



# City of Los Banos

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – May 6, 2010**

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## Gary Brizzee appointed Chief of Police

**LOS BANOS** – City Manager Steve Rath has announced the appointment of Gary Brizzee as the City's new Chief of Police effective May 17, 2010. Brizzee, who was promoted to Commander in 2005, is a 13-year veteran of the Los Banos Police Department and a former Special Agent with the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement.

"We are so pleased to have someone of Gary's caliber serving our community in this important position," said City Manager Steve Rath. "He's a local person who has proven his commitment to this community. He will be an outstanding Police Chief for our City."

Brizzee has lived in Los Banos for 34 years. A Los Banos High School graduate, Brizzee attended Merced Junior College for two years then transferred to California State University, Stanislaus, where he earned a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice with a minor in Sociology. Brizzee graduated from the Modesto Police Academy in December 1995 and received a Master's Degree in Criminal Justice from CSU, Stanislaus in 2007.

"I am excited to have the opportunity to serve the City of Los Banos as the Chief of Police," Brizzee said. "I have a strong commitment of public service to this City and am very proud to be from this part of the Valley. Our community has great potential, and I will work to the best of my ability to ensure that it is a safe community where good things can continue to happen."

Brizzee's law enforcement career began upon graduation from the Police Academy and has included working as a Patrol Officer and Detective. He also worked as a K-9 handler.

From 2000 to 2002, Brizzee was a Special Agent with the U.S. Department of Justice. While there, he investigated major narcotic criminals and clandestine methamphetamine labs throughout California.

He returned to Los Banos Police Department in 2002 serving as a Patrol Officer, Patrol Sergeant, Investigative Sergeant and, most recently, as a Commander.

Last year, Brizzee attended the 237<sup>th</sup> Session of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Academy in Quantico, Virginia. The 10-week program focuses on leadership, management, law, health/fitness and education.

Brizzee and his wife, Danette, are parents of two children and appreciate the quality of life Los Banos provides for young families. Brizzee serves as a board member for the Los Banos Tiger Sharks and is a member of the Los Banos Elks, Los Banos Police Activities League (PAL), and served on both the Measure P and Measure A committees.

"I love this city and I enjoy coming to work every day," Brizzee said. "I am very proud of the work I do and I credit my wife and children for the foundation of my success. This community has great things on the horizon and I am privileged to be a part of seeing it succeed."

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