Thompson named assistant police chief

BY TEVIN STINSON THE CHRONICLE

The city of Winston-Salem has a new assistant police chief.

After 22 years of hard work and dedication to the police department, Catrina Thompson assumed her duties on Monday, Jan. 4 and was honored during a promotion ceremony held last Friday.

"I will still be out there," said Thompson.

The wife and mother of two said she is excited and honored to serve the citizens as assistant chief.

Before being presented to her peers and family members Chief by Rountree at the ceremony, Thompson told Chronicle, "I truly feel blessed to work with some of the most professional law enforcement officers in the nation."

During her tenure with the WSPD, Thompson has served in the Patrol Recruiting, Division, Training Division, and Criminal Investigations Division. As assistant chief Thompson will oversee the Investigative Services Bureau, which includes the Criminal Investigation

Division and Special Investigations Division.

"As captain I was over the Criminal Investigation Division," she said. "But as chief I will oversee two divisions instead of just

Thompson also serves as the president of the Mental Health Association of Forsyth County and is a member of Leadership Winston-Salem Class of

While making her way up the ranks of the department and balancing a busy schedule, Thompson has been a familiar presence at community meetings held throughout the city. On multiple occasions she has mentioned that the police can't do their jobs without the help of the community.

"We have to work together," she said. "That's why I try to communicate with the people in the community as much as possible - to build that relationship."

Although her duties have changed the newlyappointed assistant chief said she will continue to attend community meetings when she can and encourage other officers to do so as well.

'My main concern is



City council member Denise D. Adams congratulates Catrina Thompson with a hug during a promotion ceremony held Friday, Jan. 8 at the Home and Garden Building of the Winston-Salem Fairgrounds. Thompson was promoted to assistant chief during the ceremony.

always the safety and wellbeing of our community,"

said Thompson. "I hold a is still to make sure we are

different title, but my role working together to make

this city a safe place for

Forsyth Tech vice president attends national leadership institute

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Jewel Cherry, Forsyth Tech's vice president for Student Services, was recently selected by a national review panel to attend the Executive Leadership Institute (ELI) sponsored by the League for Innovation in the Community College. Cherry was one of only 36 senior-level community college leaders across the

U.S. invited to participate this year.

The institute, which was held in Phoenix, AZ in mid-December, provided an opportunity for potential community college presidents or those in transition to review their abilities and interests, refine their skills, and participate in discussions on leadership with faculty drawn from among nationally and internationally recognized community college leaders.

Panel discussions included topics on community college issues and challenges, leading institutional change, and leveraging data in strategic planning. Cherry led the discussion on the role of community partners in community college education.

"We are pleased that Jewel was selected to participate in this prestigious institute," said Forsyth Tech President Dr. Gary Green. "This speaks to



Dr. Cherry

Jewel's high qualifications as a member of Forsyth Tech's senior leadership team and reinforces the priority we place on providing our staff with professional development opportunities to help them grow and be in the best position to support our students."

ELI has been preparing senior-level community college administrators to successfully fill the presidential role for 27 years. The League is an interna-

tional association dedicated to catalyzing the community college movement. It hosts conferences and institutes, develops web resources, conducts research, produces publications, provides services and leads projects and initiatives with member colleges, corporate partners, and other agencies to make a positive difference for students and communities.

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