



**OAK HARBOR POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
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11-09-23

Mayor Severns,

It has truly been an honor to work for you and for the City of Oak Harbor as the Chief of Police since October of 2016. This letter is to inform you that as per our conversations over the past few months, I will be retiring as of 12-01-2023, with my last day working for the City of Oak Harbor being 11-30-2023.

With sincerity, I say that I could not think of a better Mayor to have worked for or a better City to have worked in, as Chief of Police, to complete my Law Enforcement career of 35 years.

It has been an honor working with the men and women of the Oak Harbor Police Department over the past seven years, and while all of us are individuals, with individual strengths and weaknesses, the people who have served during my time here at the Oak Harbor Police Department have been and are, courageous, dedicated, ethical and professional men and women. Their dedication to the department's mission: "Dedicated to community safety and service", and the noble profession of Law Enforcement, defines their daily work ethic.

While there is no civilian profession that endures the trials, tribulations, and daily stresses, as Law Enforcement, our staff have consistently maintained a healthy attitude, through Covid, negative national attitudes regarding Law Enforcement fueled by false media and activist narratives, and periods of low staffing.

Police work is the most difficult and dangerous profession in our city, but it is made easier by working with the other professionals in the city, including: Fire Department, Public Works and others, including staff at City Hall and our City Council and Mayor. The support has been significant and appreciated. I must also mention the outstanding and supportive community we are fortunate to work for! This is why we (Police Officers) do the job.

I would like to thank you and the City of Oak Harbor for bestowing upon me the honor of being the Chief of Police for the past seven years. It is my intent to dedicate myself to my wife, family, and warm beaches in my retirement :)

I feel comfortable knowing that I'll be leaving the department in good hands. Captain Slowik will be a great leader for the department until the new Mayor announces a new Police Chief. I believe Tony will fulfill this role with passion, dedication, and most of all the knowledge, skills, and abilities to continue leading the men and women of the Oak Harbor Police Department in a positive and professional direction, and he would be a good choice as my permanent replacement. Any achievements which someone might credit me with are only successful because of the dedicated staff I've had, especially those in command positions such as Captain Tony Slowik!

Chief Kevin Dresker  
Oak Harbor Police Department