

CITY OF JERSEY CITY OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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Director Shea & Chief Zacche Present New Table of Organization for Police Department to City Council; Table of Organization is first in at Least Two Decades Presented to the City Council and Includes Collaboration by Committee of Councilmen Boggiano, Gajewski and Rivera New Table of Organization Establishes Better Chain of Command, Greater Supervision and Training, and Increased Accountability

JERSEY CITY – **Mayor Steven M. Fulop** announced today that Public Safety Director James Shea and Police Chief Philip Zacche will present tonight to the City Council the Police Department's **first table of organization** in at least two decades – a measure that will provide clarity, eliminate politics, and be more consistent with best practices for police departments.

"As we continue to improve public safety and implement changes within the Police Department, we have developed a table of organization – the first in more than 20 years – that will create a clear chain of command and accountability," said **Mayor Fulop**. "Additionally, the new table of organization outlines the needs for the department, assigns new officers to street level units, and increases training for new officers."

First introduced in June, the new table of organization was worked on over the course of the last four months with the Department of Public Safety and a City Council committee consisting of Councilmen Boggiano, Gajewski, and Rivera.

Some of the highlights of the new table of organization include – a better chain of command and structure for the department; greater supervision and training; and increased accountability with a Deputy Chief assigned to oversee all disciplinary units.

Two major staffing changes include returning more lieutenants to desk duty in each precinct, thereby affording them greater control over each district. The new structure will also call for the assignment of new officers to street units. As the administration is hiring a class of 60 officers later this year, it is important to implement the new table of organization, create training parameters and establish a clear chain of command.

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"This new table of organization provides a structure for the department to grow while maximizing resources dedicated to street patrol and crime fighting," said **Director Shea**. "We will be able to identify the necessary units and their appropriate size, maximize personnel in enforcement units and on patrol, and reduce and civilianize support units wherever possible."

As part of the table of organization, a *new* **field leadership and training unit** will be created. This unit will have citywide jurisdiction, offering immediate training and leadership as needed. Additionally, the JCPD will revamp field training for new police officers. Currently, new officers attend a police academy outside Hudson County. Once they return, they only receive three months of additional training in the field in Jersey City. As part of the changes, this field training will increase to one full year, 3 months in each district, so new recruits get to learn how to police the entire city. New recruits will also undergo short training stints with various specialized units such as narcotics.

The police department will also create a *new* **minor violations investigation unit.** This is a new way to handle minor civilian complaints against the police department, such as "an officer was rude to me," in a more efficient and expedient manner. This unit will be composed of sergeants who can independently review each complaint and officer in question.

The table of organization also creates a position of **Deputy Chief of Operations** who will serve as a conduit between the Chief of Police and the lower units. This new position will serve as one more layer of accountability and fairness in the Police Department, and will serve to remove even the appearance of impropriety. All disciplinary units, including Internal Affairs, will report to the Deputy Chief of Operations.

All media inquiries should be directed to Jennifer Morrill, Press Secretary to Mayor Steven M. Fulop at 201-547-4836 or 201-376-0699.////