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Virginia Town Bars Smokers as Firemen

ALEXANDRIA, Va., Dec. 17 (UPI)—
The Alexandria Fire Department is re-
fusing to hire smokers as firefighters.
"We will reject firefighter job appli-
cations from any man or woman who
smokes cigarettes, pipes or cigars,"
said Chief Charles Rule, who ended
23 years of pipe smoking last July. He
said he wanted his firefighters to be
as healthy as possible and did not want
to subsidize damage to hearts and
lungs that could be aggravated by
smoking. Firefighters retiring with
heart or lung ailments can collect dis-
ability payments.

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