



City of Glenwood Springs
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PRESS RELEASE

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Glenwood Springs announces new police chief

GLENWOOD SPRINGS, CO – The City of Glenwood Springs has selected Joseph Deras as the new Glenwood Springs police chief. Deras is currently a police captain in Gilroy, CA and is expected to begin as the Glenwood Springs police chief sometime in January 2020.

“I am very humbled by your faith in me as your new chief of police,” Deras said. “I could not be more elated about the opportunity to be a part of the City of Glenwood Springs, its Police Department, and the community. The various community members I have met thus far, the Police Department team, the entire City Hall staff, and elected officials have been very warm and welcoming. Their kindness validates my feelings that this was the perfect fit for me and my family.”

He brings 28 years of law enforcement experience to Glenwood Springs and said he is “very anxious to get to know the community members and embark on a new chapter of collaboration in continuing the practices of fair, ethical, and professional policing.”

Debra Figueroa, Glenwood Springs city manager, stated “Joseph has the experience and skills that make him a great fit to lead our Police Department. I am excited to welcome him as an employee of the City of Glenwood Springs but also as a member of our community.”

Deras is bilingual in English and Spanish and oversees the Gilroy Police Department’s Community Police Academy that is taught in both English and Spanish. He holds a bachelor’s degree in criminal justice administration and is currently finishing his master’s degree in public safety leadership from the University of San Diego.

As a police captain in the special operations division at the Gilroy Police Department, Deras is currently responsible for the detective unit, the gang/narcotics group, traffic team, internal affairs, internal affairs, hiring, public information, and department litigation.

Lieutenant Bill Kimminau will remain the acting police chief until Joseph Deras begins. “I want to sincerely thank Lieutenant Kimminau for his leadership during this transition and express my gratitude for the entire Glenwood Springs Police Department for their patience and support during this process,” said Figueroa.

The City of Glenwood Springs would also like to thank the hiring panel who provided input on this process and the community members who attended the meet and greet event with all four candidates.

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