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Catholic schools names superintendent

Dora Jung to start job after getting state certification

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SIoux CITY — Dora Jung is set to become the superintendent of the Sioux City Catholic Schools. The Diocese of Sioux City announced on Friday James Murray has been hired as the interim superintendent for the Diocese of Sioux City Catholic Schools and will serve in the role until Jung has completed the certification to



Murray

accepting a regional vice president position with FACTS Education Solutions

Murray is currently the superintendent of the Humboldt and Twin Rivers community school districts. Jung is currently the director of student services and

serve as the superintendent. Jung will serve as director of Catholic schools beginning July 1.

Former superintendent Patty Lansink resigned in February after

Title IX coordinator for the Sioux City Community School District.

“The diocese is blessed that both James Murray and Dr. Dora Jung have agreed to serve our Catholic school systems as interim superintendent and director of Catholic schools,” Bishop John Keehner said in a news release. “Both individuals bring a wealth of academic leadership experience to the office and are committed to the success of our Catholic school students, staff and administration. We look forward to working with both of them.”

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Dora Jung, the director of student services and Title IX coordinator for the Sioux City Community School District, is shown in a file photo. Jung will join the Diocese of Sioux City Catholic Schools on July 1, and become the school superintendent after she obtains her certification.

EARL HORLYK,
SIoux CITY JOURNAL

Ex-911 head sues county for sexual discrimination

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ELK POINT, S.D. — Union County's former 911 director has sued the county and Sheriff Jim Prouty for sexual harassment, claiming she was fired because she's a woman and a lesbian.



Prouty

Sara Beatty said in the lawsuit that Prouty also fired her in retaliation for reporting alleged federal violations about his placement of cameras in the 911 dispatch area.

She was fired April 30, 2025, shortly after returning from time off after marrying her wife in March 2025, and replaced with a heterosexual male.

“There was no reason given to Beatty at that time why she was being terminated. However, Beatty has now learned that the county cited to her ‘negative attitude’ for firing Beatty. Beatty never received that feedback prior to termination,” the lawsuit, filed Wednesday in U.S. District Court in Sioux Falls, said.

Beatty, of North Sioux City, is requesting a judgment finding the county and Prouty violated her rights, plus an award of damages compensating her for the loss of past and future wages and benefits, plus punitive damages.

In a response filed Thursday, the county and Prouty denied Beatty's allegations. Beatty wasn't fired because of her sexual orientation, but for non-discriminatory reasons “... related to her negative attitude, impaired working relationship and my inability to trust her,” Prouty said in the response. Prouty and the county asked that the suit be dismissed or, in the alternative, a jury trial.

Beatty said in the lawsuit she was hired in 2015 by former Sheriff Dan Limoges, whom she said never gave her any written or verbal warnings. During Limoges' tenure, a video camera was placed in the dispatch area, which Beatty said was a violation of the FBI Criminal Justice Information Services policy. An auditor required the county to remove it.

After Limoges' February 2024 death, Prouty was named interim sheriff, and he was elected sheriff later that year and sworn in in January 2025.

In December 2024, Beatty said, a camera was placed back in the dispatch area, near the area the previous camera had been located. Beatty told Prouty it was violation, and he didn't remove it. Beatty reported it to FBI Criminal Justice Information Auditor in January 2025. At about the same time, Beatty said, Prouty reduced her work responsibilities such as managing dispatchers' time off requests. Prouty began requiring dispatcher time off requests to be cleared through him.

As 911 director, Beatty said she had access to dispatchers' time cards, personnel files and county cameras. Prouty removed that access. Beatty's now-wife also worked in the sheriff's office, and she also lost access to information she had prior to Prouty's tenure. Beatty said she was unaware of any heterosexual male managers who had their duties reduced or removed.

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TheBrightSide



CAITLIN YAMADA, SIoux CITY JOURNAL

Loess Hills Elementary second grader Ember VanderSchaaf was surprised in school on Friday by her uncle, Sergeant Tristan VanderSchaaf, who has been deployed overseas for the past year.

REUNION AFTER DEPLOYMENT

Soldier surprises niece at school

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SIoux CITY — Loess Hills Elementary School second grader Ember VanderSchaaf thought she was being interviewed on Friday about the district's upcoming iReady testing.

To her surprise, a few minutes into the interview, she turned around to see her uncle, Sgt. Tristan VanderSchaaf, who had been deployed overseas for the past year.

VanderSchaaf was one of 107 soldiers assigned to the 2nd Brigade

Combat Team, 34th Infantry Division of the Iowa National Guard, who returned on Thursday from a deployment in support of Operation Inherent Resolve.

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Police unveil US 250 car

JOURNAL STAFF

SIoux CITY — The Sioux City Police Department on Friday unveiled a commemorative squad car recognizing the upcoming 250th anniversary of the United States.

The specially marked patrol vehicle features a patriotic design honoring the nation's founding in 1776 and celebrating the values of service, unity and community that continue to guide law enforcement today.

A Sioux City Police Department news release said the commemorative squad

car is a way for the department to recognize an important milestone in our nation's history while connecting with the people the department serves. The car will be placed into regular service throughout Sioux City and will also be featured at community events, parades and outreach opportunities leading up to the nation's 250th anniversary.

In addition to the squad car, the department plans to roll out commemorative patches and badges as part of its broader recognition of the anniversary.



PROVIDED BY SIoux CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Sioux City Police Department's commemorative squad car is shown here.