



Porterville Police Department Press Release Promotions

Porterville Police Chief Chuck McMillan is pleased to announce the promotions of Sergeant Jake Castellow to the rank of Lieutenant and Officer Mark Knox to the rank of Sergeant. The promotions are effective on February 1, 2012. Lieutenant Castellow and Sergeant Knox will be assigned to the Patrol Division.

Jake Castellow was born in Newport Beech, California, and raised in Woodlake, California. In 1992-93, Jake attended College of the Sequoias majoring in Administration of Justice. Jake also attended Union University, earning his Bachelor of Science degree in 2010, majoring in Criminal Justice Management. In 1995, Jake attended the Police Academy at the College of Sequoias where he graduated at the top of his class.

Jake started his law enforcement career in 1995 when he was hired by the Woodlake Police Department. There he worked as a patrol officer, K-9 handler, and as a narcotic detective. In 1998 Jake went to work for the Tulare County Sheriff's Office as a deputy sheriff. There Jake worked as a patrol deputy and a K-9 handler.

In 2003 Jake was hired by the Porterville Police Department. Jake has since served in the capacity of a Field Training Officer, K-9 handler, Officer-in-Charge, and Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT). Jake was promoted to the rank of Sergeant in 2004 and has since worked as a Detective Sergeant, SWAT team leader, K-9 Sergeant, Hostage Negotiations Team Sergeant, and Administrative Sergeant in the Office of the Chief.

Jake has been married to Shawnie Castellow for almost eight years. Jake and Shawnie are the proud parents of their 12-year-old daughter, Megan.

Mark Knox was born in Exeter, California, and raised in Visalia, California. Mark attended Visalia Public Schools and graduated from Golden West High School in 1982. Mark was a shift supervisor in a local packaging factory until graduating from the College of Sequoia's Police Academy in 1997.

Mark started his law enforcement career in 2000 when he was hired by the Woodlake Police Department. There he worked as a patrol officer and was vital in the implementation of the Woodlake Police Department's Explorer Program. In 2002 Sergeant Knox was hired by the Porterville Police Department. He has served as a Patrol Officer, Detective, Traffic Officer, DUI Enforcement Officer, and as the School Resource Officer Supervisor. He is also the lead coordinator/advisor for the Police Explorer's Program. Sergeant Knox earned his Associates of Arts degree in 2006, majoring in Administration of Justice.