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Media Contact:

Carmen Palmer

253-299-5503

carmenp@ci.sumner.wa.us

PRESS RELEASE

Sumner Selects Lt. John Galle for New Police Chief

Sumner, WA—The City of Sumner has selected John Galle to serve as its new chief of police. Chief Galle has served Sumner for ten years, most recently as a lieutenant and acting chief since Chief Colleen Wilson left earlier this year to go to the Port of Seattle.

Galle started his career in law enforcement as a patrol officer and has since achieved many accomplishments including graduating with top academic honors from the Basic Law Enforcement Academy; earning a Certificate of Merit in 2000 for responding off-duty and apprehending a rape suspect; introducing the School Resource Office program in the Sumner School District, and developing and expanding Sumner's Communications Center to include multi-agency dispatching responsibilities.

In applying for the position, Galle said, "While providing the best services in the most efficient means possible is important, it is critical that we support and build success in our officers through equipping, training, and setting a standard of excellence in our effort to make our city a safe place to live and work. But officers can't do it alone. Mutual trust between citizen and police is a cornerstone of effective policing, and I will work to build that trust within our community."

The City of Sumner contracted with the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs to conduct the search for a new chief. "It was difficult to select just one person from so many qualified candidates," said Mayor Dave Enslow, "but it also gave us a variety of styles and experiences from which to choose just the right fit for the Sumner community. The best fit is John Galle."

Said City Administrator John Doan, "John Galle has the experience in both law enforcement and management that matches where our department is going. Citizens in Sumner like how their police blend cutting edge technology with small-town personal service. Lt. Galle played a big part in developing that culture in the past, and he'll be a great chief to lead us into the future."

The City Council approved the contract last evening, and Chief Galle will assume his new role immediately. The Sumner Police Department consists of 41 individuals, including officers, animal control and the communications center that serves Sumner and Bonney Lake police.

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