

Features



The Top Ten: Chief Sammy Stone

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SAMMY STONE, Dexter Chief of Police

The Basics:

NAME: Sammy W. Stone

AGE:54

HOMETOWN:Newbern, Tn. / Dexter

MARRIED TO:Mickey Stone

CHILDREN:Karissa Hill, Monica Birdsong, Mason Birdsong, Robyn Wright & Meagan Birdsong

EDUCATION: High School plus some college

CAREER: law enforcement officer

The Questions

1. Why did you decide to enter law enforcement and what age did you make this discovery?

I was looking for a job that would keep me interested and challenged. I began my career at the age of 24.

2. What is the greatest challenge (professional or personal) that you have faced in life?

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Professionally- becoming the best police officer that I can be and maintaining that standard. Personally-being the best son, brother, husband and father that I could be and hoping that my colleagues and family are proud of me.

3. What do you see as the strength of the Dexter Police Department?

My personnel. They are dedicated to the safety of the citizens of Dexter.

4. What do you see as the department's greatest challenge?

Maintaining a professional standard that the city of Dexter can be proud of.

5. Why have you chosen to live and work in Dexter?

After starting my career in Tennessee, I wanted to make a change to a larger department. My parents and brother were living in Dexter and during visits, I liked the looks of the town and what it had to offer.

6. What is Dexter's greatest asset as we move into the future?

Dexter is very progressive and the city government and the people are always looking for ways to improve and enhance the living conditions for its citizens, whether it's through city programs, industry and small business.

7. What do you feel are the qualities needed for a successful community law enforcement officer?

Officers should be educated about the laws and procedures of the city and state. They should be compassionate and treat everyone as they would like to be treated. Everything is not always black or white; each situation should be handled that way.

8. What are your top 5 goals as chief?

Being a leader not just a manager. Making sure that the department has the best in training and equipment. Becoming more involved in community, not only me but the department as a whole. Being more proactive than reactive. I will strive to be the best Chief of Police that the City of Dexter has ever had.

9.What is your favorite activity to do in your free time?

I like to hunt, watch movies, camp and help my wife in her flower beds.

10. What is your favorite word?

Integrity

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