

Certification

I declare to the best of my knowledge and belief that the attached document(s) are true electronic copies of the executed collective negotiations agreement(s) and the included summary is an accurate assessment of the collective bargaining agreement for the term beginning 1/1/2020 thru 12/31/2025.

Employer: Borough of Hopatcong

County: Sussex

Date: 3/6/2020

Name: Valerie A. Egan
Print Name

Title: Municipal Clerk
Valerie A. Egan
Signature

PREAMBLE

THIS AGREEMENT, made this 1st of January, 2020, by and between the BOROUGH OF HOPATCONG, a body politic and corporation of the State of New Jersey, hereinafter referred to as "The Borough", and THE POLICEMAN'S BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION, LOCAL 149 (Hopatcong Unit) hereinafter referred to as the "Association".

WHEREAS, the Borough and the Association recognize it will be to the benefit of both to promote mutual understanding and foster a harmonious relationship between the parties so continuous and efficient service will be rendered to and from both parties.

NOW, THEREFORE, it is agreed as follows:

ARTICLE I

RECOGNITION

The Borough recognizes the Association as the exclusive collective negotiation's agent for the following Employees of the Police Department of the Borough: Patrolmen, Sergeants, Lieutenants, and Captains.

ARTICLE II

RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES OF THE ASSOCIATION

- A. The Association shall have the right to determine such members of the Association as it deems reasonably necessary as Association representatives.
- B. The Borough agrees to make available to the Association all public information concerning the financial resources of the Borough, and other information which may be necessary for the Association to process any grievance or negotiation.
- C. Authorized representatives of the Association shall have the right to enter the areas in and around the portion of the Borough Municipal Building reserved for Police work during working hours for the purpose of conducting normal duties relative to the enforcement and administration of this Agreement or to transact official Association business, so long as such visits do not interfere with the work being performed for the safety of officers or with proper service to the public, and further provided it is appropriately scheduled with the Borough Administrator's office and Chief of Police.
- D. Whenever any representative of the Association or any other Employee in its bargaining unit mutually scheduled by the parties to participate during regular working hours in negotiations, grievance proceedings, conferences or meetings, the Employee shall suffer no loss in pay.
- E. As a body exercising governmental power under the laws of the State of New Jersey, the Borough undertakes and agrees that it shall not directly or indirectly discourage or deprive or coerce any Employee in the enjoyment of any rights conferred by Chapter 303, Public Laws 1968, or other Laws of New Jersey or the Constitutions of New Jersey and the United States.

- F. The Borough further agrees that it shall not discriminate against any employee with respect to hours, wages, or any terms or conditions of employment by any reason of his membership in the Association and its affiliates, his participation in any activities of the Association and its affiliates, collective negotiations with the Borough, or the filing of any grievance, complaint or proceeding under this Agreement or otherwise with respect to any terms or conditions of employment, as prescribed by the statutes of the State of New Jersey. The Association agrees to represent the interest of all Employees in the unit without discrimination and without regard to employee organization membership. The Association further agrees not to engage in any conduct in violation of N.J.S.A. 34:13A-5(b).

- G. No Employee shall be compelled to join the Association but shall have the option to voluntarily join said Association.

- H. The Borough agrees to post a copy of the work record used for calculating pay for members of the bargaining unit, such record to indicate the hours worked and the rates of pay for each member. The copy shall be posted in a convenient location in the Police area no later than the day on which the checks are issued. If the Borough revises the payroll procedure to indicate this information on a regular paycheck, then such posting shall not be required.

ARTICLE III

MANAGEMENT'S RIGHTS

- A. The Borough retains and reserves unto itself, without limitation, all powers, rights, authority, duties and responsibilities conferred upon and vested in it by the Laws and Constitution of the State of New Jersey and of the United States.

- B. It is mutually understood and agreed that the Borough retains the prerogatives of management, including but not limited to the rights of hiring, suspending, disciplining or discharging for proper cause, promoting, demoting, transferring between divisions and assignment of Employees to work; to determining the standards of services to be offered by its agencies; to take necessary actions in emergencies; to determine the standard of selection of employment; to maintain the efficiency of its operations and the technology of performing its work to determine the methods, means and personnel by which the content of job classification. This clause is subject to Civil Service Rules and Regulations and any other applicable law and provision of this Agreement.

- C. The exercise of the foregoing powers, rights, authority, duties and responsibilities of the Borough, the adoption of policies, rules, regulations and practices in furtherance thereof, and the use of judgement and discretion in connection therewith, shall be limited by the specific and subordinate to, and shall not annul or modify, existing applicable provisions of State or Federal laws or regulations.

