

David Zack named Asheville police chief

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ASHEVILLE, N.C. (WLOS) — The city of Asheville on Monday, Jan. 13, 2020, announced a successor for former police chief **Chris Bailey, who resigned in September** after only weeks on the job.



City of Asheville

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Please join us in welcoming David Zack as [#Asheville's](#) new Police Chief![ashevillenc.gov/news/city-manage...](https://www.ashevillenc.gov/news/city-manage...) [#AvlNews](#)
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City Manager names David Zack as Asheville Police Chief | Th...

After an extensive national search, Asheville City Manager Debra Campbell is happy to announce that David Zack will become the [ashevillenc.gov](https://www.ashevillenc.gov)

13 1:44 PM - Jan 13, 2020

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According to a news release from the city, Asheville City Manager Debra Cambell said David Zack will become the city's next chief of police, effective Feb. 4, 2020.

Zack has more than 30 years of police experience, including his service as chief of Cheektowaga, New York, for nine years. Cheektowaga is similar in size to Asheville, with a population of 88,000 people.

The news release said, as chief in Cheektowaga, Zack introduced the first Fair and Impartial Policing Training Program in New York State, as well as the first Procedural Justice training Program in Western New York. He also created the first Crisis Intervention Teams in Erie County, for which he received the National Alliance for Mental Illness President's Award.

The community was invited to **meet the final three candidates for chief** and provide comments on Dec. 17, 2020. The release said Campbell used these comments, feedback from extensive engagement effort and recommendations from an experienced interview panel with representation from Buncombe County Sheriff's Office, Buncombe County District Attorney's Office, Charlotte's former police chief, Asheville's interim police chief, Asheville's fire chief and the special assistant to the city manager to make this decision.

"Chief Zack's background in building relationships with the community and years of experience as a chief will enable him to seamlessly transition into the role of Asheville's police chief," Campbell said in the release.

Zack said he was honored to have been selected to lead the Asheville Police Department.

"I am excited to be moving to such a welcoming and compassionate city," he said. "I promise to work hard to ensure the police department serves and protects this community in a manner that reflects its values."

Zack earned a bachelor of science degree in criminal justice from Hilbert College.