



## Kevin Martin begins work with Walterboro Police | News | The Press & Standard

Posted: Thursday, November 20, 2014 6:00 am | Updated: 6:02 am, Thu Nov 20, 2014.

**Kevin Martin begins work with Walterboro Police | News | The Press & Standard By GEORGE SALSBERY [gsalsberry@lowcountry.com](mailto:gsalsberry@lowcountry.com) | 0 comments**

Walterboro Police Department's second-in-command began work Monday morning.

Police Chief Wade Marvin (in front), approximately a week ago, offered the post of assistant police chief to Walterboro resident Kevin Martin (in back).

Martin spent his first day getting acclimated to his new job. "I showed him around, I've already put some things on his plate," Marvin said.

"The role of assistant chief is extremely important in any agency. I need someone out there who has the same morals, same background and same beliefs that I do, so that in my absence they act as I would or as close as possible," the chief said.

Marvin said he found Martin perfect for the role. "His professionalism, his years of law enforcement experience, the way he handles people in general was absolutely a perfect fit for the city police department."

Martin, a Walterboro native, joined the South Carolina Highway Patrol in 1986, first assigned to work Edgefield County. Eventually he got the chance to return to Colleton County as a trooper. "It (Edgefield County) was a nice place but I needed to come back home."

When he retired from the state patrol several years ago, he left as a First Sergeant, responsible for heading the state patrol operations in Colleton and Dorchester counties.

After officially retiring from the patrol, he returned to the patrol in a special capacity, working traffic duties on federally-funded road construction projects.

He left that post in early September. "After 29 years, it was time for a change," Martin said. He began looking for "something different, a challenge."

Marvin said Martin's experience in handling command duties was a critical factor in offering him the post. "I have talked to a lot of employees who worked under Martin over the years, some of his supervisors, some of the people he dealt with."

Marvin liked what he heard, but knew what he was going to hear. He and Martin have known each other for at least 15 years.

Although Martin's primary job is to run the department in Marvin's absence, he will have a lot of day-to-day tasks.

"When I am here," Marvin said, "he will be over the entire hiring process, over the policy update and manual review, handling grant applications, vehicle service inspection and vehicle procurement, he will be in charge of the five employees we have at the dispatch center."

Martin said he does not see any difficulty in making the transition from state patrol to a municipal police department. "One of my main responsibilities will be managing people: treat them right and get them to respect you." At a city department or a patrol post, he offered, "that doesn't change."

He added that working the streets of Walterboro won't be unfamiliar, "once you have been around Colleton County awhile, you know who the criminals are."