



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Pleasanton Police Department Hosts Large Promotional and Swearing in Ceremony

Chief Spiller Promoted Two Sergeants, Two Lieutenants and Welcomed Three New Officers

PLEASANTON, Calif. – The Pleasanton Police Department promoted four employees and welcomed three new police officers in a special badge pinning ceremony this morning. Sergeants Brandon Stocking and Erik Silacci were promoted to the rank of police lieutenant; Officers Marty Billdt and Chris Lewellyn were promoted to the rank of police sergeant and recent Academy Graduates Katie Emmett, Agatha Socha and Chris Jones were sworn in as Pleasanton’s newest police officers.

Lieutenant Brandon Stocking grew up in rural Solano County. Growing up, he loved hearing stories about his grandfather, a retired Vacaville police lieutenant. Brandon was happy to honor his grandfather’s memory by becoming the second member of his family to become a police lieutenant. Brandon attended the Napa Valley Police Academy as a non-affiliated student and was hired by the Pleasanton Police Department shortly after graduation in 2008. He was an original member of the East County Tactical Team formed in 2011 when the SWAT teams from Pleasanton and Livermore merged. Brandon served three years as a detective and was assigned some of the department’s most significant cases. Brandon was promoted to police sergeant in 2015 and has most recently supervised the Special Enforcement Unit. Brandon holds a bachelor’s degree in leadership from Union Institute and University.

Lieutenant Erik Silacci was born and raised in Gilroy, California. After graduating from Gilroy High School, Erik enlisted in the U.S. Army Reserve, eventually attaining the rank of sergeant. Erik began his law enforcement career as a police officer with the Santa Clara County Sheriff’s Department and lateraled to the Pleasanton Police Department in 2004. Erik was promoted to police sergeant in 2015 and has held a number of collateral and special assignments including school resource officer, field training





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officer, detective, canine program manager, and bike team supervisor. Erik possesses a Bachelor of Science degree from UC Davis, and is pursuing a master's degree program in law enforcement and public safety leadership from the University of San Diego.

Sergeant Marty Billdt was born in Walnut Creek and raised in Antioch, California. After graduating from Antioch High School, Marty attended San Jose State University, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in aviation operations. He also earned a master's degree in public administration from National University. Marty had always been interested in both flying and law enforcement, but a visit to his uncle when he was six years old steered him toward police work, as his uncle worked for the San Bernardino Police Department. Marty joined the Pleasanton Police Department in 2006 and has served in a wide variety of assignments including patrol, traffic and most recently as a school resource officer. Marty is also a member of the department's branding committee, technology committee, recruitment team, and served as an advisor for the department's volunteer program. He is a field training officer and the treasurer for the Pleasanton Police Officer's Charitable Foundation.

Sergeant Chris Lewellyn was born in San Pablo and raised in Vallejo, California. He played baseball at Napa Valley College and later earned his bachelor's degree in business management through Union Institute and University. He is currently pursuing a master's degree in emergency services administration at California State University, Long Beach. Chris' father is a police officer and Chris knew from a very young age that he wanted to follow in his father's footsteps. Prior to joining the Pleasanton Police Department in 2011, Chris worked as a police officer with the Antioch Police Department for three and a half years. Chris has served as a patrol officer, an operator on the East County Tactical Team, a department trainer, and a terrorism liaison officer. Most recently, Chris has served as a detective in the Special Enforcement Unit.

Officers Katie Emmett, Agatha Socha and Chris Jones were hired by the Pleasanton Police Department as police recruits in January and graduated from the South Bay Regional Public Safety Training Academy on June 29th, 2018. Katie and Chris were both born and raised in Pleasanton. Both are Amador Valley High School graduates. Chris' mom and dad, a police dispatcher and a police officer, are recent retirees of the Pleasanton Police Department. Agatha was born in San Francisco and spent part of her youth in Poland. All three will undergo an approximate sixteen week training period before patrolling Pleasanton as solo officers.

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