



Aptos Fire Chief Nick Baumgartner

Baumgartner retires as Aptos fire chief

Aptos Fire Chief Nick Baumgartner has announced that he will take a disability retirement, effective May 7.

Baumgartner, 53, has been on a medical leave of absence for an undisclosed ailment since Feb. 4. Assistant Fire Chief Al Forbes has been acting chief in Baumgartner's absence.

Forbes said this morning that Baumgartner sent a letter to the fire district's board of directors

Tuesday night, telling directors he had been advised by his doctors that a return to duty would have a negative effect on his health.

Baumgartner came to the Aptos fire department on Jan. 10, 1977, as assistant fire chief, following his retirement as a captain in the Los Angeles City Fire Department.

He became chief on Aug. 1, 1978, upon the retirement of Richard Chinn as chief.