



## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

BUREAU OF POLICE  
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CHIEF OF OPERATIONS

**SHAWYN PATTERSON - HOWARD**  
MAYOR

August 28, 2025

Honorable City Council Members  
City of Mount Vernon  
1 Roosevelt Square  
Mount Vernon, NY 10550

### **RE: Request for Authorization to Attend SWAT Command Decision-Making and Leadership I**

Dear Honorable Council Members,

The Department of Public Safety respectfully requests that legislation be enacted to authorize **three (3) Members of Service** to attend the **SWAT Command Decision-Making and Leadership I** course, scheduled for **October 6 through October 10, 2025**. The training will be held at the **Passaic County Police Academy, located at 214 Oldham Road, Wayne, NJ 07470**.

This course is designed to provide SWAT Team Commanders and Supervisors with instruction on contemporary tactical issues, operational planning, and supervisory responsibilities. The curriculum emphasizes pre-incident preparation, organizational structure, and the tactical decision-making process required for the successful resolution of high-risk operations.

Participation in this training is particularly timely and relevant given the recent increase in SWAT callouts and warrant service within our jurisdiction. It will ensure that supervisory personnel remain informed of current best practices and legal considerations associated with the management of tactical teams.

In response to findings from the most recent Department of Justice investigation, it was recommended that targeted training initiatives be undertaken to enhance departmental readiness and ensure compliance with evolving standards. Attending this course will directly support those recommendations and contribute to the continued professional development of the attending officers.

The cost of the course is **\$779 per participant, for a total of \$2,337 for three members**. The three MOS attending are \_\_\_\_\_ These expenses will be covered through \_\_\_\_\_

Budget Line **A3120.451 (Training)**. Additionally, we request authorization for the use of one department vehicle for travel purposes.

Should this request meet with the approval of Your Honorable Body, we ask that legislation be enacted to authorize attendance and participation for this training.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "David Gibson". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

David Gibson  
Commissioner of Public Safety