ARTICLE IV

RIGHTS OF EMPLOYEES

A. Members of the force hold a unique status as public officers in that the nature of their office and employment involves the exercise of a portion of the police power of the municipality. The security of the community depends to a great extent on the manner in which Police Officers perform their duty, and their employment is thus in the nature of a public trust. The wide-ranging powers and duties given to the Department and its members involve them in all manner of contacts, and relationships with the public. Out of those contacts may come questions concerning the action of the members of the Force. These questions may require investigation by Superior Officers designated by the Chief of Police and the governing body. To ensure that those investigations are conducted in a manner that is conducive to good order and discipline, the following rules are hereby adopted:

1. The interrogation of a member of the force shall be at a reasonable hour, preferably when the member of the force is on duty, unless the exigencies of the investigation dictate otherwise.
2. The interrogation shall take place at a location designated by the Chief of Police. Usually it will be at Police Headquarters or the location where the incident allegedly occurred.
3. The member of the force shall be informed of the nature of the investigation before any interrogation commences. Sufficient information to reasonably apprise the members of the allegations should be provided. If it is known that the member of the force is being interrogated as a witness only, he should be so informed at the initial contact.
4. The questioning shall be reasonable in length. Fifteen (15) minutes time shall be provided for personal necessities, meals, telephone calls, and rest periods at the end of every two (2) hours.

5. The member of the force shall not be subject to any offensive language, nor shall he be threatened with transfer, dismissal or other disciplinary punishment. No promise of reward shall be made as an inducement to answering questions.
 6. At every stage of the proceedings, the Department shall afford an opportunity for a member of the force, if he so requests, to consult with counsel and/or his Association representative. The proceeding shall not be delayed for more than two (2) hours for consultation with his attorney. However, this paragraph shall not apply to routine day-to-day investigations.
 7. In cases other than departmental investigations, if a member of the force is under arrest or if he is a suspect or the target of a criminal investigation, he shall be given his rights pursuant to the law.
 8. Nothing herein shall be construed to deprive the Department or its Officers of the ability to conduct the routine and daily operations of the Department.
- B. Under no circumstances shall the Borough offer or direct the taking of a polygraph or voice print examination for any Employee covered by this Agreement.

ARTICLE V

WORKDAY, WORKWEEK, AND OVERTIME

- A. All officers assigned to the Patrol Division as well as all Detectives shall work within the establishment of a standard work schedule determined by the Chief of Police with input from the Executive Board of the Union. The work schedule for all officers assigned to the Patrol Division is the Pitman Work Schedule. The Pitman Work Schedule consists of twelve (12) hour workdays (including appropriate meal and rest periods) as follows: Two (2) days on – Two (2) days off; Three (3) days on – two (2) days off; and Two (2) days on – Three (3) days off. The shift start times and end times for the Pitman Work Schedule shall be 0700 to 1900 hours, respectively (+/- one (1) hour). The work week is defined as 84 hours every 2 weeks. On the Pitman Work Schedule an officer will work twelve (12) hours per day, which is eighty-four (84) hours in a two (2) week period over the course of a fifty-two (52) week work year equaling 2196 hours worked. Officers assigned to the Patrol Division will not be eligible for overtime until the officer has worked at least 84 hours in a two (2) week period, consistent with past practice.
- B. All officers assigned to administrative staff as well as all Detectives and SRO's shall work a forty (40) hour workweek, and their schedule will be at the discretion of the Chief of Police or their designee. Administrative staff as well as Detectives and SRO's will not be eligible for overtime until the officer has worked at least 40 hours in any work week consistent with past practice. Detectives and SRO's shall be required to work an additional 116 hours per year.
- C. Police Pensionable Pay Base will consist of the Officer's annual salary as it appears in the salary guide, plus a detective stipend (if applicable), plus college credits (if applicable), plus longevity.
- D. Overtime Pay Rate will consist of the Officer's annual salary as it appears in the salary guide, plus a detective stipend (if applicable), plus college credits (if applicable), plus longevity divided by 2196 hours.

- E. Should it become necessary for an Officer to appear in Superior, County, Municipal, or other Court, on official business, at times other than his regularly scheduled duty time, such Officers shall receive compensation at the rate of time and one half (1-1/2) for each hour worked. In lieu of cash payment, all officers may opt for compensatory time off at the same rate. Such time may be taken only when approved and scheduled by the Chief of Police or his designee so as not to interfere with Departmental operations, and may only be given when requested by eligible Officer.
- F. Officers regularly assigned to "detective work" shall receive annually, in addition to their regular compensation, \$3800.00 per year, which shall be prorated if the assignment is for less than the full year. Said compensation shall be paid with, and be considered a part of, their base rate of pay for all purposes. Detectives shall be entitled to the same overtime compensation provided to other officers.
- G. The terms "assignment to detective work" and "assigned to detective work" means on a regular basis, not just for a day or a week. If an Officer is assigned to detective work for just a few hours or just a day, he shall still be eligible for any overtime compensation to which he would be eligible as an Officer. The use of these terms is not to be used to prevent an Officer whose regular work is that of patrol for obtaining the benefits normally due him, but is meant to apply only to those whose regular assignment is detective work as opposed to any other Police assignment.
- H. If an Employee who is eligible for call-out time compensation is called out for emergency work, the Employee shall be eligible for a minimum of three (3) hours of work at the appropriate overtime rate. An employee may request to leave earlier than three (3) hours, but in such case the Employee shall only be paid for actual time worked.
- I. The term "call out" is applied to all times a Police Officer is called upon to come on duty during times the Police Officer is not already scheduled to work, including having to appear in State, County, Municipal or other Court.
- J. A patrol officer who works 2 full consecutive tours as officer in charge ("OIC") shall be paid Sergeant's pay for all hours worked as OIC commencing on the 1st day of the 3rd consecutive tour.

