

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Pacific County Sheriff's Office Announces Undersheriff Reappointment

**South Bend, WA – March 26, 2025** – The Pacific County Sheriff's Office is announcing a change in the command staff, with Michael Ray set to be reappointed as Undersheriff, effective April 1, 2025. This decision follows a period of transition and careful evaluation by Sheriff Garcia.

The current Undersheriff, Mike Parker, will conclude his appointment on March 31, 2025. Sheriff Garcia expressed sincere appreciation for Undersheriff Parker's service, stating, "This decision was not a reflection of Undersheriff Parker's performance or dedication to the Pacific County Sheriff's Office. His commitment has been invaluable to our office and the People of Pacific County. We also want to specifically thank Undersheriff Parker for his selfless commitment to do what is needed to best serve the people during this transition."

The reappointment of Mike Ray to the Undersheriff position comes after the Pacific County Jail was removed from the purview of the Sheriff. Mike Ray accepted a position as a Patrol Deputy – SHOA (Surfside Homeowners Association) to make room for Mike Parker to transition into the role as Undersheriff when his position was eliminated with the removal of the jail. Unfortunately, we didn't have time to fully weigh the decision as we had less than a week to asses, form, and execute a plan to maintain the integrity of the team to best serve the People.

With the dust settling and time having passed, we now have the opportunity to assess the situation as we would have liked to before the decision was forced upon us. Sheriff Garcia determined that the PCSO Command Team could not afford to lose Mike Ray's invaluable experience at this time and stated, "I recognize this decision is challenging, but part of my responsibility as Sheriff is to make difficult choices. I believe it is essential to be flexible and responsive to changing situations."

Sheriff Garcia emphasized that the decision to reappoint Mike Ray was made in the best interest of the Sheriff's Office and the community. "We are confident that Michael Ray's experience and leadership will continue to serve Pacific County well," said Sheriff Garcia.

Mike Parker will essentially be swapping with Mike Ray and will serve as the SHOA Deputy. The Sheriff's Office looks forward to a smooth transition and continued service to the residents of Pacific County.

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