
COVER MEMORANDUM

TO: CITY COUNCIL
HENDERSONVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

FROM: JOHN CONNET, CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: HENDERSONVILLE POLICE CHIEF SEARCH

DATE: 12/31/2020

CC: ALLISON JUSTUS, PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

It is a pleasure for me to introduce you to Police Chief Finalists Gerald Childress and Blair Myhand. In the following memorandum, I will provide a detailed explanation of the search process and provide you with a brief overview of these gentlemen's qualifications. I have added additional supporting documentation to the memorandum for your information.

Recruitment Process

In August 2020, the City of Hendersonville began planning its search for the next Hendersonville Police Chief. A citizen survey was completed by 120 community members to provide insights on the challenges facing the police department and provide opinions on the most important competencies and responsibilities of the future Chief. The City's recruitment consultant, Developmental Associates, also organized interview sessions with internal stakeholders, City Council, and members of the community to assist in the process. These surveys and interviews were used to develop a job profile that was then converted to a position advertisement. The advertisement is included with this document.

Candidate Pool / Screening

The City of Hendersonville conducted a nation-wide search and received sixty-two (62) applications over the two recruitment periods. The position was advertised on the following websites:

1. North Carolina League of Municipalities
2. International Association Chiefs of Police
3. National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives
4. Hispanic American Police Command Officers Association
5. North Carolina Association of County Commissioners
6. National Association of Women Law Enforcement Executives

7. Virginia Municipal League

Each applicant was required to submit a standardized application, resume and supplemental questionnaire. Each candidate's information was compared against the job profile and thirty-five (35) applicants were advanced to the second phase of the screening process.

The second phase of the screening process included a preliminary background investigation which incorporated a media search for news stories regarding the candidates. In addition, the candidates were required to take an emotional intelligence (EQi) inventory to evaluate how they interact with other people. This information was used to reduce the applicant pool to fourteen (14) candidates who then participated in telephone interviews with Garner Police Chief (Ret.) Tom Moss and Cary Police Chief (Ret.) Pat Bazemore. Following the telephone interviews with Chief Moss and Chief Bazemore the applicant pool was reduced to five (5) candidates who were invited to participate in the formal assessment center on December 17th and 18th.

Racial and Equity Recruitment Analysis

Eight of the thirty-five candidates, twenty-three percent (23%), who passed the initial screening were of African American or Hispanic ethnic origin. One female met the minimum qualifications for the position. An African American female and a Hispanic male were included in the fourteen (14) semifinalists. Following the telephone interview, four white males and one Hispanic male were selected as semi-finalists. The first alternate for the assessment center was the African American female.

The assessment center panelist consisted of twelve individuals. Two of panelist were African American males and one was an African American female. The remainder of the panel were white males.

Assessment Center

On December 17th and 18th, four of the five top candidates participated in the assessment center. The fifth candidate withdrew at the last minute. The candidates participated in the following exercises:

1. Written Exercise
2. Coaching Role Play Exercise
3. Meeting Exercise
4. Presentation Exercise

Each exercise was evaluated and scored by three panelists. The panel consisted of a WNC City Manager and police chiefs or high-ranking law enforcement officers from North and South Carolina. Each candidate was evaluated on their writing skills, adaptive problem solving, leadership, development of personnel and interpersonal skills. Following the two-day assessment center, Gerald Childress and Blair Myhand were rated as the top two candidates. They scored within one point of each other during the assessment process.

Final Two Candidates

The resumes for each candidate are attached to the memorandum. However, the following is a brief description of each candidate:

Gerald Childress – Mr. Childress is currently a police officer with the Town of Mooresville Police Department. He previously served as Deputy Chief of Police from December 2017 – October 2019. His deputy police chief position was eliminated following the termination of the Mooresville Chief of Police in June 2019. Prior to serving as Deputy Chief of Police, Mr. Childress served as a Police Major (2010-2017), Police Captain (2011-2012), Police Lieutenant (2008-2011), Police Investigator (2005-2008) and Police Officer (1996-2005). He has Bachelor of Arts Degree from Lenoir Rhyne University and Master of Arts in Justice Administration from Methodist University. He completed Basic Law Enforcement Training at Catawba Valley Community College in 1995.

Media stories regarding the Mooresville Police Department and Mr. Childress' demotion are attached for information.

Blair Myhand – Mr. Myhand is currently the Town of Clayton Chief of Police. He has served as the Chief of Police since May 2017. Prior to Clayton, he served as a Police Captain / Administrative Division Commander with the Town of Apex from July 2016 to May 2017. He has served as the Patrol Division Commander (2011-2016), Criminal Investigations Commander (2010-2011), Special Response Team Commander (2006-2016), Police Sergeant (2006-2010) and Police Officer (2005-2006). He previously served with Washington, DC Metropolitan Police Department from 1994-2005. He has a Bachelor of Science from Waldorf College and a Master of Public Administration from Villanova University. He has a graduate certificate from the University of Virginia and has attended the FBI National Academy.

Mr. Myhand is currently on administrative leave with the Clayton Police Department. The leave is the result of philosophical differences between members of the Clayton Town Council, former Town Manager and Chief Myhand. Media stories regarding Mr. Myhand's situation are attached for your information.

Background Investigation

A preliminary background investigation has been conducted on both individuals. Despite the political situations, we have found no record of either of these gentlemen being accused of unethical or illegal activity. Both gentlemen maintain their law enforcement certifications and are in good standing with the North Carolina Criminal Justice and Education Standards Commission. Any employment offer will be contingent upon a complete background investigation by a private investigator.

Thank you for participating in the activities on Monday and Tuesday. I look forward to your feedback regarding these two candidates. If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact me.



Hendersonville

North Carolina

Invites your interest in the position of

Chief of Police



The City of Hendersonville, NC is seeking a **Chief of Police** who:

- √ believes that community policing requires “roll of your sleeves” efforts with citizens, visitors, elected officials, City staff, and officers;
- √ leads with a “walk the talk” philosophy where accountability starts with one’s self and permeates through the department;
- √ recognizes that advocacy and equity are key concepts both inside and outside the department that ensure engagement and commitment to principled leadership; and,
understands that department morale drives recruitment, retention, and excellence in service delivery and actively works to establish a positive working culture.



Hendersonville, located in the picturesque mountains of North Carolina, is seeking a **change agent** to be its “top cop.” The next **Chief of Police** must have a track record of proactive and innovative law enforcement leadership, particularly during challenging times, being merely a manager is not enough. The Chief is expected to be engaged both internally and externally, trusting his or her staff to manage incidents but involved with officers, fellow department heads, citizens, and partners in multiple jurisdictional agreements. The department will move into a new Police Headquarters in 2021. This is the ideal opportunity for the next chief to launch a new era for the Hendersonville Police Department (HPD).



The Community:

Located in the Asheville Metropolitan Statistical Area, Hendersonville is a fast growing community consisting of multiple historic districts, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and sits between the Great Smokey and Blue Ridge Mountains, 22 miles south of Asheville, NC and 40 miles north of Greenville, SC. With an altitude of 2200 feet above sea level, the region provides wonderful year-round recreational opportunities. A thriving Hendersonville Historic Downtown district, and member of the NC Main Street Program, Hendersonville is host to a variety of businesses, festivals and activities throughout the year. This beautiful mountain community strives to maintain its quality of life for year-round residents as well as the seasonal influx of tourists in Fall and Summer. To learn more about the community, click [here](#).



