



NEWS RELEASE
City of Chico
www.chicoca.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 29, 2022

City of Chico Appoints Captain Billy Aldridge as Interim Police Chief

Chico, CA – (August 29, 2022) –Mark Sorensen, City Manager of Chico, has appointed Captain Billy Aldridge as the Interim Chief of Police, effective September 23, 2022.

Aldridge’s long history with the Chico Police Department (CPD) and proven leadership qualities will ensure a smooth transition during this period.

“I am very appreciative of Captain Billy Aldridge for taking on this immense task and look forward to our exceptional police department continuing its amazing work,” said Sorensen.

After 30 years in law enforcement, the current City of Chico Police Chief, Matthew Madden, announced his plans to retire on June 29, 2022. Chief Madden has served with the CPD for 25 years and will complete his service on Sept. 23, 2022, when Aldridge will assume the role of chief.

“It has been my distinct honor and privilege to end my career as the Chief of the Chico Police Department,” said Madden.

In response to this pending retirement, the City of Chico has already engaged the services of the professional recruiting firm, [Avery & Associates](#), to find a permanent Chief of Police. The recruitment effort is expected to be a 4-to-6-month process, concluding in late 2022 or early 2023.

“Aldridge, who will oversee the department in the interim, has long history with the department and proven leadership qualities that will ensure a smooth transition during this period,” Sorensen continued.

About Captain Billy Aldridge

Aldridge was born and raised in Monroe, NC where he graduated high school in 1995 before joining the US Air Force and serving for nearly eight years. He graduated from the Yuba College Police Academy in 2001 and started with the Butte County Sheriff’s Office in September 2001. While working with BCSO, he was assigned to patrol in both Oroville and Chico, was a Field Training Officer, Officer in Charge and a Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Operator.

In February 2005, Aldridge started with the CPD. Since beginning his career with CPD, he has worked as a Patrol Officer, Field Training Officer, Crime Scene Investigator, Mobile Field Force Team, Use of Force Instructor, and Street Crimes Detective.

Aldridge was promoted to Sergeant in December 2009 and assigned as a Patrol Supervisor, Use of Force Supervisor and Crime Scene Investigations Supervisor. In January 2014, he was assigned to the Professional Standards Unit where he completed Internal Affairs investigations and was part of the recruiting and hiring process for new employees. In April 2015, Aldridge was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant and was assigned to the Administrative Lieutenant position where he managed the TARGET Team, Professional Standards Unit, recruiting/hiring of new employees, and the Training Unit. In August 2016, Aldridge returned to the Patrol Unit where he was assigned as a Watch Commander until his promotion to Captain in March 2020.

Aldridge is currently assigned as the Operations Division commander and manages the Patrol Unit and Animal Services Division, along with several collateral units within the organization to include SWAT, Range, Armory, Use of Force, Unmanned Aerial Surveillance (UAS), and the K-9 Unit. During his time as a Captain, he has served as both acting and interim Chief of Police.

Aldridge has worked as an instructor at the Butte College Police Academy for many years and lectures on the topics of Professionalism, Leadership, Ethics, and Procedural Justice. Captain Aldridge holds a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice Management and a master's degree in Organizational Management with a specialty in Human Resource Management. He holds his Basic, Intermediate, and Advanced certifications as well as the Supervisory and Management level certifications all issued by the Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST).

Aldridge is a graduate of the Sherman Block Supervisory Leadership Institute (SBSLI), POST Supervisory and Management Courses, Executive Leadership Institute at Drucker School of Management, and the POST Executive Development Course.

For more information please contact:

City Manager Mark Sorensen, 530-868-7200, mark.sorensen@chicoca.gov

Captain Billy Aldridge, 530-897-4900, billy.aldridge@chicoca.gov

Chief Matt Madden, 530-897-4900, matt.madden@chicoca.gov

###