



Media Contact:

Public Relations Office/PRO Team
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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release – May 22, 2024

Fort Worth PD Public Relations Office Announces Personnel Changes

FORT WORTH, Texas – The Fort Worth Police Department (FWPD) Public Relations Office (PRO Team) would like to share with our media partners several personnel changes.

Sgt. Jason Spencer promoted to a new role as Lieutenant over the Directed Response Unit. We value his time as Supervisor of the PRO Team and wish him all of the best as he transitions to guide a talented team focused on strategic enforcement and preventing violent criminals from victimizing our residents. Moving forward, please remove him from all media inquiries.

Please join us in congratulating **Sgt. Leah Wagner** who was selected for the role as PRO Team Supervisor and the department's Primary Public Information Officer. Sgt. Wagner's tenure with FWPD began in 2000 and has served in various critical units such as Patrol, Neighborhood Police Officer, Sex Offender Monitoring, Crimes Against Children, Cold Case and Homicide. Wagner brings invaluable insights into a variety of law enforcement facets and communication. She can be reached at Leah.Wagner@fortworthtexas.gov or by phone at 817-392-4211.

Congratulations are also in order to **Sgt. Joshua 'Red' Johnson** was selected for his role as Chief of Staff for Police Chief Neil Noakes, replacing recently promoted Lt. Amy Heise. His FWPD career began in 2012 serving in multiple units and ranks across the department including Patrol, Narcotics, Traffic Investigations, Public Information Officer, and now as Chief of Staff. He can be reached at Joshua.Johnson@fortworthtexas.gov or by phone at 682-319-8028.

We'd also like to welcome **Chelsea Kretz** to the PRO Team as Strategic Communications Manager. She brings 13 years' experience in professional public relations/broadcast media and law enforcement communication, previously serving as Public Relations Manager for Parkland Hospital, PIO for the Grand Prairie Police Department, and News Producer at FOX 4 News. Kretz' responsibilities include working directly with Chief Noakes and department leadership on day-to-day communication, crisis and media relations, and will apply her public sector experience to develop streamlined processes to increase police transparency to the public and enhance community relations. She can be reached at Chelsea.Kretz@fortworthtexas.gov or by phone at 817-584-0750.

With a decade of communication experience, **Nikki Funderburk** has joined the PRO Team as its Social Media Specialist. Known for developing and implementing strategies that engage the community, Funderburk now spearheads the creation of engaging social media content, manages the department's social calendar, and oversees website enhancements to augment

the department's online presence. She can be reached at Nikki.Funderburk@fortworthtexas.gov or by phone at 682-359-9538.

Officers Bradley Perez, Tracy Carter, Buddy Calzada, Jimmy Pollozani, and our bilingual Spanish-speaking PIO Daniel Segura are the PRO Team PIOs who respond to media requests and offer interviews. They can be reached during normal business hours, Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. and rotate on-call weekends and after-hours.

Please submit all media inquiries to policemedia@fortworthtexas.gov and the appropriate police spokesperson will respond in a timely manner.

FYPD utilizes a media portal to deliver news releases and media advisories. To gain access, click the link to the Account Request form for the Media Portal:

<https://police.fortworthtexas.gov/MediaPortal/RequestAccount.aspx>

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About FYPD

The Fort Worth Police Department (FYPD), established in 1873, is situated in North Central Texas and part of the Dallas/Fort Worth (DFW) metroplex. The department has an authorized strength of 1,882 sworn peace officers dedicated to dutifully serving more than 956,000 people. The Police Department's motto is "Service with Respect, Dedicated to Protect."



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