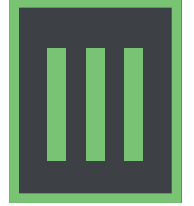


A NATIONAL SEARCH
is underway for a new Chief of Police

Myrtle Beach, SC



CHIEF OF POLICE





MYRTLE BEACH, SC

Gay Dolphin
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THE 01. OPPORTUNITY



A national search is underway to identify a highly accomplished law enforcement executive to serve as the next Chief of Police for the City of Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

Myrtle Beach offers a distinctive leadership opportunity in one of the most recognizable coastal communities in the southeastern United States. Located along South Carolina's Grand Strand, the City combines the character of an engaged year-round community with the pace and complexity of a major tourism destination. Myrtle Beach is just over 24 square miles and has a resident population of approximately 42,000 and welcomes roughly 18 million visitors each year. These seasonal peaks and major events create significant increases in activity and public safety demands.

The Police Department plays a critical role in maintaining a safe, welcoming, and orderly environment for residents, businesses, and visitors. Success in this role will require sound judgment, operational depth, visible leadership, and the ability to balance proactive policing, tourism-related demands, large-scale event planning, and day-to-day service delivery. The next Chief must be prepared to lead in this fast-moving environment while advancing strategies focused on crime reduction, quality-of-life conditions, organizational cohesion, and meaningful community engagement.

This is a compelling opportunity for an experienced police executive to lead a full-service department in a visible, high-demand environment where expectations are elevated, communication is constant, and strong leadership can have an immediate and lasting impact. The City is seeking a Chief who will build on the Department's strengths and further advance Myrtle Beach's position as a safe, welcoming, and vibrant coastal community.

02.

GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

The City of Myrtle Beach operates under a Council-Manager form of government. The Mayor and City Council establish policy direction, while the City Manager serves as the chief administrative officer responsible for overseeing the day-to-day operations of municipal government.

The Chief of Police serves as a member of the City's executive leadership team and reports directly to the Assistant City Manager who in turn reports directly to the City Manager. As a department head, the Chief is expected to serve as a citywide leader, working collaboratively across municipal departments to support organizational priorities and ensure effective delivery of public services. The role requires sound judgment, political awareness, strong communication skills, and the ability to work effectively with elected officials, city leadership, community stakeholders, and regional partners in advancing the City's public safety goals.





03.

THE COMMUNITY

Myrtle Beach is widely known for its miles of Atlantic coastline, family-friendly attractions, vibrant tourism industry, and welcoming coastal atmosphere. The City serves as a central hub for the Grand Strand region and is home to hotels and resorts, restaurants, entertainment venues, golf courses, retail destinations, and a wide range of recreational and cultural attractions. Tourism plays a central role in the community's identity and economic vitality, bringing millions of visitors to the region each year.

At the same time, Myrtle Beach is an engaged community whose residents care deeply about quality of life, neighborhood stability, public safety, and the professionalism of their police services. Residents value a policing philosophy rooted in community engagement, visible and responsive service, proactive enforcement of quality-of-life issues, and trust-based relationships. Visitors benefit from a public safety environment that reflects the City's broader emphasis on hospitality, order, and quality service.

City stakeholders have emphasized the importance of transparency, strong media communications, and a Chief who is comfortable serving as the public face of the Department in both routine and high-profile situations. The next Chief must communicate clearly, credibly, and calmly, whether engaging with residents, briefing City officials, addressing community concerns, or speaking publicly during critical incidents.

04. THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Myrtle Beach Police Department is a full-service municipal law enforcement agency responsible for providing comprehensive public safety services in a dynamic, tourism-driven coastal city. The Department responded to more than 127,000 calls for service in 2025, reflecting the scale and complexity of policing in a community that serves both year-round residents and millions of visitors each year.

With a budget over \$56 million MBPD is authorized to employ 249 sworn and 125 civilian personnel who work in one of five primary divisions: Administrative, Investigative, Patrol, Special Operations, and Support Services, each led by a Captain, who reports to the Deputy Chief as follows:

- The **Administrative Division** supports internal operations and professional standards, including internal affairs, crime prevention efforts, school resource officers, and community outreach initiatives.
- The **Investigative Division** conducts follow-up investigations involving property crimes, violent offenses, and other complex cases, working closely with patrol, prosecutors, and regional partners to support thorough investigations and successful case outcomes.
- The **Patrol Division** is the largest division and provides 24-hour frontline response and maintains a visible presence throughout the community, including residential neighborhoods, the beachfront, and major entertainment and tourism corridors.
- The **Special Operations Division** is responsible for both routine policing and large-scale events, including the SWAT Team, Marine Unit, Traffic Unit, and K-9 Unit.
- The **Support Services Division** provides essential operational support and includes records management, property and evidence, telecommunications and 911 services, and detention operations.



The Myrtle Beach Police Department operates in a technology-rich environment and emphasizes data-informed decision-making. A Real Time Crime Unit supports daily operations by integrating an extensive network of city cameras, fixed and mobile license plate recognition systems, gunshot detection technology, crime analysis capabilities, and body-worn cameras. These resources guide deployment strategies, enhance real-time situational awareness, support investigative work, and strengthen proactive policing efforts.

This well-equipped and highly capable Department faces pressures common to high-demand agencies, including staffing and deployment challenges, the demands of an extended high season, and the need to restore morale, strengthen retention, rebuild trust, and improve organizational alignment.





THE POSITION **05.**

The Chief of Police serves as the executive leader of the Myrtle Beach Police Department and is responsible for the overall direction, effectiveness, and integrity of all departmental operations. The Chief provides strategic leadership and ensures that departmental policies, practices, and culture align with the priorities of the City and the expectations of the community. The role requires operational expertise as well as the ability to lead in a highly visible public safety environment. Equally important is the Chief's role in supporting and advocating for personnel, ensuring that operational needs, staffing considerations, and resource priorities are effectively communicated and addressed in coordination with City leadership.

