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El Camino College | Public Relations & Marketing Department 16007 Crenshaw Blvd., Torrance, CA 90506 Telephone: (310) 660-3406 | FAX: (310) 660-3946 | Contact: Ann M. Garten

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El Camino College Names Interim Police Chief/Captain

El Camino College recently announced a new interim police chief for the college, in addition to an interim captain at El Camino College Compton Center.

El Camino College's interim Police Chief is Stephen R. Port, retired Hawthorne Police Department chief. Serving as Compton Center's interim captain will be Capt. John Skipper, a retired captain at the Redondo Beach Police Department.

A South Bay resident since his family moved to Torrance in 1960, Chief Port joined the Hawthorne Police Department after graduating from Northern Arizona University and quickly moved up the ranks to become chief in 1989. He served as chief until his retirement in 2006.

Chief Port is a past president and executive council member of the L. A. County Police Chiefs; an active member of the South Bay Police Chiefs Association; founding chairman of the L.A. County Regional Criminal Information Clearinghouse Executive Council; and was appointed by the governor to serve on the California Council on Criminal Justice. He has a master's degree in communications management from USC, and a bachelor's degree in police science from Northern Arizona University.

Captain John Skipper served the Redondo Beach Police Department for many years, starting as a police officer in 1977 and rising to the rank of Captain before he retired earlier this year. Already familiar with the El Camino College community, Capt. Skipper has been part of the college's Administration of Justice program for the past 17 years.

Capt. Skipper was given the Peace Officers Association of L.A. County "Centurion Award" for Excellence in Management in 2007, and the South Bay Sustained Superior Service Award in 2007. He has a bachelor's degree in public administration from California State University, Dominguez Hills and is completing a master's degree in emergency services at California State University, Long Beach.