



CITY OF PROSSER

Washington

PO Box 1639
Prosser, WA 99350
(509)786-2332
Fax (509)786-3717
www.cityofprosser.com

PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Media Contact

Rachel Shaw, Public Information Officer

(509) 786-8218

rshaw@ci.prosser.wa.us



Police Chief Selection Announcement

Prosser, WA: On Friday, March 22, 2024, Mayor Gary Vegar announced the City's decision to appoint Interim Police Chief John Markus as the City's newest Chief of Police, following a three-week internal interview process.

After graduating from college in Glendora, California, Markus joined the United States Coast Guard and served our country for seven years. Following the Coast Guard, he worked as a Corrections Officer at Franklin County Corrections facility before accepting a position with the City of Wapato as a Police Officer. In April 1998, Markus joined the Prosser Police Department and began his 25 year career serving the City of Prosser and its residents.

During his tenure with the Prosser Police Department, Markus has served in many capacities including, a Bike Patrol Officer, Sex Offender Registration Officer, Crime Scene Investigator, SWAT, Firearms Instructor, Field Training Officer, Patrol Sergeant, and Interim Police Chief. Throughout his career, he has been recognized for exceptional service and was awarded the Washington State Medal of Honor, the City of Prosser Medal of Valor, the FBI Real Heroes Award and the Red Cross Life Saving Medal.

Mayor Gary Vegar said, "Selecting a Police Chief isn't just about finding someone to enforce laws, it's a decision about finding the right person for our community that puts honesty, integrity, and devotion to duty first and foremost. John is a servant leader that loves Prosser and brings trust and stability to department."

An Oath of Office ceremony will be conducted at the Tuesday, April 2, 2024, City Council meeting located at 1002 Dudley Avenue, in Prosser at 7:00 p.m. A public meet-and-greet is being scheduled and will be announced at a later date.

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