



## Hoquiam Police Department

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### *PRESS RELEASE*

For immediate release: Promotion of Officer S. Joe Strong to Patrol Sergeant

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As a result of the retirement of Sergeant Harry Blodgett at the end of September, a patrol sergeant position opened within the Hoquiam Police Department. This is the second sergeant position to open in recent months due to retirements.

I am proud to announce that Patrol Officer S. Joe Strong was promoted on October 1, 2008 to the position of Patrol Sergeant with the Hoquiam Police Department.

Sergeant Strong started with the department on November 28, 1994. During his over 13-years as a Police Officer with the department, Sergeant Strong also served as a Detective assigned to the Grays Harbor County Drug Task Force. He currently is also the primary major traffic collision investigator for the department. Sergeant Strong was instrumental in developing the early suspect information on the Bishop double-homicide back in May 2006. Sergeant Strong's time in DTF cultivated the informant's tip that ultimately led to the arrest of the suspect.

Sergeant Strong grew up on the North Beach and is married. Law enforcement is in his blood as Sergeant Strong is the son of Sid Strong, who was a police officer at Hoquiam starting back in the early 1970's. Mayor Durney presented Sergeant Strong's new badge to his parents who did the honor of pinning it on his uniform.

Sergeant Strong joins Sergeant Salstrom as the first sergeant promotions in the department in over eleven years.

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