

AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
TOWNSHIP OF LACEY
and
LACEY TOWNSHIP POLICEMEN'S
BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION LOCAL 238

JANUARY 1, 2021 THROUGH AND INCLUDING DECEMBER 31,
2025

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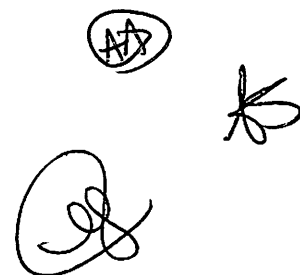
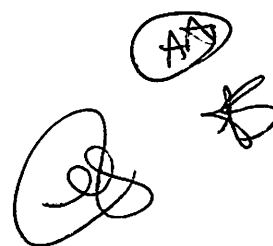
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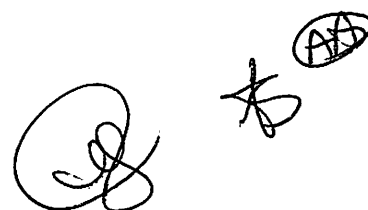
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AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT made by and between the TOWNSHIP OF LACEY, a corporated body politic, in the County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, hereinafter referred to as the "Employer", and the LACEY TOWNSHIP POLICEMEN'S BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION, LOCAL NO. 238, hereinafter referred to as the "P.B.A.", as bargaining agent and on behalf of members of the Lacey Township Police Department, Township Of Lacey, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, hereinafter referred to as "Employee" or "Officer".

WITNESSETH

WHEREAS, it is the intent and purpose of the parties herein to promote and improve the harmonious and economic relations between the Employer and it's Employees and to establish a basic understanding relative to rates of pay, hours of work and other conditions of employment consistent with the law.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of this and mutual covenants herein contained, the parties hereunto agree with respect to the employees of the employer recognized as being represented by the P.B.A. as follows:

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ARTICLE I
RECOGNITION AND SCOPE OF AGREEMENT

- A. The Employer hereby recognizes the P.B.A. as the sole and exclusive representative of all Employee's in the negotiation of this Contract Agreement and for the purpose of collective bargaining and all other activities and processes relative thereto.
- B. The bargaining unit shall consist of all the regular full-time Police Officers of the Lacey Township Police Department now employed or hereafter employed with the exception of any Superior Officers with the rank of Sergeant to Chief of Police of Lacey Township.
- C. This agreement shall govern all wages, hours and other conditions of employment set forth herein.
- D. This agreement shall be binding upon the parties hereto.
- E. The P.B.A. recognizes that pursuant to New Jersey Statute, they have no right to strike.

ARTICLE II
COLLECTIVE BARGAINING PROCEDURE

- A. Collective bargaining, with respect to rates of pay, hours of work or other conditions of employment, shall be conducted by a duly authorized bargaining agent of each of the parties to this Agreement. Unless otherwise designated, the Mayor and the Employer or his designee and members of the Committee as designated by the Township Committee of the Township of Lacey and President of the P.B.A. or his designee, including an attorney, provided reasonable notice is given to Employer, together with members of his negotiating Committee, shall be the respective negotiating agents for the parties.
- B. Collective bargaining meetings shall be held at times and places mutually convenient at the request of either party.
- C. Employees of the Employer who may be designated by the P.B.A. to participate at collective bargaining meetings called for the purpose of the negotiation of collective bargaining will be excused from their work assignments to attend such collective bargaining meetings.

ARTICLE III
DISCRIMINATION AND COERCION

A. There shall be no discrimination, interference or coercion by the Employer or any of its agents against the Employees represented by the P.B.A. because of membership or activity in the P.B.A. The P.B.A. shall not intimidate or coerce Employees into membership. Neither the Employer nor the P.B.A. shall discriminate against any Employees because of race, color, creed, sex, national origin or political affiliation.

- B. 1. No material derogatory to Employee's conduct, service, - character, or personality shall be placed in his or her personnel file unless the Employee has had an opportunity to review the material by affixing his or her initials to the document to be filed with the express understanding that such initials in no way indicates agreement with the contents thereof The Employee shall also have the right to submit a written reply (e.g. rebuttal, answer, etc.) to such material and this reply shall be reviewed by the Chief of Police and a Township designee at the Employee's request. This reply will be attached to the document to which it is in reply for as long as the document is in the Employee's file.
2. Although the Township agrees to protect the confidentiality of personal references, credentials and other similar documents, it shall not establish any separate personnel file which is not available for the employee's inspection. This provision shall not apply to any information which need not be disclosed to the Employee under the requirements of State law.

ARTICLE IV
INCREMENTS - DEFINITION

For the purpose of this contract, any reference to the term "increments" shall be defined as follows:

Any Employee who is hired on a full time basis shall have increments determined as follows:

January Increment – If an Employee is employed on the 1st day of January up through and including the 30th day of June, then that Employee's increment shall be determined as of January 1st of the following calendar year.

July Increment - Any Employee who is employed on or after the 1st day of July of any calendar year shall have his increment measured as of July 1st of the following calendar year.

First increment shall begin the date that Employee starts, all future increments of Employees shall be based upon the anniversary of the January or July increment as set forth above.


ARTICLE V
SENIORITY - DEFINITION

- A. Throughout the ranks, seniority shall be based on the fact that Captain is senior to Lieutenant, Lieutenant is senior to Sergeant, and Sergeant is senior to Patrolman.

- B. If in the event of a dispute of seniority arises, and both officers are of equal rank, the senior will be deemed the officer with the longest service on the Lacey Township Police Department in that rank.
In the event that both officers were appointed to their present rank on the same date, then the officer with the highest ranking on the Civil Service examination will be senior.

- C. In the event of demotion, the demoted party shall carry his years of supervisory service as his standing in the rank demoted.

