



# City and Borough of Sitka

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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Release No.: 16-10-17  
October 17, 2016

## NEWS RELEASE

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### Jeff Ankerfelt appointed Chief of Police

Sitka, Alaska – Municipal Administrator Mark Gorman announced today that Jeff Ankerfelt, Acting Police Chief, has been appointed Police Chief, effective November 1.

“I am very pleased that Jeff has accepted the City’s offer to serve as our next Chief of Police. He has the skills, commitment and experience to lead the Department with distinction” said Gorman.

Jeff Ankerfelt has served Sitka as a Lieutenant since June of 2014. He brings almost 26 years of policing experience to his new role as Chief, last serving as a Deputy Chief of Police for the 5<sup>th</sup> largest city in Minnesota. Jeff possesses a Bachelor’s degree from Metropolitan State University, and is a graduate of the 221<sup>st</sup> session of the FBI National Academy. “I feel incredibly fortunate and thankful for the opportunity to serve this wonderful community. I am excited to work with our talented Sitka Police Department staff, city departments, community partners, and citizens. Working together we can accomplish the goals outlined in our new mission statement- ***“It is the mission of the Sitka Police Department to safeguard the lives and property of our diverse community. Our mandate is to stop crime and enhance the quality of life in Sitka by delivering professional public safety services with integrity, respect, and courage.”***”

Upon returning from extended family medical leave, Sheldon Schmitt will serve as a Transition Advisor, providing grant development and assistance with other management functions. Schmitt’s career with the Sitka Police Department started July 8, 2002. He was promoted to Police Chief February 28, 2005. “The City and Borough of Sitka is thankful for Sheldon’s leadership over the past eleven years,” said Gorman.

The Sitka Police Department remains committed to preserving and protecting the life, peace and property of the citizens of the City and Borough of Sitka.

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