

JAMES T. JOYCE
FIRE COMMISSIONER

James T. Joyce was appointed Chicago's Fire Commissioner by Mayor Richard M. Daley on December 15, 1999, following 34 years of service to the citizens of Chicago as a member of the Chicago Fire Department.

After serving with the U.S. Army, Joyce became a candidate firefighter on February 1, 1965 and entered the Chicago Fire Department's Training Academy. After completion of training, he was assigned to Truck 4 in Chinatown and over the next 10 years rose rapidly through the ranks to Engineer, Lieutenant and Captain. Always assigned to busy companies on Chicago's South Side, he was promoted to Battalion Chief in 1979 and continued to rise through the ranks being appointed Deputy District Chief, District Chief, Deputy Fire Commissioner and 1st Deputy Fire Commissioner.

Joyce continued the tradition of a family of firefighters. His father retired as a Lieutenant in the Chicago Fire Department, his brother is a Lieutenant with the Department, and his maternal grandfather was a firefighter who fought the 1934 Stockyards Fire and died as a result.

Joyce has held every rank within the Chicago Fire Department, from Firefighter to the highest attainable position, Fire Commissioner. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Chicago State University and Master of Arts degree in Public Administration from Governor's State University. He attended the Harvard Program for Senior Executives and the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania, Pension Board Trustee Program.

Commissioner Joyce and his wife Janet are life long residents of Chicago's South Side. They reside in St. John Fisher Parish and are the proud parents of four children: Jennifer, Jim, Jarrett and Joe.