; and

WHEREAS, the accreditation process would require the participation and
cooperation of all members of the Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, there are currently 293 accredited fire agencies in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Fire Departments in cities of similar sizes who have undertaken the
CFAI accreditation process include the Bowling Green Fire Department (Kentucky), the
Cherry Hill Fire Department (New Jersey), the Cobb County Fire and Emergency Services

(Georgia), the Greenville City Fire Department (South Carolina), the Iowa City Fire Department (Iowa), the Palo Alto Fire Department (California), and the Schaumburg Fire Department (Illinois).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON WHEREAS, in light of the foregoing, that City Council strongly recommends that the Mayor's Office require that the Fire Department undergo the CFAI accreditation process.

Passed by City Council,

ATTEST: _____

City Clerk

SYNOPSIS: This Resolution recommends that the Mayor's Office require the Wilmington Fire Department undertake the accreditation process, as laid out by the Center for Public Safety Excellence's Commission on Fire Accreditation International.