Responsibilities include oversight of patrol operations, criminal investigations, specialized units, and administrative functions, as well as recruitment, hiring, training, and performance management. The Chief is responsible for managing the departmental budget, allocating resources effectively, and supporting the City's investment in modern policing technologies.

The Chief must be prepared to lead during critical incidents, major events, and periods of peak tourism activity, while ensuring that the Department remains responsive to neighborhood concerns and day-to-day service demands. The role also requires thoughtful collaboration in

addressing homelessness, mental health-related calls for service, and other complex quality-of-life issues through both enforcement and partnership-based solutions.

Because Myrtle Beach is a high-profile destination city, the Chief serves as the public face of the Department in community meetings, regional partnerships, media engagements, and other public forums. The Chief must communicate early, clearly, and credibly during critical incidents, major events, and other high-profile situations, while working effectively with the City Manager's Office, City Council, and community stakeholders to ensure timely notification and collaborative governance.

06 THE IDEAL CANDIDATE

The City of Myrtle Beach seeks an experienced, credible, and transformational law enforcement executive who combines strong operational leadership with a genuine commitment to community safety. The successful candidate will be visible, approachable, and engaged both within the organization and throughout the community, demonstrating a clear understanding of operational realities at all levels of the department.

The next Chief will bring experience managing complex public safety operations, including large-scale events, special circumstances, and environments shaped by high visitor volume and seasonal surges. Myrtle Beach values a leader who understands both the opportunities and challenges of a tourism-driven city and can operate confidently in an environment where preparation, coordination, and communication are essential.

The City seeks a leader who understands how to operationalize data-driven decisions, while maintaining a strong focus on officer development and community partnerships without losing sight of the human side of leadership.

Equally important is the Chief's role in strengthening internal culture, rebuilding trust, and improving organizational alignment. The successful candidate will foster a professional environment that emphasizes accountability, fairness, consistency, collaboration, and open communication. This includes addressing morale and retention challenges, ensuring personnel feel supported, heard, and trusted, and maintaining an engaged presence with frontline staff while empowering personnel to perform at a high level.





The next Chief must lead with integrity and consistency in decision-making, avoiding practices such as micromanagement, favoritism, or lack of transparency that can undermine organizational trust. A steady, principled approach grounded in operational realities and focused on long-term effectiveness is essential.

Finally, the City seeks a collaborative and forward-looking leader who will work closely with municipal departments, community stakeholders, and regional partners to advance public safety while maintaining the high quality of life enjoyed in Myrtle Beach. The strongest candidate will understand that success in this role depends on strong relationships, early assessment of departmental operations, staffing, deployment, and organizational culture, and the implementation of strategic, long-term improvements.

07. QUALIFICATIONS

Experience

Candidates should possess a minimum of ten years of sworn law enforcement experience, including at least five years in supervisory or command-level leadership positions within a full-service law enforcement agency of similar size and complexity. Experience managing complex public safety operations, coordinating large-scale events, or working in communities with significant visitor populations is highly desirable.

Education

A bachelor's degree in criminal justice, public administration, business administration, or a closely related field is required. A master's degree in a related discipline is preferred.

Professional Development (Preferred)

Completion of advanced law enforcement leadership programs is highly desirable, including the FBI National Academy, Southern Police Institute Administrative Officers Course, PERF-SMIP, or a similar advanced leadership program.

Certification

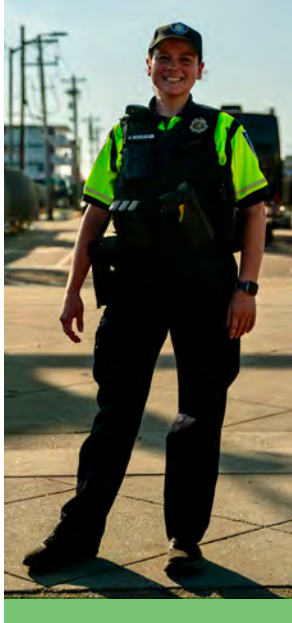
The successful candidate must possess, or be able to obtain within the required timeframe, South Carolina Class I Law Enforcement Officer certification through the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy.



08. COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

The City of Myrtle Beach offers a competitive executive compensation package for the Chief of Police, with a salary range of **\$215,000 to \$225,000**, depending on qualifications. Placement within the range will be based on the candidate's education, experience, and overall professional background. The City provides a comprehensive benefits package that may include medical, dental, and vision insurance, retirement benefits, paid leave, and additional programs designed to support employee well-being. Relocation assistance is available for the successful candidate if necessary.

09. APPLY TODAY



APPLY TODAY!

Candidates should be aware of the nature of public executive recruitments in the State of South Carolina, and application materials may be subject to disclosure under public information laws.

Interested candidates are encouraged to contact Senior Consultant Ron Walsh for additional information while evaluating this opportunity.

The position will remain open until filled. For optimal consideration, candidates are encouraged to apply early for optimal consideration or by June 26, 2026 by submitting a cover letter, résumé, and references to apply@publicsectorsearch.com. Only the most highly qualified candidates will be invited to participate in the selection process. The successful candidate is expected to join the City of Myrtle Beach Police Department on a mutually agreed upon date.

APPLY WITH CONFIDENCE

Candidates should direct inquiries and questions regarding this position or the recruitment process to:

Mr. Ron Walsh, Police Chief and City Manager (Ret.)
- Senior Consultant

Public Sector Search & Consulting, Inc.

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