

Idaho Falls Police Department

News Release

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For Immediate Release:

Officer Zuella Nelson Retires

The Idaho Falls Police Department bids Officer Zuella Nelson farewell after 28 years of dedicated service.

Nelson, who hired on with the agency on Jan. 24, 1983, is retiring today. She is the first female police officer to retire with the city of Idaho Falls.

During her career, Nelson worked in various agency positions, including as a detective, patrol officer and as a School Resource Officer at Eagle Rock Junior High School. Her last assignment has been as the department's property manager.

Police Chief Steve Roos is proud of Nelson's accomplishments with the department. This includes her efforts in making the evidence and property room one of the top 5 best units audited by the International Association of Property and Evidence in September 2010.

"The nationally recognized evidence auditor commented that our evidence room is in the top 5% of all police departments nationwide," Roos said. "Zuella was instrumental in helping us attain this coveted position. She's leaving us in good shape and we'll miss her."

She received a Captain's Commendation this past fall for this achievement.

Nelson will be missed by many of her colleagues, including IFPD Assistant Property Manager Mickey Callow, who has worked side-by-side Nelson for the last four and a half years.

"It's going to be lonely down (in the evidence room) without her," Callow said. "We were a great team and she taught me everything I know."

Callow said there's no doubt Nelson was dedicated to the job and took great pride in the relationships she built with her fellow officers. Callow will miss the many stories Nelson told about her law enforcement career.

"She's a good friend and a wonderful person," Callow said. "She's helped me through some rough times."

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