

## Chief of Police City of Valdosta, Georgia

The City of Valdosta, Georgia is seeking a Chief of Police. The City of Valdosta is a unique community, blending its historic past with a dynamic and high growth environment. Valdosta is the county seat of Lowndes County, located on the southern border of Georgia off I-75. Valdosta has seen explosive growth in the last decade and is the 14<sup>th</sup> largest city in Georgia. Valdosta-Lowndes is a thriving community with an economy balanced for growth, where wages are increasing at a healthy pace, yet costs of living remains competitively low. The City of Valdosta is a service-oriented organization of more than 600 employees with a budget of \$97 million. The city aspires to be a healthy, vibrant, safe environment where residents live, work, play and grow in a diverse community that values families and neighbors. The Police Department supports this vision through the implementation of the strategic goals to provide a healthy and safe living environment. The Department consists of 149 sworn officers that respond to more than 82,000 calls for service each year.

The Police Chief is responsible for directing the operations of the Valdosta Police Department and the Valdosta/Lowndes Regional Crime Lab. The position is responsible for managing the administrative functions of the department, such as developing policies and procedures, personnel/employment decisions, formulating long-range plans and preparing the departmental budget. Additionally, the Police Chief is responsible for overseeing all matters related to police department activities; planning and implementing comprehensive community policing, law enforcement and public safety programs. The Chief must possess the ability to build community trust through the development of partnerships and use of proven community-oriented policing techniques. As a key member of the City Manager's Leadership Team, the ideal candidate will demonstrate the ability to embrace change and help guide the community through important challenges.

Other important qualifications include:

- Bachelor's Degree required in Criminal Justice, Law Enforcement, Police Administration or similar degree; Master's Degree preferred; with five years of experience in upper level police management; or any equivalent combination of education, training and experience.
- Certified by the Georgia Peace Officers Standards Training (P.O.S.T.) or be able to obtain certification during the first six months after appointment. Must possess a valid driver's license.
- Graduate of the FBI Academy; or the Southern Police Institute's Administrative Officers Program or Command Officer Development Program highly desired; comparable specialized police leadership and management training in ethics and integrity, emergency management, cultural and generational diversity, problem solving and community policing will be considered.
- Experience in providing upper level leadership in a police department that is comparable in size and complexity to the City of Valdosta Police Department is highly desired. Significant leadership role in a department that has been accredited by CALEA or state accreditation agency for at least two consecutive accreditation periods is highly desired; experience in securing substantial federal resources is desired.

Salary for this position DOQ of the selected candidate is expected to be in the range of \$95,000 - \$115,000 with a comprehensive benefits package including health, dental and life insurance, retirement plan, paid time off, and negotiable relocation expenses. Interested candidates must submit by email a cover letter, resume, at least five job related references, and salary history **not later 5:00 p.m. on January 25, 2019 to: Lisa Ward, Vice President, The Mercer Group, Inc., at [lisaward912@gmail.com](mailto:lisaward912@gmail.com)**. Any questions please call 706-983-9326. Interviews are expected to be conducted the week of February 26, 2019.



Alan Reddish, Senior Vice-President, The Mercer Group, Inc.  
107 Indigo Lane, Athens, Ga. 30606  
706-614-4961

[Click here to download brochure](#)