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Three Centuries of North Carolina Heritage

PRESS RELEASE
For Immediate Release

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New Bern Police Chief Frank Palombo to Retire after 34 Years of Service

NEW BERN (1/18/2011) – The New Bern Police Department announces that Frank Palombo, New Bern’s Chief of Police, will retire effective June 1, 2011.

When his retirement date arrives, Chief Palombo will have spent more than 34 years serving in law enforcement. Prior to joining the New Bern Police Department in the summer of 1997, he served 20 years with the Clearwater Police Department in Clearwater, Florida.

Chief Palombo, who is originally from New York City, said he will stay in New Bern after he retires.

“New Bern has been a perfect place to call home and we will continue to call it home,” said Chief Palombo, who will serve as a consultant with the city for a short time after retirement. “From week one, the people of New Bern opened their arms to my wife and me, treating us as if we were native New Bernians and for that, I am truly thankful.”

Over the last 14 years, Chief Palombo said he has seen many great successes for both the city and the police department including the growth of its volunteer staff to more than 70 people and the strength of the community watch groups. Clearly, the ever growing professional and personal relationship between the police department and the community has played a major role in the consistent drop in the city’s crime rate. Additionally, accreditation was a major accomplishment and has elevated the New Bern Police Department to statewide and national recognition.

“I am proud to say that New Bern is recognized as a flagship award winning agency,” Palombo added. “The Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) only gives this award to a small percentage of agencies in the country.”

Chief Palombo said it’s no secret why the New Bern Police Department has achieved such success. “It’s the people. I love the people in this department. These men and women give up their days off, their holidays, and time away from their families to serve this community. The success we have enjoyed is a credit to the city’s leadership, but more importantly to each employee on the police department.”

For additional information or to schedule an interview with Chief Palombo, please contact Lt. Linda T. Godette, Public Information Officer at the New Bern Police Department at (252) 672-4196.

Frank Palombo, Chief of Police