

City of East Providence
Department of Police
750 Waterman Ave.
East Providence, R.I. 02914



Roberto L. DaSilva
Mayor



William C. Nebus
Chief of Police

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Note to Editors: Please see attached photos

East Providence Police Dept. hires two seasoned officers to join the force

EAST PROVIDENCE, RI – The City of East Providence Police Department has added two lateral officers to its roster.

William J. Demers and Stephen C. Burns were sworn in by Mayor Bob DaSilva as the newest members of the police force before the East Providence Police Command Staff including Chief William Nebus, Major Christopher Francesconi, Capt. James Nelson and Capt. Thomas Rush.

“We welcome the opportunity to put seasoned officers on the road,” Nebus said. “Officers Burns and Demers have 20 years of experience each; both have served in the detective divisions in their respective departments.

“Although here in East Providence, they will be considered “junior” officers, their experiences throughout their careers will allow them to share their knowledge with our new recruits on the late night shift,” Nebus added. “The residents of East Providence should feel lucky to have them join us.”

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“My sincere congratulations goes out to Officers Demers and Burns,” Mayor Bob DaSilva said. “The city is fortunate to have two additional experienced officers join our first-rate police department.”

Demers joins the East Providence Police Dept. after working as a U.S. Marshal with Walden Security since 2017.

After his honorable discharge from the U.S. Marine Corps, Demers joined the Johnston Police Dept. where he spent 20 years of service working both in the Patrol and Investigative Divisions. In 2009, he became detective. As detective, he was then assigned to the Rhode Island State Police High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Task Force (HIDTA) from March 2011 until June 2017. Demers, who earned a Bachelor’s Degree in Criminal Justice from Roger Williams University, retired from the Johnston Police Dept. in June 2017.

Burns comes to East Providence from the Portsmouth Police Dept. after 19 years on the force. As a member of the Portsmouth Police Dept., Burns worked in the Detectives Division handling general investigations; worked in Prosecution handling both juvenile and adult cases; and in the Patrol Division as a patrol sergeant in charge of Harbor Patrol. Burns retired from the force as sergeant on July 2, 2019.

“The city continues to increase our police roster,” DaSilva added. “After an aggressive recruiting process, the city’s police department is working diligently to vet a long list of applicants and send additional recruits to the Rhode Island Municipal Police Academy.”

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For more information, please call the East Providence Police Dept. at 401-435-7600.