



# **CITY OF KEARNEY** **PRESS RELEASE** ***For Immediate Release***

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## **Kearney Police Sergeant Kowalek Promoted to Lieutenant**

The Kearney Police Department is pleased to announce the promotion of Sergeant Gabe Kowalek to the rank of Police Lieutenant. Lieutenant Kowalek will serve as the Commander of the Criminal Investigations Bureau and Special Services Unit.

Lieutenant Kowalek has been a member of the Kearney Police Department for nineteen and a half years, serving assignments in Uniform Patrol, Narcotics Investigator, CANDO/Safe Streets Task Force Investigator, Field Training Officer, Uniform Patrol Sergeant, and most recently Special Services Unit Sergeant. Kowalek is a graduate of Auburn High School, the University of Nebraska at Kearney and Northwestern School of Police Staff and Command, Session 486.

The Criminal Investigations Bureau/Special Services Unit Commander is a new position at KPD. Under the direction of the Operations Captain, Lieutenant Kowalek will be responsible for administrative and operational functions of both units comprised of two Police Sergeants, seven Criminal Investigators, two Police Canine Officers, three School Resource Officers, one Airport Police Officer, four Community Services Officers, and one Victim Witness Advocate.

“With the growth of any organization, the need to insert levels of command and leadership often arise. The addition of a Lieutenant in the Criminal Investigations Bureau and Special Services Unit will provide an opportunity for the Sergeants to focus on direct supervision within each unit, while the Lieutenant will focus on administrative and operational duties, maintaining strong relationships with our allied agency partners, schools, advocacy groups, community policing, and staffing. I’m certain Lieutenant Kowalek will be an asset to our Kearney Police Command Staff team and I look forward to working closely with him and our entire staff as KPD continues to grow with our community”. Chief Bryan D. Waugh

An official promotion ceremony including swearing in and badge pinning is scheduled for Tuesday, September 14, during the Kearney City Council meeting at City Hall.

**Check out our web site at [www.cityofkearney.org](http://www.cityofkearney.org).**

*We are sending this News Release as a service to the news media and citizens of Kearney.*

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