

PATRICK M. O'NEIL  
MAYOR

## TOWN OF SULLIVAN'S ISLAND

ANDY BENKE  
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

JASON BLANTON  
DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR/COMPTROLLER

LAWRENCE A. DODDS  
TOWN ATTORNEY

GREG GRESS  
WATER AND SEWER MANAGER

JOE HENDERSON  
ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

ELLEN MILLER  
TOWN CLERK

RANDY ROBINSON  
BUILDING OFFICIAL

M. ANTHONY STITH  
FIRE CHIEF

TOWN COUNCIL  
CHAUNCEY CLARK, MAYOR PRO TEM  
SARAH CHURCH  
MARK HOWARD  
RITA LANGLEY  
SUSAN MIDDLEAUGH  
BACHMAN SMITH, IV



**For Immediate Release:** April 28, 2017  
**Contact:** Andy Benke, Town Administrator

### *Acting Police Chief Named to Lead Department During Transition*

**SULLIVAN'S ISLAND, SC** – Mayor Pat O'Neil and the Sullivan's Island Ad Hoc Police Chief Search Committee have appointed Lieutenant Chris Griffin as Acting Chief of the Sullivan's Island Police Department while the search and interview process is conducted.

Former Chief Dan Howard retired effective March 1, 2017. Lieutenant Griffin has been managing the day to day operations of the department since that time. Effective immediately Griffin will serve as Acting Chief. Town Administrator Andy Benke and Town Attorney Lawrence Dodds will continue to assist Griffin with procedural, administrative and legal matters.

"Lieutenant Chris Griffin has an impeccable record of police service and his strong ties with the community will serve him well in his new capacity as Acting Chief" said Mayor O'Neil. "Lieutenant Griffin is a respected leader within the Police Department, and I have full confidence in him" added Town Administrator Benke.

Griffin, who was born and raised in Mt. Pleasant, has spent most of his law enforcement career at Sullivan's Island. After completing his accreditation at the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy, he served the City of North Charleston for 2 years. He started his employment at Sullivan's Island in 1997 and is currently in his 20th year of service. During that time, he has supervised patrol staff, performed investigative services for the Department, interviewed and hired patrol officers, resolved numerous major criminal cases and served as the Department Fire Arms Instructor.

"It's my intention to serve the residents and visitors of Sullivan's Island in a consistent manner which is fair, honest, responsive and dedicated to the task at hand with the utmost professionalism," said Griffin. "I am looking forward to facilitating the department during this interim period while taking the opportunity to make improvements and move it forward."

"I am confident that the Town's security and management of its law enforcement personnel are in extremely capable hands with Lieutenant Griffin," said Administrator Benke.