

1 Van Wyck Street Croton on Hudson N.Y. 10520 (914) 271-5177 Voice (914) 271-3916 Fax John H. Nikitopoulos Chief of Police

Dear Mayor Pugh, Board of Trustees & Village Manager King:

On June 12, 2020 New York State Governor Andrew Cuomo signed an Executive Order requiring each local government in the state to adopt a policing reform plan by April 1, 2021. The goal of this reform is to improve the relationship between the Police Department and the residents of the community by fostering trust, fairness and legitimacy within communities, and addressing any bias and disproportionate policing of communities.

At this time the Village of Croton-on-Hudson Police Department currently consists of nineteen (19) full-time Officers and a Dispatcher; who provide services to the residents of the Village of Croton-on-Hudson twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week.

It is the mission statement of the Village of Croton-on-Hudson Police Department to preserve the rights, security and quality of life in our Village for all residents through the impartial enforcement of the law, prevention of crime and pursuit of violators of the law, and the maintenance of order in public places. The officers of the Village of Croton-on-Hudson Police Department pledge to be unbiased, respectful of life, courteous and civil in the performance of their duties in service to our community. Our officers are trained in the use of firearms; however, over the past 34 years, no Croton police officer has discharged their firearm in the course of duty even when dealing with incidences involving firearms.

Over the next few months, the Village of Croton-on-Hudson Police Department will be evaluating its current department policies, practices, and daily interactions with the public. During this process any necessary changes will be instituted to ensure equality and safety to all; including but not limited to the members of our Police Department, residents and visitors of the Village of Croton-on-Hudson.

During this same time period, the Village of Croton-on-Hudson Police Department will be working collaboratively with members of our community to reinforce and strengthen our police-community relationship.

Chief of Police John H. Nikitopoulos