- K. All employees are required to make an effort to determine if their appearance in Court is actually required. All employees shall check if a previously scheduled Court appearance is actually required in accordance with the procedure currently established of checking at approximately 4:30 PM on the day of the scheduled Court appearance, or a procedure established by the Chief of Police.
- L. All requests for Police Services while "off duty" that may be addressed to the Borough shall be forwarded to the Police Department for posting. The law enforcement officer, while so employed, shall be treated in all respects as an employee of the Borough. An officer's hourly rate on all "side-jobs" shall be seventy-five (\$75) per hour for years 2020, 2021, 2022 and eighty (\$80) per hour for years 2023, 2024, 2025.
- M. The Borough shall grant "other leave time" to all bargaining unit members for early closing of the Borough offices and emergency closings; the time off will be on a one for one basis equal to the closing time.
1. Prospectively, the "other leave time" shall be treated the same as vacation time in that it shall require prior approval and have no impact on coverage.
 2. The "other leave time" is not eligible for cash in.
 3. The time may be cumulatively carried over from year to year.

ARTICLE VI

SICK LEAVE BEREAVEMENT LEAVE

A. SERVICE CREDIT FOR SICK LEAVE

1. All Employees shall be entitled to sick leave with pay based on their aggregate months of service.
2. Sick leave may be utilized by Employees when they are unable to perform their work by reason of personal illness, accident or exposure to contagious disease, for short periods when the presence of the Employee is necessary to care for a family member due to illness or injury. Further, sick leave may be used for a short period in addition to the bereavement leave provided, because of the death in the Employee's immediate family as defined in subparagraph F, below. For the purposes of sick leave family shall be defined as the employee's husband, wife, child, stepchild, mother, father, brother, sister, mother-in-law, father-in-law, grandmother, or grandfather.

B. AMOUNT OF SICK LEAVE

1. Sick leave will be provided at a rate of 10 hours for each full month of service during the first year of employment. For each year thereafter sick leave shall be accumulated at 120 hours per year.
2. Sick leave that is not used during a calendar year shall accumulate from year to year.
3. Each sick time report will indicate the scheduled day's shift hours if taken in whole or the balance of that day schedule if the employee worked any part of the scheduled day.

C. REPORTING OF ABSENCE ON SICK LEAVE

1. If an employee is to be absent for reasons that entitle him to sick leave, the Chief of Police or the Chief's designee shall be notified before the Employee's starting time.

2. Failure to so notify the Chief of Police or the Chief's designee may be cause for denial of the use of sick leave for the absence and may constitute cause for disciplinary action.
3. Absence without notice for five (5) consecutive days may constitute grounds for discipline, up to and including discharge, subject to applicable law.

D. VERIFICATION OF SICK LEAVE

1. If an employee is absent on sick leave for three (3) or more consecutive working days or who has been absent on sick leave for periods totaling ten (10) days in one (1) calendar year shall submit acceptable medical evidence substantiating the illness for any additional sick leave in that year. The Borough may require proof of illness of an Employee on sick leave whenever such requirement appears reasonable. Abuse of sick leave may cause the Employee to be subject to disciplinary action including suspension and/or dismissal in accordance with applicable law.
2. The Borough may require an Employee who has been absent because of personal illness, as a condition of return to duty, to be examined at the expense of the Borough by a physician of the Borough's choice. Such examination shall establish whether the Employee is capable of performing his normal duties and that return will not jeopardize the health of other Employees.
3. Any Employee absent from work on either the Employee's last scheduled working day before the celebration of a holiday (special leave day) or before a scheduled vacation day or on the employee's next scheduled working day following the celebration of a holiday (special leave day) or following a vacation day, may be required to submit proof of illness from a physician.

E. Officers may request a cash disbursement of accrued sick leave as follows:

1. The officer must have 480 hours of accrued sick leave in his bank when his accrued sick leave reaches 580 hours; he may elect to sell back a maximum of 100 hours of that accrued sick time each year up to a maximum of \$15,000 throughout the officer's career. Once the \$15,000 cap is reached, the officer is no longer eligible to sell back his time or receive any additional sick time buy out time at retirement.
2. The officer's sell back rate, defined as the Officer's Yearly Salary divided by 2196 hours in the pitman schedule and 2080 hours in standard work week, will be at the officer's current hourly rate as of January 31st of the year of the sell back.
3. Requests for cash disbursements under this section must be received in writing by January 31st of the year of the sell back. The employee will be paid at the next available pay period after January 31st.
4. Employees covered by this Agreement that retire between the years 2020 and 2025 will be able to sell back the remainder of their time at a rate of 1 day for 3 sick days not to exceed \$15,000.