Organization and Position description and responsibilities:

The City, home to over 14,000 residents, employs 274 FTE, 28 part-time or seasonal employees. The Police Department is one of 9 city departments. The Chief of Police reports to the City Manager and is responsible for planning, directing, implementing, and evaluating the activities of the Police Department. The Police Chief will be responsible for leading a well-equipped Department in a community that is supportive and demands high levels of service and engagement.



The Department has a \$ 5.7 million Budget, 45 sworn personnel, and 11 support personnel in four divisions: administration, support services, patrol services and criminal investigations. The ideal candidate will be a strong leader within the Police Department and must work well with the City's Management Team, Council, community members, and surrounding law enforcement agencies. To learn more about the department, click [here](#).

Key priorities for the next Chief of Police are:

- modeling a culture of accountability for application of effective law enforcement practices which foster a sense of security and respect for citizens and officers alike;
- ensuring a community-oriented and problem-oriented policing philosophy permeates all levels of the organization and continues to build community trust;
- reinvigorating relationships with local and regional law enforcement and intergovernmental organizations.
- evaluating the department structure, staffing, and practices along with discerning community safety goals and Council priorities to assess what alignment and changes are needed to initiate and implement best practices to meet strategic goals; and,
- leveraging internal talent while closing gaps through engaging employees in training, development, and succession planning to prepare for upcoming retirements.

Qualifications:

Requires a bachelor's degree in criminal justice, public administration, or other relevant field, and 10 years of progressive law enforcement experience across functional areas such as patrol, internal affairs, administration, investigations, etc. to include 7 years of executive-level experience at the rank of Captain or higher. Must possess current advanced NC LE certification or be eligible to acquire. A master's degree and executive law enforcement training are preferred. Must have a valid NC driver's license or the ability to obtain a valid NC driver's license within 60 days of relocating to NC.





Transfers: In-state candidates may transfer their law enforcement officer certification to another agency in NC provided he/she has less than a 12-month break in service at time of appointment. In-state candidates with less than a three-year break in NC service may receive partial credit toward basic law enforcement training. Out of state candidates who are serving or have served as a local or state law enforcement officer must have successfully completed a basic law enforcement training course accredited by the state from which they are transferring and cannot have a break in full-time service exceeding three years at the time of appointment. Individuals with Federal law enforcement officer certification who have not had a break in service exceeding three years at the time of appointment may receive partial credit toward NC basic law enforcement training. NC does recognize and give partial credit for military police (MP) training if the candidate has completed a formal military basic training program and been awarded a military police occupational specialty rating and has served as a military police officer for not less than two of the five years preceding the date of appointment.



Employee Benefits

Annual Leave

Sick Leave

Holidays

Wellness Program

Credit Union

Health Insurance

Dental Insurance

Vision Insurance

Life Insurance

Flexible Spending Account

Retirement System

Supplement Retirement

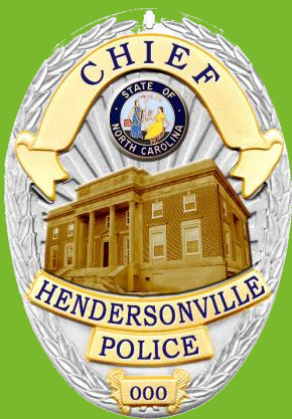
Salary range and Application Process: The hiring range is \$85,000 to \$100,000 with negotiation within the range based on credentials and experience. The City offers outstanding benefits.

To apply, go to

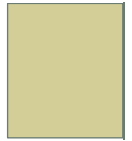
<https://agency.governmentjobs.com/developmentalassociates/default.cfm> and click on the **Chief of Police - Hendersonville** link, to learn more about the selection process, visit Client Openings (or copy and paste into your browser: <https://developmentalassociates.com/client-openings/>). All applications must be fully completed listing your time at each rank and submitted online via the Developmental Associates application portal – NOT the City portal, nor any other external website; it is not sufficient to send only a resume. Resumes and cover letters can be uploaded with the application. Application review begins October 11, 2020. Finalists will participate in virtual interviews and skill assessments on November 11-12, 2020 will require 3-4 hours of time on those days, not including preparation. Interviews with the City Manager will follow at a subsequent time.

All *inquiries* should be emailed to hiring@developmentalassociates.com. Hendersonville is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Developmental Associates, LLC is managing the recruitment and selection process for this position.



GERALD R. CHILDRESS



Summary of Professional Qualifications

- Experienced law enforcement professional with twenty-five years of progressively responsible police experience
- Experience with accreditation, budget administration, personnel management, strategic planning, data analysis and community policing
- Superb written and oral communication skills
- Proven ability to work with a wide variety of people and personalities
- Master's Degree in Justice Administration

Professional Affiliations

- International Association of Chiefs of Police
- Criminal Justice Honor Society, Alpha Phi Sigma
- North Carolina Homicide Investigators Association
- Administrative Officers Management Program Alumni Association
- North Carolina Police Executives Association
- North Carolina Association of Chiefs of Police

Experience

Deputy Police Chief – December 2017 – October 2019

Town of Mooresville ▪ P.O. Box 878 Mooresville, NC 28115

- In the absence of the Police Chief, act with the authority of the Police Chief as delegated
- Provide direct supervision of the Office of the Chief of Police Division
- Assist the Police Chief in developing and carrying out the vision for the department
- Participate in the development of policies and procedures of the department
- Oversee all internal investigations to ensure the department maintains a high level of efficiency
- Investigate officer involved accidents, instances and any other situation that require review
- Conduct investigations of citizen complaints and internal policy violations
- Oversee departmental standards and ensures the continuation of CALEA accreditation
- Oversee and coordinate all staff development activities for the department
- Serve on the budget management team for the department
- Assist in overseeing the daily operations of the Police Department
- Assign, motivate, counsel, and evaluate employee performance; conduct disciplinary conferences when required, and ensures proper training for all division personnel
- Perform the duties of any subordinate in their absence or when immediate action is warranted
- Communicate with the general public as needed

Police Major ▪ July 2012 – December 2017

Town of Mooresville ▪ P.O. Box 878 Mooresville, NC 28115

- Redefine policies and procedures that meet CALEA standards to attain accreditation status

- Commander of four patrol platoons
- Peak patrol shift research, development, and implementation
- Established parity on all patrol platoons
- Community Resource Officer commander
- Community policing initiatives
 - Coffee with a COP
 - Church security programs
 - Safety town
- Change a Life Mentor
- Strategic planning for diversity in recruiting and hiring
- Developed a tiered training component for all department personnel
- Developed presentations for various community events and gatherings
 - Police Citizen's Academy
 - Town of Mooresville Citizen's Academy
 - Mooresville Downtown Commission
- Planning, staffing, and directing events and organized campaigns:
 - President Obama's visit to Mooresville
 - Presidential candidate Romney's visit to Mooresville
 - Congressional Town Hall meetings with Robert Pittenger and Patrick McHenry
 - Iredell County Black Democratic Caucus "Moving Forward" banquet featuring Congressman James Clyburn
 - North Carolina Wildlife Commission Law Enforcement Division DWI campaign
 - Dr. Oz Harmony in Health visit to Mooresville
 - Iredell County Domestic Violence Task Force
 - Annual parades and festivals

