

United States Marshals Service



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 29, 2007

Contact: U.S. Marshal Eric Robertson
Western District of Washington
206-370-8601 or 253-302-8601

U.S. MARSHAL ERIC ROBERTSON ANNOUNCES RESIGNATION

United States Marshal Eric Robertson announced that he will resign as U.S. Marshal for the Western District of Washington effective March 3, 2007. After five years of service, he will be continuing his 23 years of public service as the first Administrator of the Valley Regional Fire Authority (VRFA); serving the communities of Algonia, Auburn, and Pacific.

“It has been an honor and privilege to serve the people of Western Washington as their United States Marshal for the past five years. I appreciate the confidence President Bush and his administration placed in me and I believe we have taken the office to the ‘next level,’” Robertson said.

Robertson was nominated by President Bush to be United States Marshal for the Western District of Washington on December 13, 2001, confirmed by the United States Senate on February 8, 2002, and began his tenure on February 22, 2002. Previously, he served 18 years with the Washington State Patrol, having attained the rank of Captain. Robertson also served two terms in the Washington State House of Representatives, his last term being elected by his peers to the position of Majority Caucus Chairman.

During his time at the U.S. Marshals Service, he led the office’s reorganization and focuses to its core mission while increasing its enforcement activities. The management team stood up, with redirected resources, a judicial security team focusing on increased measures to safeguard the judiciary and the courthouses. The team also focuses on investigating inappropriate communications and threats directed to members of the federal judiciary.

The fugitive apprehension mission was bolstered with additional investigators from the USMS and task force partners, which led to an increase in federal and state fugitive apprehensions. The USMS-hosted Pacific Northwest Fugitive Apprehension Task Force (PNWFAT) now has five partner agencies and more than a dozen investigators who work with state and local agencies to rid our neighborhoods of dangerous fugitives. The task force has conducted widely successful fugitive investigative mission in Clark, Cowlitz, Kitsap, and King counties, as well as two district-wide fugitive round-ups – FALCON I & II.

“I am very proud of the men and women of the USMS and the PNWFAT. Our team has achieved much in the past five years,” said Robertson. “I am immensely proud of them and of what they do.”

- MORE -

The VRFA, which was created by a vote of the people in November 2006, provides fire protection and emergency medical services to the cities of Algona, Auburn, and Pacific. It is the first regional fire authority created in Washington after recent changes in state law, providing an efficient mechanism for delivery of fire and emergency medical services. The VRFA Board of Governance consists of the mayors and two councilmembers from each of the served communities. The Administrator will oversee the day-to-day operations, as well as achievement of long-term planning and objectives on behalf of the nine-member Board. He will ensure the communities have a financially solvent and professionally run organization which provides the most cost effective services for the citizens and businesses.

After the Board's unanimous decision to offer the position to him, Robertson accepted and will begin in March 2007.

"I am humbled by yet another great opportunity to continue my public service career," Robertson said. "I know the men and women of the VRFA to be outstanding people, capable of melding together in the new organization, and providing the highest level of services to the citizens. I am eager to work with the Board, the employees, and our communities."

* * *