

Chief Rodriguez is a veteran in law enforcement and has spent his 25 year career moving up the ranks within the Goodyear Police Department. Born and raised in Arizona, he started his law enforcement career as a Glendale detention officer in 1996. From there, he became a volunteer reserve officer in Goodyear in 1998.

Over the years, he promoted through the ranks in Goodyear from patrol officer to sergeant in 2006, then to lieutenant in 2011, and deputy chief in 2015. Santiago was promoted to Goodyear chief of police on May 18, 2020, after serving as acting chief for the seven months prior. He has worked in nearly all the department's divisions including: patrol, traffic, criminal investigations, community services, the school resource officer unit, K-9 unit, training division, hiring and recruitment, and the volunteer unit.

Chief Rodriguez earned his Associates Degree in Applied Science in Law Enforcement Technology from Rio Salado College. He is a graduate of both the FBI National Academy and International Association Chiefs of Police Leadership in Police Organizations (LPO). He served the FBI National Academy Arizona Board as president in 2021 and currently sits on the board of directors at the Arizona Association of Chiefs of Police.

Some notable achievements in his career include helping to lead the efforts to bring body-worn cameras to the department which included research, formulating a review team, policy development and training of all officers. This program has brought a higher-level of transparency to the department and has allowed for more effective prosecutions of crimes.

Chief Rodriguez has also taught new officers Law Enforcement Spanish and Supervision and Management Principles at the Glendale Community College Police Academy. This program helps officers learn how to better communicate with the Spanish-speaking community.

Chief Rodriguez has been married for 26 years and has two adult children. He enjoys spending free time with his family.