

Norman Police Department promotes two

By Jacob McGuire | Transcript Staff Writer Oct 28, 2018



Kyle Phillips / The Transcript

Norman Police Chief Keith Humphrey speaks about Captain Ricky Jackson, right, during the ceremony, Jackson was promoted to the rank of major.

Kyle Phillips



Two Norman police officers who have nearly 50 years of combined service to the community were promoted Thursday.

Maj. Ricky Jackson and Capt. Chad Vincent are now looking forward to continuing their service in new roles.

"I feel very honored that Chief Humphrey put his trust in me for this position," Vincent said. "The promotional process is very challenging at NPD, because we have so many excellent candidates."

Norman Police Chief Keith Humphrey said Jackson and Vincent bring years of experience and high level of competency to their new positions. He said they will continue to be assets to the department.

Jackson described his promotion as "bittersweet."

"Everyone at NPD works together and supports each other," he said. "Unfortunately, we have a process where only one person is selected."

Jackson, who is in his 33rd year with the department, will be the major of the Operations Bureau, overseeing 142 personnel from patrol, uniform support, and traffic enforcement divisions, as well as the school resource officer program, something Vincent knows a little bit about as well.

"What you see in the SRO program today, is because of Vincent and his hard work and dedication. He built that program from the ground, up," Humphrey said.

As a captain, Vincent is in charge of nightshift patrol, which is from 9 p.m to 7 a.m. He said he's glad to be going back where it all started for him after graduating from Norman's police academy in 2002.

"I've had a great experience at NPD. I've been able to work in all three patrol divisions, training and recruiting, and with the SRO program," Vincent said. "I've done a couple of stints on night shift throughout my career, and I'm excited to go back."

Although Jackson and Vincent both ended up at NPD, they didn't take the same route to get there.

While Jackson was finishing his criminal justice degree at the University of Oklahoma, he went through the hiring process for the 24th NPD Academy in 1986. He was eventually hired and immediately assigned to patrol, where he worked all three shifts.

His coworkers convinced Jackson to become a detective in the criminal investigations division, as a temporary position.

"I worked a lot of general assignment cases and cases dealing with property crimes," he said. "Quickly, I discovered I had an aptitude for financial crimes. I started working a lot of white collar crime cases. What began as a six-month assignment turned into 18 months. I have the record of the longest tenure as a temporary detective in the division."

Jackson said as soon as a permanent position opened up, he applied and was ultimately selected. He remained in the criminal investigations division for the next 19 years.

In 2010, Jackson put his name in for lieutenant, followed by captain in 2015, and major on Thursday.

Vincent said he always knew he wanted to get into law enforcement, but he opted to forgo that temporally. Vincent graduated from OU with a finance degree and worked as an accountant for a couple of years, but he couldn't ignore his true calling, law enforcement.

"Accounting was an interesting profession, but I didn't really get a chance to give back to the community that I lived in," Vincent said.