

COUNTY ANNOUNCES POLICE CHIEF RETIREMENT

Albemarle County is announcing the retirement of Police Chief John Miller, who has served as police chief for Albemarle County since 1989. Miller's retirement is effective September 30, 2010. A regional search process for a new chief will get underway immediately.

"We appreciate the outstanding leadership and dedication that Chief Miller has provided to the police department during his tenure," said County Executive Bob Tucker in announcing the retirement. "Under his guidance our police professionals have ensured a safe and secure community and have focused significant effort on important issues such as traffic enforcement, internet crimes against children, and drug enforcement with measurable success."

A major highlight of Miller's career with Albemarle was the agency's accreditation by the Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission (VLEPSC) in 2000. Albemarle County was only the 24th law enforcement agency in the Commonwealth of Virginia to receive accreditation, which it achieved following a rigorous four-year process led by Miller. He instituted a community policing philosophy for the department to develop collaborative partnerships between the police department and the community to develop solutions to problems and increase trust. Also during his time as Chief, the department has received recognition statewide and nationally for a variety of programs including traffic

safety and enforcement. Miller also created a non-profit <<http://www.albemarle.org/department.asp?department=police&relpage=3796>>Police Foundation to bring business and community leaders together to support the department's crime prevention and community policing initiatives. The following are some other highlights from Miller's tenure:

- The department established a Cultural Bridges Program to work with and educate both the police and the local Latino population about crime, crime prevention, laws and regulations, and community services
- The department received the *Governor's Transportation Award* in partnership with AAA Mid-Atlantic for the Monacan Trail Highway Safety Initiative.
- Chief Miller served as the chairman for the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics Virginia
- The department received 1st place from the Virginia Law Enforcement Challenge for efforts in promoting and supporting traffic safety
- The department received 1st place nationally from the International Association of Chiefs of Police for efforts in speed awareness
- The department successfully achieved state reaccreditation in 2008 after originally being accredited in 2000
- The department established the Crime Free Multi-Housing Program, a state-of-the-art crime prevention program designed to reduce crime, drug activity, and gangs in apartment properties.