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Committed to Cultural Diversity

Chief Outlaw Leaving; Deputy Promoted



Danielle Outlaw will become police commissioner in Philadelphia.

Year begins with change in police bureau leadership

BY MICHAEL LEIGHTON PORTLAND OBSERVER EDITOR

Danielle Outlaw, the first African American woman to lead the Portland Police Bureau, has accepted a new job to lead the Philadelphia police department, and Jami Resch, Outlaw's recently named deputy police chief, will be promoted to become Portland's next permanent police chief.

Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler announced Outlaw's departure and Resch's hiring on Monday.

Outlaw came to Portland two years

ago from the Oakland Police Department in California. During her tenure here, she challenged the city and law enforcement to address racial inequities and now becomes the police chief of the fourth largest police department in the nation, with more than 6,500 sworn and 800 civilian members.

"I'd like to congratulate Chief Outlaw for landing a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity," Mayor Wheeler said Monday in a news release. "We thank her for her service to the city of Portland and the Portland Police Bureau where she helped make a positive difference. She came to Portland exceedingly qualified for the position of police chief, and leaves more prepared than ever for her new position in Philadelphia."

Wheeler credited Outlaw for helping build community trust and public confi-



Jami Resch is appointed Portland's new police chief.

dence in the Portland Police Bureau. He said under her leadership, the bureau formalized the use of the Incident Command System model for critical incidents and crowd management, and implemented crime strategies tailored to each precinct that have effectively reduced crimes against persons, property and society.

Outlaw praised Mayor Wheeler for placing his confidence in her during the two years she served in Portland.

"For police chiefs, I don't think there is ever an ideal time to transition on to our next role in life. However, I am making this transition on good terms, knowing the bureau will be left in the hands of a strong leadership team, led by Chief Jami Resch. And while there will always be work to be done toward improvement, that does not take away from

the fact that the members of the bureau are not only extremely talented, compassionate and professional, they are also resilient and accountable to themselves, each other and to the community," Outlaw said.

"I leave knowing the Bureau will remain committed to community safety while building trust. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as Portland's Police Chief, serving alongside the members of the Bureau and partnering with countless, remarkable individuals within Portland's community. I will forever be appreciative of my experience here," she added.

Portland City Commission Jo Ann Hardesty, the first black female member of the Portland City Council and a longtime

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