

# Chief Mark Renkens Retiring



Chief Mark Renkens announced today that he will retire from the Palm Bay Police Department at the end of June, after having served the city for 27 ½ years. Renkens' expected retirement date had been scheduled for December of this year but the Chief told his staff earlier today that he had been afforded an employment opportunity elsewhere that prompted him to move up his retirement date.

"After nearly three decades with Palm Bay the decision to leave early has been a tough one," said Renkens. "However, I am looking forward to what the future holds for me both personally and professionally."

Renkens has already begun working closely with Deputy Chief James Rogers who will act as the Interim Police Chief until a decision is made to determine the next Palm Bay Police Chief. Deputy Chief Rogers has 28 years of service with the Palm Bay Police, having served in Patrol, Criminal Investigations, Professional Standards, and Youth Services, among others. Rogers is a graduate of the F.B.I. National Academy and Southern Police Institute and holds a Bachelors of Science Degree in Criminal Justice Administration as well as a Masters Degree in Political Science.

When asked about Renkens' departure D.C. Rogers stated, "Chief Renkens will be missed. He is a true professional and has made a lasting impression on the city; we wish him the best in his future endeavors."

About Chief Mark Renkens:

Chief Renkens was born in Hampton Bays, N.Y. and graduated from Hampton Bays High School. He moved to Palm Bay Florida in 1989, where he began his career with the Palm Bay Police Department as a patrol officer. He has worked in numerous sections of the agency to include Traffic, Special Operations, Code Enforcement, SWAT, Honor Guard, and Field

Training Officer. He has served as a member of the senior staff of the department since December of 2010.

Before joining the Palm Bay Police Department, Chief Renkens was in the United States Marine Corps where he served his country for 4 years. He earned a Master's Degree in Administration of Justice and Security from The University of Phoenix in 2010. In 2003, Chief Renkens attended and graduated from the FBI National Academy in Quantico Virginia; and is also a 2008 graduate of the Senior Management Institute for Police.

Chief Renkens was promoted to the rank of Sergeant in September 2000, Lieutenant in October of 2007, Captain in December of 2010, Deputy Chief in September of 2013, and Chief of Police in April 2015.

After being named chief in 2015, Renkens immediately began to affect change within the department, with one of his first acts as chief being to change the department's mission statement to Connect~Serve~Impact.

"It has been an honor to work side by side with these men and women as we worked to build trust within our community and provide ethical and professional police services, all while making a positive difference working with our citizens and reducing crime in our city," explained Renkens. "The mission itself is short and simple but serves as a daily reminder to our officers about why we do what we do."