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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**April 2, 2019**

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### **Town Appoints New Police Chief**

**Windsor, California** – Windsor Interim Town Manager Ken MacNab has announced the appointment of Ruben Martinez as Windsor's new Police Chief, effective May 7, 2019. Martinez will replace Windsor Police Chief Carlos Basurto who announced his retirement after two-and-a-half years of service as Chief and a 30-year law enforcement career.

Martinez has served in law enforcement in Sonoma County for nearly 30 years, holding positions with the Santa Rosa Junior College Police Department, the Petaluma Police Department and the Sonoma County Sheriff's Office, where he currently holds the rank of Lieutenant. While with the Sheriff's Office, Martinez previously served in Windsor from 2001 to 2005 as a Deputy Sheriff. He and his family have resided in Windsor for 24 years, where his wife is a teacher at Cali Calmecac Language Academy. Lt. Martinez is bilingual in Spanish.

Other law enforcement assignments during Martinez's career with the Sonoma County Sheriff's Office included service with the City of Sonoma Police Department, the Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault unit, Special Operations and SWAT units, the Henry 1 unit, and his current assignment as a Watch Commander for Northern Sonoma County.

Interim Town Manager Ken MacNab stated, "Ruben's background and experience in law enforcement and knowledge of the Windsor community are a perfect fit for us. We are excited to have Ruben serve as our Police Chief and I look forward to his leadership and contributions as he engages with the community. Ruben's appointment continues the tradition of law enforcement excellence and service that we have come to know and rely on through our relationship with the Sheriff's Office."

Commenting on his appointment, Lt. Martinez noted, "I'm humbled and grateful for my selection as Police Chief. I look forward to working with the Windsor community as we continue to build a strong future for our town."

Sonoma County Sheriff Mark Essick stated, "I am very happy that Lt. Martinez has been selected as the next Windsor Police Chief. The Sheriff's Office is proud to be a partner with

the Town of Windsor in providing top quality law enforcement services to the community.”

Pursuant to an agreement for law enforcement services, the Town of Windsor contracts with the Sonoma County Sheriff’s Office for law enforcement services, including all police personnel. Under the agreement, the Sheriff coordinates the selection and appointment of the Chief with the Town. The Town Manager designates the final selection of the Chief, and the Chief remains an employee of the Sonoma County Sheriff’s Office.

The Town continues to be rated as one of the safest cities in California, while continuing to enjoy cost-effective police services at a per-capita cost that is 39% below the average of other cities in the county.

At its regular meeting of May 1, 2019, the Windsor Town Council will recognize and honor retiring Windsor Police Chief Carlos Basurto.

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