



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Rick Lewis Named New Springfield Police Chief



Rick Lewis has been selected to serve as Springfield’s New Police Chief. Lewis was selected after an intensive recruitment process that began in January 2017.

Lewis has lived in the Springfield area for more than 30 years. He graduated from Sherwood High School and attended both Lane Community College and George Fox College, receiving an associate's degree in Criminal Justice and a bachelor's degree in Human Resource Management. He also graduated from the FBI National Academy in 2008.

He has been a member of Springfield Police Department since 1982 when he started as a reserve police officer before gaining fulltime employment in 1983. During his career Lewis worked in patrol, detectives, narcotics, SWAT and various other assignments. He was promoted to sergeant in 1999 and to captain in 2000. Lewis has been the AIC Chief of Police since July of 2016.

“Chief Lewis brings many years of dedication to the Springfield community and the men and women of the Springfield Police Department,” said Springfield City Manager Gino Grimaldi. “Throughout his career, and during the interview process, Chief Lewis demonstrated his ability to lead the department and connect with the community. I am looking forward to working with Chief Lewis.”

The Police Chief oversees a department with 123 positions and a total operating budget of \$20.6 million. The Springfield Police Department also operates the largest municipal jail in the state, which has reduced misdemeanor and property crime within Springfield.

“I fully recognize the responsibility and trust that has been given to me and I can assure everyone that I take it very seriously,” said Chief Lewis. “I am honored to be the Chief for the City of Springfield. I am also fortunate in the fact that SPD has the best employees in the state plus the community support is second to none.”

Lewis officially takes his post as Police Chief effective today, April 24, 2017. He is available for media interviews starting at 2 p.m., today. Members of the media, please contact Springfield Police Department PIO Scott McKee at 541.726.3691 to arrange an interview.