F. BEREAVEMENT LEAVE

1. In case of death in the immediate family, an Employee shall be granted up to 3 days of bereavement leave.
2. Immediate family shall be defined as the Employee's legally established husband, wife, child, stepchild, mother, father, brother, sister, father-in-law, mother-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, grandmother and grandfather.
3. Reasonable verification of the event is required by the Borough.
4. Although bereavement leave is not sick leave, in the event of a death in the immediate family sick leave may be used for a period to supplement bereavement leave, as provided in Paragraph A, Section 2 of this Article.

ARTICLE VII

INSURANCE

Medical Insurance benefits.

- A. Medical insurance benefits will be provided under the North Jersey Municipal Employees Benefit Fund. All employees will contribute to the cost of their insurance benefits in accordance with the rates set by Chapter 78, P.L. 2011 regardless of whether the law has expired or is otherwise amended, modified, revoked or repealed.
- B. Employees will be entitled to enroll in Aetna Choice POS HDHIP (\$2,500.00/\$5,000.00 deductible) or other plans provided by North Jersey Municipal Employees Benefit Fund.
- C. The Borough will provide funding through a health self-insurance and trust fund to provide 50% of the deductibles and incentives for joining. These funds will remain in place for the duration of this contract.
- D. Should this plan be eliminated through the HIF, the Borough will seek to find a plan that meets or exceeds the above plan and continue the above-mentioned funding for such plans.
- E. Life Insurance and Accidental Dismemberment Policy
 - 1. Each active permanent Police Officer shall be covered by a \$6,000 Life Insurance Policy that will continue, in full effect, after the Police Officer retires. Life insurance coverage is reduced to \$3,000 upon Police Officer reaching 70 years of age. In addition, each permanent active Police Officer shall be covered by an Accidental Death and Dismemberment insurance policy.
- F. Dental Insurance-Effective January 1, 2006, Association bargaining unit members shall be eligible to participate in the Borough's Dental Insurance Plan with no cost contribution from unit members.
- G. Worker's Compensation. (See Article VIII).

- H. Change in Insurance Carrier- the Borough may change insurance carrier(s) so long as the new insurance carrier provides substantially equal or better benefits to the current plans. If a change in insurance carriers is contemplated, the Borough agrees to provide reasonable notice to the Association of said contemplated change and shall permit the Association to meet and confer with Borough officials and/or representatives of the insurance carrier to discuss the proposed modification(s).

ARTICLE VIII

WORKERS' COMPENSATION

- A. Employees entitled to receive Worker's Compensation Insurance shall be paid their regular salary. The time that an officer is absent due to an illness or injury covered by workers' compensation shall not be charged against his sick leave or vacation time.
- B. The Borough will continue to pay at his regular rate of pay any Officer who is injured on the job. This payment will continue until the Officer is able to return to his regular duties. Any worker's compensation received will be returned to the Borough to offset the payment of his salary by them. The injured Officer will not be required to use any sick leave or other contractual leave time in connection with his injury. If it is determined that his injury is a permanent injury and work related and the Officer is unable to return to the Police profession, he will be paid by the Borough and/or the official insurance carrier until such time as he is able to retire under the disability pension.

- C. In recognition that the Borough of Hopatcong and its residents benefit from the additional protection afforded them by off duty Police Officers and further recognizing the weighty responsibility and hazards confronting each off duty Police Officer and that all Police Officers are presumed to be subject to duty twenty four (24) hours a day; the parties agree that any responsible action taken by any active member of the Borough Police Department on his/her time off, while in the State of New Jersey, and would have been taken by a Police Officer if present or available, shall be considered as a "Police Action" and the employee shall have all the rights and benefits concerning such action as if the employee were on active duty within the Borough.

ARTICLE IX

PERSONAL AUTO USE AND MEALS

- A. Police Officers shall be compensated at the IRS rate for mileage for using their personal vehicles for attendance at required Police schools, or on other approved official Police business approved by the Chief of Police.
- B. All Officers assigned out-of-town during normal meal hours shall be reimbursed by the Borough, \$6.00 for breakfast, \$10.00 for lunch, and \$14.00 for dinner. The Officer may opt instead to receive \$10.00 per meal.
- C. All Employees shall receive training meal reimbursement payment within forty-five (45) days from the date the employee submits supporting documentation/receipts.

ARTICLE X

HOLIDAYS AND PERSONAL TIME

- A. Due to the nature of the work of the Police Department, all officers shall receive no official holidays with pay, but shall receive in lieu of paid holidays 72 hours of administrative time-off based on the officer's schedule. All officers assigned to administrative staff shall work all official holidays consistent with past practice unless they are otherwise approved for use of administrative time-off. Use of this leave will be denied if it will result in the department incurring overtime to replace the officer requesting use of such leave. Any leave unused at the end of the calendar year will be lost and will not carry over to the next calendar year. This leave cannot be sold back or cashed-out at the end of the calendar year for the life of this contract.

