



TOWN OF SAUGERTIES

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Our heartfelt thoughts and prayers go out to the alleged victims and all those who have been affected by the alleged acts of Patrolman Sydney Mills. As leaders of your community, we will not tolerate any such behavior and will continue to demand better each-and-every day from those who we entrust to work in our community for all of us.

Such arrests shatter public trust and demoralize those who do their job with integrity and professionalism.

In June of 2023, we as your town board began to take a deep dive into our police department regarding multiple complaints including one that later lead to the arrest of a police officer. We began to analyze our department from the top down and inside out. This major review of our department personnel and policies resulted in multiple retirements including the Chief of Police and Captain at the time. Moving forward with many challenges the board has stayed committed to the same pursuit of regaining public trust and re-establishing the integrity of our police department. Unfortunately, our hard work has continued to reveal new issues and problems.

In August of 2023 the town board dealt with the misconduct of Officer Dion Johnson. Acting on the allegations the board immediately requested the assistance of the Ulster County District Attorney's Office and State Attorney General's Office. Following their extensive investigations, ultimately, Officer Johnson was charged with burglary 2nd, sex abuse first, among other charges and will never serve as a police officer in Ulster County again.

Now, in May of 2025, a Saugerties Police Officer received information about alleged crimes committed by Officer Sydney Mills. The officer immediately notified the Chief of Police, whom along with the Supervisor and Police Liaison for the Board notified the Ulster County District Attorney. District Attorney Nneji requested that this investigation remain confidential until the conclusion. Following a lengthy investigation by the District Attorney's Office, a sealed indictment resulted in the arrest of Officer Mills.

We, as your Town Board, want to assure the people of Saugerties that we are committed to transparency and accountability in our partnership with the community. We assure you that we acted appropriately regarding all aspects of this investigation under the direction of the Ulster County District Attorney.

We want to continue to encourage community involvement and encourage those who may have had other than satisfying encounters with town employees to come forward. We appreciate your concern and understanding during this difficult time.

Saugerties Town Board