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NEWS RELEASE

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Norfolk Chief of Police to Retire After 44 Years in Law Enforcement

After 44 years in law enforcement, Norfolk Police Chief Bill Mizner has announced that he will retire at the end of December. He has served as Chief of Police for over 31 years.

Chief Mizner began his career with the Norfolk Police Division on August 24, 1987, when he became the 26th Chief in the Division's history. He previously served on the Kearney, Nebraska and Mitchel, SD police departments.

"When we first moved to Norfolk, we didn't know a soul, but it soon became home," said Chief Mizner. "It has been a wonderful community in which to work and to raise a family."

During Chief Mizner's tenure, he oversaw the growth of the Division from 30 sworn officers to 41 sworn officers, and from 10 support personnel to 18 support personnel. The Division became a founding member of the SNARE Drug Enforcement Task Force, with Chief Mizner writing the initial grant application for federal funding. Special units were created, including the Tactical Response Team, the Accident Investigation Team, the Volunteer Unit, the Crime Prevention Unit, the Motorcycle Unit, and the Police Service Dog Unit.

He worked with the Norfolk Public School District to begin the Junior High/Senior High School Resource Officer program, writing the federal grant application to fund the first three years of the program. Chief Mizner oversaw the expansion of Basic 911 service to Enhanced 911 service, the upgrade of the Division's police computer-aided dispatch/records management software, and the Division's transition to an 800 MHz trunked radio system.

In addition, Chief Mizner served as a member of the Police Standards Advisory Council for 14 years. The Council oversees the operation of the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center.

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“It has been the honor of a lifetime to serve as Norfolk’s Chief of Police,” he said. “I am very proud of the men and women of the Norfolk Police Division and the work they do. It has been a privilege to work with them and I will miss them tremendously.”

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