

Chief Steven H. Heider (Ret'd)
Town of Colonie

Steven H. Heider is the former Chief of Police for the Town of Colonie, New York. He is a graduate of Russell Sage College with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice. Chief Heider began his career with the Town as a Public Safety Dispatcher in 1973. He was appointed a Patrol Officer in 1974, and rose through the ranks until becoming the fifth Chief of Police in the history of the Town on July 7, 2003. Chief Heider retired on June 29, 2015.

During his tenure as Chief, he became a member of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, the New York State Association of Chiefs of Police, Inc., where he was a former President of the organization, and served as secretary and treasurer of the Northeastern Chiefs of Police Conference. He still currently serves on various Committees for the advancement of criminal justice initiatives and programs. The Chief is also the former First Vice Chairman for the Middle Atlantic-Great Lakes Organized Crime Law Enforcement Network, of which he is still an active advisor to their policy board. Additionally, Chief Heider has consulted with various towns and villages in NYS regarding Police Consolidation.

Chief Heider is a highly regarded speaker and seminar instructor addressing such topics as crime and crime prevention, identity theft, white collar crime, the law, drug dependency, juvenile delinquency and child abuse. He is also a recognized authority, who has been asked frequently to testify before and serve on committees of the New York State Executive, Legislative and Judicial branches on the issues of juvenile justice, victimization and legal reform of the Juvenile Justice System.

Chief Heider is formerly a member of the Juvenile Justice New York State Strategic Planning Action Committee and its work group. Additionally, he continues to serve as the representative for municipal police administrators in his assignment to the New York State Amber Alert Review Panel. He was a member of the Albany County Task Force on Child Abuse and is a charter member of the Steering Committee for the formulation of a Child Advocacy Center for victims of Child Abuse in Albany County. He also served on the Village of Colonie Planning board from 1992 – 1999.

For nearly 30 years, Chief Heider also conducted seminars at Siena College and then SUNY Albany on child abuse, mandated reporting and drug and alcohol issues.