
For Immediate Release

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Fuquay-Varina Appoints Acting Police Chief

Fuquay-Varina Town Manager Adam Mitchell has appointed Captain Tim Smith as the Town's Acting Police Chief, following the retirement of Police Chief Laura Fahnestock on January 28, 2022. The Town is currently conducting a national search to fill the vacancy created by her retirement and will announce a new police chief in the coming weeks.

Smith currently serves as Captain of the Patrol Services Division and has been with the Fuquay-Varina Police Department for 21 years. During his career in Fuquay-Varina, he has also worked within the Special Operations Division supervising the Criminal Investigations Section, K-9 Unit, and Professional Standards Investigations. Smith served as the Special Response Team Leader and Commander for nine years. He has been a general instructor and specialized instructor in the areas of Firearms, Use of Force, Taser, Pepper Spray, Impact and Chemical Munitions, and other law enforcement topics to ensure officers meet state-mandated training.

Capt. Smith is a veteran of the U.S. Army and is a member of the Department's Honor Guard. Smith received a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from Ashworth College. He has intermediate and advanced law enforcement certificates from the NC Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission and is a graduate of NC State's Law Enforcement Executive Program and Administrative Officer's Management Program. He completed the Local Government Federal Government Fellows Program through UNC-Chapel Hill.

An active participant in the community, Capt. Smith has been involved in such events as Coffee with a Cop, National Night Out, Citizen's Police Academy, Read-with-a-Police-Officer, Cops in the Park, Teen Day, and a variety of other events. He has also been involved in the community by providing safety training sessions and workshops on topics to include Active Shooter Preparation, Securing Houses of Worship, Realtor's Safety, Citizen's Police Academy classes, and a variety of other community safety-related topics.

Smith assumes the role of Acting Chief of Police on January 28, 2022 at 5 PM.