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# News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Murphy Police Chief GM Cox announces retirement *Leaves office on June 4 after 43-year career*

MURPHY (May 18, 2015) Murphy Police Chief G. M. Cox, PhD has announced his retirement from the Murphy Police Department, which he has led since October 2008, effective July 1 of this year, says Murphy City Manager James Fisher.

“The City of Murphy has been extremely fortunate to have had Chief Cox leading our police force,” he said. “Chief Cox came to Murphy when the City needed someone with the kind of stability, composure and experience that would restore citizen confidence. He not only met that challenge, but he exceeded our expectations.” The Chief will become an assistant professor and Director of the Public Administration graduate program at Tarleton State University.

Dr. Cox has over 43 years of law enforcement experience, having entered the field during a distinguished career in the US Air Force. Following an honorable separation from the service, he earned a Bachelor of Science in Law Enforcement and Police Science in 1979 from Sam Houston State University, graduating summa cum laude and Alpha Chi. In 1987, he earned a Master of Science in Criminal Justice Management from the same institution. In 2011, he completed the requirements for a PhD in public administration from the University of Texas at Arlington’s School of Urban and Public Affairs. His dissertation, *Crisis in Police Recruitment: Public Service Motivation and Changes in Generational Preferences*, has become a valuable resource for police agencies throughout the state.

His law enforcement career includes service as deputy sheriff with the Montgomery County Sheriff’s Department in Conroe. Following that, he was selected as the first police chief of the newly created Oak Ridge North Police Department in south Montgomery County. After almost a decade in that position, he joined the Lamesa Police Department in west Texas. And in 1993, he began a 15-year assignment as chief of the Corsicana Police Department. He retired from that position in late 2008, and was recruited to lead the Murphy Police Department a month later.

In addition to his formal education, Dr. Cox is a court qualified mediator, a certified law enforcement instructor, security inspector and holds a Master Peace Officer certificate issued by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Standards and Education. He is a graduate of the FBI National Academy, Quantico, VA. In addition, he has attained several certifications from law enforcement institutes in Texas and beyond.

Dr. Cox has served as an adjunct faculty member of Lone Star College, Howard College, Navarro College, Texas A&M University-Commerce and UT-Arlington. Since 2013, he has been teaching in the Leadership Command College, Bill Blackwood Law Enforcement Management Institute of Texas.

He has been married to Kathy for over 25 years. They have five children and nine grandchildren.

The City of Murphy has begun a national-level search for his replacement.

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**ABOUT MURPHY** -- Murphy is a fast-growing community located in Collin County. The population is approximately 18,020, generally characterized as highly educated with a median household income above the state average. With more than 70 percent of the land developed, the community is dominated by single-family residences. City planners strive to preserve a country feel while exhibiting an aggressive economic development stance. The centrally-located municipal complex includes four buildings that house Fire, Police, City Administration and Public Works. Money Magazine has dubbed Murphy as the 27<sup>th</sup> Best Place to Live in America for small cities, and D Magazine placed Murphy as the fifth best suburb in the 2014 list, where it has consistently ranked in the top 10.

# Accomplishments

## Chief GM Cox, PhD

- Led the Murphy Police Department as it attained “Recognized” status under the Texas Police Chiefs Association rigid accreditation program (2015).
- Consistently scored among the top ten cities in Texas as safest, according to annual FBI Crime Reporting System.
- Reached full staffing of MPD with professional, licensed, credentialed officers and support staff.
- Opened fully-functioning Animal Control Shelter
- Instituted full spectrum of community policing, top-level managerial, and uncompromising leadership culture to MPD.
- While on active duty was named NCO of the Quarter (1978) for Sheppard AFB and was the recipient of several Air Force Commendation medals and the Nation Defense Service Medal.
- As the President of the Navarro County Peace Officers’ Association, he was elected “Officer of the Year” twice, in back to back years.
- While in Lamesa, served as the President, of the South Plains Chiefs of Police Association.
- In Corsicana, founded the 100 Club of Corsicana-Navarro County.
- Court qualified mediator, having mediated over 20 civil cases.
- Certified law enforcement instructor and security inspector.
- Master Peace Officer certificate issued by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Standards and Education.
- Graduate of the 165<sup>th</sup> Session (1991) of the FBI National Academy, Quantico, VA.
- Graduate of the Leadership Command College of the Law Enforcement Management Institute of Texas, Class 21 (1996), Sam Houston State University, Bill Blackwood Law Enforcement Management Institute of Texas.
- Graduate of the Rural Executive Management Institute, University of Arkansas – Littlerock (1996).
- Served as President of the Texas Police Chiefs’ Association (2005-2006).
- Former Board Member, Texas Municipal League representing the Texas Police Chiefs Association.
- Past Chairman of the Texas Police Chiefs Association (TPCA) Foundation.
- TPCA Foundation Secretary and Chair of the Training Provider Advisory Board.
- Past Regional Director for TPCA in several regions of the state.
- Instructor in the Leadership Command College, Bill Blackwood Law Enforcement Management Institute of Texas.
- Instructor in the Texas Police Chiefs Leadership and Command Staff Leadership Series.
- Avid reader, occasional golfer and water sports enthusiast.
- Member of the Blue Knights, Chapter 38, law enforcement motorcycle club.
- Earned two “Iron Butt” designations, having ridden motorcycle over 1,000 miles in 24 hours.