

City of Alhambra

PRESS RELEASE

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Alhambra Police Chief Accepts New Role; New Police Chief Appointed

Alhambra, CA — After serving Alhambra for four years and working in law enforcement for 27 years, Chief of Police Timothy Vu is transitioning to a new career in academics.

Mayor Sasha Renée Pérez and the City Council commended Chief Vu for his dedicated service to the Police Department and the City of Alhambra during last night's virtual City Council Meeting. Staff also presented him with a Certificate of Service plaque for his outstanding work for the City.

Chief Vu began his law enforcement career as a police officer with the San Diego Police Department in 1993. He joined the Westminster Police Department in 1994 and rose through the ranks to become Deputy Chief. He joined the Alhambra Police Department in 2017.

"During his tenure with the Alhambra Police Department, Chief Vu's vision, diligence, and leadership led him to support and implement several programs that have improved public safety in our community," said City Manager Jessica Binnquist.

Chief Vu was responsible for implementing the Area Command model of policing, obtained a new computer-aided dispatch and records management system, purchased new Axon Body Worn Cameras along with an in-car camera system, replaced outdated dispatch radio consoles, implemented Cloud Back-Up storage to ensure data security, enhanced recruiting and retention of officers, supported pairing an officer with a mental health clinician for better homelessness and addiction response, offered the Community Academy in English, Spanish, and Mandarin and enhanced social media engagement with the community.

"As I prepare to embark on my new journey, I'm proud of the work we've accomplished in Alhambra," said Chief Vu. "The men and women of the Alhambra Police Department are among the best I've had the privilege to work with," said Chief Vu.

Chief Vu's last day is March 23, 2021. He has accepted a position as Associate Dean of the Criminal Justice Training Center at Golden West College in Orange County.

Assistant Chief Eric G. Parra has been selected as the new Police Chief.

Chief Parra has extensive background, knowledge, and experience in law enforcement and has served as Assistant Chief of Police since 2019.

“Chief Parra brings a wealth of experience, exemplary training, and excellent interpersonal skills to continue the tradition of providing the residents of Alhambra the highest level of service, professionalism and public safety,” said City Manager Jessica Binnquist.

“I am honored to lead the men and women of the Alhambra Police Department as the new Chief of Police. I look forward to continuing to provide a high level of service to all who come to Alhambra to live, work and visit,” said Chief Parra.

Chief Parra will serve as the Acting Chief beginning in March and his promotion to Chief of Police will be effective March 24, 2021.

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