

BEHIND THE BADGE



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RPD's Employee of the Year



Sergeant B.S. Neighbors was selected the 2017 Raleigh Police Department Employee of the Year. Prior to joining the Department, Sergeant Neighbors served in the United States Army. He began his career with the Department in 2003 and has served as a patrol officer in the Field Operations Division; as a detective in the Gang and Homicide Units; and as a sergeant in the Raleigh Intelligence Center of the Detective Division.

In addition to teaching the Gang Awareness instruction block at the Raleigh Police Department Academy, Sergeant Neighbors also teaches Gang Encounters I and II at Wake Technical Community College. These courses are specific to North Carolina gangs and help to identify hand signs, attire, tattoos, rank, and vernacular.

Sergeant Neighbors coordinates a monthly intelligence meeting with other agencies to discuss and strategize prevention, intervention, and identification of suspects.

He is in high demand as a speaker, regularly talking with young people at churches and schools about gang awareness. He is a regular presenter at CAC meetings, and for the past few years, has been a presenter for the Youth Services Unit's Girls Inspiring Real Leadership and Sisterhood (G.I.R.L.S.) program (formerly known as Charm School). Audiences enjoy and respond positively to his open and honest conversation.

Sergeant Neighbors' negotiation and tactfulness, along with his extensive knowledge of gangs and his willingness to share this information with others, make him a valuable member of the RPD team. Please join us in congratulating Sergeant Neighbors!

Chief Deck-Brown Hosts Chicago PD Chief Barbara J. West

In January, Chief Barbara J. West of the Chicago Police Department spent several days shadowing our own Chief Deck-Brown, who serves as a mentor with the Police Executive Leadership Institute (PELI). The week held lots of activities and opportunities for Chief West to observe and learn: a speaking event on Martin Luther King Jr. Day; the MLK Parade briefing; the Weekly Review Meeting; a Raleigh City Council Meeting; the Post-Council Management Team Meeting; the RPD Management Team Meeting; and the Command Staff Meeting. Multiple mentoring sessions were also scheduled throughout Chief West's five-day visit.

"I am humbled by my experience at the Raleigh Police Department," said Chief West. "I was able to shadow the Chief and recognized her days begin early with scheduled meetings, appointments with officers, elected officials and community members, and end very late with reports and preparation for the next day. I found my one-on-one interview with Chief Deck-Brown to be invaluable. I also observed her under a stressful situation, dealing with an in-custody death. She remained calm, consistent, and decisive. Law enforcement executives talk about leadership; I value seeing Chief Deck-Brown demonstrate it."



Chief West earned a bachelor's degree in political science from Illinois State University and a master's degree in training and performance management from St. Xavier University in Chicago. She has served with the Chicago Police Department for more than 20 years, and is currently serving as the Chief of the Bureau of Organizational Development, overseeing the operation of the Research and Analysis Division and the Training Division. Chief West has commanded the Confidential Investigation Section of the Internal Affairs Division, the Domestic Violence Program of the CAPS Project Office, the Human Resources Division, and the 15th and 11th Districts. She has also served as Deputy Chief for the Bureau of Patrol.

Photo courtesy of the Chicago Police Department

RPD in the Community

Pinwheels in the Park

Since 1983, the month of April has been recognized as National Child Abuse Prevention Month. In observance, at 2:30 p.m. on April 3, the Raleigh Police Department, along with the Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Resources Department, and Prevent Child Abuse North Carolina will plant pinwheels in various Raleigh parks. "Pinwheels in Parks" is a partnership between state, county, and city agencies to educate residents on the role we all have in building safe, unwavering, nurturing homes and communities where children can thrive.



Congratulations and Recognitions



Officer J.L. Puett

RPD Welcomes New Officer

Officer Puett was born and raised in Franklinton. He earned a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Western Carolina University, where he also played football. He would like to serve as a member of the Fugitive Unit, the Gang Unit, or the Selective Enforcement Unit in the future. Officer Puett has been assigned to the Southeast District.

