



CITY OF FORT BRAGG

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CITY OF FORT BRAGG HIRES INTERIM POLICE CHIEF

The City of Fort Bragg is pleased to announce that John Naulty has been offered and has accepted the position of Interim Police Chief. Fabian Lizarraga announced his retirement as Fort Bragg's Police Chief at a City Council meeting in December. Chief Lizarraga served in the role for nearly 5 years and his distinguished career includes 37 years with the Los Angeles Police Department. Chief Lizarraga leaves the department in good form and fully staffed for the first time in his tenure.

John Naulty retired as Lieutenant with the Fort Bragg Police Department in April, 2015, after 35 years in law enforcement. Naulty began his law enforcement career in 1980 when he was hired as a Reserve Officer by the City of Fort Bragg. After graduating from the Police Academy, Naulty became a Police Officer with the Department. Over the next two decades, he held a number of positions in Fort Bragg and rose up through the ranks. He was the first Fort Bragg officer assigned to the Mendocino County Major Crimes Task Force and he was named the Fort Bragg Police Department Narcotics Officer of the Year. He was also a California Narcotics Officer Association (CNOA) Al Stewart nominee, a Detective, a K-9 officer, a Field Training Officer (FTO), and a Firearms Taser instructor. In 1996, Officer Naulty was promoted to the rank of Sergeant where he supervised patrol and managed the Department's field training officers, firearms, and K-9 programs.

Naulty moved to Brentwood, California in 2002, where he joined the Brentwood Police Department as a Corporal. While in Brentwood, Naulty completed Supervisory Leadership Training and obtained his Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice Management. Naulty returned to the Fort Bragg Police Department in 2011 to serve as its Lieutenant.

Naulty received multiple commendations for his heroic actions in March 2014 in response to an incident involving an armed robbery and kidnapping suspect. Naulty was the first officer on the scene after Mendocino County Sheriff's Deputy Ricky Del Fiorentino was shot and killed by the gunman just a few miles north of Fort Bragg. Lieutenant Naulty retired from the Fort Bragg Police Department in April, 2015.

"I am super excited to return to law enforcement, particularly here, where I began my career. It's a real honor to be sought out to fill this position. I respect the fact that the City Manager looked locally to fill this key position. I have watched the changes happening in the City over the last few years and feel fortunate to have the opportunity to serve my community," said John Naulty.

City Manager, Tabatha Miller, is grateful to have an experienced local hero willing to step in and help the Police Department during this transition.



L-R: Carol Naulty, Interim Police Chief John Naulty, City Manager Tabatha Miller, Vice Mayor Bernie Norvell, and Councilmember Lindy Peters

Questions regarding this information should be directed to City Manager, Tabatha Miller at (707) 961-2829.

416 N. Franklin Street
Fort Bragg, CA 95437

Phone: 707-961-2823
Fax: 707-961-2802