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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 20, 2014

SUBJECT: City of Joplin announces Jason Burns as next police chief

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The City of Joplin is pleased to announce the appointment of Assistant Chief of Police Jason Burns to serve as the next police chief for the City of Joplin. Police Chief Lane Roberts announced his retirement on January 13 of this year.

Assistant Chief Burns has worked for the City of Joplin since 1996, starting out as Police Officer II and rising to the current rank of assistant chief. He has served as assistant chief since March 21, 2008.

City Manager Mark Rohr made the appointment earlier today. "I believe Jason can and will continue the high performance of the police department attained under Chief Roberts' leadership. His level of professionalism is evident as we've seen during his tenure in the department."

Roberts is pleased with this appointment, commenting "I ultimately believe that Jason will prove to be the best police chief in history. I am now leaving my position confident that the department is in good hands."

Roberts' last day with the City will be March 28, 2014. Burns will take over the position effective March 29, with an annual salary of \$80,000.

For more information, contact Lynn Onstot, Public Information Officer, at 417-624-0820, ext. 204. To contact the Police Department about this announcement, please call 417-623-3131, ext. 696.