



For Immediate Release

City of Woodland appoints Interim Police Chief

The City of Woodland is pleased to announce the hiring of **Bill Mahoney** as Interim Police Chief. Mahoney replaces the city's previous interim chief, Brad Gillaspie. The Woodland City Council confirmed Mahoney's appointment and approved his employment contract at their regular June 16, 2014 meeting. His official start date will be Tuesday, June 17th. Mahoney will step down as police chief on or by Nov. 30, and will only work for the department part-time, according to an employment agreement approved unanimously by the council. The agreement caps Mahoney's salary at \$2,300 per month. The City is currently recruiting for a permanent full-time Chief.

Effective Sept. 30, 2009 he retired as Cowlitz County sheriff, a position he held for 10 years. During his retirement Mahoney has been spending time enjoying his genealogy hobby, traveling with his wife and spending time with their three grown children and four grandchildren.

Mahoney began his career in law enforcement in 1969 as a reserve police officer with the Seattle Police Department, where he also worked as a dispatcher. In 1976 he went to work for the Benton County Sheriff's Office in Prosser. In May 1977 he came to Cowlitz County to work for Sheriff Les Nelson. Before being elected sheriff in 1998 to replace Brian Pedersen, Mahoney served as a patrol deputy, K9 handler, detective, sergeant, lieutenant, chief criminal deputy and undersheriff. The most stressful work was the 1980 Mount St. Helens eruption, when he was a patrol deputy. The sheriff's office rescued people from floods and slides, kept people out of restricted areas and searched for those presumed to have been killed in the eruption — some who have never been found. He brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the City of Woodland.

He can be reached at mahoneyb@woodlandpd.org or 360-225-6965.

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