



## CITY OF SACO, MAINE

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### PRESS RELEASE

**November 30, 2016**

**Re: Saco's Next Police Chief**

After an extensive search process, I am pleased to announce my recommendation of Raynald Demers as Saco's next Police Chief. Pending City Council confirmation on December 5<sup>th</sup>, his appointment will be effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017. Ray has served the Saco community for more than 30 years, the last six years as our Deputy Chief of Operations.

It was clear during the interview process that Ray is dedicated to Saco. He is well respected within the community and has a strong connection to its community leaders – a testimony shown in part by the significant number of letters of support my office received. Ray has been essential to the success of the popular Citizens' Police Academy in Saco as well as the first Open House BBQ to help foster a positive relationship between the Police officers and members of the community.

We have challenges ahead; the drug problems facing the region have not lessened, governments continue to try and accomplish more with fewer resources, and while Saco residents overwhelmingly are satisfied with the relationship between police and community, there is always room for improvement.

I am confident he will continue a long tradition of inspiring confidence in the community at the same time using this opportunity to work with the department to recommend changes going forward. Ray strives for transparency, fairness, and honesty; and holds himself to the highest standard of professionalism and ethics.

I want to thank the 122 Saco residents and staff who participated in the [community survey](#) that provided some of the framework for our search, the members of the Screening Committee who reviewed nearly 50 resumes from across the country and took the better part of a week to interview several candidates. I'd also like to thank the Interview Team for meeting with the top candidates and making a recommendation, and finally, the candidates for taking the time to interview with Saco. It was evident from the conversations I had with everyone involved, Saco is a great place to live and work.