

**Paul Maggie**

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**From:** Shoemaker Darrell  
**Sent:** Friday, October 24, 2014 9:43 AM  
**To:** Paul Maggie  
**Subject:** City of Rapid City Announces New Executive Assistant  
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# CITY of RAPID CITY

RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA, 57701

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## OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

300 Sixth Street  
P: 605.394.4110 F: 605.394.6793  
MayorsOffice@rcgov.org

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE/Friday, October 24, 2014**

### **MAYOR ANNOUNCES NEW CITY EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT**

RAPID CITY—David Kneafsey, a retired Army colonel with over 32 years of military, intelligence and senior management experience, has been named executive assistant and program coordinator to Rapid City Mayor Sam Kooiker and the Rapid City Council.

Kneafsey's appointment will need council confirmation under Rapid City municipal code. The city's Legal and Finance Committee will review the appointment October 29 with council review slated for November 3.

The executive assistant/program coordinator serves as a liaison between the mayor, council and the city's department heads and provides staff, professional and administrative duties and support. The position has existed for many years and in 2011, upon Mayor Kooiker's recommendation, the council approved the position would require their confirmation.

Kneafsey will replace Michael Howard, who has served in the position since October 2011. Howard will retire from city service effective January 2, 2015. Kneafsey will begin his duties upon council approval, as early as November 4.

"I am excited to have someone of David's expertise and knowledge in this position," said Mayor Kooiker. "He has considerable experience as an advisor as well as with operations and senior management. He will be a true asset to the City, its departments and its citizens."

Kneafsey served 24 years of active duty Army service with four command tours. He served tours in a variety of Army, special operations and multi-service units and has considerable command, leadership and advisor experiences. He retired from active duty service in 2006. For the past eight years, he served as senior program manager, advisor and business developer in the corporate sector, in support of the Department of Homeland Security, the US Coast Guard, the Defense Intelligence Agency and the Office of the National Counterintelligence Executive.

"I am excited about the opportunity to be a part of this community and to contribute and assist the mayor, council, city staff and citizens of Rapid City," Kneafsey said.

Kneafsey has earned a number of military awards, medals and citations. He is also a published author and cartoonist and has contributed over 35 years to local communities with the Boy Scouts of America.

He is married to Lisa and they have five children: Ryan, Colleen Marie, JP, Ashley and Daniel; and a grand-daughter, Ryleigh.

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