



Captain Goss to Retire

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Contact: Ted Luckadoo

803-532-4601 or tluckadoo@batesburg-leesville.org

Captain Walter B. Goss has announced plans to retire from the Batesburg-Leesville Police Department on May 31st after 25 years of service in South Carolina. Walter is married to Michelle Derrick (Goss) and they live with their son, Conner, in the Ridge Spring area of Saluda County. Captain Goss, who was born and raised in Leesville and has served the community as a law enforcement officer for more than 17 of his 25 years of service.

Batesburg-Leesville Police Chief Wallace Oswald recalled his first meeting with Goss. "Many years ago I was showing a class of students through the police department. This one young man was especially interested in the equipment on my belt and as many young kids will do he asked a thousand questions. When he graduated from high school he went into the US Army as, of course, a Military Police Officer." He began his law enforcement career in the US Army Military Police in 1988. After completing basic training and Military Police School at Fort McClellan, Alabama, he was assigned to the 560th Military Police Company, and stationed at the Lucius D. Clay Kaserne, in Garlstedt, Germany, where he served until the end of his enlistment in 1992.

Upon returning to the civilian world Goss came to work with the Batesburg Police Department in 1992 for Chief Oswald and continued to serve throughout the consolidation of Batesburg and Leesville as a patrol supervisor and training officer. In 2000, he left Batesburg-Leesville to work for the Lexington County Sheriff's Department. While with Lexington County he served in various positions to include as a Resident Deputy, a Patrol Master Deputy, and as a Major Crimes Detective.

Goss returned to the Batesburg-Leesville Police Department in 2007 where he has served in an administrative command staff position assuming various specialized duties for the agency. Captain Goss is primarily serving as the department's Public Information Officer, Grant Writer and Manager, Training Manager, and is tasked with various additional administrative duties.

Throughout his law enforcement career Captain Goss has continually sought to improve his capabilities for his various assigned duties in law enforcement by preparing himself academically and professionally. During his career, Walter earned two Associate degrees, a Bachelors Degree, and a Master of Business Administration (MBA). Outside academia, Walter pursued professional credentialing by graduating from Session 241 of the prestigious FBI National Academy,

completing numerous FEMA course including Master Trainer Program, Basic and Advanced Public Information Officer Course, the FBI Carolina Command College, and SC Law Enforcement Commanders School.

Captain Goss believes himself to be fortunate to be retiring from the same law enforcement agency that he began with 25 years ago and working for the same Chief of Police that originally hired him.

Oswald stated “I am sure he will enter this next stage of his life with the same determination that he started his career. I will always remember that little boy asking me questions and the respected police professional that he became. “

The Town of Batesburg-Leesville wishes Captain Walter B. Goss the best in whatever the future holds for him and his family, and sincerely appreciates his many years of dedicated service to the residents of our community.

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