



THE CITY OF
SAN FERNANDO

CITY COUNCIL

PRESS RELEASE

MAYOR
SYLVIA BALLIN

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DATE: August 19, 2021

COUNCILMEMBER
ANTONIO LOPEZ

SAN FERNANDO POLICE CHIEF ANTHONY VAIRO TO RETIRE AT YEAR-END

SAN FERNANDO, CA – After 39 years in law enforcement serving the City of San Fernando, Police Chief Anthony Vairo has announced he plans to retire at the end of this year. Chief Vairo has served as the San Fernando Police Department’s Chief since March 2015.

Chief Vairo began his career with the City of San Fernando as a Community Service Officer in the Summer of 1981. Desiring a career in law enforcement, he entered the Riverside Sheriff’s Department Police Academy in August 1982 and, after graduating in December 1982, he was officially sworn in on December 20, 1982 to begin his career with the San Fernando Police Department.

Chief Vairo worked as a Patrol Officer until 1988, when he was selected to be a Field Training Officer. In 1991, he moved to the Detective Division, overseeing burglary and auto theft cases until being selected to be the SFPD’s Canine Handler in 1994. In 2001, he returned to training new recruits as a Field Training Officer before returning to the Detective Division to oversee the robbery and homicide cases in 2003. In 2009, Anthony was promoted to Sergeant and began his career in Police Management in 2012 when he became Acting Lieutenant in 2012. Chief Vairo was appointed to lead the San Fernando Police Department in 2015.

In a statement prepared by the Chief, “I would like to thank the City Council, my fellow Department Heads, the men and women of the SFPD, and the Community for this great opportunity to leading the Police Department as Chief of Police. I am very proud of the Department’s strong commitment to keeping this City safe and the strong bond we have with the community.”

ADMINISTRATION
DEPARTMENT

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Throughout his tenure, Chief Vairo updated and modernized the Department’s policies utilizing Lexipol services, increased training for all sworn officers and professional staff,

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updated Department equipment (including patrol vehicles, in-vehicle computers, citywide radio communications systems, and less-lethal options), and elevated the annual National Night Out event to a remarkable level of community engagement.

“Chief Vairo has managed the Police Department through a very financially challenging time for the City while maintaining a high level of public safety to our residents and businesses. I truly appreciate his dedication of over 39 years of service to our City. He will be missed and we wish him the best of luck in all of his future endeavors,” said Mayor Sylvia Ballin.

The City has engaged executive search firm, Ralph Andersen & Associates, to assist with the recruitment of the next Police Chief, which will begin expeditiously. Please sign up for City notifications for updates on the progress of the recruitment, including a virtual Town Hall to get feedback from the community on the desired qualities and characteristics of San Fernando’s next Police Chief.

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