



**City of Independence  
City Council  
Committee of the Whole  
Department Report**

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**TO:** Matthew R. Schmitz, MPA – City Manager  
**FROM:** David Niedert, Chief of Police  
**DATE OF MEETING:** March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
**SUBJECT:** Department Report – Police

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Officer Jason Ohrt recently attended a weapons armorer school. This will allow the department to have minor issues fixed quickly and for a lot less money. We will also be able to have more preventative maintenance done on our weapons.

Administrative Assistant Katie O'Loughlin attended a one-day National Crime Information Center training. This is a requirement of any department that uses the system.

Officer Nicole Ball and Officer Daniel Eschen attended the Iowa Peace Officers Association training recently. Two of the speaker highlights are included below.

*Imran Ali will speak on Use of force over the Last Decade, and Homicide and Circumstantial Evidence. Ali is a former prosecutor and Senior Director of Training, Consulting and Investigation Services with Imran Ali Minnesota-based Eckberg Lammers Attorneys at Law. In 2014, he spearheaded the East Metro Human Trafficking Taskforce, and for five years prosecuted national and international sex trafficking rings, trained and presented to thousands of officers and prosecutors, helped draft legislation and testified for stiffer penalties for sex trafficking offenders. Dr. Shawn Moore will speak on American Stories of Cultural Change. Dr. Moore is a former Police Officer for Brooklyn Center Police Department. He has 20 years of professional experience in the field of Cultural Competency, Conflict Resolution, and Community Engagement. This has included working as a community liaison in the Moundsview School District, a community and cultural coordinator for North St. Paul School District, Coordinating the Scholars Program at Century College, and Director of community engagement and service learning at Bethel University, and Metro State University. He has taught in this field as an adjunct professor, senior Mall of America training officer, and community-training liaison. Dr. Moore is currently a Volunteer State Mediator for Hennepin County. Throughout all of his work experience he has been tasked with the responsibility to teach and conduct cross-cultural, conflict resolution, and community engagement workshops and trainings.*

Chief Niedert recently attended the FBI/Criminal Justice Information Center national working group advisory board in Pittsburgh. This group advises on new policy and procedures for departments nationwide.

Captain Lau and Lt. Isley attended an internal affairs investigations training. The ongoing training in this area is a requirement of Iowa Code Chapter 80F.

Four members of the department donated their time and worked at the concession stand for a high school basketball game. The proceeds will go to the Mustang Booster Fund.

Captain Lau attended a one-day TRACS update meeting. TRACS is the program our department uses to write reports, accident reports, warnings and citations.