

MEDIA RELEASE

City of Cornelius Names New Police Chief

February 26, 2019

The City of Cornelius, in partnership with the Washington County Sheriff's Office, has named Lieutenant John Bennett the new chief of police for the city.

Chief Bennett takes over the department with a great deal of experience under his belt. He's been with the Washington County Sheriff's Office since 2002. Starting as a patrol deputy, Chief Bennett has served as a narcotics investigator, detective, sergeant, and most recently lieutenant in the Sheriff's Office Enforcement Division.



"Lieutenant John Bennett has a strong résumé to serve as the new Cornelius police chief and we expect he will bring depth to his new leadership position," said City Manager Rob Drake.

Chief Bennett is experienced in all forms of criminal investigations, hostage negotiation, and managing critical incidents. He also has a strong track record of training newer law enforcement officers, among many other valuable criminal justice skills. Most recently, Chief Bennett supervised the School Resource Officer Program for the sheriff's office and worked closely with local school districts on safety and security issues.

Cornelius Mayor Jef Dalin said, "The Washington County Sheriff's Office has done an excellent job of serving Cornelius residents."

The Sheriff's Office has provided police services to the City of Cornelius since 2014. The department serves more than 12,000 residents with 13 employees, patrolling an area of 2.2 square miles.

Chief Bennett replaces former chief Al Roque, who has been promoted to commander of the Services Division at the Washington County Sheriff's Office.



POLICE
CITY OF CORNELIUS

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