



PR#042-26

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Ministry of the Public Service and Disaster Risk Management Honours 21 Fire Personnel**

*Belmopan, February 16, 2026.*

The Ministry of the Public Service and Disaster Risk Management proudly honoured twenty-one (21) dedicated members of the National Fire Service (NFS) with Long Service Awards in recognition of their outstanding commitment and service to the people of Belize on Friday, February 13, 2026.

The awardees were recognized for completing ten (10), fifteen (15), twenty (20), and twenty-five (25) years of service, consistently going above and beyond in the execution of their duties.

Among those honoured were:

- Seven (7) Firefighters recognized for 10 years of service.
- Three (3) officers recognized for 15 years of service, including two Radio-Telephone Operators and one Finance Officer III.
- Four (4) Leading Firefighters recognized for 20 years of service.
- Seven (7) senior personnel recognized for 25 years of service, including a Radio-Telephone Operator, Leading Firefighters, Station Officers, a Substation Officer, and an Assistant Fire Chief.

The awards were presented by Hon. Henry Charles Usher, Minister of the Public Service and Disaster Risk Management; Mr. Rolando Zetina, the Ministry's Chief Executive Officer; and Fire Chief Colin Gillett.

In his remarks, Hon. Henry Charles Usher commended the awardees for their courage, discipline, and unwavering dedication to protecting lives and property across the country. He noted that firefighting is not merely a profession, but a calling, one that demands sacrifice, resilience, and an unshakeable commitment to public safety.

Fire Chief Colin Gillett also acknowledged the families of the awardees, recognizing the vital support they provide behind the scenes. The ceremony formed part of the Ministry's ongoing efforts to celebrate excellence within the public service.

Following the ceremony, the Minister and CEO toured the new National Fire Service Headquarters in Belize City, inspecting the state-of-the-art facility and meeting with officers and staff, reaffirming the Government's commitment to strengthening institutional capacity and improving working conditions for fire personnel nationwide.

The Ministry congratulates all twenty-one awardees and thanks them for their years of distinguished service to Belize.

**Ends**