

For Immediate Release
August 27, 2025

Board of Police and Fire Commissioners of the City of Madison

Following a comprehensive process and after thorough deliberations, the PFC has selected Acting Chief John Patterson to be the City of Madison's next Chief of Police. The PFC expresses its support and confidence in his leadership. As is standard practice, the PFC will now be issuing a Conditional Offer of Appointment.

"I want to congratulate Chief Patterson on being selected by the Police & Fire Commission to be Madison's next Police Chief. I've been impressed by the leadership he's shown as acting chief and his many years with MPD," says Mayor Satya Rhodes-Conway. "We share a commitment to data-driven policing that focuses on a holistic approach to public safety. Chief Patterson is committed to serving our community and I look forward to continuing to work with him to fine-tune an already strong department."

Chief Patterson says he's had the privilege of being a member of the Madison Police Department for 27 years and is honored by this opportunity.

"I can't quite put into words how incredibly humbled I feel right now to be named the next permanent Chief of Police of the Madison Police Department. I love our community and this police department," says Chief Patterson. "I look forward to furthering our commitment to improving trust and relationships with the community, reinforcing our commitments to community policing and the principles of procedural justice, prioritizing effective communication and transparency, and ensuring that data-informed decision making and effective problem solving are always at the foundation of our everyday operations."

The PFC would like to thank all applicants for being part of this process, especially the finalists. The PFC is grateful for all of the input that it received from the community throughout this process. The PFC also wishes to thank the Dane County Sheriff's Office for its professional background investigations.