ARTICLE XI

VACATIONS

- A. Employees shall be granted vacation leave based on the following schedule:

<u>Complete years of continuous Service as of December 31 of the year</u>	<u>Vacation Leave Granted</u>
One (1) or less	8 hours for each full month employed during a calendar year
Two (2) to nine (9) years Inclusive	120 hours
Ten (10) to fourteen (14) Inclusive	144 hours
Fifteen (15) to nineteen (19) Inclusive	180 hours
Over twenty (20) years	222 hours

- B. Vacation benefits shall be computed as of January 1st of the calendar year. New Employees hired after January 1st of the calendar year shall accrue 8 hours of vacation benefit for each full month of service during a calendar year. Employees on the payroll as of January 1st of any calendar year, shall on that January 1st be credited in advance with vacation entitlement in accordance with preceding schedule, provided however that if the Employee works less than twelve (12) months in the calendar year, the Employee is only entitled to a pro-rated share of such vacation entitlement. Any Employee who has used more vacation time than the Employee is entitled to at the time of severance shall have an amount equal to the daily rate of pay deducted from the Employee's final pay for each day of vacation used in excess of the number of days to which the Employee is entitled.
- C. The Borough shall attempt to schedule work, insofar as possible, to preclude changes in the vacation scheduling.
- D. Assignment of vacation shall be on the basis of seniority, except as modified in section E, F and G below.
- E. The number of officers per category, as indicated in this Section, allowed to be on vacation at any one time shall be determined by the Chief of Police:
1. Patrol Officers
 2. Detectives
 3. Sergeants
 4. Superior Officers
- F. Request for vacations shall be made by March 31st for seniority to be used in assignment priority. After March 31st of each year all vacation requests will be assigned on a first come first serve basis, except as modified by Section E above.
- G. All requests for vacation shall be made at least ten (10) days prior to the requested date so as to allow for scheduling.
- H. An employee may arrange to change a scheduled vacation only with the written approval of the Chief of Police.

- I. (5) five days of Vacation, above the employee's annual accrued amount, can be carried over from year to year. At no time should an employee have more than (5) days over their respective accrual time during any year. Any unused vacation time over the (5) day allotment shall be deducted from the employee's vacation account without compensation.

ARTICLE XII

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF POLICE

- A. Members of the collective bargaining unit shall be compensated for college credits as follows:
 1. Associate's Degree or sixty (60) credits shall be \$1080.00.
 2. Bachelor's Degree shall be \$1500.00.
- B. A college degree shall be rolled into the officer's base salary and included as part of their overtime and base pay calculation.
- C. Officers hired after May 31, 2013, will not be compensated for Bachelor's or Associate's Degree.
- D. Members of the collective bargaining unit shall have the right to continue their education up to and including a Master's Degree with tuition reimbursement from the borough at a college of the officer's choice. One-time courses shall be financed through departmental seminar training funds, where applicable.
 1. Employees who are receiving grant money, scholarship funding, or any other type of financial assistance shall qualify for reimbursement through this program only for the part of their tuition that has not been paid by such funding.

E. The requirements for participation in the tuition reimbursement program are as follows:

1. The Borough of Hopatcong will allocate a minimum of \$15,000 for tuition reimbursement each calendar year, or a higher amount if requested by the Chief and approved at the discretion of the Governing Body through the annual budget process. If the allotted funds are no longer available, the employee will be responsible for paying the remaining tuition balance.
2. The employee must be a continuous full-time employee of the Borough of Hopatcong for a minimum of three (3) years.
3. Courses and degree fields shall be limited to those that lead to an improvement in job performance as determined by the Chief of Police or his designee. Approval for participation in the tuition reimbursement program shall be attained before the employee begins the course/degree program.
4. Expenses paid by the Borough shall include tuition.
5. To be eligible for reimbursement, the officer must maintain a passing grade.
 - a. It shall be the responsibility of the participating employee to provide the Borough with receipts of tuition incurred when applying for tuition reimbursement.
6. On an annual basis, the Borough Administrator shall conduct a survey of tuition rates at Rutgers University, William Paterson University, or an accredited university. Reimbursement will be paid at any accredited institution at a rate not to exceed the highest in-state per credit hour rate of accredited universities.

7. Participation in the Tuition Reimbursement Program shall extend the individual's employment obligation three (3) years following the completion of the last course (this does not include one-time courses). Reimbursement of all tuition expenses paid by the Borough shall be required in the event the participant's employment is terminated, voluntarily or involuntarily, within said one (1) year period.
8. Reimbursement by the Borough shall be made when the participant provides an official transcript or grade report to the Borough Administrators reflecting the credits were earned.

ARTICLE XIII

SALARIES

- A. All salaries and increases are set forth in the salary guide (Appendix A) attached hereto, including ranges for classifications specifying minimum and maximum rates.
- B. All Employees covered by this agreement who have completed twenty-three (23) years of PFRS service shall receive a Senior Officer Differential of \$500.00 per year. It shall be paid with, and considered a part of the Employee's regular rate of compensation for all purposes.
- C. Annual percent increases set forth across the salary guide are only for the employees who completed movement past Grade 9. Only Grade 10, Sergeants, Lieutenants, and Captains are eligible for the 2% annual increases.

