



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Lawrence Township Appoints Kevin Reading, Jr as Interim Police Chief**

LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP, N.J. -- Lawrence Township officials today announced the appointment of Lieutenant Kevin Reading, Jr., as Interim Police Chief, effective January 1, 2025. Reading will succeed Chief Christopher Longo, who recently announced his retirement after serving the department for 25 years.

Lt. Reading brings over two decades of law enforcement experience to the position. Currently serving as Lieutenant of the Investigation Division, Reading oversees complex criminal investigations and manages a team of detectives, officers, and support staff. His extensive background includes notable service with the Mercer County Shooting Response Team, where he participated in over 500 criminal investigations and served as lead detective in more than 60 cases. "Lt. Reading's proven track record in law enforcement and leadership makes him well-qualified to serve as Interim Chief," said Municipal Manager Kevin Nerwinski. "His experience in criminal investigations, team management, and community relations will be valuable assets in this role."

Reading's career highlights include:

- Recognition as Lawrence Township Police Officer of the Year (2014)
- Multiple Commendable Service Awards
- Successful leadership of the department's Investigation Division
- Extensive experience coordinating with federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies
- Specialized training in executive leadership through the FBI LEEDA Executive Leadership Institute

Reading joined the Lawrence Township Police Department in 2002 and has served in various capacities, including patrol officer, detective, and sergeant, before his promotion to lieutenant in 2023. He holds numerous law enforcement certifications and has completed advanced training in areas such as homicide investigation, financial crimes, and leadership.

The appointment comes as Chief Longo prepares to retire after serving as chief since 2022. Under Longo's leadership, the department celebrated its 100th anniversary and strengthened its community relationships.

For more information, please contact the Lawrence Township Municipal Manager's Office.

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