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DONALD BIEDENBACK NAMED DGS POLICE CHIEF

Veteran Officer to head 227-Member Security Force

BALTIMORE (March 5, 2002) - Captain Donald L. Biedenback, a 22-year police veteran and current commander of the Department of General Services (DGS) Baltimore Police Detachment, was appointed today as the first DGS Chief of Police and promoted to the rank of Colonel. Biedenback has supervised police officers for more than 16 years and will manage the 227-member DGS security force.

In announcing the appointment, DGS Secretary Peta N. Richkus said, "I have great confidence in Don Biedenback. He has valuable law enforcement experience and has a proven track record as commander of the Baltimore detachment."

Biedenback joined the DGS Police force in 1980; was promoted to Sergeant in 1985; advanced to Lieutenant in 1992, heading the Criminal Investigations Division (CID); and was named Captain in 1996. During his tenure with DGS Police he has been a Senior Criminal Investigator and CID Commander. Biedenback is a Maryland Police Training Commission-certified Senior Firearms Instructor, has been a crime prevention trainer and an anti-terrorism instructor.

"Captain Biedenback brings a wealth of experience and skill to the position of Chief of Police," said Michele T. Rozner, Assistant Secretary for Facilities Operations and Maintenance. "As we move forward in today's ever changing and challenging world, his leadership will be critical to the DGS Police."

A five-person selection panel recommended Biedenback from among 32 candidates for the chief's position. The panel, chaired by Secretary Richkus also included Ms. Rozner, two members of the Maryland General Assembly - Delegates Lisa A. Gladden and Thomas E. Hutchins - and Maryland State Police Captain Mark Gabriele.

Biedenback will have overall responsibility for DGS Police operations at the Annapolis, Baltimore and Inner Harbor State Office Centers. The Annapolis detachment covers the Maryland State House and the legislative complex. DGS Police provide law enforcement and round-the-clock security for more than 12,600 State employees who work in DGS managed State office buildings.

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