



CITY OF ANACORTES

Laurie Gere, Mayor

904 6th Street Anacortes, WA 98221

www.anacorteswa.gov

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - Anacortes Police Chief John Small Announces Retirement

April 19, 2021

Chief John Small to Retire from the Anacortes Police Department

Following a long career of public service and leadership, John Small, Chief of Police for the Anacortes Police Department has announced his retirement effect July 1, 2021.

Chief Small started his service with the Anacortes Police Department in September 1993. Chief Small is a “home grown” Police Chief; he has served nearly every role at the Police Department from Police Officer, to the Field Training Officer, D.A.R.E. Instructor, Volunteer Coordinator, Detective Sergeant, Patrol Sergeant, and Police Captain. His wealth of experience has always been reflected in the values he instills in every officer to be kind, be caring and uphold a high ethical standard.

Chief Small was appointed as Chief on April 1, 2017. Chief Small states, “I am proud the have spent my entire career in Anacortes and it has been an honor and blessing to serve this community.” Chief Small is most proud of the people he has hired and the people who make up the Anacortes Police Department. He remarks, “My greatest legacy is going to be the Police Department staff I leave behind who will continue to protect and serve the City of Anacortes.”

Mayor Gere extends her gratitude for Chief Small’s hard work and dedication saying, “Chief Small truly exemplifies what servant leadership is. He shows up every day to serve every citizen of Anacortes through protection, enforcing the law, and taking care of people at their most vulnerable times. He leads by example in his department and has created a culture of service.” The City of Anacortes thanks Chief Small for his humble public service and for building confidence and trust in the Anacortes Police Department with the City Council, Mayor, Anacortes residents, and community partners across Skagit County.

In the upcoming edition of the City’s publication “A-town is Our Town”, Chief Small reflects on the changes he has experienced over his over 27 years of service. Chief Small remarks that law enforcement has always been in a constant state of evolution as he and his department strive to continuously improve. He discusses how many things have changed, and some things remain constant.

Excerpt from Chief Small’s A-town is Our Town Article: “Anacortes is a special place, and it has been a constant blessing in my life to serve its citizens and work with an amazing group of police professionals. Thank you, Anacortes, for the honor and privilege of serving my entire law enforcement career in this great city!”

Please direct any questions to Mayor Gere’s Office at 360-299-1950.