Police Captain ▪ May 2011 – July 2012

Town of Mooresville ▪ P.O. Box 878 Mooresville, NC 28115

- Criminal Investigations Divisions supervisor
- Developed and implemented a victim's satisfaction survey tool
- Crisis Negotiator
- Case review and assignment
- Administrative investigations
- Road patrol supervisor

Police Lieutenant ▪ February 2008 – May 2011

Town of Mooresville ▪ P.O. Box 878 Mooresville, NC 28115

- Assistant Criminal Investigations supervisor
- Special Deputation to the U.S. Marshals Services
- Appointment to the FBI Computer Crimes Task Force
- Research and development of on-line in-service training through Mitchell Community College
- Training and Recruitment

Police Investigator ▪ January 2005 – February 2008

Town of Mooresville ▪ P.O. Box 878 Mooresville, NC 28115

- Meritorious Conduct award recipient
- Search warrant application and execution
- Numerous felony arrests and convictions
- Computerized Voice Stress Analysis operator
- Significant courtroom testimony
- Coaching, mentoring, and training other detectives
- Acquisition of audio and video surveillance equipment for recording interviews

Police Officer ▪ September 1996 – January 2005

Town of Huntersville ▪ P.O. Box 664 Huntersville, NC 28078

- Field Training Officer
- Rank of Corporal
- Criminal Investigations

Police Officer – October 2019 – Present

Town of Mooresville ▪ P.O. Box 878 Mooresville, NC 28115

- Patrolling the streets, observing, assessing, monitoring, analyzing and retaining information, in order to determine the need for police intervention while reducing crime and the fear of crime.
- Responds and takes appropriate action on a wide range of calls for police service to include, but not limited to, calls for emergency assistance, crimes in progress, complaints of suspicious or criminal activity, domestic and neighborhood disputes, loud and disruptive behavior; concerns involving persons of diminished capacity, traffic accidents and congestion, and civil disputes.
- Conducts investigations of traffic violations, traffic accidents and criminal activity through personal observations and interviews of victim's witnesses, and suspects.
- Protects, photographs, diagrams, documents and collects physical evidence for presentation in court.
- Issues citations, serves warrants, summons and subpoenas, and makes warrant less arrests.
- Operates the Automated Fingerprint Identification System and the Digital Image Capturing System, completes arrest reports, and documents the information, and testifies in suppression hearings, grand juries and trial courts.

Education

Methodist University

December 2010 ▪ **Masters of Arts in Justice Administration**

Lenoir-Rhyne University

May 1995 ▪ **Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and Psychology**

Catawba Valley Community College

August 1995 ▪ **Basic Law Enforcement Training**

South Iredell High School

June 1988 ▪ **High School Diploma**

Training & Professional Development

Computer:

- Seized Computer and Evidence Recovery Specialist
- CJLEADS
- Digital Evidence Courtroom Testimony
- Hardware Fundamentals for Law Enforcement
- Access Data Boot Camp (Intermediate)
- Computer Forensics (Introductory)
- Encase Intermediate Analysis and Reporting in the field of Specialized Knowledge and Applications in Technology
- Seizure and Processing of Dos and Windows 95/98/NT/2000 based Personal Computers
- On-Scene Computer Forensics
- A+ Certification Preparation
- Introduction to DOS

Leadership/Management/Command:

- LEAD, Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service, University of Virginia
- FBI Law Enforcement Executive Development Association (LEEDA) Supervisor Leadership Institute
- FBI LEEDA Command Leadership Institute
- FBI LEEDA Executive Leadership Institute
- FBI LEEDA Trilogy Award
- First Line Supervision
- Leadership and Organizational Culture
- Great Leadership: Becoming and Effective Communicator
- Bulletproof Leadership
- Burden of Command
- Reasonable Suspicion Supervisory Training (alcohol and drug use in the workplace)
- Officer Involved Shooting
- Incident Command – Hostage/Barricade Situations
- Internal Affairs
- Effective Supervision
- Early Intervention System
- Police Supervision

FEMA:

- Introduction to the Incident Command System (ICS 100 & 300) for Law Enforcement
- National Incident Management System (NIMS): An Introduction

Investigations:

- Fundamentals of the Investigative Process
- Case Preparation
- Crime Scene Processing
- Basic Criminal Investigation
- Crime Scene Search
- Death Investigation
- Homicide, Capital Crimes and Punishment
- Child Death Investigation
- Interviewing Attribute: Staying Focused
- Psychological Profiling
- Fact Investigation
- Interview and Interrogation
- Reid Technique of Interview and Interrogation
- Reid Technique of Interview and Interrogation (Advanced Course)
- Missing/Abducted Children
- Missing/Abducted Child Investigation: Patrol Response
- Child Pornography
- Amber Alert
- Fire Death Investigation
- Arson Investigation
- Cold Case Homicide Investigation
- Criminal Sexuality Paraphilias
- Serial Killers: Profiling and Crime Scene Identification
- Criminal Sexuality
- Internet Crimes Against Children – Project Safe Childhood
- Hate Crime Reporting – Response and Verification
- Rape and Sex Crimes Investigation
- Basic Cybercrime Investigations
- Asset Forfeiture Investigations
- Computer Crime Investigations
- Methamphetamine Investigation Management
- Fraud and Forgeries
- Document Forensics

- Fraud and Financial Crimes Investigations
- Homicide Investigation and Crime Scene Management
- Blood Stain Pattern Analysis
- Multidisciplinary Sexual Assault Training
- Forensic Death Investigations

Other:

- Basic Law Enforcement Training
- NHTSA/DWI Detection and Standardized Field Sobriety Testing
- High Risk Apprehensions
- SWAT Training
- Defensive and Precision Driver Training
- Police Chaplain
- Hostage/Crisis Negotiations

- Hostage Negotiations
- DNA Arrestee Collection
- Law Enforcement Suicide Prevention
- Strategic Planning for Diversity in Recruiting and Hiring
- DCI Certification
- Radar Certification
- General Instructor Certification
- CPR Certification
- A.S.P. Certification
- Death Notification
- Fugitive Manhunt
- Traffic Accident Investigation
- Advanced Law Enforcement Certificate
- Technical Surveillance
- Police Law Institute

BREAKING NEWS Watch: Funeral for fallen Concord officer Jason Shuping [Read More »](#)

INVESTIGATORS

Exclusive: Officers react to Mooresville police chief's resignation

Officers with insight into the Mooresville Police Department are coming forward. WCNC disguised their identities so they could speak candidly.

Exclusive: Officers react to Mooresville police chief's resign...

Author: Sarah French
Published: 11:09 PM EST November 14, 2019
Updated: 11:09 PM EST November 14, 2019



MOORESVILLE, N.C. — The resignation of Mooresville Police Chief Damon Williams comes one week after an exclusive NBC Charlotte investigation that revealed major safety concerns within the department.

Those worries came straight from the officers on the force and the family of Officer Jordan Sheldon, who was killed in the line of duty.



