

The Pueblo Chieftain

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Prospective officers have until Wednesday to apply

By NICK BONHAM
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Anyone interested in becoming a Pueblo police officer has until Wednesday to apply.

City Council recently approved adding 12 officers to the force. In addition to those new positions, Chief Jim Billings said Friday that he expects at least four more positions to become available through recent and pending retirements.

"I really think it's a great opportunity for someone to get into law enforcement," Billings said. "Getting additional officers is amazing. We haven't had that increase in a long time. It's a moral boost for officers that have been working short-handed for a long time."



Pueblo Police Chief Jim Billings

About 15 applicants already have applied, Billings said, and there are five applicants remaining from the latest batch of recruits.

"With the screening process, there are some (applicants) that may fall out of the system," Billings said. "I'm excited about the applicants we've received, but I think we can get some more recruits." Applicants must have a four-year college degree to apply.

Billings said he expects to have the new recruits hired and in the department's police academy sometime in January. The new recruits then will hit the streets by May.

Anyone interested in applying may contact the Civil Service Department in the lower level of City Hall. Its telephone number is 553-2635.

A reminder that both the Civil Service Office and City Hall will be closed Monday for Labor Day.