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PRESS RELEASE
City of Hyattsville Police Department
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**City of Hyattsville Police Department Deputy Chief Scott Dunklee
to Serve as Acting Chief of Police During Search for Next Chief**

(Hyattsville, MD) – Today, City of Hyattsville Police Department (HCPD) Deputy Chief Scott Dunklee steps into the role of acting Chief of Police, as Hyattsville city leaders prepare for a nationwide search for HCPD’s next police chief.

“I will continue the work former Chief Amal Awad set in motion,” said acting Chief Dunklee, “and I expect that in the near future, Hyattsville City leaders will select the right person to uphold the same vision, work ethic and love for community that we all have at HCPD.”

Acting Chief Dunklee grew up in the Hyattsville area and has 30 years of policing experience. His career includes time in a municipal police department, the Park Police, and at Prince George’s County Police Department where among other duties, he served as Commander of the Aviation Unit in the Special Operations Division, and coordinator for community policing units across the county. Dunklee also served as former Chief Awad’s supervisor, working in PGPD’s Community Policing Section in the Hyattsville area. Dunklee joined HCPD in early 2017. “In just a short time, we made marked improvements in an already strong department, and I will continue to support the growth in relationship building and community policing we know this city deserves,” he said.

The chief of police position became available when Awad announced her resignation November 16, 2020, after being nominated for the top position at the Anne Arundel County Police Department. During Awad’s three years at HCPD, including the last two as chief, she increased racial diversity within the department; launched a mental health crisis response exploratory committee; and hired three civilians to implement mental health programs management and grow transparency, training and oversight. Her last day at HCPD was December 16.



Per City of Hyattsville policy, City Administrator Tracey Douglass is responsible for making the final decision in the hiring process for police chief. A proposed timeline for the search process has not yet been announced.

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