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TOWN OF SULLIVAN'S ISLAND

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PRESS RELEASE

Town of Sullivan's Island Hires Christopher Griffin as Police Chief

January 18, 2018

The Town of Sullivan's Island announces Christopher (Chris) Griffin will be the new Police Chief. His appointment was approved by members of Council at the January 16, 2018 meeting. The process which was conducted over a nine-month period included a nationwide search for applicants.

"The appointment marks the successful conclusion of a deliberate and long search process. Given the importance of the position for the Town, it was necessary to identify a candidate who would not only be a skilled and experienced law enforcement officer, but also an effective leader and good fit for the Island's special character. The Town is gratified to have a number of very highly qualified applicants from agencies in and out of the Charleston area," said Town Administrator Andy Benke.

Griffin has served as Acting Chief since the resignation of Dan Howard in March 2017. He has 23 years of law enforcement experience with 21 years of service at the Town of Sullivan's Island. Prior to serving as Acting Chief, Griffin was the Department Lieutenant responsible for managing daily operations.

"After careful review of our leading candidates, we were convinced that Chief Griffin was an ideal selection for the Island. He has served the Town for 21 years. His nine months as Interim Chief afforded us the opportunity to see his leadership in action, essentially a nearly year-long job interview!! We are extremely impressed by the confidence he engendered in his officers and our residents. During this period, he engaged his officers in making a number of improvements in training and policing, while the Police Department managed a very heavy beach season, Hurricane Irma, the unique Eclipse event, and recently a snow and ice storm, as well as many more traditional law enforcement challenges," said Mayor Pat O'Neil.

Griffin received his oath of office and assumed command of the 10-person department as Chief

Thursday January 18, 2018. “It is an honor that Town Council expressed confidence in me to lead the Sullivan’s Island Police Department. I look forward to serving our residents and visitors,” said Griffin. “As Chief of Police it is my intention to be highly visible and accessible to the public. The Department will keep the Island a safe place to live and will work to strengthen relationships with its citizens,” he added.

Mayor Pro Tem and Chairman of the Public Safety Committee Chauncey Clark added, “All of us on Council enthusiastically favored Chief Griffin’s selection, and we are looking forward to seeing our Police Department continue to develop and serve the community under his long-term leadership.”