



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Hailey Police Chief Jeff Gunter Retires

(Hailey, Idaho) – Hailey Chief of Police Jeff Gunter announced his retirement from employment with the City of Hailey, which he made effective on February 24, 2020. In light of his many years of service to the City of Hailey, Mayor Martha Burke credited Chief Gunter an additional month salary upon his departure.

Gunter began his long period of service to the community in 1990, starting in the position of patrol officer with Hailey Police Department and rising through the law enforcement ranks, until being named Chief of Police in 2007. He acted as co-commander under the incident command system with the Hailey Fire Chief, leading Hailey response teams through city-wide emergency events such as the Beaver Creek Fire and the 2017 Big Wood River Flood. Gunter was assigned the role of Interim City Administrator during a four-month period in 2017, thereafter advising and supporting all city departments.

Gunter had been developing a succession plan with Hailey Police staff in recent years. He looks forward to focusing on family, his personal health, and travel.

Mayor Martha Burke is undertaking a thorough review of the City's public safety and law enforcement needs, and will be making decisions about future leadership in the coming weeks. Assistant Chief Steve England is currently fulfilling the duties of Interim Chief of Police. Mayor Burke looks forward to a smooth transition and expresses confidence in the Department's ability to serve the public now and in the future. After meeting with each member of the police department, she said, "This is a diverse group of dedicated personnel, all of whom bring enthusiasm and a willingness to protect and serve that is truly inspiring."

Mayor Burke, on behalf of the citizens of Hailey and all city staff, accepted the retirement of Chief Gunter, wishing him fulfilling and satisfying future years.

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