



Federal Eye

Keeping Tabs on the Government
by Ed O'Keefe

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Teresa Chambers officially back on the Park Police job Jan. 31

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Ousted [U.S. Park Police](#) Chief **Teresa C. Chambers** will officially resume her duties on Jan. 31, the Interior Department said Friday.

The decision means Chambers, 53, will once again lead the police force almost seven years after the Bush administration fired her for warning that staff shortages could lead to [safety hazards](#) at Washington-area national parks.

The [Merit Systems Protection Board](#) this month [ordered her reinstatement](#), citing weak evidence for her dismissal. She is also entitled to about \$2 million in retroactive pay and reimbursement for legal fees.

In a statement Friday, Interior Secretary **Ken Salazar** said current Park Police Chief **Sal Lauro** will step down and serve as a senior adviser to the Interior Department's law enforcement, security and emergency management office.

"Chief Lauro has led the Park Police on a positive and ambitious agenda over the last two years, and I look forward to Teresa Chambers continuing to advance that agenda," Salazar said.

Chambers said it was "a tremendous honor" to return to her former police agency. She has most recently served as chief of police in Riverdale, Md.