

I. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board of Public Safety met in Executive Session on Wednesday December 21, 2022, at 8:30 a.m. with Board President Dan Jones (absent) and Board Members Darryl Heller, Lee Ross, Al Kirsits and Board Attorney Danielle Weiss. The meeting was held in the 13th Floor Boardroom, County-City Building, 227 W. Jefferson Blvd., South Bend, Indiana, for the purposes specified in I.C. 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(6)(A) to receive information concerning an individual's alleged misconduct. The meeting ended at 9:00 a.m.

BOARD OF PUBLIC SAFETY



 Darryl Heller, Member



 Lee Ross, Member



 Alfred Kirsits, Member

ATTEST:



 Theresa Heffner, Clerk
II. REGULAR MEETING

December 21, 2022

The Board of Public Safety met in the Regular Meeting at 9:16 a.m. on Wednesday, December 21, 2022, with Board President Daniel Jones (absent), and Board Members Darryl Heller, Lee Ross, and Al Kirsits were present. Also present were Police Chief Scott Ruskowski, Assistant Fire Chief Todd Skwarcan, and Attorneys Danielle Weiss, Kylie Connell, Adam Taylor, and Board Clerk Theresa Heffner was also present. The meeting was held on the 4th Floor Council Chambers Room, 227 W. Jefferson Blvd., South Bend, Indiana and virtually via Microsoft Teams at the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/BPS12212022>

Attorney Weiss asked that everyone mute their microphone when not speaking and reminded attendees that comments from the public should be saved for the Privilege of the Floor portion of the meeting. Attorney Weiss then read through the agenda to note any additions or corrections.

Board Member Lee Ross welcomed the public, called roll, and confirmed the presence of Board Members.

A. APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Darryl Heller noted two minor corrections to the November 16, 2022 minutes. Clerk Theresa Heffner confirmed the corrections would be made, so based on these changes Darryl Heller motioned to approve the Minutes of the November 16, 2022, regular meeting, seconded by Al Kirsits.

Upon a motion by Darryl Heller, seconded by Al Kirsits and carried by a roll call, the Board approved the Minutes of the December 7, 2022, special meeting minutes presented.

B. POLICE DEPARTMENT1. APPROVE HIRING IN OF PROBATIONARY POLICE OFFICERS

Rico Butler
Robert Delee

Chief Ruskowski submitted a letter of recommendation for the hiring of Probationary Police Officer Rico Elijah Butler and Robert Dale Delee effective December 21, 2022.

Chief stated that Officer Butler has met the requirements of the application process of the South Bend Police Department and graduated from the Northern Indiana Police Academy on

Friday December 16, 2022.

Chief stated Officer DeLee has met the requirements of the application process of the South Bend Police Department and was an officer on the Plymouth Police Department from April 20, 1999 to December 13, 2022.

Upon a motion by Al Kirsits, seconded by Darryl Heller and followed by a roll call, the Board approved the hiring of Probationary Police Officer Rico Butler and Officer Robert Delee.

2. SWEARING IN OF PROBATIONARY POLICE OFFICERS

Captain Fulnecky gave a brief biography of Officer Butler and Officer DeLee highlighting their talents, achievements, education, and interests. City Clerk Dawn Jones administered the oath which was then followed by the badge pinning.

Lee Ross congratulated both officers and thanked them for wanting to serve our South Bend community and citizens by joining the South Bend Police Department.

Al Kirsits congratulated the officers and asked that they be safe and to always respect the badge and oath of duty.

3. APPROVE PROMOTIONS TO PATROLMAN 1ST CLASS

Niall O'Regan
Connor Redden
Steven S. Spadafora
Georgia Wells
Austin Wiorek

Chief Ruszkowski submitted a letter of recommendation for the above officers be promoted to Patrolman 1st Class effective December 15, 2022. Chief stated that the above officers have successfully met the requirements outlined in the working agreement to become Patrolman 1st Class within the SBPD.

Upon a motion by Al Kirsits, seconded by Darryl Heller, and followed by a roll call, the above officers were promoted to Patrolman 1st Class.

4. ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COMMENDATIONS

Anthony Dawson
Garrett Radzikowski
Kayla Miller
Ronald Kaszas
Gery Mullins
Brienne Fenton
James Maxey
Eric Mentz
Brett Airy

Chief Scott Ruszkowski submitted a letter of commendations for the above officers. Chief Ruszkowski gave a summary of the commendations and bravery of each officer.

Lee Ross commended the officers and accepted the commendations on behalf of the Board and stated each officer will be given a challenge coin for their heroic efforts.

Al Kirsits Congratulated the officers that were given commendations and praised their efforts in the field.

5. APPROVE APPLICATION AND DECLARATION OF RETIREMENT - SANDRA SMITH

Police Chief Scott Ruszkowski submitted a letter of Application and Declaration for Retirement for Patrolman Sandra Smith. Chief Ruszkowski stated Officer Smith is retiring in good standing from the SBPD effective January 12, 2023 and will have been with the department for thirty-three (33) years and six (6) months. Chief Ruszkowski thanked her for

her many years of service with the SBPD and wished her success in her new endeavors.