RPD Welcomes New Animal Control Officer

Jason B. Moss joined the Animal Control Unit of the Special Operations Division effective January 22. He grew up in Louisburg and attended Wake Technical Community College before transferring to North Carolina State University. He has always loved animals and, is excited to join the RPD Animal Control Unit. Please welcome Mr. Moss to the Department.



Deputy Chief Council Announces Selection of Front Desk Officers

Deputy Chief R.C. Council recently announced the selection of Senior Officers G.E. Hart (Downtown District), P.T. Pettet (North District), and H. Robins (Southwest District) to serve as front desk officers. The assignments became effective February 3.



Officer Hart



Officer Pettet



Officer Robins

Major Haines Announces New Assignments

Major C.E. Haines of the Special Operations Division recently announced the selection of Senior Officer S.W. Brown to serve on the Code Enforcement Unit. He also announced the selection of Senior Officer A.L. Clark to serve on the DWI Enforcement Unit. These assignments were effective February 17.



Officer Brown



Officer Clark

Spring Interns

In January, eight energetic interns joined the Department for the Spring Semester; they were welcomed by Chief Deck-Brown and Deputy Chief Council. The Chief encouraged them to take full advantage of the internship program and to keep their minds open to all opportunities, especially those in the Raleigh Police Department. Two of the interns, Anthony Garcia and Taylor Hudson, are specialized and will spend all of their time in the Detective Division. The other interns are overview students and are scheduled to experience the Criminal Justice System by spending time in the Emergency Communication Center, the Field Operations Division, the Detective Division, the Special Operations Division, the Wake County Courts, and Police Records in the Administrative Services Division.



Pictured clockwise: Chief Deck-Brown, Hannah Terrell (Campbell University), Mercedes Gutierrez (Meredith College), Alex Pendleton (Meredith College), Dylan Bachman (N.C. State University), Deputy Chief Council, Christopher Deleon (William Peace University), James Stilley (N.C. State University), Anthony Garcia (East Carolina University), and Taylor Hudson (East Carolina University).

Letters of Appreciation

Senior Officer G.S. Modetz:

Officer Modetz, we thank you for the transport to the home in inclement weather and for serving as the funeral escort on your day off.

We are truly grateful and blessed that so many of you honored our wife and mother with your kind words, food, flowers, and monetary donations. Some of you selflessly took time to just check on us. All of your kind actions were beautiful! Carol and mom would have been overwhelmed with all of the love. We are confident that she will rest well knowing that we were supported during her passing.

The Family of the late Carol Mallette

Chief Deck-Brown:

I wanted to take a moment to extend some compliments and appreciation for the high degree of professionalism from two of your officers. Officer T.C. Perna has unfortunately been called to our home on Mindees Court on a couple of occasions to address some issues we have been having with our neighbors relating to harassment, trespass, and property damage. Officer T.C. Perna has been incredibly helpful in responding to the issues and was kind in his submission of a community policing ticket to Sergeant Schabel for follow-up.

Sergeant M. Schabel reached out soon after the last incident and offered to come out to meet with us. He was incredibly professional and took a good deal of time on the phone and offered some advice on how to manage the issues we have been experiencing with our neighbors. My wife and I sincerely appreciate the professionalism, quick response time, genuine care, and pride both officers show in their profession and in executing their duties. Sergeant Schabel and Officer Perna are a true credit to the Department and the community. We are very appreciative of the Raleigh Police Department and everyone's service to our community.

Joshua Michael MacNamara

Captain C.E. Haines:

I recently had the unique pleasure of seeing two of your Mounted Officers on the Neuse Trail - it was a great sight to see! It was the first time I have ever seen them on the trail which I frequent a lot and would love to see them there more often. A Saturday or Sunday visit would be the perfect time since the first two miles of the trail are filled with families on the weekend enjoying the outdoors. I know the kids would be impressed and amazed.

Steve Margets

In Memoriam



Retired Officer Harold L. Richardson passed away at his home on Saturday, January 27. Officer Richardson wore badge #387 and was a member of the 24th Academy. He retired from the Raleigh Police Department on January 1, 1995. The funeral was held on February 2 at Mid-Way Baptist Church.

Please keep the Richardson family in your thoughts and prayers.

Photo courtesy of the Richardson family