- D. The employee will have the right to select his tour of duty schedule for his designated job duty by seniority. However, the right to such selection by seniority shall not apply in cases of emergencies, extra-ordinary circumstances or where special qualifications (e.g., alcotest operator, radar operator, identification expertise, canine assignments) or any other circumstances wherein special qualifications are required. Tour of duty schedule selection by seniority shall be made by the officers between the dates of November 1 and November 30 of each year for the next calendar year, to take effect on or about January 5 of the next calendar year.

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ARTICLE VI
SICK LEAVE

- A. All full-time officers covered by this Agreement shall be governed by the following sickness and injury leave policy.
1. Reporting Sick or Injured
Officers unable to report for duty because of sickness or injury shall make an immediate report to their Commanding Officer or Desk Officer, in person or by telephone. If unable to report, a relative or other responsible person shall notify the Commanding Officer or Desk Officer of all pertinent facts either in person or by telephone.
 2. Sick or Injured on Duty
Officers who become sick or who are injured on duty shall report the facts to the Commanding Officer and shall remain on duty until relieved, unless excused by a superior officer. The only exception is when sickness or injury is disabling to the point of preventing compliance.
 3. Accumulated Sick Leave
Officers shall accumulate sick leave at the rate of 15 days for each full year of continuous employment in the department. Officers having exhausted all of their sick leave will not receive any further sick leave (except as provided in Article VI A.10) or compensation in lieu thereof until new time has been accumulated and earned by the employee by subsequent employment. Newly appointed officers of the department shall accrue one day of sick leave for each full month worked.
 4. Verification of Sick Leave
All officers who shall be absent on sick leave for five or more consecutive working days shall be required to submit acceptable medical evidence substantiating the illness.
 5. Examination
The Chief of Police may require an officer who has been absent because of personal illness, as a condition of his/her return to duty, to be examined, at the expense of the Department, by a physician designated by the department. Such examination shall establish whether the officer is capable of performing his/her normal duties and that his/her return will not jeopardize the health of other employees.

6. Dental and Optical
Sick leave will not be allowed for ordinary dental care nor for the services of an oculist for normal eye care, as such services are readily available outside of work hours.
7. Outside Employment
No officer while on sick leave from the Department shall be employed elsewhere or engaged in any outside work or employment
8. Retirement - Unused Sick Days
 - (a) Upon retirement in an approved retirement system, or upon the death of an employee while employed by the Township, the officer shall be entitled to a lump sum payment for earned and unused accumulated sick leave computed at the rate of one half of the officer's daily rate of pay for each day of earned and unused accumulated sick leave based upon the officer's annual compensation, excluding overtime, received during the last year of employment prior to the date of retirement or death, provided, however, that no such payment shall exceed \$20,000.00;
 - (b) In order to receive payment of this benefit in the year of retirement, the officer retiring must notify the Township no later than January 15 of the year in which retirement is intended. In the event that the officer does not give notice prior to January 15 in the year in which retirement is desired, the benefits provided for under this paragraph shall be paid in the following calendar year.
9. Sick Leave Bonus - Administrative Day
 - (a) One additional Administrative Day shall be granted for every 180 days (6 months) worked without sick leave. Bonus Administrative Days shall not be accumulated while on Worker's Compensation time off. Days which have been accumulated prior to any Worker's Compensation/leave will remain as accumulated time, and accumulation of time will continue after returning to work and being removed from Worker's Compensation.
 - (i) The additional Administrative Day must be used within the next six month period or the day shall be forfeited.
 - (ii) It shall be the responsibility of the officer to notify his/her supervisor when this additional Administrative Day has been earned.
 - (iii) After confirming that the officer has not used any sick leave for six consecutive months, the supervisor shall acknowledge that

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the additional Administrative Day has been earned and shall notify the Township Administrator.

- (iv) All officers shall earn the Administrative Day at the employee's current work schedule day: eleven (11) hours for a 11.25 hour employee, ten (10) hours for a ten hour employee and Eight (8) hours for an eight hour employee.
- (v) For contractual purposes, the Administrative Day shall follow the guidelines for personal days as defined in Article VII or any Article that references Personal Days.

10. Extended Sick Leave


The Township reserves the right to extend sick time upon application by an officer to the extent permitted by N.J.S.A. 40A:14-136.

B. Annual Sick Leave Buy - Back

- (a) An Officer may buy back up to 120 hours of his/her yearly accrual (excluding perfect attendance bonus) at seventy-five percent (75%) of its value. He/she shall apply in writing between October 1 and October 15 of that year. Payment shall be made by December 1st at the current year's rate.
- (b) If an employee retires prior to being paid his or her sick leave buy-back (this is for sick days accrued, earned and notification as to buy-back not even given), then the employee shall be paid the sick leave buy-back after the employee retires pursuant to the payment schedule set forth in this paragraph.

ARTICLE VII
PERSONAL TIME OFF

In each calendar year each officer shall be granted four (4) personal days @ 11 hours per day or 44 hours. Personal time off may be taken as whole days or in part at the discretion of the employee, subject to the terms set forth in ARTICLE XI, Section A, 4. If at the end of the calendar year the officer has any of the personal days herein remaining, that officer shall receive payment for same. Payment for the above mentioned days will be made on or before the 15th of December of each and every calendar year. Personal time off will not require 48 hour notice as required for vacation time scheduling. Prior notice of personal days is recommended but not required. The employee is not required to explain the purpose of the personal time off. Personal time off may be denied by the Chief and his or her designee on the following holidays, (July 4th Fireworks event night, Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve/Day, New Year's Eve/Day) if other employees are not available, either on straight time or overtime to fill any vacancies created by the request.

