



City of La Porte

Established 1892

Police Department

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the Texas Association of Police Chiefs



***Media Relations Information for 03/08/2016***

*Public Relations Officer – Sgt. John Krueger*

*Office: 281-842-3161*

**LPPD promotes Ditrich, Boles, and Patrick**



New LPPD Lieutenant Doug Ditrich (Left) exchanges handshakes with newly promoted Sergeants Bennie Boles (Center) and Kai Patrick (Right)

With two recent police department retirements, La Porte's Doug Ditrich, Bennie Boles, and Kai Patrick have been named as fitting successors among the agency's supervisory ranks. While only two retirements occurred, in the police hierarchy, a Lieutenant vacancy automatically creates a second Sergeant vacancy. Therefore, the agency was able to advance two of its members, Boles and Patrick, to the first-line supervisory status of Sergeant. Equally important, one of their existing supervisors, former Sergeant Doug Ditrich, was advanced even higher to the rank of Lieutenant, where he can now carry his dedication and experience to new heights.

Ditrich's tenure with LPPD began in December of 1997. Since that time, he has worked in a variety of assignments to include Patrol, Bicycle Patrol, Field Training Officer, Criminal Investigations, and SWAT. In May of 2007 he promoted to Sergeant and has supervised Patrol shifts, as well as Support Services - including jail operations and training coordination for the Department. His most recent assignment in the Street Crimes Division involved supervising police investigations focusing on crimes impacting the community such as Burglary, Theft, Gambling, Prostitution and Narcotics. Ditrich will remain an active member of the SWAT team, a position also held as a Sergeant. Lieutenant Ditrich holds a Bachelor's Degree in Organizational Leadership from Mountain State University. Additionally he has a Master Peace Officer Certification and is a License Police Instructor and Firearms Instructor. Upon his promotion to Lieutenant he will be returning to the Patrol Division as the Day Shift Watch Commander, where he will supervise Patrol, Traffic Enforcement, and Jail operations.

Boles, known as one of the most progressive traffic and DUI enforcement officers in the agency's history with nearly 300 DWI arrests in just the past four years, will take the reins of day shift sergeant. A 16-year veteran of the La Porte Police Department, Boles leaves his role as a Commercial Vehicle Enforcement (CVE) officer, lead DWI investigator, and "No Refusal" coordinator for the agency. He holds a Master TCOLE Certification, is certified as a Drug



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Recognition Expert (DRE), Police Instructor, Intoxilyzer Operator, and Standardized Field Sobriety Test (SFST) Instructor/Practitioner. Boles also serves as an adjunct SFST instructor for the University of Houston-Downtown Police Academy. In addition, he is an agency chaplain, coordinator of the License Plate Reader Program for the department, and has prior service as a DARE officer for the La Porte Independent School District. Boles is a two time recipient of the MADD Hero award for Harris County 2010 and 2012, BACODA Leadership Award 2010, MADD DWI Enforcement Award for the La Porte Police Department 2009 through 2014, Life Saving Award 2010, Deer Park Citizen of the Year 2010, and City of La Porte Employee of the Quarter 2nd Quarter 2010 and the La Porte Police Department Employee of the Quarter 3rd Quarter 2013. Sergeant Boles holds a Bachelor's Degree in Organizational Leadership from Mountain State University.

Patrick, after serving LPPD for 17 years in the roles of Patrolman and Street Crimes Detective, will advance from his former investigative role, and begin supervising La Porte's Hot Spot team. Given Patrick's extensive local, and area, street experience, his supervision of the immediate crime suppression squad will be a major asset for the La Porte community. Officers under his supervision will benefit from his involvement in prescription fraud investigation cases, vice activities, surveillance operations, confidential informant handling, and other undercover-based maneuvers. Among these and many other roles, Patrick has been an instrumental leader for the department in the seizure of extensive amounts of narcotics, as well as illegal proceeds from such activities. Patrick also brings experience as a veteran bicycle patrol officer, chief bicycle mechanic, SWAT team leader, and former Field Training Officer. Each of these assignments add both strength and credibility to Patrick's tactical and operational resume. Sergeant Patrick holds a Certificate of Technology in Criminology from San Jacinto College.

For more information on LPPD operations, or its staff, please log onto the Department website at <http://laportetx.gov/670/Police-Department>.