



Dayton Police Chief Richard Biehl Announces Retirement *City begins search for new Chief this week*

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After more than 13 years of dedicated service to the Dayton Police Department, Chief Richard Biehl has announced his retirement. Chief Biehl's effective date of retirement is planned for July.

“The job of police chief is one of the most important roles for both the City organization and the community,” said Shelley Dickstein, Dayton City Manager. “Nationally, policing is at a crossroads, and I want to thank Chief Biehl for helping to lead the department through some very difficult conversations and situations in recent years.”

Prior to joining the Dayton Police Department, Chief Biehl served nearly 25 years in the Cincinnati Police Department, the last six years as an Assistant Police Chief for both the Investigations Bureau and the Administration Bureau of the department. After his retirement from the Cincinnati Police Department, he served nearly four years as the Executive Director of the Community Police Partnering Center, a bridge organization formed after the civil unrest in Cincinnati in 2001, created to engage community members to work with Cincinnati Police personnel to implement Community Problem Oriented Policing (CPOP) strategies to reduce neighborhood crime and disorder. CPOP was a principal strategy employed as part of broader policing reforms to address social conflict, enhance community trust and engagement, and improve community safety.

Biehl is known for his minority and immigrant friendly policing policies and practices to help encourage trust between Dayton officers and the community they serve. During his tenure as the Police Chief of the City of Dayton, the Dayton Police department has received multiple international policing awards for excellence in community policing efforts.

“It has been the greatest honor in my professional career to serve as Police Chief for the City of Dayton and to work with the Dayton community to improve public safety,” said Richard Biehl, Dayton Police Chief. “The enhanced safety of the Dayton community over the past decade is notable and a direct result of the efforts of community members and members of the Dayton Police Department working cooperatively toward this end. The dedication and professionalism of the members of the Dayton Police Department, as well as the exemplary leadership

at all levels of the organization, provides a solid foundation to continue the work of policing reforms as well as to more fully engage community members in the central mission of improving community safety.”

The City Manager will begin the search for Dayton’s next Chief this month. To lead the recruitment process, the City will hire a national executive search firm with the hopes that the new police chief will be named in October.

“As we begin our search for the ideal candidate, we have put together an inclusive process to ensure transparency and representation by the residents of this community,” said Dickstein.

The City Manager has appointed a Selection Oversight Committee (SOC) to help oversee the hiring process. The SOC includes City leadership as well as representatives from the Police Reform Workgroups, including William Gillespie (Recruitment), Serida Lowery (Community Engagement), and Jeff Jackson (Use of Force). The SOC will be working over the next several weeks to build the position profile which serves as the formal advertisement of the position. The selection process will include substantial inputs from a variety of perspectives: Community stakeholders, Neighborhood Presidents, Reform Implementation Group members, and City staff.

The ideal candidate will be expected to continue and build on the work already started by the Dayton City Commission and community through the Police Reform Initiative to ensure effective implementation and strengthen police-community relations.

Following the retirement of Chief Biehl, Lieutenant Colonel Matt Carper will serve as Acting Police Chief. Lt. Col. Carper is in his 29th year with the Dayton Police Department and is currently Deputy Director and Assistant Chief. Carper has served in numerous key roles for the department, including Narcotics Bureau Commander, Professional Standards Bureau Commander and Commander of the Central Patrol Operations Division, as well as West Patrol Operations Division. Lt. Col. Carper has actively participated in the Use of Force reform working group and will play a key role as the City Manager continues reform recommendation implementation.

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