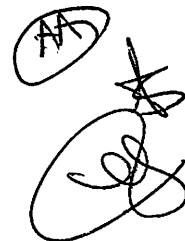


BEREAVEMENT TIME

- A. Officers shall be permitted the following time off in a case of death in the immediate family, which is defined as: parent, grandparent, spouse, child (natural or adopted), brother, sister, mother, father, mother-in-law, father-in-law, and grandfather-in-law, grandmother-in-law, grandchild, son-in-law, and daughter-in-law, from the day of death until the day of burial inclusive.
- B. For the death of an uncle, aunt, nephew, niece, brother and sister-in-law, the Officer shall be granted one bereavement day.
- C. Exceptions to these time limitations may be made by the Chief of Police upon timely notification by the officer when the deceased is buried in another city and the officer will be unable to return for duty and adhere to the time limitations stated in A and B above.
- D. If the funeral is more than two hundred (200) miles away, two (2) travel days shall be added to Section A and one (1) travel day shall be added to section B. If additional time is required, the officer can use sick, personal, vacation days or banked compensatory time as appropriate.

ARTICLE IX
DEDUCTION OF MEMBERSHIP DUES

- A. Upon receipt of written voluntary authorization and assignment of an Employee covered by this Agreement on a form agreed upon between the Employer and the P.B.A, the Employee agrees to deduct membership dues (and when applicable, initiation fee) in such amounts as shall be fixed pursuant to the by-laws and constitution of the P.B.A during the full term of this agreement and other extension or renewal thereof. The Employer shall promptly remit, monthly, any and all amounts so deducted with a list of such deductions to the Secretary-Treasurer of the P.B.A.
- B. The Township agrees to deduct the fair share fee from the earnings of those employees who elect not to become members of the Association and transmit the fee to the majority representative.
- C. The deduction shall commence for each employee who elects not to become a member of the Association on the first of the month following thirty (30) days written notice from the Association of the amount of the fair share assessment. A copy of the written notice of the amount of the fair share assessment must also be furnished to the New Jersey Public



Employment Relations Commission. The deduction shall commence for each new employee on the first of the month following sixty (60) days of employment.

D. The fair share fee for services rendered by the Association shall be in an amount equal to the regular membership dues, initiation fees and assessments of the Association, less the cost of benefits financed through the dues available only to members of the Association, but in no event shall the fee exceed eighty-five (85) percent of the regular membership dues, fees and assessments.

E. The Association shall establish and maintain a procedure whereby any employee can challenge the assessment as computed by the Association. This appeal procedure shall in no way involve the Township or require the Township to take any action other than to hold the fee in escrow pending resolution of the appeal.

F. The P.B.A agrees to indemnify, defend and save the Township harmless against any and all claims, demands, suits or other forms of liability which may arise out of or by reason of action taken by the Township's complying with the provisions of this article provided that: (1) the Township gives the P.B.A. timely notice, in writing, of any claim, demand, suit or other form of liability in regard to which it will seek to implement this Section, and (2) if the P.B.A. so requests, in writing, the Township will transfer to it full responsibility for the defense of such claim, demand, suit or other form of liability.

ARTICLE X MANAGEMENT

Nothing in this Agreement shall interfere with the right of the Employer in accordance with the applicable statutes, ordinances, rules and regulations to:

- A. Carry out the statutory mandate and goals assigned to a municipality utilizing personnel, methods and means in the most appropriate, reasonable and efficient manner possible.
- B. Manage Employees of the Employer, to hire, promote, transfer, assign or retain Employees in positions within the municipality and in that regard to establish reasonable work rules without creating undue hardships to the Employees. Such work rules shall be in written form and a copy shall be provided to each member of the P.B.A., with applicable amendments thereto.

ARTICLE XI
HOURS/SCHEDULES

- A. 1. The parties understand and agree that the standard weekly work schedule for Employees covered by this Agreement requires Employee services continually through the seven (7) day week and that the Patrol work schedule shall follow a four(4) days on followed by four(4) days off, eleven and one-quarter (11.25) hours per day, steady shifts.
2. The Patrol schedule shall be comprised of four (4) Squads, each with two start and end times which shall be as follows, for Squads A and C the work hours shall be 0530 to 1645 hours and 0745 to 1900 hours, for Squads B and D the work hours shall be 1545 to 0300 and 1845 to 0600. Squads A and B (Platoon# 1) will work in the same on/off rotation and Squads C and D (Platoon #2) will work in the same on/off rotation.
3. The Employee agrees that the Chief of Police or his designee reserves the right to reassign officers within a squad by adjusting the officers start time within his/her own squad upon forty eight (48) hours ' notice for scheduled events and unforeseen manpower shortages.
4. Each squad shall be permitted a minimum of two Patrol Officers off for scheduled vacation or personal time, except where such request shall interfere with the operational needs of the department as determined by the Chief of police or his designee, which determination shall not be arbitrary or capricious. Arbitrator Robert Light shall have jurisdiction to decide all grievances in reference to this paragraph.
- B. The standard work week for members of the Detective Bureau shall follow a 4/3 schedule of ten (10) hour days. Detectives will normally work either Monday through and including Thursday with Friday, Saturday and Sunday off or Tuesday through Friday with Saturday, Sunday, and Monday off as promulgated by the Chief of Police. The Chief may require other work weeks that may include Saturdays, and Sundays. If so the Chief will seek volunteers first, failing which the Chief shall assign in reverse order of seniority in the Detective Bureau.
- C. Both A and B shall be to a maximum of 2080 hours.
- D. The parties agree that a single training day will be equal to one work day if training falls on a scheduled work day. If an officer is assigned to a five-day training block, the five-day block may substitute for their regularly scheduled four-day block.

