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City Police Chief to Resign December 1

Harrisonburg, Va. – Police Chief Stephen Monticelli has announced his plans to resign, which will be effective December 1 of this year.

Monticelli made this decision citing his desire to be closer to his family in the Midwest, stating, “In searching for other career opportunities, I wanted to ensure that the process did not create unnecessary distractions or interfere with the operations of the Harrisonburg Police Department.”

“We appreciate Chief Monticelli’s service to the city and the progressive changes he has implemented during his time here, along with his leadership of the department through both positive and difficult circumstances. I completely understand his desire to be closer to family and while I regret his departure, I wish him the best in his future endeavors,” said City Manager Kurt Hodgen.

Monticelli’s last day will be November 1 and City Manager Kurt Hodgen will appoint an acting police chief by the end of October. With his own retirement occurring at the end of October, the hiring process for the next chief of police will not begin until a new city manager has been appointed by City Council.

“Although there will be a short delay in the hiring process for the next chief of police, we are confident that the forward momentum of the department will continue,” explained Mayor Deanna Reed. “It is important as well as appropriate that the next city manager has the opportunity to lead the search for this position.”

Monticelli was hired in 2012 after the retirement of Don Harper.

Additional information will be released once the hiring process has begun for the next chief of police. The job will be posted on the city’s website at www.HarrisonburgVA.gov.

To learn more about the Harrisonburg Police Department, visit www.HarrisonburgVA.gov/police.

The City of Harrisonburg is centrally located in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. It is home to almost 55,000 people. More information about the City of Harrisonburg is online at www.HarrisonburgVA.gov.



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