JBL Club One Review

FEATURED BY 

"Jordan loved being a policeman. He would want other police officers to be safe, so that's our whole reason for being here," Sheldon's mother, Susan Ledford, told us.

In an exclusive interview with Sheldon's family, we learned about the officer's lack of backup, missing gear like a floodlight for his car, and malfunctioning equipment especially when it came to his emergency canine release button.

"When I came down here, it was clear that the structure of the police department, the command structure set up wasn't working," Interim Chief Ron Campurciani told NBC Charlotte's Sarah French.

Campurciani took over after Williams was suspended a month after Sheldon's death. Williams had been under investigation since the beginning of the year amid claims of a hostile work environment. Williams was suspended with pay back in June but had been volunteering as Chief of Police in Taylortown.

RELATED: [Mooresville police chief resigns effective immediately](#)

Now, officers with insight into the Mooresville Police Department are coming forward. WCNC disguised their identities so they could speak candidly.

"I'm not the only one that was afraid for my life."

"You didn't know who you could trust and who you couldn't."

"One of the people who always had my back and I always had theirs was Officer Sheldon."

"I felt 100% that the reason why Sheldon was no longer with us is because the agency let him down. Where was his backup?"

Following the investigation, Deputy Chief Gerald Childress and Major Ronnie Chilton were both demoted to the rank of police officer this month.

"While it was great to see that the town took some initiative, you've now put these people that we as officers have openly complained about and you've now put them on the line with us," officers told us.

RELATED: [Exclusive: Internal review reveals Mooresville police officers feared for their safety](#)

Officers we spoke with were also upset Williams was allowed to resign.

"There's no way there's not enough to fire him. I think the town is more afraid of getting a black eye."

"We're tired of this as officers; we are just sick and tired."

Another officer sent us a statement saying, "I hope that the chief's resignation isn't the last step for the town. And they follow through with the rest of the issues with the agency including their own policies."

Another officer went on to say, "The officers that's not cutting it, they are going to have to get them out of there and hire qualified officers that's not scared to do their job, that's not lazy."

RELATED: [Fallen officer repeatedly complained about faulty equipment, inadequate safety, family says](#)

Officers tell us they are still concerned for the future of the agency.

"I just don't want there to be another incident before everything comes out."

However, they are commending Sheldon's family for coming forward.

"I think they are doing the right thing because, if not, I don't know if this would've got the attention that it's getting now. Since it's getting the attention, hopefully, it will change for the better for all the officers that are working at Mooresville."

Sheldon's family sent us a statement upon hearing the news of Williams resignation:

We feel Damon Williams should have been fired. Given the length of the ISS investigation and the complaints voiced by Jordan and relayed by us, it is obvious that there is a total lack of leadership at the department. Actions should have consequences. It is not obvious that Williams didn't resign at the threat of being fired. Given the amount of time he has been on leave, it seems strange timing that he would resign now out of nowhere. We think Jordan deserved better when he worked under Damon and his leadership and his legacy deserves better now.

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12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS CONTEST



12 Days of Christmas – Day 12 – Part 2



12 Days of Christmas – Day 12 – Part 1

LOCAL SHOWS

Fred Lowry Health Talk

Vickie Sawyer North Carolina Now

Taking Care of Iredell Rep. Jeff McNeely

MOORESVILLE, WSIC NEWS

One Mooresville Police Officer fired, another resigns

WSIC EDITOR NOVEMBER 21, 2019



MOORESVILLE, N.C. (WSIC NEWS) – A Mooresville Police Officer has been fired and another has resigned.

Sergeant David Forston resigned effective Monday. Officer Tyquane White was fired Wednesday.



The Home Ad Show with Pat Shannon

Rush Limbaugh

Taking Care of Iredell Rep. Jeff McNeely

Vickie Sawyer North Carolina Now

The Good, The Bad and The Guilty

Sean Hannity

Local Biz Now

Lunch and Learn Podcast

Tracy Alston Mental Fitness Matters

Melissa Neader Why Should I Care?

ISS I on Education Jeff James & Boen Nutting

Kyle Houston Houston's Solutions

Joshua Dobi

Local Biz Now

Joe Berg Sports Board

The Inside Pass Tom Baker

Lunch and Learn Podcast

This comes as the town continues its review of a more than 5,000 page report from an outside agency investigating claims of a hostile work environment at the Police Department. Chief Damon Williams previously resigned and Captain David Call was fired.

Call was given a notice of termination Friday, November 15. He had been on paid administrative leave since June 3 along with Chief Damon Williams who resigned last week. Call was the supervisor of the agency's criminal investigations division.

Deputy Chief Gerald Childress and Major Ron Chilton were both demoted to police officer November 1st.

Stay with WSIC for continued coverage of this developing story.

Tagged Iredell, Lake Norman, Local News, Mooresville, Mooresville Police Department, news, South Iredell, Southern Iredell, WSIC News



Author: WSIC editor

NEWS/TALK WSIC PRESS

Trump rightfully going back to Supreme Court

Mike Jackson joins WSIC Radio Station as News Director

Have you ever used a QR code or scanned something on your phone? Inventor of QR says some crazy stuff about the election.

"Standing" – if a State has no standing in the US Supreme Court, who does?

Does anyone have "standing" – Sidney Powell Asks the

← Hickory clothing store robbed at gunpoint One person dead following crash northeast of Mooresville →



WSIC FCC Public File Additional Information

WSIC FCC Public File



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Click here to email us your event

- Calvary Baptist Church
Fern Hill Baptist Church
Morning Star Baptist Church
Ostwalt Baptist Church
Salt & Light, Back to Basics
The Living Church of Our Lord
Western Avenue Baptist Church



Two high-ranking Mooresville officers demoted amid probe

November 03, 2019



MOORESVILLE – A deputy chief and a major with the Mooresville Police Department have been demoted following a months-long outside probe launched as a result of complaints of a hostile working environment for officers and employees, while the department’s chief and a captain remain on paid administrative leave.

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And as he continues to restructure the department's command staff, Acting Police Chief Ron Campurciani announced three promotions Friday.

- Capt. Frank Falzone will become associate police chief and oversee the patrol division.
- Capt. Joe Cooke will be second assistant police chief overseeing the Technical Services and Outreach Division.
- Major Eric Henderson will become third assistant police chief and be in charge of the Investigations and Field Operations Division. Henderson already was part of the command staff.

Falzone, Cooke and Henderson will report to Campurciani.

There has been no change in the status of Chief Damon Williams and Capt. David Call, supervisor of MPD's Criminal Investigations Division, who were placed on administrative leave June 3 after initial findings by U.S. ISS Agency of Huntersville, a consultant hired by the town to investigate claims of a hostile work environment.

Campurciani, a 32-year veteran of law enforcement who led the West Springfield (Mass.) Police Department until his retirement in 2018, was named MPD's acting chief in June.

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https://mooresvilletribune.com/news/local/two-mooresville-police-officers-demoted-following-investigation-three-promoted-in-restructuring/article_980e39a6-fcff-11e9-a6ff-e7ca042197a1.html

Two Mooresville police officers demoted following investigation; three promoted in restructuring

Staff report
Nov 1, 2019



Staff report

The Town of Mooresville has received the results of an external investigation into the police department. While the report continues to be under review, two officers have been demoted as a result of that investigation.