- E. The parties agree that any mutually acceptable training request/assignments that fall on an employee 's day(s) off up to a three day block, shall be compensated with an equal hourly amount of the training attended (four hour minimum, not at time and a half) of compensatory time off. All other training will be calculated as overtime set forth in Article XII
- F. Each Patrol Officer agrees to provide the Employer training time in the amount of sixteen (16) hours in the form of two (2), eight hour days per calendar year to be utilized specifically for State mandated firearms qualification twice annually. The qualification days will consist of a maximum of 2 hours firearms training, a maximum of two (2) hours of classroom training for use of force, vehicular pursuit, and pepper spray. The remaining time will be used for qualifications and a meal break. It is understood by the Employee that said firearms training shall be scheduled on a regularly scheduled day off twice a calendar year. Training time is not cumulative and expires on December 31 of each year.
- G. It is recognized by the parties that coffee breaks and meal time are part of the tour of duty and paid by the Township.

ARTICLE XII
OVERTIME

- A.
 - 1. The Employer agrees that overtime consisting of time and one-half (1-1/2) time shall be paid to all Employees covered by this Agreement for hours worked in excess of the normal eleven and one-quarter (11.25) hours a day (Patrol Division) ,the normal ten (10) hour day (Detective Bureau) or eight (8) hour day (Administrative) .
 - 2.
 - a. At the employee's option, overtime may be taken in compensatory time accumulated to a maximum of 480 hours. At the time of assignment to overtime, an employee must indicate payment in money or compensatory time. This decision may only be changed with the agreement of the Chief of Police.
 - b. Use of compensatory time must be scheduled sufficiently in advance to allow for the appropriate adjustments of work schedules or to deploy personnel.
 - c. Between January first and October 31 of each year, requests for compensatory time off shall not be denied if other employees are available, either on straight time or overtime to fill any vacancies created by the request.



- B. In the event an Employee is called in to duty other than his normal assignment, he shall be paid overtime at a rate of "time and one-half" (1-1/2) for all time worked during such period. In no such case shall he be paid for less than four (4) hours, irrespective of time worked, except when called in to duty less than four (4) hours prior to his normal working shift. In such an event, the Employee shall be paid for only the overtime actually worked on that day.



ARTICLE XIII
VACATIONS

- A. Each member of the P.B.A who has the length of continuous employment specified in the following table shall be entitled to vacation with pay at his/her regular rate of pay. Increments are defined as follows:

First Increment - One day (11 hours) for each and every month an officer has been employed in a full time capacity up to December 31 of the year in which he/she is first employed.

Second Increment	121 hours
Third through Fifth Increment	154 hours
Sixth and Seventh Increment	187 hours
Eighth through Eleventh Increment	198 hours
Twelfth through Sixteenth Increment	209 hours
Seventeenth through Nineteenth Increment	220 hours
Twentieth Increment and Higher	231 hours

All employees assigned to a 4 day on 4 day off 11.25 hour shift shall have time off calculated at 11 hours per shift, (i.e.: patrol schedule). All employees assigned to a 4 day on 3 day off 10 hour shift shall have time off calculated at 10 hours per shift, (i.e.: Detective schedule). All employees

assigned to an 8 hour shift shall have time off calculated at 8 hours per shift, (i.e.: Administrative).

B. Vacation Scheduling:

1. Selection of vacation shall be based on seniority.
2. All requests for vacations will be submitted in P.O.S.S. as early as possible but at least 48 hours prior to the date of the proposed vacation.
3. No vacation will be considered approved until the officer confirmed in P.O.S.S. that the request is approved by the proper authority. If the officer is absent without this approval he/she will be considered absent without leave.
4. Effective January 1, 1993, vacation days may not be canceled by the Chief of Police if other employees are available, either on straight time or overtime, except where such request interferes with the operational needs of the department as determined by the Chief of Police or his designee, which determination shall not be arbitrary or capricious.
5. Effective January 1, 1993, no vacation and personal day requests can be denied because the requested vacation day or personal day is also a holiday, such as Memorial Day, July 4th, Labor day, Halloween, Christmas, etc., except where such request interferes with the operational needs of the department as determined by the Chief or his designee, which determination shall not be arbitrary or capricious.

C. Vacation Address

A report of a vacation address is not required from an officer whose vacation application has been approved. Permission is thereby granted to the officer to leave the municipality during the approved period of vacation.

D. Exchange of Days Off

Officers are prohibited from exchanging days off with each other unless written permission has been obtained by the Chief of police or his designee. No officer will pay another officer to work his/her assigned shift.

E. Suspension of Vacation

Any vacation may be suspended when a sudden and serious emergency arises and when, in the judgement of the Chief of Police, such action should be taken.

- F. Employees shall be permitted to carry over no more than 44 hours of vacation leave to the following year. The vacation leave carried over shall be utilized by May 31st. The vacation leave must be used during the year it is carried over or the employee forfeits said leave.

ARTICLE XIV
HOLIDAYS

Beginning on the first day of service, holiday pay of 128 hours at the employee's current rate of pay shall be rolled into and become a part of the employee's base pay. Holiday pay shall not be included in the calculation of payment for overtime.

ARTICLE XV
HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL INSURANCE

- A. 1. The Employer will provide, at no cost to the Employee and Employee's family, the following hospitalization:
- New Jersey Blue Cross
 - New Jersey Blue Shield
 - Rider J
 - Major Medical
 - Prescription Plan
 - New Jersey Dental Plan
 - Optical Examination
 - Employee Assistance Plan
2. Plan and coverage for medical shall be no less than that established in the 2021 plan documents and coverage for Horizon Direct 10.
- B. Effective January 1, 2021 all current active employees receiving township provided health insurance, will contribute toward the cost of health care premium contributions as biweekly payroll deductions as set forth in the year 3 (Tier-3) phase-in of chapter 78 as outlined in appendix A, of this collective bargaining agreement. Health care premiums shall be based on the 2021 SHBP plan cost for 2021 as outlined in appendix B, of this collective bargaining agreement. It is understood the 2021 SHBP rate shall be utilized for the employee contribution for the duration of the contract and any plan or premium increase during the term of this contract shall be absorbed by the Township.
- C. The Employer will provide at no cost to former Employee and Employee's family, the cost of benefits outlined in Section A above; (1) if said Employee is disabled in the line of duty and no longer employed by Employer due to said disability; or (2) upon retirement after twenty-five (25) years of service, or a shorter period if provided by law.
- D. Effective January 1, 2021, any employee hired after January 1, 2021 plan and coverage for medical shall be no less than that established in the 2021 plan documents and coverage for Horizon Direct 15. Employees can choose Horizon Direct 10 Coverage but will be responsible to pay 100 percent the cost difference of the plan.

