



**LAGRANGE**  
GEORGIA

*Media Release*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**December 4, 2020**

## **City Leaders Host Local Legislative Delegation Lunch to Discuss Upcoming Issues**

***LaGrange, Ga. December 4, 2020*** – The City of LaGrange, in partnership with the cities of Hogansville and West Point and Troup County, hosted the local Georgia legislative delegation Wednesday in preparation for the 2021 General Assembly.



Pictured from left to right. Front row: Senator Matt Brass, Troup County Manager Eric Mosely, Hogansville Mayor Bill Stankiewicz. 2<sup>nd</sup> row: Senator Randy Robertson. 3<sup>rd</sup> row: West Point Mayor Steve Tramell, Representative Vance Smith, LaGrange City Manager Meg Kelsey, West Point City Manager Ed Moon. 4<sup>th</sup> row: State Representative David Jenkins. 5<sup>th</sup> row: LaGrange Mayor Jim Thornton, Representative Randy Nix, Hogansville City Manager Jonathan Lynn & Troup County Commission Chairman Patrick Crews.

The following local and state leaders met at Del'Avant in downtown LaGrange Wednesday (12/2) for the lunch meeting: Senator Matt Brass, Senator Randy Robertson, Representative Randy Nix, Representative Vance Smith, Representative David Jenkins, LaGrange Mayor Jim Thornton, West Point Mayor Steve Tramell, Hogansville Mayor Bill Stankiewicz, Troup County Commission Chairman Patrick Crews, LaGrange City Manager Meg Kelsey, West Point City Manager Ed Moon, Hogansville City Manager Jonathan Lynn and Troup County Manager Eric Mosely.

"Partnerships and collaboration among these three cities, the county, and the state are critical to meeting the needs of our citizens. I appreciate the great working relationship we have with our legislators and appreciate the job they do representing our local community in Atlanta," said Mayor Thornton. "We didn't have any specific agenda, but we just want to always maintain our working relationship and keep the lines of communication open as issues may arise in the future."

The state legislative session is expected to begin January 11<sup>th</sup>.

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Lohr received his 25-year service pin at the LaGrange City Council meeting Tuesday (11/24) night. His wife Christa was by his side.

"Lt. Lohr's history of engagement and commitment to our community is reflected in his involvement with numerous important programs and initiatives," said LPD Chief Lou Dekmar. "From domestic violence to citizen response to active shooters and use of force and community engagement, Lt. Lohr is always looking for ways to improve our agency. He is a true asset to the LaGrange Police Department."

He was hired as a patrol officer on November 27, 1995 and completed his Field Training Officer (FTO) Program on May 31, 1996. April 15, 1998 he was promoted to Detective and transferred to the Criminal Investigations Division with emphasis placed on domestic violence investigations.

On January 1, 2005, Sgt. Lohr was transferred from Investigations to the Patrol Division, assigned as the shift Sergeant for A Squad.

In May, 2006, he graduated from Columbus State University with a Bachelor of Science Degree. He was also promoted to Lieutenant and transferred from A Squad to serve as one of the Patrol Division's Administrative Lieutenants. In August of 2007, he was transferred from Patrol to Criminal Investigations, responsible for both CIS and SIU daily operations.

In June of 2008, Lt. Lohr transferred again from CIS to Patrol, resuming the responsibilities of supervising four patrol squad sergeants.

August 16, 2010, Lt. Lohr transferred from Patrol to the Training Division where he assumed responsibility for coordinating all mandatory training for agency personnel.

In December, 2010, Eric graduated from the Georgia Command College at Columbus State University, having earned his Master's Degree in Public Administration.

In 2016, he spearheaded efforts to transition from presenting the DARE program to the LEAD Program within our public school system. The Law Enforcement Against Drugs program expanded the topical areas of instruction delivered to the school youth including bullying and gang intervention.



Pictured from left to right. Back row: Mayor Pro Tem Nathan Gaskin, Councilmember Tom Gore, Councilmember Mark Mitchell, Councilmember LeGree McCamey, Councilmember Jim Arrington & Councilmember Willie T. Edmondson. Front row: LPD Chief Lou Dekmar, Christa Lohr, Lt. Eric Lohr & Mayor Jim Thornton.

Lt. Lohr's focus continually remains on the members of the LaGrange Police Department. Historically, Lt. Lohr has met with family members of recruits prior to the recruits going to the academy as a means to welcome them as part of the LPD family. As part of that, Lt. Lohr provides training related to the challenges of law enforcement. He enhanced that training this year by seeking out an expert in the field of emotional support for law enforcement who did a "train the trainer" class for Lt. Lohr and other officers. Lt. Lohr has since began providing that training to the recruit officers and their families.

In May, 2020, Lt. Lohr transferred from Training to the Patrol Division, serving now as the Division's Operational Lieutenant responsible for all aspects of the divisions operations.

"What we have done with the LaGrange Police Department in the past twenty-five years is truly amazing," said Lohr. "I'm honored to be a part of the LPD family and I thank Chief Dekmar, Capt. Mike Pheil and everyone for the opportunity to be here."

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