

Chief Michael Kent began as an Explorer for the Irvine Police Department in 1993, while attending Woodbridge High School.

As a longtime resident of Irvine, Chief Kent is fully invested in our City. He has poured his heart and soul into serving our community and our police department since he was hired in 2002.

His past assignments include Field Training Officer, SWAT Team member, Detective, Sergeant, and Lieutenant. In the position of Commander and Assistant Chief, he provided leadership in Patrol, Traffic, Investigations, Internal Affairs, Recruitment and Training, Records, Dispatch, Property, Crime Scene Investigations, Public Safety Fleet Services and Animal Services.

Chief Kent has earned numerous service awards including the Medal of Courage, Employee of the Quarter, Life Saving Award, Meritorious Service Award, three Unit Commendations, and the Colonel Laurence J. Stein Award for outstanding investigative work. In addition, in 2016, he received the 40 Under 40 Award from the International Association of Chiefs of Police for his overall contributions to the law enforcement profession.

Chief Kent is a graduate of the LAPD's West Point Leadership Program, the California Peace Officer Association's Leadership Development Program, the California POST Executive Development Course, the Senior Management Institute of Policing Course in Boston, and the California Police Chief's Executive Development Course.

Chief Kent holds a bachelor's degree from California State University Fullerton in Communications and a Master's degree from the University of California, Irvine, in Criminology, Law, and Society.

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