



NEW BERN

Patrick L. Gallagher is the Chief of Police for the New Bern Police Department in Eastern North Carolina. Prior to his appointment to chief on March 20, 2021, he was a Deputy Chief with the Virginia Beach Police Department. He was born in Fort Huachuca, Arizona in 1964; however, he was raised in Northern Virginia where he graduated from Gar-Field High School in 1983. He joined the Virginia Beach Police Department (VBPD) on September 17, 1990 and retired after 30 plus years to join the New Bern Police Department.

Chief Gallagher began his Law Enforcement career in 1983 after joining the U.S. Army's Military Police Corps. His military assignments included the 218th MP Company, Augsburg Germany and the 555th MP Company at Fort Lee, Virginia in 1985. He was honorably discharged from the military on July 4, 1986. He obtained his Bachelor of Science Degree from Old Dominion University in Criminal Justice in 1990, and his Master's Degree in Public Administration from Old Dominion University in 2004. He was promoted to the rank of sergeant in 1999, the rank of Lieutenant in 2004, the rank of Captain in 2010, where he commanded the 2nd and 4th Precincts, and was appointed to the rank of Deputy Chief on January 7, 2016 where he remained until his official retirement in 2021. As Deputy Chief, he commanded the Professional Standards Division (Training/Recruitment, Internal Affairs and Accreditation) and the Investigative Division (Special Investigations, Detective Bureau and Forensic Services).

Chief Gallagher has held several other assignments including Criminal Investigations, Special Operations (Mounted Patrol), and CALEA Accreditation Manager. He is a graduate of the F.B.I. National Academy (class 244), Senior Management Institute for Police (session 73), Police Executive Leadership Institute (session 5) and holds several law enforcement certifications. He is an adjunct college professor at Tidewater Community College and has been published numerous times regarding modern policing initiatives and programs. Chief Gallagher was the co-chair of the Virginia Beach Inclusion and Diversity Council and was a lead instructor for that city's mandatory Inclusion and Diversity training. Chief Gallagher has been instrumental in forging strong police-community ties with members of the African American, Hispanic, Homeless and LGBTQ communities to name a few. In 2012, he conducted research that led to the historical recognition and ceremony of the first African American police officers to serve Princess Anne County and

later the City of Virginia Beach. Chief Gallagher managed the VBPD's criminal investigation into the May 31, 2019 mass shooting in Building 2 of the Virginia Beach Municipal Center where 12 innocent people were killed and another 5 were injured. Chief Gallagher has been published 14 times in local and national media sources and is the co-author of a book on the history of the first black police officers in Virginia Beach.

Chief Gallagher's priorities are community-based and problem solving to advance the mission of the agency to reduce crime and the fear of crime. Chief Gallagher is a strong supporter of 21st Century Policing strategies. Chief Gallagher is married to his wife of 27 years, Millicent Gallagher, and has two grown children who reside in Virginia Beach, Virginia.