

Debra Thompson

From: Debra Johnson <akfloorcovering@gci.net>
Sent: Monday, May 16, 2022 5:08 PM
To: Assembly
Subject: Regarding cutting a police position

May 16th 2022

Hello everyone,

I am writing to ask you to please reconsider this idea you have about cutting a police officer position.

Petersburg is extremely fortunate to have the police force that we have. They really care about our community and the people in it. Our officers are all family men, and they and their families are a major part of our community. Some are married to home town women who grew up here, and are invested into our town with their extended families and do not plan on leaving.

I have been robbed twice at my store, thousands of dollars worth of flooring. Other businesses have had similar experiences, not to mention homes being burglarized all over town as well. The people of Petersburg want 24 hour a day protection. Our community deserves it.

If you want to cut a position to save money, then this truly is not the direction to pursue because cutting a position will end up costing more money in overtime pay. What will save money is actually adding 1 or 2 more positions so there is less over time being paid out.

These officers are all family men, and deserve to be home with their children and wives at the end of their shifts and not having to work more hours of overtime because you cut a position.

These men put their lives on the line every single day. They never know when a call they go on could go wrong. Never. Especially with as much meth, and heroin that we have in town and domestic violence calls.

They are the first ones called in emergencies, and catastrophies that come about, and will be, regarding things that we have no idea may come our way in the months and years ahead.

Being a police officer is a thankless job. My cousin has been a police officer in Seattle for about 40 years now, and he loves what he does because he knows he is protecting his community.

I invite you to spend a shift with them on a weekend and I guarantee you will know that cutting a position is the wrong move to make.

Thank you for your serious consideration of this matter.

Debbie Johnson

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Sent from my iPhone