



## OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

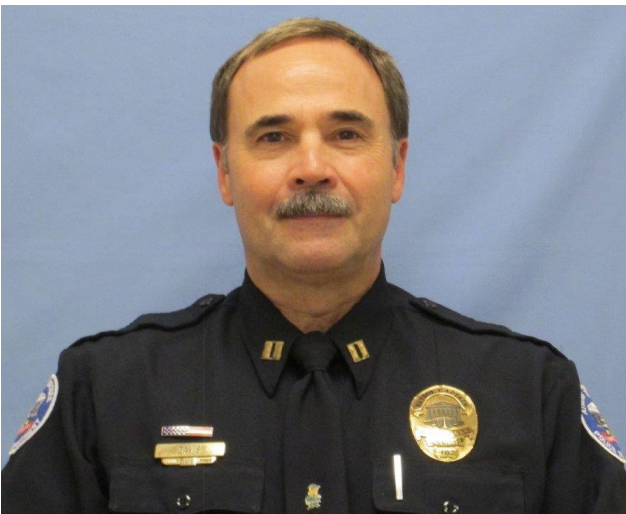
### PRESS RELEASE

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### APD CAPTAIN ROB DAVIS TO RETIRE

ATHENS, TENNESSEE – December 10, 2018 – Captain Rob Davis of the Athens Police Department recently gave notice that he will retire from the Police Department after 43 years of service to the citizens of Athens. Rob’s career began in April of 1975 when he became an auxiliary officer for the Athens Police Department. A few months later, in July of 1975, he was hired as a full-time patrol officer. He would go on to progress up the rank structure, holding the rank of sergeant, lieutenant, and eventually captain. Captain Davis’ service was expansive, encompassing the tenure of five police chiefs and five city managers.

Rob trained and supervised hundreds of officers in his career and was truly there for the modernization and professionalization of the Athens Police Department. When Rob started there were World War II veterans still working at the police department and in those times, officers had to buy their own handgun. There were no walkie-talkies, only the in-car radio for emergency communications. No computers were in the car or in the office, but there was a “teletype machine” in the dispatch office. The police cars were “Athens City Blue,” an actual car paint color, and the city still operated a jail. He was there for the implementation of in-car video (VHS), then conversion to digital.



The current Police Chief, Cliff Couch, said that “it’s an understatement to say that we’ll lose an enormous amount of knowledge when Rob leaves. He’s lived through changes in the profession that my generation of officers read about in the academy. Locally, he is the closest thing we have to an Athens Police Department History Book. Losing his experience will require a great deal of adjustment for the police department, but if anyone has earned the right to enjoy a retirement, it’s Captain Davis.”

The City will be hosting a retirement reception for Captain Davis on January 4th, 2018 at 3:30 PM inside City Hall at 815 N. Jackson Street. The community is invited to join in honoring Captain Davis’ extensive service.

The City of Athens is a full-service municipality nestled in the foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains and has garnered a reputation as the “Friendly City.”