

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



City of Duluth - Police Department

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DATE: 10/15/2020

SUBJECT: Katie McNelis Hired as Safe Neighborhoods Grant Project Coordinator

BY: Ingrid Hornibrook

NATURE OF INCIDENT:

CASE NO.:

INCIDENT DATE:

INCIDENT TIME:

INCIDENT LOCATION:

The Duluth Police Department is honored to welcome Katie McNelis as the Project Coordinator for the Safe Neighborhoods project. Project Safe Neighborhoods is an initiative that will focus on enhancing the Lake Superior Drug and Violent Crimes Task Force's holistic approach to developing a solution to violent crimes, especially as it relates to substance abuse issues. Katie will work to form a board that will address the problems of recidivism and reentry into the community. Katie started on 10/12/2020 and her position is 100% grant funded.

Katie was born and raised in Bozeman, Montana. She joined the Navy in 2002 where she served as a photojournalist. In 2013, Katie graduated from Montana State University with a Bachelors of Sociology and a Minor in Criminal Justice. She is currently working towards her Masters in Counseling through Walden University.

Katie brings robust and diverse work experience to the Duluth Police Department. She worked at the Gallatin County Sheriff's Department as a law enforcement technician and deputy coroner. Most recently, Katie was a juvenile probation officer with the State of Montana until her move to Duluth.

"I moved to Duluth to experience a small town with a big town feeling," Katie said when asked why she chose Duluth. "I have traveled throughout MN for the last couple of years and there are so many great towns, but there was something intriguing about Duluth that grabbed my attention. I could not ignore the impulse to make the move and become part of this city," she continued. "From the breathtaking views to the warm welcome of the community, Duluth is a place of opportunity and adventure. I look forward to doing this important work and becoming a part of this extraordinary community."

Katie has also been an EMT for 12 years and volunteered as an EMT for the Central Valley Fire Department in Montana for 6 years until transitioning to the local 911 ambulance service for 2 years. Additionally she competed in the Seattle Stair Climb in 2017 to raise money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma society. The climb consisted of 1356 stairs in full firefighting gear.

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McNelis