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Meet Captain Greg Fellows, Police Chief for the City of Perris



Riverside County Sheriff Capt. Greg Fellows, who serves as the City of Perris Police Chief, says members of the public should not hesitate to contact authorities if they see or suspect criminal behavior.

Media Contact

Joe Vargo
Public Information Officer
951-943-6100
jvargo@cityofperris.org

For new Perris Police Chief Greg Fellows, the promotion to the job as Top Cop is a trip down Memory Lane.

Fellows, who was named Chief in September, previously worked in the Perris Police Station in 2015, where he supervised the Investigations Bureau, the Special Enforcement Team and Homeless Outreach Team liaisons.

He left the Perris Station in June, and following a brief stint in Hemet, returned to Perris to take command, replacing Brandon Ford. The Riverside County Sheriff's Department contracts to provide law enforcement services to Perris.

Fellows, a sheriff's captain, is pleased to be back.

"What makes Perris a great place is that the officers, the City Council, the City Manager and the community are all on the same page—part of what I like to call the All-Star Team," Fellows said in a recent conversation from his office in the Perris Station, across the street from City Hall. "We all want the same thing—for the community to succeed, to live in peace, and protect freedom. The police are the people, and the people are the police. These officers are your brothers and sisters, moms and dads and cousins. Perris police officers live in this community and are willing, able and qualified to do the job the public demands."

Fellows says the Perris Station serves as a hub for several key regional law enforcement functions.

The Sheriff's Forensics Unit—the science made famous through the television series "CSI"—is based in Perris. So is the Sheriff's Posse, a group of volunteers mounted on horses who search for missing children, hikers and volunteer at community parades and other activities. The department's Dive Team is housed in Perris and the station's helipad serves as a backup landing and takeoff point for the choppers in the Aviation Unit.

All told, the Perris station covers 250-square-miles and includes 280,000 residents.

Committed to Protect

Fellows praised the City for its commitment to beefing up law enforcement and protection in 2018. Deputy Donnis Crawford is the new Crime Prevention Officer. His duties include working with Neighborhood Watch groups, homeowners associations and other community groups to prevent mail and identity theft and property crimes.

The department also works closely with the community groups Cops and Clergy and the TODEC Legal Center.

In addition to bolstering its crime prevention efforts, Perris City officials also have invested in an additional traffic accident investigator and a K-9 unit to supplement patrol officers.

But the public can help the uniforms by keeping vigilant, Fellows said.

Lock doors and windows when not at home, pick up newspapers, flyers and mail daily, keep your vehicles secured, invest in a security system and cameras. Shred junk mail and solicitations. And don't be afraid to call 911 when spotting suspicious activity.

"If something doesn't seem right, call us," he said. "Don't ever hesitate to call."

Fellows said the challenges facing law enforcement have increased since the passage of several bills that reduced some crimes from felonies to misdemeanors and sent other prisoners from state to local custody.

The bottom line, he said is that more people with criminal backgrounds are now living in local communities and raising concerns about quality of life issues, cultivation, distribution and testing has Whatever the challenges, Fellows said the Perris Police Department will use all their resources and experience to continue the City's excellent quality of life.

Long and varied career

Fellows' 27-year career began in Los Angeles County. He joined the Riverside County Sheriff's Department in 1996 and since then has worked in Jurupa Valley, Norco, Moreno Valley, Menifee and Perris.

His duties have included court services, patrol, field training, crimes against people and property, computer and high-tech crimes, identity theft and civil defense. He has created curriculum and taught at the Ben Clark Training Center, served as the Chairman of a Riverside County Gang Task Force Regional team and managed search and rescue operations conducted in conjunction with the Riverside Mountain Rescue Unit, CAL-Fire, and the Department of Forestry.

Fellows holds a Bachelor's Degree in Workforce Education from Southern Illinois University and a Master's Degree in Administration of Justice from the University of Phoenix. He is also a graduate of the Sherman Block Leadership Institute.



Perris City Hall
101 N. D Street
Perris, CA 92570

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