

Deschutes County Sheriff Les Stiles resigns

by Cheryl McDermott

Citing a number of factors, this morning Deschutes County Sheriff Les Stiles resigned his position to become effective April 15. Sheriff Stiles said he will be on vacation for the next few weeks, and in the interim has temporarily appointed Undersheriff Larry Blanton to fill the position.

"He is clearly the most qualified person in Deschutes County", Stiles said of Blanton, recommending that the Board of County Commissioners permanently appoint Blanton to the position to complete Stiles' term, which ends Dec. 31, 2008.

In a one-page resignation addressed to the Board of County Commissioners, Sheriff Stiles wrote:

Sheriff Les Stiles, DC Photo

"Due to a number of factors I have chosen to retire from the position of Sheriff of Deschutes County. My effective date of retirement is April 15, 2007.

"It is my recommendation that the Board appoint Undersheriff Larry Blanton as Sheriff of Deschutes County with an effective date of April 15, 2007. He is clearly the most qualified person in Deschutes County to be appointed to this position.

â€œI will be on vacation for the next few weeks. I have already provided the agency with a letter of temporary appointment to Sheriff for Undersheriff Blanton. This letter conforms to both State law and Accreditation standards.

â€œWhen I return from vacation, Undersheriff Blanton and I will conclude the legally required transfer as required by Oregon revised statutes.

It has been an honor and a pleasure serving the people in Deschutes County as their Sheriff. Together we have accomplished all the goals and objectives the citizens elected me to accomplish over six years ago.â€•

Deschutes County Sheriff Les Stiles resigns by Cheryl McDermott