

# Penns Grove Police Association

Subsidiary of Salem County F.O.P. Old Oak Lodge #6

President: Christian Acevedo  
Vice Pres: Nicholas Gagliardi  
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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Penns Grove Police Officers' Association Expresses Support for the Salem County Prosecutor's Office Oversight, Cities Deep Concerns Over Department Management**

**Penns Grove, NJ** – The Penns Grove Police Officers Association (PGPOA), representing the sworn Officers of the Penns Grove Police Department, today issued a statement affirming its strong support for the Salem County Prosecutors' Office (SCPO) increased involvement with the Penns Grove Police Department. At the time, the PGPOA detailed significant concerns about the department's current management, policies, and practices.

"The Officers of the Penns Grove Police Department are dedicated to serving our community with integrity and professionalism," (said Spokesperson Jack Smith, F.O.P. Old Oak Lodge #6 President.) "We believe the current situation requires a thorough review and a commitment to improvement. We welcome the oversight of the Salem County Prosecutor's Office as a crucial step towards restoring public trust and ensuring the highest standards of law enforcement are maintained."

The Penns Grove Police Officers Association (PGPOA) has raised concerns regarding the adequacy and consistency of background investigations for the new hires and assignments within the department. The department's current challenges are rooted in several key areas. The department has suffered from mismanagement in all areas of operations. A lack of effective leadership is a hindrance to the department's ability to address critical issues and maintain morale. The Penns Grove Police Officers

Association (PGPOA) expresses concern about the current low morale among officers, which they believe is detrimental to the department's overall effectiveness. The Penns Grove Police Officers Association (PGPOA) is concerned with the preferential treatment involving discipline, assignments, and training opportunities within the department. The Penns Grove Police Officers Association (PGPOA) stated that it intended to meet with the Police Committee in person to address these issues. Repeated attempts to meet and resolve our concerns with the Police Committee have been made, however, they have refused to meet with the PGPOA for reasons unknown. The PGPOA is hoping for an open line of communication to bring closure to all outstanding issues within the Penns Grove Police Department.

The Penns Grove Police Officers Association (PGPOA), along with Salem County FOP Old Oak Lodge #6, reiterates its commitment to working collaboratively with the Salem County Prosecutor's Office and other stakeholders to improve the Penns Grove Police Department.