

Good Morning,

I'm David Schilling the Interim Sheriff of Cuyahoga County and It gives me great pleasure to be with you all this morning.

Since this is my first opportunity as Interim Sheriff to participate in the budget process, I'd first like to begin by thanking Council President Brady, Councilman Miller, and all of the Council members for allowing me to address this body regarding the proposed 2020-2021 budget for the Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Department.

First off, in reviewing the budget proposals with my staff, I'd like to say that I'm extremely pleased with the budget proposals submitted to council by Executive Budish.

These proposed increases in funding will allow our continued success in a number of areas that affect the overall operation of the department, the most important of which is the operation of the Cuyahoga County Corrections Center.

As submitted by Executive Budish, the Sheriff's Department was approved for a budgetary increase to supplement the hiring of Deputy Sheriff's and support staff.

At present, we are currently approved for 180 Deputies, our current Deputy Sheriff Staff numbers 163. We continue to work daily to fill those 17 vacancies and I am confident that we will do so by the end of this year.

The increase to this portion of our budget, will provide us the ability to request an additional 35 law enforcement staff, 22 of which would be Deputy Sheriff's, and 13 would be law enforcement supervisors.

The additional Deputy Sheriff's will provide us the ability to deploy an increased, vigilant, law enforcement presence in the common plea's courtrooms which, as you know, through numerous incidents depicted almost daily in the media nationwide, are becoming more and more unsafe.

01)

These additional Deputy Sheriff's will enhance our ability to provide a safe and secure environment for the judiciary, their staff members and the hundreds of people having business with the court.

Also, as submitted by Executive Budish, the Sheriff's Department was approved for a budget increase that would afford the department the ability to effectively and safely manage our inmate population through increased staffing in the correction center.

The hiring of additional corrections officers and support staff would allow the department to increase the number of corrections officers to 725 and allow for additional corrections officer supervisory staff.

While these additional personnel will be utilized to supplement the overall operation of the facility, they're presence will allow us to achieve our vision of operating the correction center as a safe, professional facility in compliance with state corrections standards.

The added presence of these officers will afford us the ability to effectively staff the housing units, provide a security presence for our nursing and medical staff, reduce red-zoning, and provide more efficient service to the courts by being able to quickly move inmates from the housing units to the courtrooms thus, aiding the judges in reducing their dockets and reducing the population of the facility.

While we are not slowing or halting our hiring of Protective Services Officers we have yet to reach our full compliment. Further discussion may resume at a later date with the Office of Budget and Management in the event we reach our full complement and begin to exceed our existing budget.

02)

Currently, the Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Department has no immediate plans for new initiatives. Since being appointed as the Interim Sheriff, the primary focus of my administration has been to stabilize the department, and work with our dedicated management staff of the corrections center to bring the challenges confronting the corrections center to a swift resolution.

In conclusion, I wish to thank the members of the Office of Budget and Management, as well as our Fiscal Officer Donna Kaleal and the members of her staff for their hard work and dedication in completing the 2020 and 2021 budget.

03)