- E. Employees have the option to choose Omnia Health coverage with an incentive of \$1000 for single coverage, \$1500 for Member Spouse or Parent Child and \$2000 for Family. The Omnia option is a one time payment that will be paid after continual coverage of more than 1 full year of enrollment.
- F. 1. The Employer shall provide for Employee and family a New Jersey Dental Service Plan, 80 / 20 Basic, 80 / 20 Prosthodontic.
2. The Employer shall obtain an orthodontic dental insurance plan, as specified by the P.B.A., the cost to be borne by the Employee, and the premiums are to be deducted from each employee's salary.
- G. 1. The P.B.A. and the Township agree that the Township has the right to contract with other hospital and medical insurance carriers in order to provide coverage which is equal or greater than the benefits currently available under the policies provided. The parties further agree that the Township will give notice to the P.B.A. of at least 60 days of its intent to change carriers.
2. Should a dispute arise as to whether or not the change of policy proposed will be of equal or greater benefit, the matter shall be submitted to binding arbitration in accordance with the arbitration procedures established under the grievance article of this Agreement. The decision of the arbitrator shall be in writing and shall be final and binding on all parties.
- H. Effective April 1, 1993, employees who decline family or individual insurance coverage or otherwise eligible therefore, shall receive 33% of the premium savings. An employee who selects such option must remain out of the plan for at least one year and may not re-enroll except at regular open enrollment periods, of which there shall be at least one per calendar year.
- I. Effective January 1, 2007, the drug co-payment shall increase to \$10.00 for brand drugs and \$3.00 for generic drugs.

ARTICLE XVI
CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

A. Clothing allowance in the amount of One Thousand (\$1000.00) Dollars per year for uniformed and non-uniformed Employees shall be paid by the Township of Lacey to all permanent employees. Clothing allowance will be used for any part of the police uniform, to include items such as high-neck tee shirts, uniform socks, etc. Allowance shall also include any off-duty equipment officers are required to wear and/or carry to meet department regulations. No employee shall be entitled to a clothing allowance until the employee reaches his/her second increment. Any employee not entitled to a clothing allowance will have any article of clothing and/or equipment replaced by the Employer in the event it is damaged while in the performance of duty. Clothing allowance shall be paid by the Township to all employees no later than the first pay period in June of each year.

B. Dry Cleaning allowance in the amount of Six Hundred (\$600.00) Dollars per year shall be payable by the Township of Lacey to all permanent employees. Cleaning allowance shall be paid by the Township to all employees no later than the first pay period in June of each year.

C. The Township will replace (at the same size, and of equal or greater quality or value), at no cost to the employee, uniforms, personal property or equipment including any glasses or sunglasses, prescription or nonprescription, destroyed in the line of duty, said payment shall not be deducted from the clothing allowance, if approved by the Chief of Police.

D. If the Township or the Chief of Police decides to change the style or brand of uniform or any part thereof, the cost of providing all officers with the new uniforms in number equal to their initial issue shall be borne entirely by the Township. Implementation of this clause shall not diminish the clothing allowance set forth in this Agreement.

E. If the Township or the Chief of Police decides to change the mandated uniform that is to be worn by all officers on a regular basis, or a section of officers on a regular basis, the Township shall be responsible for purchasing complete sets of uniforms for each officer thereby allowing for compliance with the ordered change. The number of uniforms to be purchased shall be constant with the number of uniforms each officer receives in their initial issue. Implementation of this clause shall not diminish the clothing allowance set forth in this Agreement.

F. The Township shall provide a new bullet proof vest (minimum NIJ-06 Level IIIA) to each officer every five (5) years. The vest is to be of equal quality or better than the vest being replaced.

ARTICLE XVII **LEGAL AID**

The Employer will provide all necessary legal aid and false arrest and liability insurance to all personnel covered by this Agreement in the performance of their duties.

ARTICLE XVIII **PENSIONS AND RETIREMENT**

The Employer shall continue to make contributions as provided for the pension and retirement benefits to Employees covered by this agreement under the Police and Fireman's Retirement System pursuant to the provisions of the statutes of the State of New Jersey.

ARTICLE XIX
SALARIES

A. The annual Patrol Officer's basic salary shall be as follows for the years indicated:

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
		2.75%	3.25%	3.25%	3.25%	3%
Increment #8	\$122,002	\$125,357	\$129,431	\$133,638	\$137,981	\$142,120
Increment #7	\$114,209	\$117,350	\$121,164	\$125,102	\$129,168	\$133,043
Increment #6	\$106,405	\$109,331	\$112,884	\$116,553	\$120,341	\$123,951
Increment #5	\$98,611	\$101,323	\$104,616	\$108,016	\$111,527	\$114,873
Increment #4	\$90,908	\$93,408	\$96,444	\$99,578	\$102,814	\$105,898
Increment #3	\$83,015	\$85,298	\$88,070	\$90,932	\$93,887	\$96,704
Increment #2	\$67,399	\$69,252	\$71,503	\$73,827	\$76,226	\$78,513
Increment #1	\$60,239	\$61,896	\$63,908	\$65,959	\$68,104	\$70,147
Base/Start	\$50,457	\$51,845	\$53,530	\$55,270	\$57,066	\$58,778
Academy/FT	\$42,950	\$44,131	\$45,676	\$47,160	\$48,693	\$50,154

