



# *Parish of Ascension*

OFFICE OF THE PARISH PRESIDENT

KENNY MATASSA  
Parish President

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Prairieville Fire Department Receives Class 3 Rating**

Ascension Parish President Kenny Matassa and Prairieville Fire Chief Mark Stewart announced today that the Property Insurance Association of Louisiana (PIAL) has raised the Prairieville Fire Department's rating from a 4 to a 3.

"I am so proud of this accomplishment," said Matassa. "This improved rating is better for our families and our pocketbooks. Just last week, we cut the ribbon on a new fire station on Bluff Road and it is a shining example of the high quality fire protection provided to the people of Prairieville."

Chief Mark Stewart credited the Fire District 3 Board of Commissioners and his staff with the achievement.

"The support we have received from the Fire Board, the Parish administration and Council, and especially our team of professional firefighters has made all of this possible," said Stewart. "We are proud of this achievement improving our fire rating, which in turn improves services to the residents and businesses of Fire District 3."

The rating change may be significant for area home and business owners. The PIAL notification stated that "the new Classification may result in decreased fire insurance rates. Properties located within the boundaries of Ascension Parish Fire District 3 (Prairieville Fire Department) that are within seven road miles of a recognized fire station will receive Class 3 rates."

Walter Leftwich, a long-serving fire commissioner, was part of the group that helped to create Fire District 3.

“This is a longtime dream come true,” said Leftwich. “We would like to acknowledge and thank our residents and businesses for their continued support in our efforts to protect them each day.”

PIAL ratings range from a 10, the lowest, to a 1, being the highest achievable rating.

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Photo Tag: Left to Right – Commissioner Cody Melancon, Councilman Benny Johnson, Commissioner Walter Leftwich, President Kenny Matassa, Chief Mark Stewart, Assistant Chief Raymond Poche, and Commissioners Gary Newman and Tracy Bordelon.