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News Release

For Immediate Release: December 1, 2015

Smith to Serve as Interim Durham Police Chief

DURHAM, N.C. – City Manager [Tom Bonfield](#) announced today that Larry Smith, deputy chief of the [Durham Police Department](#), will serve as interim police chief starting January 1, 2016, following the retirement of Chief Jose Lopez on December 31, 2015.

“Deputy Chief Smith’s 27 years of service to the Police Department as well as to the Durham community makes him an excellent choice to serve in the interim chief position as [recruitment begins](#) for a new police chief,” Bonfield said. “Smith is a well-respected leader in the department, and I’m happy that he was willing to provide continuity until a new police chief is named.”

Smith, a Durham native, has spent his entire career at the Durham Police Department, rising through the ranks from uniform patrol, special operations, captain of District 2, and assistant chief of investigative services. He was named deputy chief of operations in July 2012.

Smith graduated from Northern High School, Campbell University, and the FBI National Academy.

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