ARTICLE XIV

EQUIPMENT ALLOWANCE

- A. Employees covered by the collective bargaining agreement shall receive an annual Equipment Allowance in the amount of One Thousand Dollars (\$1000.00).
- B. All items purchased by way of the Equipment Allowance shall be the permanent property of the Borough.
- C. A Police Officer's uniforms, personal equipment, or personal property (i.e. cell phone, watch, prescription glasses, etc.) which are damaged during the course of his/her official duty, as a result of a single episode, shall be replaced at the expense of the Borough, except where such damage is caused by the negligence of the police officer. With respect to reimbursement, the procedure currently in place for uniform allowance, stating clearly that this is a replacement due to official duty activities, will be used. In addition, a stipulation that the Borough be designated as the recipient of any restitution made on the officer's behalf from the courts shall be included. The Borough payment shall be limited to five hundred (\$500) dollars per incident.
- D. The Borough will pay for body armor every five (5) years for each officer. The armor will meet or exceed the NIJ standards for level IIIA Ballistic Systems including 2 armor carriers. The Borough shall replace armor and carriers damaged in the line of duty.
- E. Any officer retiring or separating in good standing with the Borough Police Department shall be entitled to have his/her current duty weapon transferred to his/her name at no cost upon said retirement or separation, providing the officer has served the Borough for at least twenty (20) years. Any officer retiring or separating in good standing with a job-related disability, and with less than twenty (20) years of service shall have his/her duty weapon transferred to his/her name at no cost.
- F. Upon the Borough Police Department purchasing new duty weapons, all officers in good standing shall have the option to have their current duty weapon transferred to their name at the weapon's current value.

ARTICLE XV

LONGEVITY ADJUSTMENT

Effective on the first pay period after the anniversary date of an Employee's hire date, said Employee's wages shall reflect an additional percentage increase as follows:

<u>YEARS COMPLETED</u>	<u>PERCENTAGE INCREASE (%)</u>
Five (5) Years' Service	1%
Ten (10) Years' Service	3%
Fifteen (15) Years' Service	5%
Twenty (20) Years' Service	7%

Longevity shall be paid with, and considered a part of the base rate of compensation for all purposes.

ARTICLE XVI

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

A. Purpose

1. The purpose of this procedure is to secure, at the lowest possible level, an equitable solution to the problems which may arise affecting the terms and conditions of this Agreement and to resolve grievances as soon as possible so as to assure efficiency and promote Employee morale. The parties agree that this procedure will be kept as informal as may be appropriate.

2. Nothing contained herein shall be construed as limiting the rights of any Employee having a grievance to discuss the matter informally with the Chief of Police and having the grievance adjusted without the intervention of the Association. Any Employee wishing to process the Employee's own grievance may do so, but no settlement shall be made inconsistent with the terms of this Agreement.

B. Definition

The term "grievance" as used herein means a dispute between the parties over the interpretation, application or violation of policies, agreements, and administrative decisions affecting the Employees including disputes over matters of minor discipline (minor discipline is defined as those disciplinary actions wherein the penalty is a suspension of less than six (6) days or a fine or any lesser penalty). It is expressly understood, however, that no grievance may proceed beyond STEP ONE herein unless it constitutes a complaint or controversy arising over the interpretation of the terms and conditions of this Agreement. It is further understood that disputes concerning terms and conditions of employment solely governed by statute or administrative regulation, incorporate by reference in this Agreement either expressly or by operation of law, shall not be processed beyond STEP ONE herein.

C. PROCEDURE

The following constitutes the sole and exclusive method for resolving grievances between the parties covered by this Agreement and shall be followed in its entirety unless any step is waived by mutual consent. The parties may agree in writing to extend the time limits set forth herein. The Employee may process a grievance through any or all of the following steps, except STEP FOUR, without the Association if the Employee chooses. If the Employee does process a grievance without the Association, then the Employee shall substitute for the Association in the following steps:

STEP ONE

The aggrieved Employee and the Association representative shall present the Employee's grievance to the Employee's Captain within ten (10) days of its occurrence. The Captain shall attempt to adjust the matter and shall respond to the Employee within three (3) calendar days.

STEP TWO

If the grievance has not been settled, it shall be reduced to writing including the nature of the grievance and the remedy being sought and presented by the Association representative to the Chief of Police within five (5) calendar days after the Captain's response is due. The Chief of Police shall respond to the Association representative in writing within nine (9) calendar days.

STEP THREE

If the grievance still remains unadjusted or unanswered by the Chief of Police it shall be presented by the Association representative to the Borough Administrator in writing within seven (7) calendar days after the response of the Chief of Police is due. The Borough Administrator shall respond in writing to the Association representative within ten (10) calendar days unless extended by mutual consent. Should the grievance not be settled by STEP THREE if the aggrieved is a permanent Employee, he shall have the right to elect to pursue the remedies offered by the Civil Service Act, providing appeal is made to the Civil Service within five (5) days of receiving the Borough Administrator's response. If Civil Service remedies are pursued, arbitration pursuant to STEP FOUR shall be precluded. Likewise, if arbitration pursuant to STEP FOUR is pursued, Civil Service remedies are precluded.

