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Six New McAllen Firefighters Officially Join the Ranks

Academy Class 25 Alpha Marks a New Chapter of Service to the Community

The City of McAllen proudly welcomed six new firefighters into the McAllen Fire Department during the graduation ceremony for Academy Class 25 Alpha, celebrating their perseverance and commitment to a career of service.

The graduates completed a rigorous nine-month academy, earning certifications as Structural Firefighters, Driver-Operators, and EMT-Basics through classroom instruction, hands-on training, and emergency response scenarios. They are now ready to begin their next chapter as members of the McAllen Fire Department.

“The people of McAllen may never know these firefighters’ names, but they will remember the difference they made when they needed help most,” said McAllen City Manager Isaac J. Tawil. “In moments of uncertainty, our firefighters provide more than emergency response; they provide reassurance, compassion, and hope. Academy Class 25 Alpha has earned the trust and responsibility that comes with wearing this uniform, and we are proud to welcome them to a department built on excellence, integrity, and service.”

As they begin their careers with the McAllen Fire Department, these new firefighters carry forward the values of teamwork, professionalism, and dedication that define the department’s mission.

“The academy teaches skills, but becoming a firefighter is about developing the character to lead under pressure, make difficult decisions, and serve others without hesitation,” said Fire Chief Juan A. Gloria. “Academy Class 25 Alpha has earned that responsibility through months of relentless training and unwavering determination. Today, they officially become part of our fire family, and I couldn’t be prouder.”

Academy Class 25 Alpha Graduates:

Miguel Chapa, Jesus Cisneros, Jaime De La Garza, Randy Guevara, Hector Martinez, and Jose Quevedo.

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About the City of McAllen

Founded in 1904 and incorporated in 1911, the City of McAllen has grown from a small agricultural community into one of the most vibrant and fastest-growing cities along the U.S.–Mexico border. Known as the “City of Palms,” McAllen serves as a hub for international trade, retail, tourism, and culture in the Rio Grande Valley.

Today, the City employs more than 2,600 dedicated public servants across 41 departments, delivering essential services to a community of more than 150,000 residents. City leaders remain committed to transparent governance, fiscal responsibility, and enhancing quality of life through innovation, infrastructure, and community engagement.

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