



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Columbus, Ohio – January 3, 2023

**POLICE UNION RESPONDS TO
CITY OF BEACHWOOD'S PRESS RELEASES**

On December 19, 2022, the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) Beachwood Lodge #86 issued a "Vote of No Confidence" in Police Chief Kate McLaughlin and Deputy Chief John Resek. This vote was conducted after all other methods of directing attention to the issues had been exhausted and in the hope that it could ultimately influence necessary and urgently needed change within the executive leaders of the department.

A majority of the Officers at the Beachwood Police Department feel that morale is at an all-time low, largely due to a poor culture of leadership. Before taking this vote, union leadership met with the Chief, Deputy Chief, and later with the Mayor in attempts to encourage them to explore resolving these issues. The Officers concerns were not taken seriously.

FOP Lodge 86 shared the results of the no confidence vote privately with the City Administration to generate meaningful dialogue. The City Administration then chose to publicly share the results of the No Confidence Vote by issuing a press release on December 19th.

Beachwood has had a highly regarded Police Department for many decades by aggressively recruiting well-qualified and educated Officers in the region. The Beachwood Police Department has been a professional and well-respected Department long before the current administration and will continue to be so long after they are gone. Being held to high standards is nothing new at the Beachwood Police Department.

The job of being a law enforcement officer is dangerous under the best of circumstances. The officers who work for the Beachwood Police Department are dedicated public servants who put their lives on the line every time they put on a uniform and go to work. Executive Director Gwen Callender of the Fraternal Order of Police/Ohio Labor Council stressed "we desire for our members and their employer to have a harmonious and respectable relationship. Our officers want support and approachable leadership when they put their lives on the line to protect and serve the citizens in Beachwood."

The Fraternal Order of Police, Ohio Labor Council, Inc. is the largest law enforcement labor organization in the State of Ohio. The FOP/Ohio Labor Council has been representing members of the law enforcement profession since 1984.

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