



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Johnny Cervantes Resigns as Casa Grande Police Chief

CASA GRANDE, AZ— Casa Grande Police Chief Johnny Cervantes tendered his resignation letter to City Manager Jim Thompson. Lieutenant Kent Horn, a 26 year veteran of the police department and the highest ranking senior officer, will serve as Acting Police Chief while the City looks for an Interim Police Chief.

“Thank you for the opportunity to fulfill my passion of being a police chief,” Cervantes wrote in his letter of resignation.

“Johnny has been an exceptional chief to this organization and we wish him the best in his future endeavors,” said Thompson. “His passion and deep understanding of police administration has brought many progressive changes to our police department to reduce crime and make our community safer.”

Under Cervantes’ direction, the police department partnered with the community to improve the appearance of Casa Grande neighborhoods, reduce the opportunity for criminal activity, and improve the overall quality of life for everyone. The department also aggressively pursued and arrested several individuals in the community that had outstanding warrants stemming from a domestic violence report, marking this operation a success and the beginning of an annual attempt to help bring awareness to domestic violence.

The City of Casa Grande has contracted an external recruitment firm to assist in finding an Interim Police Chief. That process is expected to take up to 30 days. Subsequent to the appointment of an Interim Police Chief, the City will begin a national search to actively recruit for the position of Chief of Police, which can take up to six months.

“I have complete confidence that our police department will handle the day-to-day duties of the department efficiently as we transition and look for a permanent replacement,” said Thompson. “The men and women of the Casa Grande Police Department are public safety professionals dedicated to keeping all of our residents and visitors safe, and that won’t change during the transition.”

Johnny Cervantes served as Chief of Police since April 2013. He previously worked for the City of Scottsdale as a Patrol Commander.

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