Deputy Chief Gerald Childress and Major Ron Chilton have each been demoted back to police officers, according to town officials. There are other pending actions in progress and the town is “leaning heavily on outside counsel regarding those actions in order to follow due process and be thorough and fair in evaluating and reevaluating information that might be provided,” according to the Town.

Additionally, a trio of officers has also been promoted, effective Monday.

Capt. Frank Falzone will be associate police chief overseeing the patrol division and will report to Acting Police Chief Ron Campurciani. Capt. Joe Cooke is promoted to second assistant police chief overseeing technical services and outreach division and will report to Campurciani. Major Eric Henderson is transferred to third assistant police chief overseeing investigations and field operations division and will report to Campurciani as well. Henderson was already a major on the command staff.

The report by independent agency U.S. ISS Agency, of Huntersville, was submitted to the Town of Mooresville Oct. 2. The Human Resource director is the only custodian of the full report. All decisions on any changes are made by the supervisor to whom the employees report.

Elected officials, such as Town Board members, do not receive a copy of the 5,000-page report because it deals with personnel issues. Those seeing the report summary will be the human resources director, town attorney and town manager.

The investigation, which costs up to \$225,000, took eight months to complete. Police Chief Damon Williams and Capt. David Call were placed on paid leave early in the investigation and remain at that status.

There is no specific timeline for completing all aspects resulting from the report. Due to the fact that it addresses personnel issues, the report will not be made public.

CORONAVIRUS IN N.C. / North Carolina's modified 'Stay at Home' order is now in effect. Here's what you can and cannot do. ✕

WBTV INVESTIGATES



Two senior command staff demoted at Mooresville PD after outside investigation completed

By [Nick Ochsner](#) and [David Hodges](#) | November 1, 2019 at 3:53 PM EDT - Updated November 1 at 6:55 PM

MOORESVILLE, N.C. (WBTV) - Two senior command staffers at the Mooresville Police Department have been demoted following the conclusion of an investigation of the department conducted by an outside firm.

In February, the town hired Huntersville-based US ISS to conduct an investigation of the workplace culture inside the police department.

The department's chief, Damon Williams, and a captain were placed on paid administrative leave in June while the investigation continued. Neither Williams nor the captain have returned to work, sources tell WBTV.

Previous: Mooresville police chief, captain placed on administrative leave with pay

That investigation has concluded, according to town officials, and a report detailing the agency's findings has been provided to the town manager.

WBTV has learned Deputy Chief Gerald Childress and Major Ronnie Chilton have both been demoted to the rank of police officer following the investigation.

Childress' demotion was effective October 31 and Chilton's demotion was in place as of October 25, according to public personnel information provided by the town.

By law, town officials are prohibited from releasing a reason for the demotion.

A town spokeswoman was out of the office when reached for comment early Friday afternoon and referred questions from a reporter to other town officials, who have not yet responded to the inquiry.

Related: Acting police chief appointed as investigation into Mooresville PD continues

WBTV has requested a copy of the report prepared by US-ISS but it is being withheld by the town, whose attorney claims the entire document is exempt from production under the state's personnel law.

Lawyers for WBTV are disputing that assertion and have requested the town provide a redacted copy of the report.

This is a developing story. Stay with WBTV for more information as it becomes available.

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C. Blair Myhand

Education and Training

Masters of Public Administration
Graduate Certificate, Criminal Justice Education
FBI National Academy, Session #252
Bachelor's of Science Criminal Justice Administration

Villanova University
University of Virginia
Quantico, Virginia
Waldorf College

Professional Experience

CLAYTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Clayton Police Department is a municipal law enforcement agency providing police services to the Town of Clayton. The department is staffed with 46 sworn officers and 3 civilian employees. It serves a growing population of over 24,000 residents in Johnston County along its eastern border with Wake County. The department is an internationally accredited agency by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). The department consists of four divisions: The Office of the Chief of Police and the Patrol Services and Support Services Divisions.

Chief of Police (*May 2017 – Present*)

- Responsible for all aspects of the agency;
- Directly responsible for developing and managing the department's \$6.1 million budget;
- Serve as the department's Public Information Officer (PIO);
- Responsible the evidence functions for the agency;
- Responsible for the training function of the agency;
- Responsible for the professional standards of the agency;
- Responsible for new employee recruitment, selection, background investigations, and hiring;
- Responsible for the department's vehicle fleet;
- Responsible for all building repairs, remodeling, and design;
- Responsible for developing and revising departmental policies;
- Managed a team to revise the department's Mission, Vision, and Values statements;
- Counsel, guide, and mentor subordinates;
- Handle confidential records, personnel files, and monitor pending matters.

APEX POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Apex Police Department is a municipal law enforcement agency providing services to the Town of Apex. The department, staffed with 100 sworn officers and 35 non-sworn personnel, serves a growing population of more than 55,000 residents. The Town of Apex was named the best place to live (< 50,000 population) in the United States by Money Magazine in August 2015. The department is a Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) accredited agency.

Police Captain / Administrative Division Commander (*July 2016 – May 2017*)

- Directly responsible for developing and managing the department's \$10 million budget;
- Serve as the department's Public Information Officer (PIO);
- Oversee the evidence function for the agency;
- Responsible for the training function of the agency;
- Manage the Internal Affairs process;
- Manage new employee recruitment, selection, background investigations, and hiring;
- Manage the department's vehicle fleet;
- Manage all building repairs, remodeling, and design;
- Responsible for developing and revising departmental policies;
- Managed a team to revise the department's Mission, Vision, and Values statements;

- Managed a team to develop the 2016-2018 Strategic Plan;
- Designed and managed a promotional selection assessment process for several supervisory positions;
- Counsel, guide, and mentor subordinates;
- Handle confidential records, personnel files, and monitor pending matters;
- Serve as the Acting Chief of Police in the absence of the Chief of Police.

Police Captain / Patrol Division Commander (*August 2011 – July 2016*)

- Direct, lead, and manage the agency's largest division;
- Created two Watch Commander positions to oversee the daily activities of two patrol squads each;
- Developed a Police Canine Unit that includes two police working dog teams;
- Established core training for all Patrol personnel at different career levels;
- Developed and implemented a surveillance network that monitors public areas as a force multiplier;
- Facilitated the research and implementation of a new duty weapon system;
- Developed and implemented a Patrol Rifle training program;
- Trained and equipped all sworn personnel in Civil Disturbance techniques;
- Developed a Special Event Planning Guide to ensure consistent planning in all special events;
- Responsible for recommending policies and managing the budget for the division and other major functions, i.e., firearms and the Special Response Team;
- Investigate complaints and make disciplinary recommendations when necessary;
- Conduct periodic review of subordinate work performance and make recommendations;
- Counsel, guide, and mentor subordinates;
- Handle confidential records, personnel files, and monitor pending matters.

Police Captain / Criminal Investigations Division Commander (*May 2010 – August 2011*)

- Direct, lead, and manage a division comprised of senior sworn personnel;
- Restructured the division into two groups to better aligned personnel with supervisors and specialties;
- Established core training for all detectives;
- Restructured how the agency managed drugs and vice complaints in order to promote transparency and professionalism;
- Reviewed case files, confidential informant files, and approval procedures to ensure investigations were conducted ethically and legally;
- Developed and implemented an assessment process for use when selecting new personnel.

