



Providence Lodge No. 3

FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE

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PRESS RELEASE

The *Providence Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge #3* announced today that a **vote of no confidence** in Colonel Dean Esserman will be held on Sunday, June 14, 2009 between the hours of 7:00 am and 7:00 pm at the Union Hall, 40 Sheridan Street, Providence, RI.

The FOP's Union Body ultimately came to this decision after multiple attempts over months and years by the FOP Executive Board and Board of Trustees to work out various issues of contention with Chief Esserman – ultimately to no avail. Therefore, this **vote of no confidence** has been necessitated by a vote of the Union body.

While the issues which precipitated this action are too numerous to enumerate, some are as follows:

MISMANAGEMENT:

Nine District System:

Failure to fulfill promises to supply the necessary resources to properly staff the Districts.

Lack of Sergeant staffing in the Districts around the clock, resulting in a limited number of Supervisors and the inability to supervise personnel properly.

Assignment of foot men for indefinite periods of time, resulting in confusion in the Patrol Bureau bidding process for open patrol car posts, as well as a reduction in the amount of personnel available for other critical assignments within the Patrol Bureau.

Elimination of Traffic Bureau:

Traffic accidents demand disproportionate responses from the Patrol Bureau due to the lack of a dedicated Traffic Bureau, resulting in a reduction of available officers for emergency calls for service.

Lack of proper training of Patrol Officers in accident investigation, resulting in a reduced level of service to the public.

Reduction in DUI arrests.

Lack of proper investigation of City involved motor vehicle crashes, resulting in loss of payment by other motorist insurance companies.

DISREGARD FOR CONTRACT LANGUAGE

Police Officer Details:

Use of Overtime/Callback for selectively-chosen officers by District Lieutenants to replace previously paid Details.

Change of Hours:

Changing of hours worked by foot men and members of the Patrol Bureau to work shifts not spelled out in the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

DEMEANOR TOWARDS RANK AND FILE

Dressing down officers in public without justification and with the use of insults and profanity.

Use of Overtime/Callback for selectively-chosen officers as a reward for suggested behavior.

Failure to follow Department Policy and Procedure - i.e. Vacancy notices not utilized for all non-tested vacant positions

TARGETING OFFICERS

Using Internal Affairs to conduct investigations of members of the rank and file, based upon false premises, utilizing false and/or unsubstantiated accusations, and often resulting in trumped-up charges - Principally against those members of the rank and file that disagree with his positions.

Refusal to pursue criminal charges against civilian complainants whose accusations prove to be false and unsubstantiated.

Using the Police Department and its policies and procedures to promote his own personal political agenda rather than uphold the laws of the State of RI and the United States of America – for example to impose his own personal views regarding Illegal Immigration-enforcement and Felon Voting Rights.