B. For all members hired after January 1, 2021 the Patrol Officer's basic salary shall be as follows for the years indicated:

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>
		<u>3.25</u>	<u>3.25</u>	<u>3.25</u>	<u>3.00</u>
Increment #12	\$ 125,357	\$ 129,431	\$ 133,638	\$ 137,981	\$ 142,120
Increment #11	\$ 119,607	\$ 123,494	\$ 127,508	\$ 131,652	\$ 135,601
Increment #10	\$ 113,852	\$ 117,552	\$ 121,373	\$ 125,317	\$ 129,077
Increment #9	\$ 108,097	\$ 111,610	\$ 115,237	\$ 118,983	\$ 122,552
Increment #8	\$ 102,342	\$ 105,668	\$ 109,102	\$ 112,648	\$ 116,028
Increment #7	\$ 96,587	\$ 99,726	\$ 102,967	\$ 106,314	\$ 109,503
Increment #6	\$ 90,832	\$ 93,784	\$ 96,832	\$ 99,979	\$ 102,978
Increment #5	\$ 85,077	\$ 87,842	\$ 90,697	\$ 93,645	\$ 96,454
Increment #4	\$ 79,322	\$ 81,900	\$ 84,562	\$ 87,310	\$ 89,929
Increment #3	\$ 73,567	\$ 75,958	\$ 78,427	\$ 80,975	\$ 83,405
Increment #2	\$ 67,812	\$ 70,016	\$ 72,291	\$ 74,641	\$ 76,880
Increment #1	\$ 62,057	\$ 64,074	\$ 66,156	\$ 68,306	\$ 70,356
Base/Start	\$ 56,302	\$ 58,132	\$ 60,021	\$ 61,972	\$ 63,831
Academy/FT	\$ 50,547	\$ 52,190	\$ 53,886	\$ 55,637	\$ 57,306

All Employees hired after January 1, 2012 shall start at Academy/Field Training salary and continue at that level until the successful completion of the Police Academy and the required in house Field Training Program, then shall proceed as per custom and practice to Base/Starting salary, to Increment #1, to Increment #2, to Increment #3, Increment #4, to Increment #5, to Increment #6, to Increment #7, and Increment #8. At no time shall the Academy/Field Training step exceed a

period of one year from date of hire as defined in ARTICLE IV. Any Officer hired with Academy Training shall only stay at the Academy/Field Training step for the length of his Field Training and will advance to base start upon completion. All employees hired prior to January 1, 2012 shall continue in their increment steps as past and customary practice.

- C. All salaries and increments including base/starting shall increase each year.
- D. All reference to "increment" in this Article XIX, Salaries, shall only be used as a reference for the salary guide. Nothing contained in the designation of increment in this Agreement shall contravene the definition of increment as that term is defined in this Agreement in each or any other article.
- E. An employee who is assigned work in a higher paid job title shall be paid the higher salary rate for the actual time period he performs those duties. Payment for assignment to a higher job title shall be approved in P.O.S.S. by the Chief of Police or his designee.
- F. An additional annual clothing allowance of One Thousand Two Hundred (\$1,200.00) Dollars shall be paid to all Employees who are Detectives.
- G. An employee who is assigned the scheduled "on-call" duty shall receive in addition to their regular pay and any overtime compensation, payment that is equivalent of one hour's pay for each day of "on-call" service. An employee who is assigned the scheduled "on-call" duty on a day that the Detective Bureau is "un-manned" shall receive in addition to their regular pay and any overtime compensation, payment that is equivalent of one (1) hour pay for each day of "on-call" service. All payment for "on-call" duty shall be payable in compensatory time. If employees compensatory time is at statutory max (480) hours he will get paid 1 hour at regular pay.

ARTICLE XX
LONGEVITY

Each employee hired prior to January 1, 2013 shall be paid, in addition to his current annual wage, longevity increments which shall be figured in and computed as part of the employee's base salary based upon his/her years of continuous employment with the Lacey Township Police Department in accordance with the following schedule:

<u>Years of Service</u>	<u>Increments of Base Pay</u>
Upon entering the 1st day of the 10th Increment of Service	4%
Upon entering the 1st day of the 15th Increment of Service	6%
Upon entering the 1st day of the 20th Increment of Service	8%
Upon entering the 1st day of the 23rd Increment of Service	10%



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ARTICLE XXI
SAVINGS CLAUSE

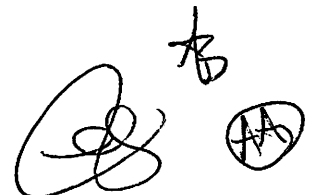
In the event that any Federal or State legislation, governmental regulation including Internal Revenue Service determinations or court decisions causes invalidation of any Article or Section of this Agreement, all other Articles and Sections not so invalidated shall remain in full force and effect, and the parties shall renegotiate any such invalidated provisions.

ARTICLE XXII
GENERAL PROVISIONS

- A. The Township agrees to grant the necessary time off without loss of pay for the period of time said convention so that two (2) members a day of the association may attend the State Conventions of the N.J.S.P.B.A. Members allowed off to attend shall be the Delegate, President or Vice-President. In the event that one of the three cannot attend of his own accord then an alternate may be selected by the P.B.A. to attend in his place.
- B. The Local Delegate, and President, shall each be granted one (1) day off a month without loss of any pay to conduct any PBA business, regardless of his tour of duty hours.
- C. The Township agrees to grant necessary time off without loss of pay so two (2) members of, and designated by the P.B.A., may attend two (2) workshops and or schools offered by the N.J.S.P.B.A.
- D. Any Local Delegate who is appointed by the State PBA President to serve on a State PBA Committee, or is elected to a position on the State PBA Executive Board, shall be granted one additional day off a month in addition to B above to conduct PBA business.
- E. Any Local Delegate elected to the position of State PBA President, Executive Vice President or appointed to a full time position with the State PBA shall be permitted full release from the Township, who will enter into a contract with the State PBA for the Delegates release.

