



NEWS RELEASE

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CITY MANAGER ANNOUNCES NEW POLICE CHIEF

Wheeling, WV – Wheeling City Manager, Robert Herron announced the new Chief of Police during a press conference this morning. Mr. Herron appointed Shawn Schwertfeger as the Chief of the City of Wheeling Police Department.

Mr. Schwertfeger began his law enforcement career in 1991 with the Albemarle County Police Department (ACPD) in Charlottesville, Virginia. He most recently served as Captain of the ACPD Operations Bureau, which consists of four divisions and approximately 100 personnel. Additionally, he held a command position with the ACPD for eight years, serving as Lieutenant for three separate divisions.

Prior to his career in Virginia, the Ohio Valley was home to both Shawn and his wife. Schwertfeger is a graduate of West Liberty University (B.S. in criminal justice, 1989) and John Marshall High School (1984). He is also a 2009 graduate of the FBI National Academy.

Schwertfeger has an extensive list of professional references who recommended him for the position and offered comments including:

“Shawn possesses all the characteristics of a strong leader. He is dedicated, professional, and well respected by his peers and the community.”

“Shawn is the perfect package, (having) strong skill sets in every area.”

As part of the Police Chief selection process, Mr. Herron and the City's Human Resources Director, Leslie Waechter, worked with the International Association of Chiefs of Police to conduct an assessment center. The City followed the same process as when former Police Chief Robert Matheny was appointed in 2009.

“I am pleased to appoint Shawn Schwertfeger as the Chief of Police,” offered Mr. Herron. “His experience in leadership will serve the Wheeling Police Department and the citizens of Wheeling well. He will be an outstanding addition to our City.”

Schwertfeger will officially begin his role as Chief of Police on June 4, 2012. He and his family will move to Ohio County within six months of his appointment, per the City's policy.

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