




Matt Rokus, Chief of Police
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MEDIA RELEASE

DATE: March 27, 2020	CONTACT: Matt Rokus
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SUBJECT: Promotions, March 2020	 @EauClairePD

I am pleased to announce the promotion of Lieutenant Derek Thomas to the position of Deputy Chief of Police; the promotion of Sergeant Mark Pieper to the position of Lieutenant of Police; and two officers to the position of Sergeant of Police: Public Information Officer Bridget Coit and Detective Matt Leque.

Deputy Chief Derek Thomas began his new position on March 19, 2020. Deputy Chief Thomas has 20 years of law enforcement experience, 16 of which have been with the Eau Claire Police Department. During his tenure at the Eau Claire Police Department, Deputy Chief Thomas served as a Patrol Officer, Special Operations Section, Detective, Patrol Sergeant, Detective Sergeant, Patrol Lieutenant, Investigations Bureau Lieutenant and Professional Standards Lieutenant. He has also been involved in a variety of specialties to include Honor Guard, Police Training Officer, and the Commander of the Crime Scene Unit. Deputy Chief Thomas has a Masters Degree in Criminal Justice Administration from UW-Platteville and is a veteran of the United States Marine Corps. He and his wife Stephanie have 3 children; Sean (9), Elyse (10), and Paul (12).

Sergeant Mark Pieper will start his new assignment as a Patrol Lieutenant on March 31, 2020. Lieutenant Pieper will be assigned as the South District Patrol Commander. He has 23 years of law enforcement experience, 19 of which have been with the Eau Claire Police Department. During his tenure at the Eau Claire Police Department, Lieutenant Pieper has served as a Patrol Officer, West Central Drug Task Force Investigator, Patrol Sergeant, and Investigations Bureau Sergeant. Lieutenant Pieper is the Tactical Team Commander and also serves as a Firearms Instructor for the department. Lieutenant Pieper was born and raised in Eau Claire. He attended Eau Claire North High School and Chippewa Valley Technical College. He and his wife Amy have two daughters, ages 16 and 20.

Officer Bridget Coit is expected to start her new position as a Patrol Sergeant on March 31, 2020. Sergeant Coit has 14 years of law enforcement experience, 8 of which have been with the Eau Claire Police Department. During her tenure at the Eau Claire Police Department, Sergeant Coit served as a Patrol Officer, Sensitive Crimes Investigator, and Public Information Officer. She is also a member of the Crime Scene Unit, Crisis Negotiations Team, and Police Training Officer program. Sergeant Coit has a Masters Degree in Criminal Justice from Saint Cloud State University. She and her husband Casey have 2 young children.

Officer Matt Leque is expected to start his new position as Patrol Sergeant on March 31, 2020. Sergeant Leque was hired with the Eau Claire Police Department on June 25, 2007. During his tenure at the Eau Claire Police Department, Sergeant Leque served as a Patrol Officer, Special Operations Section, and West Central Drug Task Force Investigator. Sergeant Leque is a member of the Tactical Response Team, Police Training Officer, and assists the Force Options Team. Sergeant Leque has a Bachelors Degree in Criminal Justice from UW-Platteville. He and his wife Jasmine have 2 young children.

Sincerely,

Matt Rokus
Chief of Police
Eau Claire Police Department