

Giarrusso's Successor

The administration of Mayor Moon Landrieu should move with all possible speed to name, without political consideration, the most able successor available to police Supt. Joseph I. Giarrusso.

Supt. Giarrusso retired yesterday after 24 years on the force, 10 of them in the superintendent's office.

Under his administration, the New Orleans Police Department has grown in expertise, and gained in prestige and discipline. Supt. Giarrusso has been successful in separating his department from politics, a tough assignment in any city.

For the moment the superintendent has an acceptable replacement in Deputy Police Supt. Presly J. Trosclair. But he, too, is anxious to retire.

The policeman's job has become more and more complex in recent years. It will become even more so in the decade ahead.

Law enforcement no longer means suppression of that faction of society most often involved in endeavors on the wrong side of the law. Law enforcement means understanding the root causes of crime and doing something about them. It means an active program in the field of human relations and even-handed treatment of all citizens.

The man selected for the knotty assignment must understand the new challenge and accept it. New Orleans cannot afford a mediocre superintendent at this very crucial time in history.



GIARRUSSO, RIGHT, AND THE MAYOR ON THE CHIEF'S LAST DAY —States-Item Photo.