Special Response Team Commander (*October 2006- 2016*)

- Command the Special Response and Crisis Negotiation Teams;
- Serve as Incident Commander during critical incidents in liaison with Chief of Police and Town Manager;
- Plan, approve, and facilitate all high-risk operations;
- Train and equip a group of highly skilled personnel for variety of high-risk incidents;
- Maintains all personal and team certifications associated with this assignment;
- Prepare annual training calendar and budget consisting of personnel accountability, training, and equipment.

Firearms Training Program Coordinator (*May 2010 - 2017*)

- Certified as a North Carolina Criminal Justice Training and Standards General and Specialized Firearms Instructor;
- Serve as department Range Master and responsible for the entire firearms training program;
- Developed the training programs taught by agency firearms staff;
- Maintain certifications associated with this assignment;
- Maintain ammunition and weapon inventory and accountability;
- Forecast, budget, and order annual ammunition and firearm needs.

Police Sergeant (*September 2006 – May 2010*)

- Managed a squad of sworn officers while performing general and supervisory law enforcement duties.

Police Officer (*August 2005 – September 2006*)

- Performed uniformed law enforcement related duties, including making arrests, serving warrants, writing reports, and conducting preliminary and follow-up criminal investigations.

METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT, Washington, D.C.

The Metropolitan Police Department is one of the oldest and largest law enforcement agencies in the country. More than 4,000 officers serve an international community of over 600,000 residents and hundreds of thousands of workers and visitors every day. Washington, D.C. is a home rule city under federal oversight. It is the home to the President of the United States of America, politicians from around the country, and other world dignitaries. It is one of the most unique and most visited cities in the world.

Master Police Officer (October 1994 – May 1999)

- Performed uniformed law enforcement related duties, including making arrests, serving warrants, writing reports, and conducting preliminary and follow-up criminal investigations.

Emergency Response Team (May 1999 – October 2005)

- Assigned to the Sniper/Counter-Sniper team;
- Responded to and resolved over 200 critical/unusual incidents to include: Hostage Rescue, Barricaded Suspects, Attempted Suicides, and international and domestic Terrorist Incidents;
- Participated in numerous special events and civil disturbances to include: the Million Man March, the International Monetary Fund Protests, Anti-War demonstrations, Anti-Abortion Rallies, and White Supremacist Marches;
- Participated in countless U.S. Presidential movements, inaugurations, and other various special events;
- Was one of three MPD first responders to the Pentagon on September 11, 2001;
- White House and SECRET Security Clearances issued by the U.S. Department of Justice.

UNITED STATES ARMY AND ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

The United States Army and the Army National Guard are premier military fighting forces in the world today. These organizations are comprised of nearly 1 million members highly trained to protect the nation and the individual states both here and abroad. Both historical organizations are led by highly trained leaders and are governed by rules of the U.S. Constitution and both federal and state laws.

Non-Commissioned Officer / First Sergeant (E8)

- The most senior Non-Commissioned Officer and enlisted advisor to the Company Commander;
- Responsible for the training, morale, readiness, and welfare of 120 enlisted members of the unit;
- Execute policies and standards concerning training, appearance, and the conduct of all company personnel;
- Responsible for the overall morale of enlisted personnel, including pay and compensation, promotions, discipline, family matters, and other issues that may negatively influence unit readiness;
- Handled confidential records, personnel files, and monitored pending matters;
- SECRET Security Clearance awarded by the U.S. Department of Defense;
- Reconnaissance Platoon Sergeant, Operation Enduring Freedom, Wardak, Afghanistan (July 2004 – July 2005);
- Infantry First Sergeant, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Mahmudiyah, Iraq (April 2009 – February 2010);
- Completed progressive leadership training: Primary Leadership Development School, Basic Non-commissioned Officer Course, Advance Non-commissioned Officer Course, and First Sergeant Course.

Army Instructor

- Officer Candidate School Senior Non-Commissioned Officer;
- Train, advise, and counsel officer candidates in enlisted concerns;
- Certified as a Total Army Instructor, Small Group Instructor, and TAC Non-Commissioned Officer.

Notable Professional Accomplishments

Awards

- Founders Award, 2019, Fayetteville/Cumberland Crisis Intervention Team;
- Officer of the Year, 2016, Apex Police Department;

- Bronze Star Medal, Operation Enduring Freedom, Afghanistan;
- Army Commendation Medal (Heroism), Pentagon, Arlington, Va., September 11, 2001;
- North Carolina Advanced Law Enforcement Certificate.

Publications

- City & Town Magazine, Arkansas Municipal League, February 2016, *“Training Program helps Law Enforcement Assist Troubled Veterans”*
- Police Chief Magazine, IACP, August 2015, *“U.S. Combat Veterans in Crisis: Veterans Helping Veterans”*

Training Presentation Experience

- Supporting Veterans in Police Agencies (2012 – present)
- Veterans Crisis Intervention Training (2015 – present)

Professional Affiliations

- International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), Civilian Law Enforcement and Military Cooperation Committee Member (CLEMCC)
- North Carolina FBI National Academy Association, Executive Board Member, 2nd Vice President
- North Carolina Association of Chiefs of Police, Region VII Director
- Harbor House Executive Board Member, Secretary

Professional References

Available upon request

Weather

6 NC counties are under alert, including Johnston County. [Details](#)



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LOCAL NEWS

Clayton councilman criticizes using officers to protect police chief's home

Posted July 7, 2020 7:17 p.m. EDT



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By Sloane Heffernan, WRAL anchor/reporter

CLAYTON, N.C. — A town councilman wants to put a policy in place for how to handle threats against police chief's home

Myhand li

[x](#) of Blair

Myhand noted in a recent question-and-answer session on the police department's Facebook page that he had received threats.

"We have had some officers threatened here, myself included," he said without elaborating.

Myhand couldn't be reached Tuesday for comment, but Clayton spokeswoman Stacy Beard said the chief received a threat against himself and his home in early June. The threat, which came at the height of violent protests following the death of George Floyd in police custody in Minneapolis, offered a sum of money to anyone who carried out the crime, Beard said.

As a result, an officer was assigned to guard the chief's house around the clock from June 3 to June 7.

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Town Council member Jason Thompson said he supports Myhand but doesn't support using public funds for private security.

"I felt like it was not a wise use of taxpayer money to provide protection to someone who can afford it on his own," Thompson said. "It sends a bad message if we are just providing that to the chief and not anyone else."

