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**Belton Names Scott Lyons as its First Appointed Police Chief
He takes on role of retiring Police Chief James Person**

January 21, 2021 – BELTON, Mo. – The city of Belton, Missouri, selected Scott Lyons as its new police chief following a nationally advertised search. He will start March 1, 2021.

The search considered more than 35 candidates generated by executive recruitment firm Baker Tilly and led by public sector executive recruitment consultant Art Davis out of the firm's Kansas City offices. Lyons steps into the position as Chief James Person retires after more than 40 years of service.

"Chief Lyons has exceptional people skills with strong experience in law enforcement agencies and an impressive record of serving the community," said Alexa Barton, Belton city manager. "The Belton Police Department and the city's leadership team are excited to see the new chief hit the ground running to address the priorities of our community."

A native of Blue Springs, Lyons brings 30 years of local law enforcement experience, a majority with the Lee's Summit Police Department where he served as a major overseeing both administration and operations. Most recently, Lyons served six years as police chief for the city of Papillion, Nebraska, a community of 24,000 with a Commission of Accredited Law Enforcement Agency (CALEA) accredited police department that has 53 employees and a \$7.8 million annual budget. Lyons received his master's degree in criminal justice administration from the University of Central Missouri at Warrensburg and a bachelor's degree in sociology from the University of Missouri-Kansas City. Scott also attended and is a graduate of the FBI Academy and the Northwestern University Police Staff and Command School.

"Belton has a great quality of life and is the perfect place for our family to relocate and for me to continue a career in law enforcement," said Lyons. "I am humbled to be selected for this position and am looking forward to assisting the men and women of the Belton Police Department in their efforts to provide exceptional services to the community."

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