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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **LESLIE MURRAY SWORN-IN AS DOWNEY'S NEW CHIEF OF POLICE**

**Downey, CA, JANUARY 26, 2022:**

The City of Downey is pleased to announce Leslie Murray as Downey's 12<sup>th</sup> Chief of Police. Chief Murray was sworn-in today during a special ceremony where she was accompanied by current and former colleagues, as well as her family. Her brother Ed Kelly, a retired Downey PD Sergeant, administered the Oath of Office to Chief Murray. The badge pinning was done by Chief Murray's husband, Dan Murray, who is also a retired Downey PD Sergeant.

Chief Murray is a 31-year veteran of the Downey Police Department. She was raised in Norwalk and Bellflower, and attended Downey schools, graduating from Downey High School.

In 1990, she was hired as a Downey Police Officer and attended the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Academy. Upon graduation, Chief Murray was assigned to Field Operations as a Patrol Officer. She went on to work as a Sex Crimes and Child Abuse Detective, and then as the Department Training Coordinator and Community Relations Officer.

In 2000, Chief Murray was promoted to Sergeant and was the first female Sergeant in Downey PD's 43-year history. She served in that capacity supervising as a Field Operations and Detective Bureau Sergeant. She also supervised Jail Operations, the Field Training Program, the Department's first Information Technology Support Team, School Resource Program, and was the Department Media Relations Liaison.

In 2008, Chief Murray was promoted to Lieutenant and worked as a Field Operations Watch Commander, the Special Operations Lieutenant in charge of the Traffic Unit and as the Administrative Lieutenant, which included oversight of the Professional Standards Unit. In 2018, she was promoted to Captain. She has served in this capacity overseeing both the Detective and Administrative Divisions of the Department, as well as serving as the Field Operations Captain. During her tenure as a Captain, she oversaw the re-institution of the Department's Internet Crimes Against Children Unit, as well as the development of the Department's Critical Response Unit.

Chief Murray is proud to be a product of Downey and values the relationships she has built within the community. She is committed to partnering with the community in order to best serve those who live, travel through and work in the City of Downey.

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Through these partnerships, the Downey Police Department is poised to continue to provide the most effective and professional police services to the community.

Chief Murray is married to her husband, who is a retired Downey Police Sergeant. They have four children and two grandchildren, and celebrated their 28th wedding anniversary last year. They enjoy staying active, spending time with family and friends, and traveling.

“We are proud to welcome Chief Murray as Downey’s first female Police Chief,” said Mayor Blanca Pacheco. “She has risen through the ranks and earned the respect of her colleagues and our community. I am confident Chief Murray will lead the men and women of the Downey Police Department with the highest level of integrity, honor and professionalism.”

Mayor Pro Tem Sean Ashton added, “Chief Murray’s training and education speaks for itself and has positioned her well to take on this very important role as Police Chief. We are excited for the future of the Downey Police Department under her leadership and vision.”

“It is an absolute honor and privilege to select Chief Murray to lead our Downey Police Department into the future,” said City Manager Gilbert Livas. “Chief Murray’s professionalism, leadership traits and extensive law enforcement experience make her the right person for the job. I look forward to working closely with her to ensure Downey continues to be one of the safest communities in the region.”

Former Downey Police Chief Dean Milligan who retired this past December said, “I am so very proud of Leslie and her professional accomplishments. She is a longstanding and extremely dedicated member of the Downey Police Department. I have the utmost confidence in Leslie and her abilities. I have no doubt that she and her team will lead the Downey Police Department to new heights.”

Chief Murray holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Sociology and a Master’s Degree in Public Policy and Administration from Cal State Long Beach. Chief Murray is a graduate of the Sherman Block Institute, the LAPD’s West Point Leadership Program and is an FBI National Academy graduate.

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