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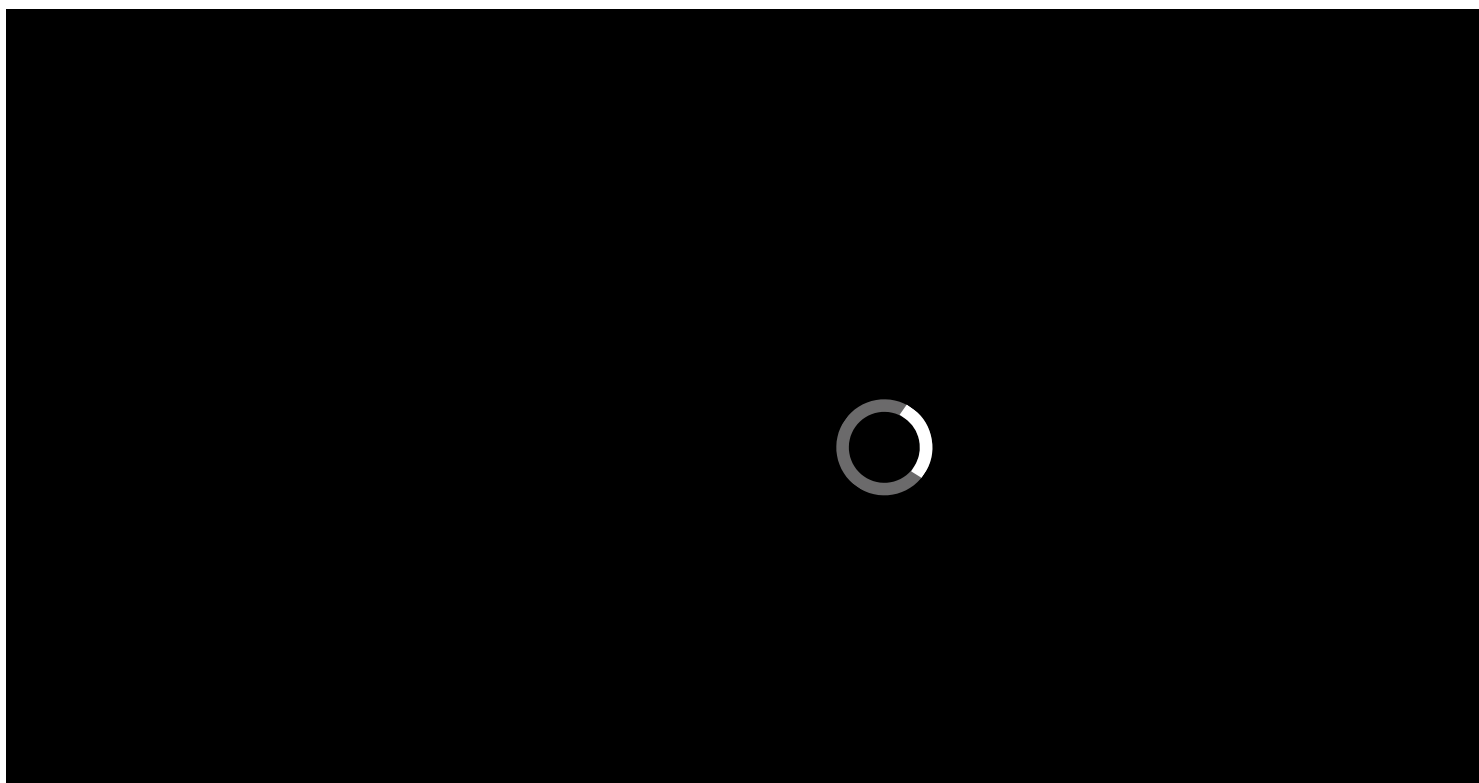
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SUBMIT

55°

JOHNSTON COUNTY NEWS

Clayton police chief files objection to administrative suspension, attorney says



by: **Bridget Chapman**

55°

CLAYTON, N.C. (WNCN) — Details have been scarce on the reason why Clayton's police chief was placed on administrative leave but his attorney asks that the public not "prematurely read anything into" the change.

C. Blair Myhand was placed on leave as of Monday night, town spokeswoman Cathy Marraccini told CBS 17.

On Wednesday, CBS 17's Bridget Chapman spoke briefly to Myhand who referred her to his attorney, Edward Schenk.

In a statement to CBS 17, Schenk said he wasn't "able to comment substantively" about the situation. Then, later in the evening, Schenk said Myhand served his written "Notice of Grievance and Objection to Administrative Suspension."

"It is our hope that the public will not unfairly or prematurely read anything into the fact that he has been placed on administrative leave. Chief Myhand will soon be addressing the change in his status through the proper channels," Schenk said.

The attorney also said the chief is receiving support from citizens, town leaders and law enforcement from across the state.

Clayton Mayor Pro Tem Jason Thompson confirmed Wednesday that Myhand was on administrative leave but went on to say "there is absolutely nothing else to be said."

Myhand will continue to be paid during his leave, Marraccini said.

Myhand was sworn in on May 15, 2017.

Before coming to Clayton, Myhand was a police captain in Apex, where he served for more than 11 years.

He is a retired U.S. Army First Sergeant with more than two decades of military and law enforcement experience, including tours in Iraq and Afghanistan, according to Myhand's bio on the town of Clayton website.

55°

Clayton police chief will 'soon be addressing' being placed on administrative leave, attorney says



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Clayton Police Chief Placed On Administrative Leave

November 17, 2020

Clayton Police Chief Blair Myhand has been placed on administrative leave. The action was taken on Monday.

Major Jon Gerrell is serving as interim police chief while Myhand is on paid leave.

Reached by email this afternoon, Interim Town Manager JD Solomon said he was unable to comment why the police chief is on administrative leave.

Myhand was [hired in April 2017](#) as the Town of Clayton Police Chief. Previously he had served as a captain with the Apex Police Department.

In July 2020, questions were raised about Chief Myhand's [private security detail](#) at his residence.



JOHNSTON COUNTY

Clayton police chief placed on administrative leave

BY JOSH SHAFFER

NOVEMBER 18, 2020 08:46 AM, UPDATED NOVEMBER 18, 2020 09:17 AM



Blair Myhand, police chief in Clayton. *TOWN OF CLAYTON*



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00:41

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CLAYTON

The chief of police in Clayton has been placed on administrative leave, multiple media outlets report.

The reason for Blair Myhand's leave has not been disclosed.

But the Johnston County Report [published a story Tuesday](#) which noted concerns after Myhand took officers off-patrol for private security at his home after a threat in the aftermath of the killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis and civil unrest nationwide.

[Hired in 2017, Myhand](#) spent 11 years on the force in Apex and was one of the Washington, D.C., Metropolitan Police Department officers who responded to the Pentagon on Sept. 11, 2001.

Maj. [Jon Gerrell will run the Clayton Police Department](#) while Myhand is on leave, WRAL reported.

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This story will be updated as more information becomes available.

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Clayton Police Chief's Private Security Detail Questioned By Elected Officials

July 6, 2020



A Clayton police officer sits in a marked police cruiser in front of the home of police chief Blair Myhand on June 6, 2020. Myhand had an on-duty officer parked in front of his home 24 hours a day for personal security, even when no one was at his residence. Johnston County Report photo

"I am extremely disappointed that taxpayers protected him at the expense of the community."

CLAYTON – The Town of Clayton police chief reportedly took officers off patrol to provide personal security at his home, even when he wasn't there. Police Chief Blair Myhand's actions are now being questioned by some members of the Clayton Town Council.

In the aftermath of the May 25, 2020 killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis, Minnesota there were protests, riots and unrest across the country. On June 2nd, the NC Association of Chiefs of Police sent an email to their members across the state indicating there were "non-specific threats" towards law enforcement officers. "Information has been received that non-specific threats have been generated towards Police Chiefs and other Law Enforcement Officials... Due to the current climate across the state and the country, we wanted to inform you for situational awareness. We will update information or intelligence received that is deemed credible," the memo stated.

