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## PRESS RELEASE

### [Captain Steve Stewart To Be Keene's New Police Chief](#)

*City Manager promotes current Keene Police Department Captain to lead the department.*

**Keene, NH, September 15, 2022:** Captain Steve Stewart of the Keene Police Department will serve as the City of Keene's next Police Chief.

Captain Stewart joined the department in 2004 and has served as a member of the Keene Police Department (KPD) for the past eighteen years. He was promoted to Sergeant in just two short years, and in 2010 he was elevated to Lieutenant. For the past seven years, Steve has been a member of the command staff at KPD serving as Captain of Field Operations.

An interview team including City leadership staff and community representatives unanimously agreed that Captain Stewart is an excellent choice for Chief. The interview team described Steve as highly qualified, someone who leads with integrity, is collaborative and reflective, and will serve the department and the community well. Keene State College President, Dr. Melinda Treadwell, Franklin Pierce Chief Diversity Officer, Dr. Pierre Morton, City Assessor, Dan Langille, Public Works Director, Kurt Blomquist, and City Attorney, Tom Mullins, joined City Manager, Elizabeth Dragon, on the interview team for this important process which began upon the retirement of former Chief, Steve Russo, who retired in August.

Captain Stewart accepted the promotion with gratitude. "I'm honored and grateful to have been selected as Keene's next Police Chief. Keene is a great city and I look forward to leading the fine men and women of this department as we continue to provide high quality police services."

Elizabeth Dragon explained, "It is my honor to promote Captain Stewart to Chief. I am confident that he will continue the great work of our police department into the future. His inquisitive nature leaves him open to new ideas as he seeks a greater understanding of all issues. This will serve us well as we work to ensure we are a welcoming and safe community for all to live, work, and play."

Stewart's promotion to Chief is effective Monday, September 19, 2022.

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**