

IRONDEQUOIT POLICE DEPARTMENT

MEDIA RELEASE

The Irondequoit Police Department has been reviewing policies, procedures and protocols on a regular basis.

We have reviewed the media release that was issued by the NYCLU and take these findings seriously.

In reviewing the report, we can state that the Use of Force incidents involving the IPD since May of 2015 have been reduced by 25 percent. We attribute that to enhanced training opportunities which have included the implementation of Crisis Intervention Training for our personnel. This involves a partnership with the Monroe County Office of Mental Health and other agencies. IPD Personnel have participated in a number of training opportunities including Implicit Bias Training, Community Building, Officer Wellness to name a few.

Internal Investigations have been reduced by 20 percent and many factors are assessed in this area. We continue to work with individuals involved in this process.

The IPD traffic stop policy has been enhanced since 2015 and we will continue to review these policies.

The Irondequoit Police Department is accredited by the New York State Division of Criminal Justices. Included in this process for all law enforcement agencies in New York is an annual audit and review by this oversight agency to ensure compliance.

Police and community interaction and collaboration has increased greatly since 2015. The Irondequoit Police Department is a member of the Greater Rochester Police Community Relations Partnership, the Center for Dispute Settlement Police Advisory Board, Project TIPS, Bridge the Ridge Community Collaboration.

The Irondequoit Police Dept. in partnership with the Town of Irondequoit Public Library hosted a Community Forum in 2018 that brought stakeholders from the Greater Rochester area. The participants attended a variety of break-out sessions that identified several items that we could collectively move forward with as a community. A number of those items have been acted upon and we continue to build upon that strategy.

The Irondequoit Police Department also established a Community Focus Group that reviewed the Community Forum Report and Strategic Plan. This group of Irondequoit Residents assisted with the IPD Recruitment Effort in 2019 as we sought to expand our pool of candidates to achieve a more diverse workforce. This included a Police Recruitment Information Program, Mock Physical Fitness Testing, IPD Ride Along Opportunities, Social Media announcements, Church and Community Group interactions, College and School visits, and much more.

This Focus Group also assisted with our Community Engagement efforts to build better relationships with all our stakeholders. Such events included the "Bridge the Ridge" community event at Wal-Mart on Hudson Ave, Building Trust and Connections with our apartment housing units, Kickball with the Cops at our playgrounds, Irondequoit National Night Out and many other opportunities for.

The Irondequoit Police Department continues to build on our successful community interactions and will always evaluate those experiences that were not positive in nature so we can build toward the future.

POC:

Chief Richard V. Tantalo 208-8922