STEP FOUR - ARBITRATION

1. If the grievance is not settled to the aggrieved Employee's satisfaction at STEP THREE, the Association, only may refer the matter to binding arbitration pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Public Employment Relations Commission within ten (10) calendar days after the determination by the Borough Administrator.

2. The Arbitrator selected pursuant to the procedure of the Public Employment Relations Commission, shall be bound by the provisions of this Agreement and by the applicable laws of the State of New Jersey and the United States, and decision of the Courts of the State of New Jersey and the United States, and shall be restricted to the application of the facts presented to him involved in the grievance. The Arbitrator shall not have the authority to add modify, detract from, or alter in any way the provisions of this Agreement or any amendment or supplement thereto. In rendering his written decision, the Arbitrator shall indicate in detail his findings of fact and reasons for making the Award. The decision and Award of the Arbitrator shall be final and binding upon the parties subject to applicable judicial or administrative proceedings.

3. The time limits expressed herein shall be strictly adhered to. If any grievance has not been initiated within the time limits specified, the grievance shall be deemed to have been waived. If any grievance is not processed to the next succeeding step in the Grievance Procedure within the time limits prescribed, then the disposition of the grievance at the last preceding step shall be deemed to be conclusive. Nothing herein shall prevent the parties from mutually agreeing in writing to extend or contract the time limits provided for processing the grievance at any step in the Grievance Procedure. A failure to respond to any level within the time limits provided shall be deemed a denial of the Grievance at that step.

ARTICLE XVII

MAINTENANCE OF STANDARDS

- A. All rights, privileges and benefits existing prior to this Agreement are retained with the following exceptions:
1. Those benefits abridged or modified by this Agreement.
 2. Those changes in benefits which are not substantial and reasonable.
- B. Unless a contrary intent is expressed in this Agreement, all existing benefits, rights, duties, obligations, and conditions of employment applicable to any Police Officer pursuant to any rules, regulations, instruction, directive, memorandum, statute or otherwise shall not be limited, restricted, impaired, removed or abolished.

ARTICLE XVIII

POLICE SERVICES

All requests for Police Services while off duty that may be addressed to the Borough shall be forwarded to the Police Department for posting. The law enforcement officer, while so employed, shall be treated in all respects as an Employee of the Borough. An officer's hourly rate on all "side-jobs" shall be seventy-five (\$75) per hour for years 2020- 2021-2022 and eighty (\$80) per hour for years 2023-2024-2025.

ARTICLE XIX

REPLACEMENTS

- A. Full-time Employees covered by this Agreement shall not be replaced by non-police officers, part-timers or other personnel.
- B. Posts presently filled by full-time Police Officers covered by this Agreement shall not be covered by any Non-Police Officer, part-timer or other personnel.
- C. The Chief of Police may, at his discretion, use Class 2 Special Police Officers under the following conditions:

1. For special events that are paid for by the Borough and not an outside vendor;
 2. For emergency traffic situations paid for by the Borough and not an outside vendor; and
 3. As Court officers in the Borough's Municipal Court.
- D. If the Chief of Police intends to assign Class 2 Specials to emergency traffic situations as set forth in paragraph 2, above, the Class 2 Specials shall be placed in the regular overtime rotation for full-time officers and shall be called in accordance with the regular overtime callout procedure.
- E. For Court, if one Court Officer is required, the Chief of Police may assign a Class 2 Special. If two Court Officers are required, the Chief of Police may assign two Class 2 Specials. If three Court officers are required, the Chief of Police may assign two Class 2 Specials and shall assign one regular officer.
- F. The Association and the Chief of Police agree to meet to establish a Court overtime call-in procedure:

ARTICLE XX

PERSONNEL FILES

- A. A separate personal history file shall be established and maintained for each Employee covered by this Agreement. Personal history files are confidential records and shall be maintained in the office of the Chief of Police.
- B. Any member of the Police Department may, by appointment review his personnel file but this appointment for review must be made through the Chief of Police or his designated representative.
- C. Whenever a written complaint concerning an Officer or his actions is to be placed in his personnel file, a copy shall be made available to him, and he shall be given the opportunity to rebut it if he so desires, and he shall be permitted to place the rebuttal in his file.
- D. All personnel history files will be carefully maintained and safeguarded.

ARTICLE XXI

SEPARABILITY AND SAVINGS

- A. If any provision of this Agreement or any application of this Agreement to any Employee or group of Employees is held invalid by operation of law or by a Court or other tribunal of competent jurisdiction, such provision shall be inoperative but all other provisions shall not be affected thereby and shall continue in full force and effect.
- B. Any provision of this Agreement found to be in violation as outlined in Paragraph A, above, shall be subject to renegotiation by the parties, but only to the end of insuring that such provisions are not in contradiction of any such aforementioned legislation or order and not to increase benefits. Where the provisions cannot be amended to make them conform to law or to any order as outlined in Paragraph A above, they shall be completely deleted from the Agreement.