Upon a motion by Darryl Heller, seconded by Al Kirsits, and followed by a roll call, the Application and Declaration for Retirement was approved.

6. APPROVE 2023 SPECIAL POLICE COMMISSIONS

In a letter to the Board, Chief Ruszkowski recommended that the following Special Police Commissions be renewed and/or issued for the year 2023. He read through the following powers of each category, noting whether they include carrying of a weapon or any powers of arrest.

**SOUTH BEND POLICE DEPARTMENT
Volunteers in Policing
(VIPS)**

Richard Cowper
Garnett Keeys
Patrick Leavell

Tom Camren
Barbara Leavell
Steven Wieger

It is my recommendation that the following South Bend Police Department personnel be commissioned as members of the South Bend Police Department Special Police Unit, but do not have the authority to be armed nor do they have powers of arrest:

PUBLIC SERVICE OFFICERS

James Buchmann
Angela Davis
Adam Harman

Ella Cramer
Courtney Donndelinger
Antonio Salazar

It is also my recommendation that Special Police Commissions be issued or renewed for the following South Bend Police Department Records/Data Specialists. These Commissions do not include the powers of arrest nor the carrying of a weapon.

Alma Bueno
Kim Davis
Jennifer Garrett
Jennifer Jozwiak
Beverly Perry
Tracy Wright

Julianne Campanone
Madonna Fleenor
Jeanette Hardman
Lauren Morgan
Maria Scherer-Lutz

SOUTH BEND FIRE DEPARTMENT

It is my recommendation that the following be commissioned to carry a weapon while acting in the capacity of Arson Investigators. They have no powers of arrest:

Doug Hylkema
Barry Sebesta

Tony Nania
John Szucs

The commission is issued for the purpose of writing citations and otherwise enforcing Chapter 9, Fire Prevention, of the South Bend Municipal Code. The commission does not authorize the powers of arrest, nor the carrying of a weapon:

Chris Baker
Mike Damiano
Robert Means
Todd Skwarcan
Mike Szucs
Brandon Roark

Carl Buchanon
Brian Koloszar
Andrew Myers
Mike Lagodney
Gerard Ellis
James Jones

PARKING PROPERTIES

Block by Block

This commission is issued for the on-street patrol parking enforcement personnel and does not include the carrying of a weapon, nor the powers of arrest:

Amanda Grover
Jon Preston Abplanalp
Rogers Smedley

INDIANA UNIVERSITY SOUTH BEND POLICE DEPARTMENT

It is my recommendation that Special Police Commissions be assigned to the following officers of Indiana University South Bend. These Commissions are issued for the purpose of issuing citations for parking violations where such violations have fines set by Ordinance and State Law. All of their officers are sworn and certified through the State of Indiana by the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy Training Board. These Commissions have the same authority of as one of our own sworn police officers in which they have the authority to carry a weapon and the powers of arrest:

Kurt Matz	Edwin Garcia
Timothy McNeely	Soledad Garcia
Mark Walsh	Troy Hudgen
Glenn McQueen	Jordan Felton
Bradley Howe	Bryce Peterson
Aaliyah Porter	Tyler Garber

This will empower the above listed individuals to enforce parking violations on the following streets adjacent to the campus:

Mishawaka Ave. from Bellevue Street on the west to 21st Street on the East; Bellevue Street from Mishawaka Avenue on the north to Hildreth Street on the south; Hildreth Street from Bellevue Street on the west to the campus proper on the east; Esther Street from Mishawaka Avenue on the north to Hildreth Street on the south; Ruskin Street from Bellevue Street on the west to the campus proper on the east; 20th Street from Mishawaka Avenue on the north to Northside Boulevard on the south; Vine Street from 20th Street on the west to 21st Street on the east; and Northside Boulevard from 21st Street on the east to Memorial Park on the west.

IVY TECH SOUTH BEND CAMPUS

It is my recommendation that a Special Police Commission be assigned to the following security officer of Ivy Tech South Bend Campus. This Commission is issued for the purpose of issuing citations for parking violations where such violations have fines set by Ordinance and State Law. This officer is sworn and certified through the State of Indiana by the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy Training Board. This Commission has the same authority as one of our own sworn police officers in which they have the authority to carry a weapon and the powers of arrest:

James E. Clark Jr

This will empower the above listed individual to enforce parking violations on the following streets adjacent to the campus:

Main Campus: Michigan St. from Broadway St. north to Sample St. Sample St. east to Fellows. Fellows south to Broadway, including Dean Johnson Blvd. (which runs east and west inside this perimeter). Broadway St. west to Michigan. The property **ONLY** owned by Ivy Tech at 328 Michigan Street and the property owned by Ivy Tech at 250 Sample St.

DEPARTMENT OF CODE ENFORCEMENT

It is my recommendation that the following individuals be Commissioned for the Department of Code Enforcement. This Commission is issued for the purpose of writing citations for Ordinance violations where such violations have fines set by Superior Court Judges. This

Commission will also empower the below-listed individuals to enforce the Snow Route and Residential Snow Emergencies and to tow vehicles found to be in violation of these Ordinances. This Commission also includes Animal Control officers who issue tickets for nuisance violations. This Commission does not authorize the powers of arrest nor the carrying or use of a weapon.

