



Contact: Melody A. Currey, Mayor  
Phone 860 291- 7200  
Fax 860 282-2978  
E-mail: [mcurrey@easthartfordct.gov](mailto:mcurrey@easthartfordct.gov)

Town of East Hartford

East Hartford Town Hall  
740 Main Street  
East Hartford, CT 06108

# Press Release

## Town of East Hartford Ceases Police Chief Search Chief Sirois retained by the Town

East Hartford, July 8, 2010 – East Hartford Mayor Melody A. Currey announced today that retired Police Chief Mark Sirois will be rehired and will continue to fulfill the duties of Police Chief for the Town of East Hartford after a brief break in service.

The Mayor commented, “for a long period of time I have considered the organizational structure of the Police Department, and due to the retirement of a number of seasoned command staff in the last couple of years and the reorganization of the department which resulted in two fewer Deputy Chiefs, I believe that for continuity, retaining Chief Sirois results in the best candidate to fill this position.”

While Chief Sirois has been retired since August of 2005, he remained as Police Chief under provisions of the pension contract between the Police Union and the Town. To satisfy all provisions of that agreement, the Chief will sever employment with the Town on August 7, 2010 and will be hired under the Town’s Personnel Rules on September 1, 2010.

Mayor Currey commented “as we transition classified management employees, like the Police Chief and the Fire Chief, from the old Personnel Rules to the current Personnel Rules established earlier in my administration, the taxpayers will see discernable savings in wages and benefits paid to these key positions, and in the case of the Police Chief, we’re able to retain an employee to provide much needed management continuity to keep the citizens safe.”

**Chief Sirois retained by the Town**

Under the Town's Personnel Rules, the Chief will be paid \$106,340 for a 40 hour workweek and will no longer be eligible for overtime. This compares to \$136,703 paid to the Chief in 2009.

Additionally, while Chief Sirois has earned a pension of \$86,034, under terms imbedded in the pension contract he is covered under, he will not be able to collect his pension until he permanently separates from Town service.

Mayor Currey ended by saying, "had we completed the search for a new Police Chief, we'd be paying a pension of \$86,034 and a salary of \$106,340 to the new hire. By retaining Chief Sirois, we save the \$86,034 pension cost and avoid providing other fringe benefits like medical insurance. I consider this a win-win for the community".

Distribution:  
Hartford Courant  
East Hartford Gazette  
The Reminder