



City of Sonora


"Queen of the Southern Mines"

94 North Washington Street
Sonora, California 95370

Area Code 209

Administrator 532-6115
Administration 532-4541
Finance 532-4541
Building/Planning . . 532-3508
Police 532-8143
Fire 532-7432
Public Works 532-2922
Cemetery 532-4492
Opera Hall 532-7725
Special Programs . . 532-7725
Redevelopment . . . 532-7725
www.sonoraca.com

TO: Honorable Mayor and Council Members

FROM: Timothy A. Miller, City Administrator 

DATE: June 4, 2018

RE: Introduction and Swearing in of Police Chief Turu VanderWiel

Turu VanderWiel was born in Sonora and raised in this community. He attended Columbia Elementary School and Sonora High School. Following high school, he worked locally in the construction field before joining the Army in 1991. He was honorably discharged at the rank of Sergeant after eight years of service. After his military service, Turu enrolled in the Ray Simon Police Academy in Modesto where he finished second in his class academically. Following graduation, Turu was hired as a Deputy Sheriff for Tuolumne County where he worked for five years and served on the SWAT team, the Field Training Unit and was an Emergency Vehicle Operations Instructor. Hired by the City of Sonora as a patrol officer in 2004, Turu was promoted to Sergeant one year later. In 2016, after twelve years of service with the City, he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant and subsequently appointed Acting Chief of Police in May of 2017. He holds an Associate's Degree in Technology through Pierce Community College and a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice Management through Union Institute and University.

Turu enjoys the outdoors and spending time with his family.