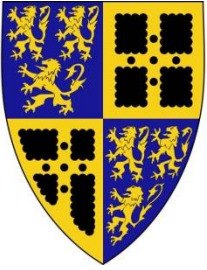


TOWN OF OLD SAYBROOK
SELECTMEN'S OFFICE



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To: Frank Keeney, Chairman, Old Saybrook Police Commission
CC: Police Commissioners Carl Von Dasssel, Susan Quish, Alfred Wilcox, Renee Shippee, Ken Reid, Joseph Masselli

From: Carl P. Fortuna, Jr., First Selectman
Scott Giegerich, Selectman
Matthew Pugliese, Selectman

Re: Request for explanation and documentation as to Police Department turnover

Date: January 12, 2021

For years, the issue of turnover in the Old Saybrook Police Department (OSPD) has been a subject of discussion, not only amongst the public but at Police Commission meetings. More recently, an article in the Connecticut Examiner explored this issue and identified approximately 25 officers that have left the OSPD in the last eleven years. My understanding is that the actual number of officers that have left the OSPD under the tenure of the Chief of Police, Michael A. Spera, is 32. In the Chief's budget presentation on Monday, January 4, 2021, he made reference to the turnover in a one page summary. I want to thank the Chief for acknowledging this issue and would like to see a more comprehensive public explanation, which I believe will be beneficial in giving perspective to this persistent issue.

As the Commission that oversees the OSPD and the one which has direct oversight over the Chief of Police, I respectfully request that the Police Commission undertake an examination of the issue of past turnover of sworn personnel during Chief Michael A. Spera's tenure. Such examination at its outset should request that Chief Spera create a document containing, at a minimum, the following:

1. Sworn personnel that have been hired by the department and who no longer serve,
2. The length of time each person served with the department and
3. The stated reason(s) why these officers have left the department.

Supporting documentation, including exit interviews or other public information pertinent to this inquiry, should be supplied. The report that is produced shall be a public document. The police commission should discuss and determine what, if any, further action need be taken as a result of this report.

Please agenda this request at your next regular meeting. Thank you for your prompt consideration of this matter and for your important work on behalf of the Town.