



Ray O'Connell, Mayor
City of Allentown
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To: The Honorable Julio Guridy, City Council President
And Members of City Council

From: Mayor Ray O'Connell *RO'C*

Re: Interim Chief of Police Appointment

Date: June 16, 2021

It is with great enthusiasm that I have appointed Charles Roca to become the city's Interim Chief of Police.

Roca was sworn in as an Allentown Police Officer on January 22, 2002.

After his training period, Roca's first assignment was as a vice detective where he conducted numerous investigations into the illicit drug market as well as street level prostitution. He interacted with numerous law enforcement agencies as well as the District Attorney's office.

He returned to patrol in 2011 and was assigned as a patrolman/K-9 handler. This work emphasized the importance of working as a team and further interacting with the community. Roca obtained a DEA license to procure drugs for the purpose of K-9 scent training to enhance the K-9's abilities, maintained and enhanced K-9 records for training and usages to advise Police Administration.

Roca was promoted to Sergeant where he served in the 4th Platoon, 2nd Platoon and the Vice Unit. In April 2016 he was promoted to Lieutenant and given command of 1st Platoon. In April 2018 he was promoted to Captain. In August 2020 he became Assistant Chief.

Roca holds a B. A. from King's College located in Wilkes-Barre, PA. He majored in criminal justice. He is fluent in Spanish. He has developed positive relations with the Hispanic/Latino community through day-to-day interactions.

Please contact me if you have any questions regarding the appointment.

Assistant Chief Charles Roca

1986 Harold Ave. Allentown PA 18104 | 484-695-1719 | charles.roca@allentownpa.gov

Objective

To obtain promotion to the position of Chief of Police within the City of Allentown Bureau of Police. I am a confident public speaker with strong community relations

Experience

ASSISTANT CHIEF | ALLENTOWN POLICE DEPARTMENT | AUGUST 2020 – PRESENT

Assume command in the event of the Chief's absence or incapacitation. Assist the Chief of Police in the development of policies and procedures to achieve maximum efficiency in functional responsibilities and to ensure maximum utilization of available resources. Overall command of the Patrol, Investigations, and Community Outreach Unit of the department.

CAPTAIN | ALLENTOWN POLICE DEPARTMENT | APRIL 2018 – AUGUST 2020

Overall commander of Police Service Area 2 (West End) and the 2nd Platoon. Maintain a professional working environment that utilizes the best practices according to department policies and procedures. Attend Community Meetings in an effort to build relationships and engagement. Mentor officers to build career tracking and succession. Review crime data and develop strategies to address incidents.

LIEUTENANT | ALLENTOWN POLICE DEPARTMENT | APRIL 2016 – APRIL 2018

Responsible for the day to day operation of a platoon of sergeants (7) and officers (38) in the delivery of police service. Prepare staffing sheet, conduct roll call, communicate information, attend professional development schools. Notify command staff of high priority incidents.

SERGEANT | ALLENTOWN POLICE DEPARTMENT | APRIL 2012 – APRIL 2016

Supervise approximately (20) patrolmen during patrol assignment. Supervise (4) detectives during vice assignment. As Patrol sergeant, ensure that service calls are answered in an appropriate and timely manner, review and approve reports, assist officers during incidents. In vice capacity, oversee detectives' investigations, coordinate search warrant services, timely submission of department forfeiture funds, update Captain of Investigations.

VICE DETECTIVE | ALLENTOWN POLICE DEPARTMENT | MARCH 2002 – JANUARY 2011

Investigate crimes involving narcotics, prostitution, and gambling. Utilize confidential informants to infiltrate various drug markets. Prepare and submit timely reports. Utilize electronic surveillance to assist with various investigations. Serve in an undercover capacity to assist in drug investigations.

PATROLMAN | ALLENTOWN POLICE DEPARTMENT | JANUARY 2002 – MARCH 2002 / JANUARY 2011- APRIL 2012

Respond to and answer various calls for service. Interact with the public in a professional manner. Prepare and submit reports in a timely manner. Inform supervisors of critical incidents and update accordingly.

Relevant Training

Northwestern University School of Police Staff and Command | 2020
Executive Leadership & Command Leadership | 2018
Police Executive Development Program | November 2017
Advanced Media Training | June 2017
Police Supervisory In-service Training | October 2013
Pointman Leadership Institute | May 2010

Skill Highlights

- Fluent in Spanish
- K9 Handler
- Former Crisis Negotiation Team member
- Citizens Police Academy presenter
- A Tech certified
- Crisis Intervention Team Officer
- Expert in drug investigations – Lehigh County Court
- Cross-sworn Lehigh County Detective

Core Accomplishments

- Obtained DEA license to procure drugs for the purpose of K9 scent training to enhance the K9's abilities
- Maintained and enhanced K9 unit records for training and usages to advise the police administration
- Developed positive relations with the Hispanic / Latino community through day to day interactions

Education

BACHELOR OF ARTS | MAY 1997 | KING'S COLLEGE, WILKES-BARRE, PA

- Major: Criminal Justice