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Contacts: Village of Briarcliff: Phil Zegarelli
914-941-4800
Village of Ossining: Bill Hanauer
914-941-3554
Town of Ossining: Catherine Borgia
914-762-6001

Village of Ossining, Village of Briarcliff and Town of Ossining Make Significant Progress in Police Consolidation Study

(May 5, 2010) The Town of Ossining and its two incorporated Villages of Ossining and Briarcliff Manor have released the results of a study recommending the merger of their three individual Police Departments.

According to the consultant, The International Municipality/County Management Association (ICMA), the proposed merger is estimated to save \$3,000,000 of taxpayer dollars per year. ICMA recommends that the present combined staffing level of 97 sworn officers can be reduced to 72 sworn officers with increased efficiency and enhanced professional police services to the three communities. A single dispatching facility fully staffed by civilians rather than a combination of civilians and police officers is also highly recommended. Also, the standard shift of 8 hours should be changed to 12 hours saving costs and increasing efficiencies described in detail in the report.

The receipt of the consultant's report is the first step in a process that will now involve public meetings to discuss the report's recommendations and to gather the opinions and input of citizens of the three communities.

The three communities had established a committee consisting of elected officials and private citizens representing each of the municipalities to work with the consultant and the three Police Departments throughout the study period.

For more information, contact Town Supervisor Catherine Borgia in Town of Ossining at 914-762-6001, Village Manager Phil Zegarelli in the Village of Briarcliff at 914-941-4800, or Mayor Bill Hanauer in the Village of Ossining at 914-941-3554.

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