



CITY OF MUSCATINE
215 SYCAMORE STREET
MUSCATINE, IA 52761
PH. (563) 264-1550 • FAX (563) 264-0750

CITY OF MUSCATINE PRESS RELEASE

For more information contact:

Kevin Jenison
Communication Manager
E-Mail: kjenison@muscatineiowa.gov
Phone: (563) 264-1550 • Fax: (563) 264-0750

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SARGENT RETIRES, SNIDER NAMED ASSISTANT CHIEF

Promotions announced; Kies, Motto, Hesseling assume new roles with PD

MUSCATINE, Iowa – After 31 years of service to the Muscatine community with the Muscatine Police Department, Assistant Chief Phil Sargent officially retired as a member of the department on Saturday, Jan. 9, 2021.

Muscatine Police Chief Brett Talkington announced several promotions following Sargent's retirement including the promotion of Steve Snider from Captain of Patrol to Assistant Police Chief effective Monday, Jan. 11, 2021.

Three others were also promoted and assumed their new roles Monday.

Tony Kies was promoted from Lieutenant of Investigations to Captain of Patrol replacing Snider in that position. David O'Connor was promoted to Lieutenant of Investigations. Vince Motto was promoted to Lieutenant of Patrol after serving as Sergeant in charge of the Commission on the Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) and the Automated Traffic Enforcement (ATE) program.

Also assuming a new role is John Hesseling who was promoted from Detective to Administrative Sergeant in charge of the local CALEA and ATE programs.

Sargent joined the Muscatine Police Department in 1989 and rose through the ranks as a Corporal, Sergeant, Lieutenant, and finally Assistant Chief.

During his career, Sargent worked tirelessly to ensure the standards and professionalism of the department, and to make the Muscatine Police Department an agency recognized on a national level. Sargent attended the FBI National Academy in 2002, and has since been an active member of the Iowa Chapter of the FBINAA.

Sargent was also instrumental in transforming the Muscatine Police Department, and led the effort to receive accreditation from CALEA, the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, that was first achieved in 2000. The Muscatine Police Department has been recertified every three years since under his direct supervision and guidance.

There are 177 operational standards that the department must comply with that are established by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) in the accreditation process. These standards address items such as professional standards, on-going training, use of force, and reporting, and the department is required to show constant compliance with these standards or risk losing its accreditation status.

Through the effort and dedication of every member of the department, the Muscatine Police Department is the longest standing accredited agency within the State of Iowa.

Sargent served as a board member of the Muscatine Police Officers Association for many years, and continued the charitable efforts of the organization. He always took an active role in the annual Shop with a Cop program, helping to brighten the holidays for hundreds of children in the community.