



RIVERHEAD POLICE DEPARTMENT

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During this very unsettling time, I want to take some time to reassure our residents and visitors, that we are doing everything in our power to provide safety and security to everyone in our Town. We are the arbitrators of peace, but like everyone, we in the Riverhead Police Department have witnessed the tragic death of George Floyd. The actions of the officers in Minnesota go against us as human beings as well as the policy, practice and training of our department. We are sworn to uphold the law while serving each and every individual. This not only protects all of us, but our constitutional freedoms as well. We have faith in our system and believe that justice will and must be served.

As your Chief for the last 18 years and a Riverhead Police Officer for 20 years prior to that, I have not and will not tolerate abuse, maltreatment or crimes against anyone. The cornerstone of our mission statement is the value of human life and the protection of the dignity of all people. I have made myself available to all of you and will continue to do so. I believe in the people of Riverhead and am proud to serve as your Chief. I am not naive to history, but over my long career, I have seen change. It concerns me greatly that law abiding people would or could actually fear us. It goes against every reason I became a police officer. I will do everything in my power and will work with anyone to dispel that fear and lack of trust. I remain available to you. You can reach me by phone or e-mail. I know together we will get through this as a community.

Very truly yours,

David J. Hegermiller
Chief of Police

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cc: file