



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**June 7, 2016**

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## **-Media Advisory-**

### **SPRINGFIELD POLICE CHIEF WILL RELOCATE FOR NEW ROLE WITH OREGON-IDAHO HIGH INTENSITY DRUG TRAFFICKING AREA PROGRAM**

*Deputy Chief Rick Lewis to serve as the interim Chief*

Springfield Police Chief Tim Doney, who has led the department since 2013, plans to retire at the end of July. After more than 28 years of sworn police duty, Doney will take a position as the Program Coordinator for the Oregon-Idaho High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) program, which is based in Salem, Oregon.

Chief Doney directs a staff of 124, including 70 sworn officers and manages a budget of more than \$21.5 million. Doney will retire on July 31<sup>st</sup> and Deputy Chief Rick Lewis will step into the interim role. A search for a successor will follow.

City Manager Gino Grimaldi said, "Tim took over the department at a difficult time and provided sound leadership and a steady hand. He has been a dedicated servant to the Springfield community and we appreciate his efforts, he will be missed."

Doney stated he was embraced by the Springfield community from day one and he appreciates the many lasting friendships and connections he has made in the area. He also had much praise for the dedicated men and women of the Springfield Police Department, who daily make a difference protecting our city, and making it a great place to live, work and play.

Doney oversaw several changes within Springfield Police including: Department Command restructuring (creation of Lieutenant and Deputy Chief positions), increased focus on training including department wide – Crisis Intervention Training, Mental Health and Veterans Outreach efforts, creation of a narcotic detection K9 position as well as a forensic computer examiner position and creation of minority community and faith/clergy positions on the Police Advisory Committee. The department is also taking the first steps towards the accreditation process.

