



**Gloucester Police Patrolman's
Association MCOP Local 342**

March 5, 2007

Mayor John Bell
Gloucester City Hall
9 Dale Ave
Gloucester Ma 01930

Dear Mayor Bell

Once again the Gloucester Police Department has reassigned another uniformed Patrol Officer to the Investigative Division. The latest assignment occurred on March 1, 2007. We understand it is Chief Beaudette's Managerial right. However we have not been able to come up with a valid reason on how it has made the department function better.

Chief Beaudette continues to take much needed resources from the uniform patrol division. Is it a matter of coincidence that the last four reassignments occur only days sometimes hours after a grievance hearing has commenced? We hope this is not simply retaliation against a department which continues to struggle with tough budgetary constraints. Ultimately it is the citizens of Gloucester who suffer. Many times only four uniformed Officer's are available for service calls. The necessity to prioritize calls results in Citizens having to deal with a delayed response time. Furthermore when safety protocol drops below the required 7 Uniformed Officers the department must hire other Officers on overtime.

When Chief Beaudette took over as Department Head Manager on January 1st, 2007 he recognized a need for more Uniformed Officers. One of his first orders of business was to scale back the Investigative Division. Often in the first 6 months he used the remaining Investigators to a large degree to satisfy the filling of safety protocol rather than hire Officers on overtime.

One must ask the question why such a sudden change just over two years later?

In closing let us direct your attention to specific language in the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the City of Gloucester and the Gloucester Police Patrolman's Association MCOP Local 342. Article XXXVI section D Total Quality Management Program. Specifically the last sentence in paragraph 1, such meetings will include discussions of the selection and assignment of detectives.

If the Union could be of any assistance on this matter please don't hesitate to contact one of us. All four Executive Board members work the 4-12 shift.

Sincerely,

Shawn Bouchie
Vice President GPPA

Michael Williams
Secretary GPPA

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