



**CITY OF NEW HAVEN
BOARD OF ALDERS**

165 Church Street
New Haven, CT 06510-2010
(203) 946-6483

October 16, 2023

Honorable Tyisha Walker-Myers, President
New Haven Board of Alders

Dear President Walker-Myers:

We respectfully submit the attached Order as a communication requesting a workshop before the appropriate committee of the Board of Alders to discuss the New Haven Police Department's staff shortage. We would like to hear from the New Haven Chief of Police Karl Jacobson, New Haven Police Department Union President Florencio Cotto, and any other relevant officials to discuss specific topics, including police officer departures over the past 12 months, trends or patterns in police officer hiring, retention, and exit interviews.

The New Haven Police Department (NHPD) is called upon to respond to various issues in our great city, with ever-increasing demands, and is facing dangerously low staffing levels. Also, the one-year absence of a union contract makes hiring and retaining police officers challenging. The NHPD staff shortage negatively impacts our neighborhoods' safety and quality of life and affects the economic development of our small businesses and low-income, working-class communities.

We believe it is crucial to hold a workshop on this issue so that the Board of Alders can gain better insight into what the New Haven Police Department is facing as they work to ensure public safety, the necessary steps to recruit and retain police officers and to learn what the NHPD is doing to build a diverse law enforcement body which includes women and people of all backgrounds.

Thank you for considering this request for a workshop on this important topic.

Sincerely,

Claudia Herrera
Hon. Claudia Herrera
Alder, Ward 9

Sarah Miller
Hon. Sarah Miller
Alder, Ward 14

