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## 5 cops climb the ranks at WPD

Friday, 05 June 2009

By ANDREW THOMPSON

WOONSOCKET — It's a time of transition at the Woonsocket Police Department, and Friday evening's promotion ceremony for five officers at City Hall celebrated the latest change in the ranks.

Officers Brad Scully and Christopher Brooks were both promoted to the rank of lieutenant, while officers Kevin Sanford, Kevin Greenough, and David Paradis were each promoted to sergeant. Police Chief Thomas Carey explained that the promotion process includes an oral interview, written examination, along with the consideration of seniority.

Carey began the ceremony with a brief overview of recent issues the Woonsocket Police Department has dealt with, including the successful negotiation of a long-term contract between the city and the police officer's union. With the contract in place, "there's no concern for layoffs of junior staff," said Carey. The police department will also be receiving stimulus money to help pay for upgrading cell blocks, computer systems, and new equipment for the SWAT team, Carey said. He also mentioned the new anonymous police tipline, at 769-4444, that was created to help encourage people to contact the police without "fear of retaliation."

First to be promoted was Lt. Brad Scully, who holds an Associate's degree in criminal justice and was first hired by the department in 1997. He was promoted to sergeant in 2006.

In actuality, Scully was promoted to lieutenant this past April, but held off on a formal ceremony so that it could be done together with the other officers' promotions.

Scully has been married to his wife Tina for 22 years, and they have two children, Brianna and Kyle.

Said Carey: "I've seen [Scully] work with prosecution and detectives, and he's very concerned with the quality of his work, and very detail oriented."

The second promotion went to Lt. Christopher Brooks, who holds a Master's degree in criminal justice from Boston University with an "outstanding GPA," said Carey.

Brooks has been married to his wife, Kristin, for seven-and-a-half years, and they have three children; Kayla, Kelsey, and Connor.

Brooks first worked as a reserve officer in Woonsocket. He was hired full time by the Woonsocket Police Department in 1998, and promoted to sergeant in 2006. Brooks serves as a sniper on the SWAT team, as well as being a member of the honor guard.

Carey joked that Brooks will be taking Scully's place on the morning shift "happily, right?"

Said Brooks: "The chief jokes, but I am looking forward to the morning shift. Our department is in transition, [we have] new officers coming aboard, and this is a unique opportunity for me to have a lasting impression on their careers."

Third in the ceremony was Sgt. Kevin Sanford, who grew up in Woonsocket and holds an Associate's degree in criminal justice. He was first appointed to the police reserve program in October 1991, and also served as a police dispatcher from April 1996 through November of 1999.

Sanford and his wife Judy have two children, Colin and Krista.

Sanford first transitioned to being a full-time police officer in 1999, and has served on all three shifts.

Additionally, he served as a field-training officer, an assignment that Chief Carey said Sanford took "seriously." Carey pointed out Sanford's "quiet and patient manner" as a reason he was able to reach out to new recruits.

Sgt. Kevin Greenough, son of City Council member Suzanne Vadenais, was fourth in the promotion ceremony. Greenough graduated from the reserve academy in 1993, and was hired as a civilian dispatcher in 1996. He transitioned to being a full-time police officer in 2000, and is a member of the SWAT team as a marksman sniper.

Greenough and his wife Laura are expecting twins in November.

Chief Carey said, "If you need something done, Greenough is the person to go to. He does everything with a smile."

Greenough said that the members of the police department are his "second family. They are the people that are there for you, good, bad, or indifferent."

Sergeant David Paradis was the final promotion of the ceremony. Paradis first served in the United States Air Force Security Forces for 10 years, and came to the Woonsocket Police Department in September of 1997.

In addition to being a field-training officer, Paradis has been a member of the SWAT team for seven and a half years. Paradis is currently working toward his Bachelor's degree at Roger Williams University.

Carey said Paradis is "one of those guys with the knack of being in the right place at the right time."

Paradis and Karen, his wife of 17 years, have two children; Brittany and Chris.

Paradis said that his parents set him up for success. "[They] taught me the life lessons. I may not have always learned them the first time or the right way, but they kept at it."

Chief Carey said that in his 9 months as Police Chief, he has been able to observe all the officers in their day-to-day work. "I have the utmost confidence in them and their [commitments] to this agency and the citizens of Woonsocket."

Last Updated ( Sunday, 14 June 2009 )

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