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# Acton Fire Department

Chief Robert Hart

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, March 17, 2023

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## Three Acton Firefighters Graduate from Massachusetts Firefighting Academy's Career Recruit Program



Massachusetts Firefighting Academy

Career Recruit Class #309 Graduation • March 17, 2023

*From left, Firefighter/Paramedics Susan Lombard, Cote Kilbride and Justin Mercuio, who graduated from the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy's Career Recruit Program. (Courtesy Photo)*

ACTON — Chief Robert Hart and the Acton Fire Department are pleased to announce that three Acton firefighters graduated from the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy's Career Recruit Program.

Firefighter/Paramedic's Cote Kilbride and Justin Mercuio, and Susan Lombard were among 23 firefighters who graduated from the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy's Career Recruit Program Class 309 on Friday, March 17.

Firefighter/Paramedic Lombard joined Acton Fire in April 2022, Firefighter/Paramedic Kilbride joined in May 2022, and Firefighter/Paramedic Mercuio joined in August 2021.

The 10-week program prepares firefighters for basic firefighting, including search and rescue, ladder operations, water supply, pump operation, fire attack and life safety lessons, as well as non-fire responses and hazardous material response.

"I would like to congratulate our members for their completion of the Career Recruit Program," said Chief Hart. "Our members are dedicated individuals, and I would like to wish Firefighter/Paramedic Lombard, Firefighter Kilbride and Firefighter Mercuio the best of luck in this next chapter of their careers."

## The Massachusetts Firefighting Academy

At the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy, firefighter recruits learn a wide range of skills in an intensive 10-week program. Certified and more experienced firefighters lead classroom instruction, physical fitness training, firefighter skills training and firefighting practice. Students are given training in public fire education, hazardous material incident mitigation, flammable liquids, stress management, confined space rescue techniques and rappelling. Upon successful completion of the Recruit Program, all students have met national standards of National Fire Protection Association 1001.

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