



# Howard County Government News Release

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## Ulman Calls on Acting Police Chief Bill McMahon to Join Cabinet

ELLICOTT CITY-- County Executive Ken Ulman today announced that he has tapped Howard County's Acting Police Chief Bill McMahon to fulfill the Chief of Police position in his new administration. A 20-year veteran of the Police Department, McMahon was appointed by County Executive Robey in June 2006 to serve in an acting capacity upon the retirement of then Chief Wayne Livesay.

McMahon's appointment was Ulman's first official act as County Executive. "With public safety a top priority, I believe this is one of the most critical appointments of my administration," Ulman said. "There is no one in my estimation who is better equipped to lead the Howard County Police Department than Bill McMahon. His departmental experience combined with a sense of duty that embraces both the community and the men and women he works alongside are unparalleled. I have every confidence that the department and the residents of Howard County will be well-served by Chief McMahon and the continuity of service his appointment brings."

"Chief McMahon understands that we must continue to improve public safety in every neighborhood, and that homeland security and emergency preparedness are paramount," Ulman said. "He has also pledged to focus on police staffing and youth services, two areas which I believe are of critical importance."

McMahon, whose move into the position will be effective immediately, said he was honored to join Ulman's cabinet. "This is a tremendous honor and an exciting opportunity," McMahon said. "County Executive Ulman has already demonstrated a strong commitment to public safety during his years on the Council, and I look forward to working with him as part of his administration."

(more)

## **Ulman Calls on Acting Police Chief Bill McMahon to Join Cabinet** (continued)

William J. McMahon joined the agency after spending two years as a police officer for the Maryland National Capital Park Police. Since then, he has held every sworn police rank and worked in almost every area of the department.

Early in his career, McMahon served as a patrol officer and K-9 officer. He was promoted to sergeant in 1990 and served in the tactical section, patrol operations and internal affairs. In 1996, McMahon was promoted to lieutenant and assigned to lead the special operations bureau. During this assignment, he was promoted to captain in 1998. In 2000, he took over the command of the management services bureau and then became the southern district patrol commander in 2001.

In 2002, Bill was promoted to the rank of major and appointed deputy chief of police for operations. In that role, he was responsible for all operational components of the agency, including emergency preparedness, intelligence, patrol, special operations and criminal investigations. McMahon served as deputy chief until his appointment by County Executive Jim Robey to acting chief of police June 1, 2006.

McMahon has a Bachelor's degree in law enforcement from the University of Maryland and a Master's degree in administrative science from Johns Hopkins University. He is a national assessor for the Commission on Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies and performs site visits at police departments around the country. He is a certified instructor with the Maryland Police Training Commission and is a member of both the Maryland Chiefs of Police Association and the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

Locally, McMahon serves on the board of directors for the Howard County Domestic Violence Center and is a member of the Howard County Family and Sexual Violence Council. He serves on the board of advisors for the traffic safety group Courtesy on the Road and is a graduate of Leadership Howard County. McMahon volunteers his time with Special Olympics Maryland and Rebuilding Together with Christmas in April, a program that assists low-income homeowners in Howard County.

McMahon, 43, and his wife Annette reside in Ellicott City with their three children.