

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Beachwood Police Chief Katherine McLaughlin Announces Retirement

Beachwood, Ohio (7/18/2024)— Beachwood Police Chief Katherine McLaughlin has announced her retirement, effective September 13, 2024. Chief McLaughlin has been an invaluable leader and dedicated public servant to our community, and we are grateful for her service and commitment to Beachwood.

Service Timeline:

Chief McLaughlin's distinguished career in law enforcement is marked by a trajectory of dedicated service and leadership. Beginning her career with the Cleveland Heights Police Department, she rose through the ranks to become a Captain. Her tenure in Cleveland Heights was characterized by her proactive approach to crime prevention and ability to foster strong community relations.

Chief McLaughlin's expertise and leadership qualities led her to the role of Chief of the Cleveland Metroparks Police Department, where she continued to enhance public safety across the expansive park system. Under her Leadership, the Metroparks Police achieved advancements in both policy and practice, ensuring a safe and welcoming environment for millions of visitors each year.

Chief McLaughlin joined the Beachwood Police Department as Deputy Chief on September 15, 2021, and was promoted to Chief on November 11, 2021. She achieved significant milestones during her tenure. One of her achievements was launching a field office at Beachwood Place, which is staffed by two full-time officers, increasing safety and security. She implemented an annual active shooter training program in the Beachwood City schools and at Beachwood Place. Chief McLaughlin also initiated a pioneering drone program for the police and fire departments, showcasing her forward-thinking approach to public safety.

Leadership Statements:

Mayor Justin Bernis – Chief McLaughlin's dedication to keeping our neighborhoods safe, seamless collaboration with my administration, and advancement of public safety initiatives have made a significant contribution to the Beachwood community. I am grateful for her service and leadership, which profoundly enhanced the well-being of our residents. I wish her the best in retirement."

Chief Katherine McLaughlin – "I am retiring from my long and successful career in law enforcement. I started as a patrol officer in Cleveland Heights and worked my way up to Chief of Police at the Cleveland MetroParks and now Beachwood. My decision to retire was difficult, and I want to thank Mayor Bernis for all his support throughout my time with the City of Beachwood. After leading two departments as Chief of Police over the past six years, I feel I have achieved everything I set out to accomplish in law enforcement and reached my maximum potential. I am excited about my future and potential opportunities in the private sector."

Securing New Leadership:

As we look to the future, the safety and security of Beachwood residents remains our top priority. We are committed to selecting a new police chief with the same dedication and leadership qualities as Chief McLaughlin, ensuring the continuation of her exemplary work and our high public safety standards.

Upon her retirement, Deputy Chief John Resek will assume the role of Acting Chief of Police. Deputy Chief Resek has demonstrated exceptional leadership and dedication and will guide the department effectively during this transition period.

We extend our gratitude to Chief McLaughlin for her exemplary service. Her dedication and leadership have left an indelible mark on our community. We wish her the very best in her well-deserved retirement.

About the City of Beachwood:

The City of Beachwood is home to outstanding educational institutions, a thriving business environment, and an exceptional quality of life. Our city leadership takes pride in providing excellent public services, top-tier recreational amenities, and a safe, inclusive environment for all residents and visitors. Beachwood offers a unique combination of suburban tranquility and urban convenience. We value being a center of cultural, economic, and recreational activity, always striving to be one of the best cities in the country to work, learn, live, and thrive.

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