



SHERRY BURLINGAME

Chief of Police

Steamboat Springs Police Department

Sherry Burlingame was appointed Chief of Police for Steamboat Springs Police Department in January 2022. She leads 29 sworn officers and 14 professional staff serving a city of over 13,200 residents and a sizeable tourist population.

Sherry was an Assistant Chief of Police for the Tempe Police Department, Arizona from December 2019 until September 2021. During that time, she led the Investigations and Personnel Services Bureau and the Support Services Bureau. She was involved with developing and implementing recommendations from the Mayor's Public Safety Task Force and led initiatives improving Use of Force reporting, review, policy, and training. Prior to that, she served in the Mesa Police Department, Arizona for 23 years, retiring as an assistant chief. Chief Burlingame oversaw the Investigations Bureau, comprised of almost 400 sworn and professional staff engaged in Special Operations, Investigations, Forensics Lab, Detention, Traffic, Aviation, Intelligence, and Special Events. She was Commander of the Red Mountain Patrol Division, which served 142,000 residents. During her career Assistant Chief Burlingame worked in patrol, community action teams, aviation, special operations, and investigations. She championed the department's mental health initiative, developed and chaired the community-based mental Health Advisory Board and implemented an employee wellness program. She has been very involved with the community, to include the East Valley Hispanic community the NAACP, Human Relations Committee and served as the LGBT liaison.

Prior to joining the police department Assistant Chief Burlingame worked as a supervisor in semiconductor manufacturing for two years and was a Captain in the United States Air Force for nine years. She has a Bachelor of Science degree in Operations Management from the Pennsylvania State University and a Master of Business Administration degree from the University of North Dakota. She is a graduate of the FBI National Academy, the Senior Management Institute for Policing (SMIP), and the Police Executive Leadership Institute (PELI).

She is married with twin daughters. She enjoys hiking, mountain biking, backpacking, skiing and all things outdoors.