ARTICLE XXIII
EDUCATIONAL INCENTIVES

- A. 1. For all officers hired prior to January 1, 2002, the Township agrees to pay each officer in the Department, in addition to his/her annual salary, an educational incentive of \$11.00 per completed credit which has been earned at an institution approved by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools, to a maximum of 128 undergraduate credits and 32 graduate credits.

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2. Transcripts are to be supplied by the officer to the Chief of Police and forwarded to payroll for payment in the next payroll cycle.
- B. For all officers hired after January 1, 2002, who hold the following degrees, the Township agrees to pay each officer in addition to his/her annual salary, and in lieu of the \$11.00 per credit incentive, an educational incentive of the following per annum for the highest completed degree:

1. Associates Degree \$704
2. Bachelor's Degree \$1,408
3. Master's Degree \$1,760

- C. The Township agrees to reimburse all employees eligible for educational incentives for course work in an approved program leading to a degree as follows:
1. All course work must receive prior written approval from the Chief of Police.
 2. Tuition will be reimbursed at eighty (80%) percent of the tuition rate at New Jersey State Colleges upon proof of satisfactory completion with a grade of "C" or better. This information shall be given to the Chief of Police and forwarded to the treasurer for payment in the next pay period.

ARTICLE XXIV
BURIAL EXPENSE

- A. The Township agrees to be responsible for the cost of all burial expenses for an employee who is killed in the line of duty to a maximum of \$10,000.00
- B. The Employer further agrees to be responsible for the cost of burial expenses for an employee who dies while employed, but not in the course of duty, to a maximum of \$5,000.00

ARTICLE XXV
GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

- A. Definitions
1. A grievance is defined as, and limited to, an alleged violation of a specific provision of this agreement.
 2. Aggrieved Person: An "aggrieved person" is the person or persons or the association making the claim.
 3. A "party in interest" is the person or persons making the claim and any person who might be required to take action or against whom action might be taken in order to resolve the claim.

- B.
1. A written grievance shall contain a clear and concise statement of the grievance and indicate the issue involved, the relief sought, the date the incident or violation took place, and the specific section or sections of the Agreement involved.
 2. Any employee may be represented at all stages of the grievance procedure by himself, or, at his option, by a representative of the Association, or by an attorney, where reasonable notice of legal representation is given to the Employer. When an employee is not represented by the Association, the Association shall have the right to be present and state its views at all stages of the grievance procedure unless the employee objects to the presence of the Association representative in which case the Association may not be present at any stage of this procedure. However, in the event the Association is not present after final determination at Step 3, if such final determination is made, the Association will promptly receive a copy of the Employee's written grievance and a copy of the final determination thereof.
 3. All grievances must be presented promptly and no later than fourteen (14) working days after the grievant would reasonably be expected to know of its occurrence.

Any grievance which arises from an action initiated by any member of the governing body, administration, or appropriate authority of the Township of Lacey, to which no officer of rank in the Lacey Township Police Department has the authority to resolve, steps one and two will be forgone and the process will continue with step three. In such cases the Chief of Police shall be notified and provided with copies of said grievance.

C. **STEP ONE:**

Any grievance which arises after the effective date of this Agreement shall first be discussed by the aggrieved employee with his/her immediate supervisor. Grievances which have not been settled by the immediate supervisor to the satisfaction of the employee under the foregoing procedure within two (2) work days of presentation, to be considered further, must be filed in writing within seven (7) calendar days after the disposition by the supervisor. The grievance shall be presented to the Division Commander in triplicate on mutually-agreed-upon forms furnished by the Employer and signed and dated by the employee(s) and Association Representative. The Division Commander and the supervisor involved will meet with the employee and his representative and attempt to resolve the grievance. A written decision will then be made by the Division Commander and the supervisor and returned to the employee and his representative within seven (7) calendar days from its presentation to the Division Commander.

STEP TWO:

If the employee is dissatisfied with the decision in Step One, to be considered further, the grievance must be appealed to the Chief of Police within seven (7) calendar days of receipt of the written decision in Step One. The Chief of Police or his representative will

meet with the employee, his representative, the supervisor, Division Commander and representatives of the employer, as the Chief of Police may elect, and attempt to resolve the grievance. A written decision will be made following the meeting by the Chief of Police or his representative and returned to the employee and union representative within seven (7) calendar days from its appeal to the Chief of Police.

STEP THREE:

If the employee is dissatisfied with the decision in Step Two, to be considered further, or the grievance was initiated as defined in B.4 above, the grievance must be appealed to the Mayor and Township Committee within seven (7) calendar days of receipt of the decision in Step Two. The Mayor and/or Township Committee or his/its representative will meet within fourteen (14) calendar days of the grievance being filed in Step Three with the employee and/or Association representative and the Chief of Police to discuss and attempt to resolve the grievance. Following this meeting, the written decision will be made by the Mayor and returned to the employee and Association representative within fourteen (14) calendar days from its appeal to the Mayor.

STEP FOUR:

Grievances which have not been settled under the foregoing procedure maybe appealed to arbitration by either party within twenty-four calendar days of the date of the Employer's decision in Step Three. If an unresolved grievance is not appealed to arbitration, it shall be considered terminated on the basis of the Third Step answer. The appeal of a grievance to arbitration shall state in concise detail the nature of the remedy suggested.

