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City Manager Appoints Singletary to Police Chief Post

Beaumont, Texas –City Manager Kyle Hayes today officially appointed James P. Singletary to head the Beaumont Police Department.

Singletary was selected on the recommendation of a 10-person interview committee, which met with all seven finalists for the position Monday. Committee members named Singletary as their top choice, and Hayes agreed. By state law, Hayes' appointment must be confirmed by the City Council. Singletary will go before the Council for confirmation during its regular meeting on Tuesday, Aug. 30.

With more than 40 years of service at the local and federal level, Singletary brings extensive law enforcement experience to the post. He currently serves as a major in the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office. Since starting there in 2002, he has supervised criminal investigation and warrant divisions, as well as the SWAT team.

He began his career with the Beaumont Police Department, where he supervised officers in a number of divisions, including narcotics and vice, SWAT, training, internal affairs, criminal investigation, and patrol. Singletary left the department after 30 years to take a job as Law Enforcement Coordinator for the Department of Justice, where he coordinated more than 16 training conferences for law enforcement agencies in the Eastern District of Texas.

"I am extremely pleased to appoint Jimmy Singletary as our new Police Chief," said Hayes. "His training and experience, along with his exceptional track record in working with officers and members of the community, will be a great asset to the department."

Singletary, a Beaumont native and lifelong resident, officially takes command on Sept. 30. He said he was honored to be selected from a field of highly qualified candidates, and he is looking forward to leading the department that serves the citizens of his hometown.

"I have lived and worked in Beaumont all my life, and it is a tremendous honor for me, my family and my friends that I was chosen for this position," Singletary said. "One of my first priorities is to strengthen the relationship between the community and the department, and ensure that the citizens of this city have a police force that they can be proud of."

Beaumont's current Police Chief, Frank Coffin, announced in March that he will retire effective Sept. 30. Coffin, who has been a member of the city's police force for nearly four decades, has been its chief since 2006. The Beaumont Police Department has approximately 300 employees and an annual budget of \$31.6 million.

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