



Pueblo County Sheriff's Office

Kirk M. Taylor Sheriff
J.R. Hall Undersheriff

Mark A. Mears
Bureau Chief
Emergency Services

David J. Lucero
Bureau Chief
Law Enforcement

Paul Toth
Bureau Chief
Detention

News Release

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Sheriff Taylor Names New Bureau Chief, Announces Four Other Promotions

Pueblo, CO: Pueblo County Sheriff Kirk M. Taylor recently named Paul Toth as the new Detention Bureau Chief. Toth had been Captain of Operations in the Detention Bureau.

Taylor also announced the promotions of four other employees. **David Clements** was promoted to Captain, **Jesse Alcantara** was promoted to Lieutenant and **Sara Gonzales** and **Lisa Atteberry** were promoted to sergeant. All four will serve in the detention bureau.

“With almost three decades of service and law enforcement experience, I am excited to announce the promotion of Paul Toth to Chief of the Detention Bureau,” said Pueblo County Sheriff Kirk M. Taylor. “Through his hard work, dedication and commitment to our agency and having worked in all three of our bureaus, Paul has risen through the ranks to earn this leadership role.”

Toth, a 28-year veteran of the Sheriff's Office and a graduate of the prestigious FBI Academy, was promoted due to the vacancy left following the unexpected death in November of Law Enforcement Bureau Chief Jeff Teschner. David Lucero, who had been the Detention Bureau Chief, was reassigned as Chief of the Law Enforcement Bureau.

Toth began his career with the sheriff's office in 1994 as a detention deputy and worked various positions and his way through the ranks to become Commander and later a Captain in the detention bureau. During his tenure in the detention bureau, Toth managed two major construction projects, the dormitory expansion of the Pueblo County Jail and the new Dennis Maes Judicial Building.

Toth later transferred to the Law Enforcement Bureau and served as a Patrol Captain and co-commander of the SWAT team. He was instrumental in helping the Law Enforcement Bureau attain accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies.

Toth was later reassigned to Captain of the Emergency Services Bureau where he helped manage the Communication Center, the Emergency Operations Center and the Office of Emergency Management, the Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program and several of the Sheriff's Offices volunteer programs to include the wildland fire team, dive team and search and rescue.



While at the Emergency Service Bureau, Toth was instrumental in leading Pueblo County's coordination and response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

In June 2021, Toth was transferred to the Detention Bureau as the Operations Captain, where he oversaw many of the same areas he did earlier in his career and added a new responsibility as a member of the steering committee for the construction of the new detention facility.

While Toth said he's still working on developing his goals as Detention Chief, he said he does have two immediate needs to address – increasing the staffing levels and assisting with the construction of a new jail that will provide better working conditions for the detention deputies.

“I'm going to do what I can to help bring up our staffing to the levels where our mandatory overtime is not so daunting for our deputies,” he said. “I also plan to continue to be a part of the process for designing and constructing a new jail building that we can all be proud of, one that meets the needs of the sheriff's office and the community.”

In addition to Toth's promotion, Sheriff Taylor four additional advancements are:

Captain David Clements, a 30-year veteran of the Sheriff's Office, began his career in the detention bureau but has spent most of his tenure in the Law Enforcement Bureau, where he held many positions from patrol deputy to general detective and CSI detective. He rose through the ranks and was promoted to sergeant and served in patrol and investigations and later was promoted to lieutenant where he worked in patrol and at Colorado State University Pueblo.

Clements has also served as a training director and most recently had been the investigations lieutenant. He has been a field training officer, driving instructor and PIT instructor and served 16 years as a deputy coroner, where he earned several notable certifications.

Clements was instrumental in doing research and submitting nominations to get former Pueblo County Sheriff's John M. McKee and Sheriff Joe Tucker's deaths deemed as in the line-of-duty and getting their names added to the Colorado and National Fallen Officer memorials.

Clements is a recent graduate of the internationally respected Northwestern University Center for Public Safety's School of Police Staff and Command.

“Captain is a title, being a leader is what I strive for,” Clements said of his new position as the Operations Captain. “It is humbling Sheriff Taylor has provided me the opportunity of being in his command staff to affect change.”

Lieutenant Jesse Alcantara is a 15-year veteran of the Sheriff's Office. Alcantara began his career as a detention deputy and was later transferred to Master Control. He was promoted to Sergeant in 2011 and has supervised detention, intake and classifications. Alcantara is an instructor on the Taser and serves as secretary of the Colorado Jail Association, where he has been a board member since 2017.

“I am extremely excited and proud to continue to serve our community,” Alcantara said. “Leading young deputies at the dawn of their career is a true honor.”

Sergeant Sara Gonzales has been with the Sheriff's Office for nearly 6 ½ years starting as detention deputy and most recently worked in classifications. Gonzales has also served as a

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training deputy an in-house hearings deputy and has been a CPR instructor. She is currently the team leader for Sheriff's Office Honor Guard team.

"I have ideas of how I'd like to teach and train the deputies I work with," Gonzales said. "I've been granted a huge opportunity to do just that and to lead them to success wherever they desire to go, for that I'm excited and I'm thankful."

Sergeant Lisa Atteberry is an 8 ½ year veteran of the Sheriff's Office beginning as a detention specialist working in the control rooms in the jail and the Dennis Maes Judicial buildings. In 2016, she was promoted to detention deputy, where she worked in the jail and then was assigned to intake in the judicial building. Atteberry is a 2018 graduate of the Pueblo Law Enforcement Academy. She was promoted to patrol deputy in 2019 and after a short stint there, she returned to the judicial intake where she became a step-up sergeant. She most recently had worked in transportation prior to her promotion to sergeant.

"I am very humbled and honored to be given the opportunity to advance in my career," Atteberry said. "I've always strived to learn as much as I can and will continue to do so."

Taylor said he is proud of all the recently promoted employees. "Their commitment to the Pueblo County Sheriff's Office and the residents of Pueblo County is extraordinary. Their leadership qualities demonstrate the character and dedication they demonstrate each day to help keep our community safe," Taylor said.

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