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PRESS RELEASE

Ottawa, IL – December 3, 2024 – Mayor Robert Hasty and Commissioner Tom Ganiere are proud to announce the selection of Captain Mike Cheatham as the next Chief of Police for the City of Ottawa. Captain Cheatham will assume his new role on January 1, 2025, succeeding Chief Brent Roalson, who will retire after more than 28 years of dedicated service.

Chief Roalson's leadership and commitment to the Ottawa community have been invaluable, and we extend our deepest gratitude for his service. We wish him all the best as he embarks on this next chapter of his life.

Captain Cheatham will be officially sworn in as Chief of Police during the Ottawa City Council meeting on December 17, 2024, at 7:00 P.M. at Ottawa City Hall.

The City of Ottawa welcomes the community to join in recognizing Chief Roalson's remarkable career and celebrating Captain Cheatham's new leadership role at the December 17th swearing-in ceremony.