



# NEWS RELEASE

## HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF POLICE OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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### **First female deputy chief among Howard County police promotions**

The Howard County Police Department announced the promotions of 12 officers in a ceremony last night, including the appointment of Mary Levy to the rank of major. Major Levy's appointment marks the first time a female officer has been promoted to one of the agency's three deputy chief positions.

Police Chief Gary Gardner also promoted two officers to the rank of captain, three to lieutenant, three to sergeant and three to corporal.

"This agency has a truly outstanding workforce and it is not an easy task to select only a few from such a talented pool," said Chief Gardner. "I am happy to appoint Major Levy as one of my deputy chiefs, as she brings significant experience, knowledge and commitment to the community to this position."

Major Levy will oversee the investigations and special operations command. She most recently served as a captain in the information and technology bureau.

In her 28 years of service, Major Levy has worked in patrol, youth services, education and training, child abuse and sexual assault. She has long-demonstrated a commitment to youth and the community. Major Levy is the current vice president of the Unity Tour Chapter IX, a 275-mile bike ride to support fallen officers; initiated the Shop with a Cop program in Howard County and is an active participant in activities supporting MD Special Olympics.

"I want to congratulate all the officers who were promoted, whose hard work and dedication have been acknowledged and rewarded. And I am particularly pleased that Major Levy has been tapped to serve as a deputy chief, a much deserved distinction," said County Executive Allan H. Kittleman. "During her 28 years with the police department, Major Levy has served numerous important roles, bringing innovative ideas and energy. She is well prepared for the challenges of her new role. We are fortunate in Howard County to have committed and talented public servants like Major Levy, ensuring that our residents receive top-notch services."

Major Levy will join Major Ellsworth Jones, who oversees the operations command, and Major Luther Johnson, who oversees the administration command.

Also promoted in Monday's ceremony:

**Captain:**

Todd Leppert  
Cory Zirk

**Lieutenant:**

Erika Heavner  
Sarah Kayser  
Chris Williams

**Sergeant:**

Terrence Benn  
Mark Orlosky  
Tom Townsend

**Corporal:**

Ronald E. Baker  
Erik Gillenwater  
Sharri Jastrzebski

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