

SHELBY TOWNSHIP PRESS RELEASE

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Contact: Shelby Township Supervisor Rick Stathakis Phone: (586) 731-5154
Email: rstathakis@shelbytwp.org Website: www.shelbytwp.org

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Shelby Township Police Department sees promotions, first new hires since 2009

Following back-to-back votes by the Shelby Township Board of Trustees Feb. 17, the Shelby Township Police Department is staffed and ready to protect and serve for years ahead.

The Shelby Township Board of Trustees unanimously approved the hiring two new Police Department patrol officers as well as the promotion of three sergeants to the rank of lieutenant and three patrol officers to fill the open sergeant positions.

"I cannot run a police department with gaping holes in my command staff," Shelby Township Police Chief Robert Shelide said. "The department is run through a para-military style of command. Each level has a varying importance, from our front line supervisors, our sergeants, without whom we would not be able to run our organization."

The need to fill command positions resulted from the recent retirements of two lieutenants as well as the promotion of Captain Mark Coil because of the scheduled retirement of Captain Steven Stanbury.

"Our lieutenants are our first-rank level of managers, where they have oversight over our shifts and operation," Shelide said. "Our captain is running our day to day operations, and the position is very critical."

The Police Department will formally recognize the officers' new ranks and positions within the department at a 2 p.m. Feb. 23 swearing-in ceremony.

"Any time we can recognize our hardworking public safety professionals for their dedication to the community with much-deserved and well-earned promotions, it is a proud day for the entire township," Township Supervisor Rick Stathakis said. "It's always uplifting to see all of our officers and their families come together to celebrate these ceremonies."

To fill the needs created by the retirements and promotions, the Police Department is poised to hire its first new patrol officers since 2009.

Following a screening by the Police and Fire Civil Service Commission and with background investigations conducted by the Police Department, Kevin Bailey and Adam Terry will join the department as probationary entry-level patrol officers no sooner than March 9, 2015.

"The Township will not see a loss of man power on its streets due to these position changes," Stathakis said of the promotions. "I want to assure residents that, if anything, this will help to ensure that the safety of the community is stronger than ever."

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