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### **Coeur d'Alene names White next police chief**

Lee R. White, an assistant police chief in Mesa, Arizona, has been named Coeur d'Alene's next chief of police. He will assume the post September 2.

"The biggest thing I'm planning on doing is going on a listening tour," White said Thursday. "I want to listen to the community and to the officers and open the lines of communication and basically find out how the police department can better serve the community and the residents of Coeur d'Alene."

White was among a pool of 75 candidates from across the country who applied for the job. During his police career, he worked in or supervised nearly every area of police work, making his way through the ranks of the Mesa Police Department from patrol officer to assistant chief.

Coeur d'Alene Mayor Steve Widmyer said White was a standout candidate throughout the application process.

"I'm thrilled that Lee White has accepted the position," Widmyer said. "He is a respected police officer with a high degree of integrity and proven leadership."

White, who has family in Coeur d'Alene, said he and his wife fell in love with the area after their first visit years ago.

"We were really hoping this opportunity would present itself," he said. "We're huge outdoor enthusiasts—hunting, fishing, skiing, water sports—and everybody up there is extremely nice."

In Mesa, White oversaw the department's \$157 million budget and was responsible for members of the investigations bureau. He holds a BS in criminal justice from Arizona State University and a Master's Degree in educational leadership from Northern Arizona University.

"My experience and leadership style continually demonstrate an exceptional combination of effective crime-fighting programs, accountability, strong community-based programs and high employee morale," White wrote on his application.

Widmyer expressed gratitude to the 14-member search committee, which consisted of: Widmyer, Human Resources Director Melissa Tossi, Acting City Administrator Troy Tymesen, Deputy City Attorney Wes Somerton, City Councilmembers Ron Edinger and Dan Gookin, Kootenai County Sheriff Ben Wolfinger Retired Undersheriff Tad Leach, Former FBI Agent Wayne Manis, Mary Souza, Fire Chief Kenny Gabriel, Police Association members Brady Reed and Nick Lowry, and Citizen at Large Larry Bieber.