



**MICHAEL S. YENNI**  
Mayor

## **CITY OF KENNER**

### **PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Jan. 24, 2014**

### **ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF CODE ENFORCEMENT RETIRING**

**Kenner, LA.** - After a 35-year career in city government, Assistant Director of Inspections and Code Enforcement Missy Heyl is retiring at the end of this month.

Heyl has held nine titles since starting as a tax clerk in the finance department in 1979. Heyl said "(the city) has been a big part of my life; however, I am excited to be looking toward the next phase."

Mayor Michael Yenni added: "I wish Missy the best and appreciate her many years of service to Kenner."

Soon to fill the vacant position is Rick Walther who Yenni described as "a dependable and accomplished professional." Walther's start date has not been finalized.

Walther, who graduated from St. Mary Dominican College and studied law at Loyola University School of Law, began his law enforcement career in 1976 with the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office in the Patrol Division, and three years later he was promoted to lieutenant. He then spent four years as an investigative supervisor for JPSO before joining the Kenner Police Department in 1987. He spent eight years as Juvenile Detective and five years as a Crime Prevention Specialist before being promoted to patrol sergeant in 2002. Walther then moved quickly up the ranks, serving as a supervisor of the Detective Unit and commander of the Narcotics Unit before receiving another promotion to lieutenant and being named commander of the 4th Squad Patrol Division. In 2010, Walther was named commander of the Special Services Section, the position from which he retired in 2012.

He will team with Aimee Vallot, a lawyer with 13 years of experience, who was appointed as the new Code Enforcement Director earlier this month. She replaces interim director Keith Conley. Since retirement, Walther has been working part-time as a bailiff in First Parish Court. He has experience working with Vallot, who had been an ad hoc Traffic Hearing Officer at First Parish Court.

"His background and positions held in law enforcement and his interpersonal skills will certainly be an asset for the department," Yenni said. "He and Ms. Vallot will make a great team combining the legal component with the enforcement component."

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