Jack F. Harris, Police Chief

PHOENIX POLICE ONLINE
The Faces of the Department

Retirement of Police Chief Jack Harris

Retirement of Police Chief Jack Harris

Police Chief Jack Harris will retire from the department on January 19, 2007, after nearly 35 years service.

On February 19, 2007, Chief Harris will return to the department as the "City of Phoenix Public Safety Manager". As part of the responsibilities of the Public Safety Manager, Chief Harris will directly oversee and coordinate operations of the police department as Police Chief, security operations of the Aviation, Public Transit (including Light Rail) and Water Services Departments, the City's Emergency Management Program and Emergency Operations Center, and other security matters as called for by the City Manager.

During Chief Harris's separation from the City, Executive Assistant Police Chief Michael Frazier will be acting Police Chief

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Chief Jack Harris To Assume New Position Approved By City Council

Today, November 15, 2006, the City Council approved a position of authority called the City of Phoenix Public Safety Manager for which Chief Harris will assume upon retirement as Police Chief in January 2007.

This position's responsibilities will be far greater in scope than a Police Chief's position. As the Phoenix Public Safety Manager, Chief Harris will report directly to the Assistant City Manager and will have the following responsibilities:

- Directly oversee and coordinate operations of the Phoenix Police Department, the security operations of the Aviation, Public Transit (including Light Rail), and Water Services Departments, the City's Emergency Management Program and Emergency Operations Center, and other security matters as called for by the City Manager.

- Oversee coordination and protection of all Phoenix's major strategic assets.
- Assume the responsibility of representation on behalf of the City of Phoenix supervising the Emergency Management Coordinator and Police Commanders assigned to the Aviation, Public Transit and Water Services Departments as the City seeks to develop and formalize its relationships with various security-related federal, state and local authorities and organizations.

- Will be accountable for coordination of the City's public safety involvement in the 800 megahertz (MHz) communications program, and all homeland security issues including functional control of all department heads assigned to the Emergency Operations Center during times of emergency.

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Public Safety Manager Jack Harris

Chief Harris will be returning to work as the Public Safety Manager on Tuesday, February 20, 2007.

His office will remain here at 620 West Washington. **His official city title will be 'Public Safety Manager' that includes the responsibilities of the 'Police Chief'.** All correspondence (memo's, letters, CCR's, RCA's, etc.) going out of the PD and City Emergency Management will be over his name and will show 'Public Safety Manager' as his title.

Since Chief Harris will be assigned to the City Manager's Office, he will not be receiving a new serial number but he has maintained his certification as a peace officer in the State of Arizona. He is eligible to wear the Phoenix Police Department uniform. In our business/personal discussions with him about police business with the public and other persons present, he prefers to be referred to as the Police Chief.

Acting Police Chief Michael Frazier will return to his regularly assigned duties as the Executive Assistant Chief.

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ENS - Message from Chief Jack Harris

Message from Chief Jack Harris

I have been informed that the Mayor and City Council have decided to present me with a "5th Star" at today's Formal Council meeting. While this comes as a surprise, I am greatly honored to receive this distinction on behalf of all the men and women of the Phoenix Police Department as a testimony to your professionalism, hard work and effort. Since it is a tradition for Police Chiefs across this state and the country to only wear four stars, I will continue to wear four stars as your Police Chief and Public Safety Manager. However, I will accept today"s award on behalf of the department as a gesture of thanks for the tremendous support we receive from the Mayor and City Council.

Sincerely,
Jack F. Harris
Public Safety Manager

A bit of history about the Five Star Rank:

The five star general rank was created in the midst of World War II to address the fact that several American commanders found themselves in the delicate position of supervising Allied officers of higher rank. Initially, the new rank was to be called Field Marshal, after the British military, but this was nixed due to stern (and quite understandable) objections from General George C. Marshall.

When General of the Army Omar N. Bradley died in April of 1981, the five star ranking was consigned to history. In all, four Army generals, four Navy admirals, and one Air Force general have held this rank. The Army's five star generals were General George C. Marshall, General Douglas MacArthur, General Dwight D. Eisenhower, and General Omar N. Bradley. The Navy's five-star fleet admirals were Admiral William D. Leahy, Admiral Ernest J. King, Admiral Chester Nimitz, and Admiral William F. "Bull" Halsey. And General Henry Arnold was the Air Force's five star general.

Who beats a five star general? A General of the Armies of the United States -- the highest military rank of all time. To date, only George Washington and John J. Pershing have held this position.

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