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LOCAL NEWS

Support for Vancouver's New Police Chief

NAACP says city made good decision

When Vancouver announced the selection of a new police chief Wednesday, it came with the endorsement from a longtime civil rights organization on the front lines of advocating for police reforms, the Vancouver NAACP.

City officials say Chief Jeffrey Mori will bring 29 years of progressively responsible law enforcement experience to the position, including nine years as undersheriff for Washington County in Oregon and most recently three years as assistant chief for the Vancouver Police Department.

"The NAACP is proud of the decision the city made. Jeff Mori has shown consistent commitment in navigating difficult and systematic issues within our community," said Vancouver NAACP President Jasmine Tolbert. "Jeff



Jeffrey Mori draws support from the Vancouver NAACP for his appointment as Vancouver's next police chief.

has a healthy commitment to racial equity, and we hope to continue to partner with him on that journey. Ultimately the NAACP of Vancouver is here to hold the Vancouver Police Department accountable, but we are excited to work with Jeff."

Mori holds a bachelor's degree

from Oregon State University and is working toward his master's in Public Safety from University of Virginia (projected 2023).

Vancouver City Manager Eric Holmes said Mori's experience and background, teamed with his proven ability to build and maintain meaningful relationships in the community, has prepared him well for the job.

"His clear vision for the future of community safety in Vancouver helped him emerge as the top candidate in a very competitive pool. I am confident in his ability to lead our Police Department in its next chapter," Holmes said.

In prepared remarks, Mori gave thanks to the men and women who show up each day to do the work to keep our community safe.

"I look forward to leading the Vancouver Police Department in our continued efforts to expand community partnerships and relationships, grow the agency and increase transparency and trust," he said.

Hardesty First for Runoff; Ryan Re-Elected

Multnomah County elects first female sheriff

Portland City Commissioner Dan Ryan won re-election outright avoiding a runoff in Oregon's May 24 Primary while incumbent City Commissioner Jo Ann Hardesty finished first against 10 other candidates, but short of the more than 50 percent of the vote needed to avoid a runoff this November.

In other races, Multnomah County voters elected Nicole Morrissey O'Donnell as the first female sheriff in history. O'Donnell, the sheriff's department second in command overcame a challenge by Derrick Peterson, a long time corrections officer and member of the Black community.

In a victory for the Democratic Party's progressive wing, former Oregon House Speaker Tina



Portland City Commissioners Dan Ryan and Jo Ann Hardesty

Kotek, backed by a strong winning vote in Multnomah County where she represented north Portland in the Legislature, won the Democratic gubernatorial primary, beating state Treasurer Tobias Read.

Hardesty, the first Black woman to serve on the Portland City Council, pledged to run a positive campaign as she heads to the general election.

"I will continue to be positive. Other people can do what they want, but I have a record of accomplishment. So people can

say whatever they want, but I can prove to a record. I came in with an agenda, I stayed focused on that agenda and I've had success with that agenda," Hardesty said Tuesday night.

Hardesty ran on her record of initiating the non-armed Portland Street Response team as a way to lessen demands on the Police Bureau which is shorthanded, and to better deal with people in mental health crisis.

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