ARTICLE XXII

FULLY BARGAINED PROVISIONS AND FUTURE NEGOTIATIONS

- A. This Agreement represents and incorporates the complete and final understanding and settlement by the parties on all bargainable issues which were or could have been the subject of negotiations. During the terms of this Agreement, neither party will be required to negotiate with respect to any such matter, whether or not covered by this Agreement, and whether or not within the knowledge or contemplation of either or both of the parties at the time they negotiated or signed this Agreement.
- B. The parties agree that during the term of this Agreement they shall meet periodically in a good faith attempt to resolve such additional issues as may arise. Failure to meet pursuant to this clause shall not be cause for a grievance. If agreement is reached between the parties as to any such additional issues, then, and in that event, any such agreed upon language shall become part of this Agreement upon the execution of same.

ARTICLE XXIII

TERM AND RENEWAL

The term of this Contract shall be from January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2025, subject to a written notice from either party to the other of the desire to change or amend this Agreement. The other party must receive written notice not later than 120 days prior to the expiration date of the agreement.

ARTICLE XXIV

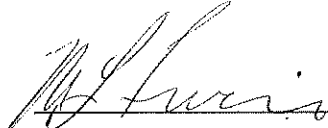
DISCIPLINARY ACTION

Binding arbitration of disciplinary disputes shall be available only to the extent it is permissible under current statutes, regulations and/or judicial decisions binding upon the parties to this Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have set their hands and seals at Hopatcong,

New Jersey, this 5 day of March, 2020.

FOR THE BOROUGH



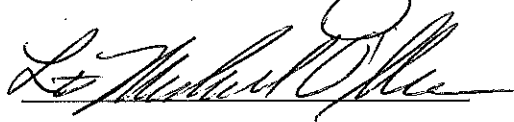
Michael Francis, Mayor

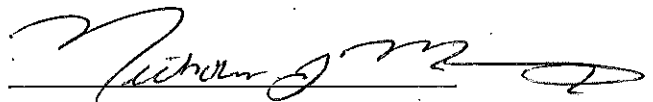
Valerie A. Egan

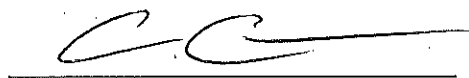
Valerie A. Egan, Clerk

FOR THE PBA









Appendix A

Step	1/1/2020	1/1/2021	1/1/2022	1/1/2023	1/1/2024	1/1/2025
Academy 1 *	\$ 38,000	\$ 38,000	\$ 38,000	\$ 38,000	\$ 38,000	\$ 38,000
Academy 2 **	\$ 42,000	\$ 42,000	\$ 42,000	\$ 42,000	\$ 42,000	\$ 42,000
Grade 1	\$ 46,000	\$ 46,000	\$ 46,000	\$ 46,000	\$ 46,000	\$ 46,000
Grade 2	\$ 52,000	\$ 52,000	\$ 52,000	\$ 52,000	\$ 52,000	\$ 52,000
Grade 3	\$ 58,000	\$ 58,000	\$ 58,000	\$ 58,000	\$ 58,000	\$ 58,000
Grade 4	\$ 64,000	\$ 64,000	\$ 64,000	\$ 64,000	\$ 64,000	\$ 64,000
Grade 5	\$ 70,000	\$ 70,000	\$ 70,000	\$ 70,000	\$ 70,000	\$ 70,000
Grade 6	\$ 82,000	\$ 82,000	\$ 82,000	\$ 82,000	\$ 82,000	\$ 82,000
Grade 7	\$ 92,000	\$ 92,000	\$ 92,000	\$ 92,000	\$ 92,000	\$ 92,000
Grade 8	\$ 102,000	\$ 102,000	\$ 102,000	\$ 102,000	\$ 102,000	\$ 102,000
Grade 9	\$ 115,000	\$ 115,000	\$ 115,000	\$ 115,000	\$ 115,000	\$ 115,000

Patrol positions are static from 1/1/20 with increases only provided at the anniversary date when they advance to the next grade. Senior/Top Grade Officer and upper ranking officers increase 2% per year on January 1st.

Grade 10	\$ 115,000	\$ 117,300	\$ 119,650	\$ 122,050	\$ 124,500	\$ 127,000
Sergeant						
Upon Promotion	\$ 123,000	\$ 125,460	\$ 127,969	\$ 130,529	\$ 133,139	\$ 135,802
2nd Year	\$ 128,781	\$ 131,357	\$ 133,984	\$ 136,663	\$ 139,397	\$ 142,185
Lieutenant						
Upon Promotion	\$ 134,190	\$ 136,874	\$ 139,611	\$ 142,403	\$ 145,251	\$ 148,156
2nd Year	\$ 136,874	\$ 139,611	\$ 142,403	\$ 145,251	\$ 148,156	\$ 151,120
Captain						
Upon Promotion	\$ 142,622	\$ 145,475	\$ 148,384	\$ 151,352	\$ 154,379	\$ 157,467
2nd Year	\$ 145,475	\$ 148,384	\$ 151,352	\$ 154,379	\$ 157,467	\$ 160,616

*Academy 1 until completion of the Police Academy

**Academy 2 from completion until anniversary date.