

Karl Jacobson
Chief of Police



Justin Elicker
Mayor

CITY OF NEW HAVEN
DEPARTMENT OF POLICE SERVICE
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December 11, 2023

Alder Tyisha Walker-Myers
President, Board of Alders
23rd Ward
Board of Alders
165 Church Street
New Haven, CT 06510

RE: Ordinance Amendment to Appropriating Ordinance # 1 of FY 2023-2024
Budget Transfer # 201-24-1

Dear Honorable Alder President Walker-Myers:

I am writing to notify you that funds are needed to supplement a variety of police budget accounts, and respectfully request a transfer within the Police Department's General Fund Operating Budget of \$3,300,000 from various Police Services salary accounts to overtime and animal shelter other contractual services.

\$3.2M of the \$3.3M transfer request is for overtime. Since Fiscal Year (FY) 2019-2020 the Police Department has been experiencing a significant staff shortage. During FY 2016-2017 the Department averaged a sworn personnel count of 435. By FY 2019-2020 this number declined to 349, and as of November 30, 2023 the FY 2023-2024 count is 338. Looking at budgeted strength data dating back to FY 1992-1993, the Police Department has averaged 410 sworn personnel over the past 30 years. This staff shortage is the main driver of the Police Department's overtime, followed by incident response and investigation.

The remaining \$50,000 of the transfer request will go towards some additional cost Police Services has in the New Haven Animal Shelter. Additional funding is needed to assist in food, medical, vet, and other services in the Animal Shelter.

We look forward to your support and discussing with you the direction the Police Department is heading to analyze the origin and direction of the funds.

Sincerely,

Karl Jacobson
Chief of Police

Cc: Sean Matteson, Chief of Staff
Michael Gormany, Budget Director & Acting Controller
Regina Rush-Kittle, CAO