



Kenton Buckner  
Chief of Police

## **LITTLE ROCK POLICE DEPARTMENT**

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March 5, 2018

To the Citizens and Police Officers of Little Rock

On March 4, 2018, I informed the Police Executive Research Forum that I wished to withdraw my name from consideration for the position of Charleston, SC, Chief of Police.

In the nearly one month since my visit to Charleston, I have received daily local inquiries concerning my status as the Little Rock Chief of Police. I realize this uncertainty can impact the effectiveness of my leadership as well as the future of the Little Rock Police Department. Alleviating that ambiguity is one of the reasons I believe that it is now the time to withdraw from the process and remove uncertainty regarding LRPD leadership.

Going through the interview process afforded me the chance to reflect on my time here in Little Rock. During my tenure as Police Chief, the Police Department has had many successes. However, I continue to see areas for improvement; there are goals that I want to see accomplished for the LRPD and the residents of Little Rock. Among these are completion of the upcoming accreditation of Little Rock's Training Academy by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, as well as strengthening relations internally and with the community at large.

During this past month, I have received many words of encouragement from citizens and officers. I am excited to continue engaging those supporters as Little Rock moves forward. It is time to build on the positive momentum that the LRPD has achieved:

- Property crime and violent crime in our city have been reduced.
- The recent arrests of several habitual offenders who have wreaked havoc in our community.
- The agency is now operating at nearly full strength for the first time in many years with the start of the most recent training academy recruit class.

I look forward to continuing to work with the Mayor and City Board of Directors, City Manager, the Little Rock Police Department, and the citizens as we make Little Rock an even better place to live and work.

Sincerely,

Kenton Buckner, Chief of Police  
Little Rock Police Department

*LRPD is Internationally Accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies  
The Little Rock Police Department is an equal opportunity employer*