



# CITY OF SANGER

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## **Silverio Rodriguez Picked to Lead Sanger Police Department**

(Sanger) – Following a nationwide search that attracted twenty-four highly qualified applicants, Sanger City Manager, Brian Haddix, has announced the hiring of Silverio “Silver” Rodriguez, a Captain with the Porterville Police Department, to be Sanger’s new Chief of Police.

According to Haddix, “Chief Rodriguez brings 34 years of diverse law enforcement experience to Sanger, and he will be a powerful leader and innovator in Sanger’s ongoing law enforcement efforts. I respect the fact that Silver has extensive success in establishing Community Policing programs and developing effective partnerships with the community. His urban policing expertise, combined with a zero tolerance for violence, is just what Sanger needs to continue its progress against gang influences in the community.”

Chief Rodriguez’ hiring was preceded by extensive interviews with two separate community panels, in addition to the City Manager. The Citizen Panel was comprised of people from all walks of life, and the Professional Panel included two City Managers, one Police Chief, one retired Police Chief and one retired City Manager. The consensus of all panels was that they were favorably impressed with Chief Rodriguez.

Under the direction of the City Manager, Chief Rodriguez will be leading a force of 22 sworn Police Officers, 4 Sergeants, 5 Corporals, 3 Community Liaison Officers, and numerous other support personnel. The Department also utilizes a contingent of Citizen Volunteers and Reserve Police Officers.

Silver Rodriguez began his law enforcement career in 1978 as a Reserve Officer with the Porterville Police Department. Two year later he was appointed as a full time Police Officer and began working his way through the many positions that now equip him to serve as Chief of Police. During his career he has served as Police Officer, Police Sergeant, Police Lieutenant, Police Captain, Swat Commander and Detective, among others. Chief Rodriguez also has experience as a municipal Police Chief, including a term as Interim Chief for the City of McFarland.

Chief Rodriguez' credentials include Graduation from the Law Enforcement Command College, the FBI National Academy, and a degree in Public Administration from California State University Bakersfield. The State of California's Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training also awarded the Chief its prestigious Management Certificate in 1997.

Sanger Mayor, Joshua Mitchell welcomed the new Chief by saying, "Chief Silver Rodriguez exhibits the depth of executive leadership and experience that Sanger has been looking for to lead one of the greatest Police Departments in their battle against those that threaten the peace and safety of our neighborhoods. Coupled with his philosophy of Community Policing and Intervention/Prevention policing, I have the greatest confidence that his public safety experience and vision will produce many positive results in our community, and families and businesses will feel welcomed and safe here."

According to Mayor Mitchell, Silver Rodriguez has been an active citizen in Porterville, affiliating with such organizations as Rotary Club and serving as Chairman of Relay for Life, among other activities. "I have no doubt that Chief Rodriguez will fully immerse himself in the community of Sanger, the same way he did in Porterville", the Mayor said.

According to Haddix the Chief's first official day on the job will be June 8th, and he will be presented to residents and the City Council at the Council's meeting on June 12<sup>th</sup> beginning at 7:00 P.M. Everyone is invited to attend the meeting and reception and welcome Sanger's new Chief of Police.

Haddix concluded by thanking Interim Chief Tom Whiteside and Interim Deputy Chief Doug Johnson with J.W. Associates, Public Safety Consultants, for their service during this very important recruitment process. "They served the community of Sanger effectively and honorably during this search for a permanent Chief of Police, and Silverio Rodriguez is proof that they did an outstanding job", Haddix said.

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