

As you know, there were 9 points of interest when this Police Task Force was created in 2021. Each year I give you an update that you can present to the board that shows that we are either working towards, discuss if a specific point is feasible for our department, or if we are in compliance with the recommendations that were presented to us. **WE ARE IN COMPLIANCE WITH ALL RECOMMENDATIONS THAT WERE PRESENTED TO US.** Here is where we are at for 2025.

1- The first point was a recommendation to have a board oversee the Police Department and the Police Commission. We have all agreed that this is not necessary. The Commissioners oversee the department and report any and all findings to the Board. The Commissioners' meetings every month are open to the public and anyone can attend and share their comments and concerns. If they are not comfortable doing this, all our phone numbers are listed in the town's directory. We can be called at anytime.

2-We have body cameras and a written policy for their use. The policy is reviewed by all members of the police department yearly via Lexipol (the PD'S rules and regulations that are updated by the Chief and Commissioner Krauss on a regular basis, at the minimum every 6 months). As soon as a policy comes down from the state, the police Chief and Commissioner Krauss review same and see if it pertains to our department and our geographic location. If it does, it is reviewed, altered if needed (again a policy might be for a city department as apposed to a town) and adopted into our rules and regulations via Lexipol.

3-The focus on Community Policing was presented here. We all agree that community policing has, and will always be, the fundamental core and foundation of the Olive Police Department. The OPD commits to this each and every day, whether it's helping the SRO at Onteora school with traffic details, fire drills, lockdown drills, making a presence on the rail trail, attending cops and coffee events throughout the different businesses in the town, or conducting walk throughs and checking in on our businesses when they are opening in the am or closing at night, just to name a few.

4-Olive Police Department has a social media page that the Chief reviews daily. Officers can add helpful information (upcoming events, weather related emergencies etc.) after it is approved by the Chief of Police.

5-The handing out of Business cards. Since 2021, we have implemented this policy. We hand out cards at special events, accidents, domestic cases, and upon request when anyone asks for one. The Chief bought the cards for the officers and replenishes them when needed.

6-Since 2021 we have a clear and concise Mission Statement that hangs on the wall in our station.

7-Training was presented on this point. We have budgeted money every year for training. We have 2 training cycles, 1 in the spring, the other in the fall. Our members train with the Ulster County Sheriff's Office, Shandaken Police Department and the Town of Saugerties Police Department. We also have sent officers on various trainings throughout the year. Training includes firearms, Field training officer school (FTO), domestic violence, right to know, report writing, traffic stops, Article 35 (use of force, deadly physical force etc.), and sexual harassment just to name a few. If an officer requests to attend a training, he sends an email to the Chief who either approves or can deny the request. Since Chief Ryan has been our chief, he has not denied one officer a

request to attend a training. The most successful police departments are the most well-trained ones.

8-Community interaction with Police officers was presented on this point. One example is Olive Day. We have a booth at this event for bicycle safety, car seat information etc.

This serves as a meet and greet to meet our officers; they hand out their business cards, introduce themselves etc. We also have the cops and coffee meet and greet at different businesses throughout the town. Last year, Tetta's store in Samsonville hosted a community cleanup day. We had an officer patrol round the area slowing cars down while volunteers were picking up trash on the sides of the road.

9- Last point dealt with the different services the Olive Police Department can offer to our residences. We have MHL cards we hand out. We have suicide hotline numbers, Family of Woodstock services, warming shelter information providing areas where people can go to get out of the cold, and the HEAP emergency oil service where if a homeowner runs out of fuel oil in the winter, AAA fuel is the contact company that can be called 24/7 to respond and put a minimum of 50 gallons of fuel to get the homeowner through the night or whatever circumstance they might be in.

This concludes my report reviewing the Police Task Force points for the year 2025. We, the police commissioners, are very proud of our police force and the dedication of our men each and every day. We revolve as the times around us do. The Olive Police Department is always reviewing our policies and adjusting them when needed if it benefits the citizens in which we serve. Thank you for taking time out of your busy schedule to review this email. If there are any further questions you might have, please feel free to contact me at any time.

Be well.

Respectfully submitted,

John

John R. Kurz
Police Commissioner
Town of Olive Police Department