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Eddie Garcia Appointed San José Police Chief *City Council ratifies City Manager's selection today*

SAN JOSE, Calif. – Edgardo “Eddie” Garcia was appointed today as San José Police Chief by City Manager Norberto Dueñas. The appointment was ratified by the San José City Council this morning.

“Chief Garcia has demonstrated the skill and judgment that we need to rebuild the department’s strength and to earn and keep the trust of both our residents and our police officers,” said the city manager. “His long experience with this department and dedication to our community will be invaluable for leading our police force during a challenging period for both San José and the law enforcement profession.”

Photo of Eddie Garcia: http://www.sjpd.org/InsideSJPD/images/ac_Garcia_Eduardo-200ds.jpg

Garcia was appointed as interim police chief following the retirement of Chief Larry Esquivel in January this year. He began working in the San José Police Department in 1992, and became Assistant Chief in January 2013. He became Deputy Chief in 2011 and led both the Bureau of Investigations and Bureau of Administration.

“I’m pleased that we have a dynamic leader like Chief Garcia to step up to lead our department,” said San José Mayor Sam Liccardo. “I’m looking forward to working with him, his leadership team, and all of our officers as we continue to rebuild our department and ensure that San José remains one of the safest big cities in the country.”

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Under the San Jose City Charter, the police chief is appointed by and reports to the City Manager, and the appointment requires ratification by the City Council.

“I am both honored by the confidence in me from the City Manager and the City Council, and humbled by the big responsibility to lead the men and women of our department as we strive to become one of the best police departments in the nation,” said Garcia. “I will continue to do my best to achieve this goal in partnership with our community, the San José Police Officers Association, and all our officers.”

During his career, Garcia has worked in the Patrol Division, Narcotics Enforcement, and Special Operations/MERGE. As sergeant he worked as a night detective and homicide investigator; as lieutenant he commanded the Community Services Division and the Vice and Criminal Intelligence Units in Special Investigations; and as captain he served as commander of the Bureau of Field Operations/Central Division and Bureau of Investigations.

Garcia was born in Puerto Rico and at a young age moved with his family to San José where he grew up. He has a bachelor’s of science degree in Criminal Justice Management from Union Institute and University in Cincinnati, Ohio.

About the City of San José

Known as the Capital of Silicon Valley, San José is the nation’s tenth largest city, and the largest city in Northern California, with an ethnically diverse population of more than one million. San José was founded in 1777, once served as the state capital of California, and now encompasses 180 square miles. Facts about San José can be found here: <http://www.sanjoseca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/780>. The City’s website is www.sanjoseca.gov.

About the San José Police Department

The San José Police Department is a dynamic, progressive and professional organization dedicated to maintaining community partnerships that promote a high quality of life for the city’s diverse population. The department is committed to treating all people with dignity, fairness and respect, protecting their rights and providing equal protection under the law. SJPD consists of 1400 employees including both sworn and non-sworn staff. Department employees are assigned to one of four bureaus composed of 11 divisions with more than 50 specialized units and assignments. For more information, go to www.sjpd.org.

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