- D.
1. The parties or party acting jointly or separately, shall request New Jersey State Public Employment Relations Commission (PERC) to submit a panel of five (5) arbitrators. To select an arbitrator from the panel, the parties shall alternately strike one name, with the last remaining name becoming the arbitrator.
 2. The cost of the arbitrator and the expenses of the hearing, including a court reporter if requested by either party, shall be shared equally by the parties. The arbitrator shall only have jurisdiction and authority to determine compliance with the provisions of this Agreement. The arbitrator shall not have jurisdiction or authority to add to, amend, or modify the provisions of this Agreement. In formulating his decisions, the arbitrator shall adhere to the statutory law of New Jersey and to the pertinent decisions of the Civil Service Commission and the Court. The decision of the arbitrator shall be final and binding for the parties of this Agreement.
- E. Grievances not appealed within the designated time limits in any step of the grievance procedure will be considered as having been adjudicated on the basis of the last preceding management answer. Grievances not answered by management within the designated time limits in any step of the grievance procedure may be appealed to the next step within five (5) days of the expiration of the designated time limits. The parties may, however, mutually agree in writing to extend the limits in any step of the grievance procedure.

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- F. The Association shall notify the Employer in writing of the names of the grievance representatives and an alternate within thirty (30) days after the effective date of this Agreement. Any changes thereto will be forwarded to the Employer by the Association as soon as changes are made.

ARTICLE XXVI
DISCIPLINE

1. The Township shall not discipline any member of the police staff without just cause. No disciplinary action requiring a public hearing shall be required before the Township Committee, except as outlined in N.J.S.A. 40A:14-147.
2. All disciplinary action taken by the employer will take one or more of the following formats:
 - a. Informal, private, or oral reprimand by the Chief of Police or his designee;
 - b. A written memorandum of censure of the Chief of Police or his designee, with copies to the Township Administrator and the Appropriate Committeeman;
 - c. A confidential letter of admonition from the Township Committee, with copies to the Chief of Police; and to the employee's personnel file;
 - d. Suspension from duty without pay, not to exceed five (5) working days, by action of the Chief of Police;
 - e. Suspension from duty without pay taken by action of the Township Committee;
 - f. Demotion by action of the Township Committee. However, in the case of a patrolman, said action shall be reduction of one or more pay grades. Demotion shall include, but not be limited to, reduction in rank where applicable and/or loss of pay.
 - g. Dismissal from service by action of the Township Committee.
3. Nothing shall require the Township to take disciplinary action in the order of appearance in this Article, so long as the action taken is related to the severity of the offense determined to have occurred.
4. All documents in anyway connected with an employee's disciplinary history shall be placed in said employee's personal history file at police headquarters and may be viewed in accordance with the terms of this Agreement.
5. Probationary patrolmen may be separated from their employment by action of the Township Committee or it's designee at any time without recourse.

ARTICLE XXVII
COURT TIME

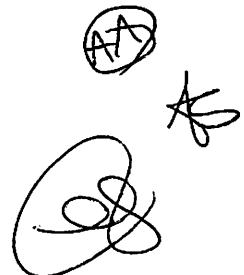
- A. An officer required to report to a court, at any jurisdictional level because of an action taken in the line of duty, shall be paid for a minimum of four (4) hours at the prevailing overtime rate for that officer.
- B. It is understood that should the officer's presence be required for less than four (4) hours, he/she is to report to the Chief of Police for an assignment in order to complete the minimum call-out time of four (4) hours. The determination to assign the officer or to relieve him/her from such obligation is at the sole discretion of the Chief of Police or his designee.
- C. Any employee called to serve for jury selection or jury duty, by a court at any level, shall be excused from his/her tour of duty without loss of pay, for each day the officer must appear or be on stand-by as per the court.

ARTICLE XXVIII
NEGOTIATIONS

It is hereby agreed between the parties to this Agreement that negotiations for the 2026 Contract shall be initiated on or before the 1st day of July, 2025, and that the parties hereto will schedule as soon thereafter as practicably possible a time and a place in order to discuss the terms and conditions of the 2026 Contract.

ARTICLE XXIX
LICENSES

An employee must report a loss of a Federal and/or State driver's license as well as failure to report the loss of a license and failure to have a license may subject the individual to disciplinary action, which, if suspension or greater, shall be without pay.

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ARTICLE XXX
DURATION

This Agreement shall be in effect as of and applied retroactively to the first day of January, 2021 to and including the 31st day of December, 2025. In the event that a new written contract has not been entered into between the Employer and the P.B.A. on or before the first day of January, 2026 then all of the terms and conditions of this Contract, including steps and longevity increases, shall be in full force and effect unless and until a Contract has been entered into subsequent to January 1, 2026.

ARTICLE XXXI
NO LAYOFFS OR DEMOTIONS

Effective January 1, 1993, there shall be no layoffs and no demotions through December 31, 2025 for any reason for the P.B.A. Lacey Township shall not layoff any employee for reasons of economy, efficiency, reorganization or other related reason, including any reason set forth in N.J.S. 11A:8-1. This no layoff and no demotions provision shall also be implemented by including a Table of Organization of the present rank structure and number of officers at each level. Effective January 1, 2021.

PAYMENT OF RETROACTIVE BENEFITS

The retroactive check (for all monetary benefits) shall be paid on or before September 1, 2021 to each and every employee, thereafter, interest will accrue and be paid on all unpaid retroactive monetary benefits at the rate of 8% interest.

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ARTICLE XXXIII
COMPLETENESS OF AGREEMENT

This Agreement constitutes the entire collective negotiation agreement between the parties and contains all the benefits to which Employees covered by this Agreement are entitled. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have hereunto set their hands and seals on the dates set forth below each signature.

LACEY TOWNSHIP P.B.A.

By: 

Andrew Slota, P.B.A. President


DATED: 5-12-21

ATTEST:



Alan Abrecht, P.B.A. Delegate


TOWNSHIP OF LACEY

By: 

Peter Curatolo, Mayor

DATED: 5.12.21

ATTEST:



Veronica Laureigh, Administrator