The following day, on June 3rd, an on-duty police officer was pulled from patrol and ordered to guard Myhand's personal home in the Clayton city limits. Town Manager Adam Lindsay informed the Town Council and Mayor Jody McLeod in an email that night stating, "Chief Myhand did receive an unvalidated threat towards him and his address and out of an abundance of caution there will be police patrol watching his home through the weekend."

Normally, at any given time, there are four patrol officers on duty in the Town of Clayton. But between June 3rd and June 7th – a five-day period – one of the four officers was pulled from patrol duties to sit in front of the police chief's home to provide 24 hour a day personal security. The security took place even when no one was apparently at Myhand's personal residence.

In a June 5th email to the town manager, Councilman Jason Thompson said, "I do not support the taxpayers paying for the Chief's protection detail. We have officers on the front lines who have been threatened by gang members and we have not provided protection for their wives and children while they work nor for them at home. If we are not providing it for our lowest ranking officers, we should not be providing (it) when he makes a higher salary. This is a slap in the face of officers (who) have been threatened and have not received the same. I would like to know the cost of this protection and how it is going to be paid for."



Clayton Town Manager
Adam Lindsay

The next day, June 6th, Town Manager Lindsay emailed the town council saying he did not know the cost of the private protection detail. "I don't know the cost. As I relayed on Wednesday (June 3), a patrol officer was assigned to watch over his property so it is being provided by an active duty officer during their assigned shift." For the first time, Lindsay told the council Chief Myhand had received "intel from a credible source that a prominent gang had put out a threat towards him and his home" after several Clayton police officers and Chief Myhand assisted Raleigh Police during protests and rioting.

Lindsay then defended the private security detail. "I didn't hesitate on the idea because I think it is best that I try to limit the leader of our police department from some of the personal stress and worry about what might happen to his home and family during this time when we need him focused the most on the community at large."

In 2017, [three people were arrested for breaking into the Myhand's home](#) when he lived in Apex and worked with the Apex Police Department. Myhand shot at one of the burglars but missed. The suspects were later captured.

African American Clayton Police Officer Denied Protection

In a June 10th email, obtained through a Public Records Request, sent from Councilman Thompson to Councilman Michael Grannis, Mr. Thompson stated, "In April, one of our police officers received a very specific threat on his life from a violent gang. It was part of their promotion process (rank in the gang). Our detectives investigated and two days later concluded they did not believe it to be credible. Neither our officer, his wife nor his new child received a protection detail during these two days they believed him to be in imminent danger. Our chief received a non-specific threat, against all chiefs, after the Raleigh protest. Our PD immediately provided a protection detail and our officers (on duty on our time) placed cameras up at his residence. We provided 24/7 protection of his home, even when he wasn't there."

"I'm appalled at the difference in how these were handled. Our front-line officer was treated differently than our chief who makes over \$100,000 a year. Our chief lives in an affluent neighborhood and has the means to afford private security. I am extremely disappointed that taxpayers protected him at the expense of the community – and took a valuable officer off patrol and

stationed him outside of the chief's home. I just can't agree with how this was handled nor the spending of our money."

"Further, our chief is white and our officer is of color. This sends a horrible message to our officers, other staff and to the community for how we handle situations where people have been threatened and terribly upsets me. I've worked for 3 sheriff's and 3 police chiefs. They have all been threatened I have NEVER known the taxpayers to fund personal protection for them," Councilman Thompson said in the email.

Clayton Police Chief Blair Myhand

Town Councilman Bobby Bunn said he shares Councilman Thompson's concerns. "Anytime when it pertains to Clayton tax dollars being questioned, I am going to look into it. There was another police officer threatened by gangs and we didn't do anything for them as far as protection-wise."

When asked if Chief Myhand was wasting police resources, Bunn responded, "You want to make sure tax dollars are being spent wisely. I hope all town employees are mindful of how they spend taxpayer's dollars."

Asked about pulling on-duty officers off the street to sit in front of Myhand's home, which could delay response times for the remaining officers on patrol, Bunn said, "I am concerned. Absolutely."

Protection Detail Ends

On June 7th, Chief Myhand ordered the personal protection detail to end. So far, the Town of Clayton and the Clayton Police Department have not been able to provide the cost of the five-day security detail.

Johnston County Report has confirmed a surveillance camera device used by the Clayton Police Department was installed by on-duty police officers at Chief Myhand's home during the weeklong security detail. Officials did not say if the device, commonly used in areas of high crime and narcotics investigations, was pulled from any official police activity to be placed at Myhand's home.

We checked with the several local law enforcement agencies including the Johnston County Sheriff's Office, Selma Police and Smithfield Police Departments. No one received any protection detail during the period. All were aware of the increased threats against law enforcement. In fact, all the officials told us they had never had a security detail for any reason throughout their career.

Raleigh Police Chief Has Security Detail

ABC 11 reported in May 2020, the Raleigh Police Protective Association took issue with a [24/7 security detail provided to Raleigh Police Chief Cassandra Deck-Brown](#) at taxpayer expense. She has been receiving the security at her home since March, when protestors showed up at her personal residence.

"We find this concerning because this unusual security service is an atypical use of city and police resources," Raleigh Police Protective Association spokesperson Rick Armstrong said in a Facebook post. "Private citizens and business owners requesting around-the-clock security would be required to hire off-duty police at \$35 per hour or a private security service. Why is Chief Deck-Brown treated differently than Raleigh citizens or Raleigh police officers?"

Armstrong said that Raleigh police officers threatened in the past were not given long-term protection, ABC 11 reported.

Misuse of Clayton Taxpayer Dollars

Councilman Thompson said he is concerned about the safety of Chief Myhand along with all police officers and citizens in Clayton. "Of course, I am concerned for the welfare of our chief. I am also concerned for the welfare of all of our officers and their families. We have officers on the front lines, as well as citizens who receive threats on a regular basis. I think we do a great job protecting our city, but we cannot use taxpayer money to provide personal security for private citizens or our chief. The chief gets paid more than any other officer in our town and if he wants personal protection, he should utilize his own money to hire guards. It greatly concerns me that on duty patrol officers have been utilized to stand guard at the Chief's residence. Taking an officer off of patrol increases the danger to our citizens and is a misuse of taxpayer dollars."

No Response from Police Chief

On July 1st, we emailed Chief Myhand asking him to respond to several questions related to his security detail. We asked why he used an on-duty officer instead of hiring an off-duty officer or private security and if he planned to reimburse the Town of Clayton for the cost. We also ask why he had round-the-clock protection when an officer of color received a credible threat in April and received no protection. Chief Myhand did not respond to our email. Town spokesperson Stacy Beard said July 2nd, "He might be on vacation. I don't know." As of news deadline today (Monday), Myhand still had not responded to our email sent five days ago.

FBI Memo

Town of Clayton officials did, however, provide us with an unclassified memo from the FBI to support their claims a security detail was needed for Chief Myhand. The memo indicated law enforcement officers could be targeted at their personal residences and to beware of parking cruisers in their driveways and being followed home at the end of a shift. The memo was dated June 12th, five days after the personal security ended at Chief Myhand's home.
