
MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City of Chowchilla Swears in New Police Chief

Chowchilla, CA – September 25, 2015

On September 22, 2015, the Chowchilla City Council swore in its new Police Chief, David Riviere. The appointment of David Riviere comes as the culmination of an extensive national search to fill the vacancy created when former Police Chief Jay Varney was elected to the post of Madera County Sheriff.

The recruitment included a highly competitive pool of candidates who were scrutinized by a panel of outside police chiefs and city manager before being interviewed by the Chowchilla City Council and City Administrator. This process assured that the chosen candidate was ranked high both in terms of his command of police science and his ability to integrate into the community.

Chief Riviere brings to the position over 24 years of law enforcement experience. Most recently, he had been the interim Chief of Police for the City of Chowchilla.

“I am excited that Chief Riviere has accepted this position. He brings to the job a solid record of working closely with Chowchilla’s diverse community through his application of community-based policing practices,” said City Administrator Brian Haddix.

Riviere brings to the position a record of effective and collaborative leadership, and a commitment to innovation. He is widely regarded for soliciting input from staff at all levels, and reaching out to community stakeholders and other law enforcement agencies to collaborate on local and regional issues of concern.

“Dave Riviere is the perfect candidate for being Chief,” noted Mayor John Chavez. “It is not uncommon to see him walk the though downtown, chatting with our business owners; or you might catch him during his ‘Coffee with a Cop’ talking with our residents. Dave personifies all that is Chowchilla.”

He has spearheaded a number of key initiatives during his tenure as Interim Chief, including restructuring the city's community policing program and philosophy, in order to expand and enhance the partnership between patrol officers and the community.

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