



**POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF BURLINGTON**

Yesterday, the Burlington Police Department swore in 16 new employees who have joined the department over the past three months. This included:

- nine new professional employees like Community Service Officers (CSOs), Community Support Liaisons (CSLs), dispatchers, and our new redaction specialist
- six new sworn employees—i.e., recruit police officers who will go to the Vermont Police Academy on Monday 2/6
- one of three sworn officers who had left the department but have returned to employment here

This shows the strong momentum of [the Rebuilding Plan](#) that Mayor Miro Weinberger and acting Chief Jon Murad announced in May 2022, which the City Council approved for FY23. The Burlington Police Department hopes to keep this momentum going as it seeks a professional partner for [a recruitment campaign](#)—which includes [recruiting, marketing, and advertising](#)—as well.

Mayor Weinberger spoke and noted, “The Burlington Police are important. We need them to have the kind of City that we have long enjoyed. And we need to make sure that all officers, and all members of this department, are treated fairly and that they are supported properly in their roles.” He also noted, “Thank you, everyone in the room, for your service. Thank you to those who are stepping up and entering this profession at a challenging time for this country, and a challenging time for this city. You are going to be a part of a generation of officers that a lot is demanded of and I have full confidence that you are going to rise to that challenge. You are going to show that it is possible to meet the high standards that this community expects while also keeping this community safe and prosperous. Thank you for stepping up at a time when so many are stepping away.”

About the new employees, Chief Murad observed, “We have diversity of background, of race, of national origin. ... We are striving to look more and more like community that we serve and we’re getting there. ... But the most important part of any of this is that our recruits are great people. Burlington wants and deserves great cops. And we will not, we cannot, compromise on those standards. Looking at these employees here today, and their families, I’m confident that we have them. We are in the midst of one of the most important periods this agency has ever known. It’s a rebuilding effort that we have not experienced in more than half a century. And all of you are part of that effort. You are the foundation on which we are rebuilding. This is a high stakes job. It is a high stress job. But it is a highly rewarding job.”

The ceremony was [covered by Town Meeting TV, and can be seen online](#). Hear Mayor Weinberger's important full remarks and meet and learn a bit about all the new employees.

Acting Chief of Police Jon Murad

Information is preliminary and subject to change.



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