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EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY  
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# news

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**AUG 31 1990**

CHAMBERS TO RETIRE AFTER 26 YEARS AT EASTERN

CHARLESTON, IL--After 26 years of protecting Eastern Illinois University's faculty, staff, students and property, Jack Chambers of Charleston is retiring in October.

Chambers has been a member of the University Police since 1965 and investigator the past 18 years.

"When I came here, this was a five-man force," Chambers recalled. "I made the sixth man. Since that time, we've grown to twenty officers."

Through the years, Chambers has advanced to the rank of captain and second in command to Chief Tom Larson, with two lieutenants and three sergeants under Chambers.

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CHAMBERS

Originally from Phoenix, Arizona, Chambers was an EIU uniform patrolman for three years and a night sergeant for five years. He began his law enforcement career in Charleston as a member of the city police department for four years.

"I wouldn't want to deal in specifics, but generally we've had about every kind of case," said Chambers.

"We primarily work anything that has to do with state property. However, we do have the authority to go off-campus. Usually, though, the city handles crimes committed within the city and the county handles crimes committed within the county. We have a good working relationship with the city and county."

Chambers credits the Judicial Board for assisting in the enforcement of crimes at Eastern.

"We handle a lot of cases through the J. Board," said Chambers. "This saves the state's attorney's office time and money."

"This has been more of a deterrent to students than appearing in criminal court. Instead of being put on probation or being fined, a student can be dismissed from the university in certain cases."

In June 1976, Chambers graduated in the 105th session of the Federal Bureau of Investigations National Academy, taking courses in case law, electronic data processing in law enforcement, extensive fire arm training and forensic science.

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CHAMBERS

"The academy takes people in command positions and puts them through FBI training," said Chambers. "It was a great experience. One of the most important parts was meeting other police officers from across the country."

Dealing with people has been a big part of Chambers' job at Eastern and what he will miss most in retirement.

"It's a very interesting job," he said. "You're furnishing a service to people. You never know what you're going to be going up against. It can be frustrating at times, but it is very rewarding when you feel the job is going well.

"I've worked every day of my life," said Chambers. "That will be different. I'll miss the men and the job. I think we have a very good department and personnel. The Chief is a very good administrator, and the department has made several improvements since he took over in 1983.

"I'm a little reluctant to leave the department, but I'm looking forward to retirement. I'm going to do some traveling out west and spend time with my children and grandchildren.