



## **Police Chief Clinton J. Herdegen's Statement as Read During the June 9, 2020 Village Board Meeting**

The Libertyville Police Department has been shaken by what happened to George Floyd and his death by a police officer. His death is obviously unacceptable and represents a total disregard for his life. As the Police Chief, on behalf of the men and women of the Libertyville Police Department, we extend our sincere condolences to the family of George Floyd. There is obviously no excuse for what happened to Mr. Floyd, or a way to undo what happened to him, or anyway to help understand how his family must feel. The entire country is obviously hurting, and we are no exception. Although we can't pretend to completely understand how we should feel during this time, we can take time to ensure we are doing the business of our job, as police officers in Libertyville, in an appropriate and highly professional manner. And more than that, we must ensure we do it correctly every time.

It is my job, as the Chief of Police to make sure we do it right. In the last week more than ever before today, I have been asked about how we do policing in Libertyville, how we are trained and how we respond to serious calls in the community. The people in our community, rightfully so, are questioning how we do business here in Libertyville and how we respond to the questions presented. In order to respond and assist you with understanding how we prepare to do our job and hold each other accountable, consider the following:

The Libertyville Police Department routinely requires our police officers to complete training. Our training is a serious matter and is taken as such. Libertyville Police do an excellent job while conducting their daily business and I consider them among the best. That does not mean there is room for improvement, there always is. The bar should be rightfully set high and it is. Due to the amount of training required, some training is required annually, some every 2 years and some every 3 years. New hired police officers are provided this training during several months of employment. Here is a list of important training you should know about:

Constitutional Rights, Freedom of Assembly, Procedural Justice, De-escalation, Bias Awareness, Search and Seizure, Excessive Use of Force, Civil Liability, Criminal Liability, Official Misconduct, Cultural Competency, Human Rights, Domestic Violence, Sex Crimes, Hate Crimes, Dignity and Respect, Lethal and Non-Lethal Force, among many other topics. Many include decision-based training scenarios.

### **Village Hall**

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I assure you George Floyd and his family will serve as a point to move forward in Libertyville. Additionally, we will continue to serve as an example for doing police work the right way and holding our officers accountable every time.

Clinton J. Herdegen  
Police Chief

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