



LARAMIE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT
1910 PIONEER AVENUE
CHEYENNE, WYOMING 82001

Brian Kozak
SHERIFF

LARAMIE COUNTY JUVENILE SERVICES CENTER
13794 PRAIRIE CENTER CIRCLE
CHEYENNE, WYOMING 82009

Wyoming's First County - Established 1867

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Cheyenne, WY --- Sheriff Brian Kozak took his oath of office today at 8am in the Laramie County Commissioners Board Room. The Sheriff's first official act was to swear in his new command staff to fill the vacancies of those previous supervisors who retired. These new employees underwent a background investigation completed by Wyoming State Park Rangers and met the psychological and physical testing required by state law.

Undersheriff Chance Walkama

Undersheriff Walkama has 14 years of law enforcement experience, starting his career with the Laramie County Sheriff's Office as a detention deputy and K-9 handler. He has been with the Pine Bluffs, WY Police Department for nine years, serving as their police chief for the last three years. Chance is an Air Force veteran and currently serves as a commissioned officer in the Wyoming National Guard. He holds a master's degree in human resources and a bachelor's degree in finance.

Sheriff Kozak said, "Undersheriff Walkama has the military leadership experience and graduate education in human resources/finance I was looking for. He will supervise our recruitment efforts and agency budget. Chance worked hard to develop community policing in Eastern Laramie County and will help the Sheriff's Office rebuild those relationships."

***Chief Deputy Perry Rockvam**

Chief Rockvam has 30 years of law enforcement experience. He was a Cody, WY police officer for 20 years, serving as their chief of police for 11 years. Chief Rockvam implemented best practices in training, policy, and career retention at Cody PD. He has also served with the Mesa, AZ Police Department and the Custer and Pennington County Sheriff's Departments in South Dakota. Perry is a veteran (sergeant) of the United States Marine Corps, a pastor, and experienced counselor.

Sheriff Kozak said, "Chief Rockvam and I were police motorcycle partners in Mesa. He went on to lead the Cody, Wyoming Police Department, implementing best practices in policing. Perry is a pastor/counselor and understands the key to crime reduction is science-based jail programming. Perry is the type of leader we need to recruit and retain talented employees to work in our jail."

***Chief Deputy Aaron Veldheer**

Chief Veldheer retired from the Eagle County, Colorado Sheriff's Office last week after 20 years of service. He commanded the detective unit and had 14 years of experience as a narcotics and criminal investigator. Aaron is a drug recognition expert instructor and holds a bachelor's degree in criminal justice. He graduated the FBI leadership Institute and the County Sheriffs of Colorado Supervisor Institute.

Sheriff Kozak said, "As the Avon police chief, I was impressed with Aaron's efforts to promote teamwork between the Sheriff and first responder agencies; this is what we need to do here! Aaron is an expert in criminal and narcotic investigations and will help our detectives and patrol deputies collaborate with others to put criminals in jail.

I am very proud to bring you an experienced leadership team; a team specially selected to lead our Sheriff's Office to stand strong to protect Laramie County. I would like to thank Wyoming State Park Rangers for completing the background investigations and Sheriff Glick for his 42 years of service."

** The rank of chief deputy has replaced the rank of captain*