Code Enforcement Officers:

Edward Williams
Jim Wood
Chyna McBride
Angelo Logrande
Dena Criswell
Steve Meadows
Cornelius Johnson

John Helak
Stan Molenda
Dora Gonzalez
Chris Pemberton
Chad Hooten
Steve Szaday

Animal Control Officers:

April Michaels
Jamie Ealy
Lindsey Cuellar
Diana Hosteler

Sara Kaszas
Brittany Miller
Grace Fuller

Kite Realty Group:

Teagan Lawson

Laz Parking:

Idowu Oluwabukola

Please note that any previous Special Police Commissions that were issued to anyone not listed in this letter, are now rescinded. The aforementioned police commissions are in effect until rescinded.

All of the aforementioned individuals have met the Commission requirements of the South Bend Police Department.

Darryl Heller asked if the weapons that the fire investigators carry are issued to them or if they are personal weapons. Assistant Chief Skwarcan added that they are issued by SBFDD.

Darryl Hellers asked if someone is not on the list, are they approved. Chief Ruszkowski answered that they are not approved and when someone is added or replaced we bring the list back to the board for approval.

Upon a motion by Darryl Heller, seconded by Al Kirsits, and carried by a roll call, the Board approved the 2023 Special Police Commissions.


7. FILE MONTHLY STATISTICAL ANALYSIS REPORT NOVEMBER 2022

Chief Scott Ruszkowski submitted the monthly statistical analysis report for November. He noted a fourteen percent (14%) reduction in Part 1 Offenses. He estimated upwards of forty percent (40%) of cases have some type of mental episode involvement, and then he emphasized the importance of mental health resources in the community and policing.

The NOVEMBER 2022 analysis is as follows:

PART 1 OFFENSES	YEAR TO DATE					
	2021	2022	CHANGE	2021	2022	CHANGE
HOMICIDE	2	2	0	17	22	5
JUSTIFIABLE HOMICIDE*	0	0	0	1	3	2
RAPE	9	5	-4	64	61	-3
ROBBERY	42	30	-12	338	281	-57
AGGRAVATED ASSLT	129	93	-36	1912	1262	-650
BURGLARY RES	58	32	-26	426	426	0
BURGLARY NON RES	19	25	6	174	319	145
LARCENY	221	194	-27	2395	2240	-155
MOTOR VEH THEFT	59	37	-22	579	477	-102
ARSONS	1	0	-1	31	37	6
GRAND TOTAL	540	418	-122	5936	5125	-811

Respectfully submitted,


 Scott Ruskowski
 Chief of Police

SR/lej

Month: NOVEMBER 2022

PART 1 OFFENSES	2021	2022	CHANGE
HOMICIDE	17	22	29%
JUSTIFIABLE HOMICIDE*	1	3	200%
RAPE	64	61	-5%
ROBBERY	338	281	-17%
AGGRAVATED ASSLT	1912	1262	-34%
BURGLARY RES.	426	426	0%
BURGLARY NON RES.	174	319	83%
LARCENY	2395	2240	-6%
MOTOR VEH THEFT	579	477	-18%
ARSONS	31	37	19%
GRAND TOTAL	5936	5125	-14%

-14% CHANGE IN PART 1 CRIMES THROUGH NOVEMBER 2022

C. FIRE DEPARTMENT

1. FILE MONTHLY STATISTICAL ANALYSIS REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 2022

Chief Carl Buchanon submitted the monthly statistical analysis report for November 2022. Assistant Chief Todd Skwarcan was present to answer any questions.

NOVEMBER 2021	NOVEMBER 2022
STRUCTURE FIRES Property Damage--Buildings & Contents (Estimates)	
\$94,000	\$531,480
INSPECTION DIVISON	
57 Inspections 41 Re-Inspections	92 Total Inspections Re-Inspections
INVESTIGATION DIVISON	
6 Investigations	7 Investigations
1 Incendiary 4 Accidental 0 Natural 1 Undetermined	0 Incendiary 2 Accidental 0 Natural 5 Undetermined

E. PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Attorney Weiss reminded the public to use the hand-raising function of Microsoft Teams to indicate their desire to speak during Privilege of the Floor. She reminded attendees that they would be allotted three (3) minutes to speak.

Police Chief Scott Ruszkowski praised new EMA Director Kirsits and Assistant |Director Lopez for their excellent communication for the upcoming snowstorm with planning and preparation for the community. Board member and EMA Director Kirsits thanked Chief Ruszkowski for his kind words and for acknowledging their efforts as they try to create a helpful agency for the community.

F. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, upon a motion by Darryl Heller, seconded by Al Kirsits and carried by roll call, the meeting was adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

BOARD OF PUBLIC SAFETY



Darryl Heller, Member



Lee Ross, Member



Alfred Kirsits, Member

ATTEST:



Theresa Heffner, Clerk