



# Office of the Sheriff County of Madison



Todd M. Hood, Sheriff

Robert J. Lenhart, Undersheriff

## For Immediate Release

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## Madison County Sheriff's Office Asking Once Again for Public Comment for Police Reform and Reinvention Collaborative Plan

**Wampsville, NY** – Madison County Sheriff Todd Hood, the Madison County Sheriff's Office and the Madison County Board of Supervisors is hosting a second public comment period prior to drafting the New York State Police Reform and Reinvention Collaborative plan. On June 12, 2020, Governor Andrew Cuomo issued Executive Order No. 203 requiring each local government in New York State to adopt a policing reform plan by April 1, 2021.

The New York State Police Reform and Reinvention Collaborative asks all local police agencies to actively engage with stakeholders in the local community and have locally-approved plans for the strategies, policies and procedures of local police agencies. The plan must include the appropriate role of the police, but allow the police to do their jobs to protect the public. The Madison County Sheriff's Office has put together a committee to help draft the plan. The committee is comprised of community leaders from the Board of Supervisors, County Attorney's Office, Public Defender's Office, faith-based groups, Mental Health Department, school districts, and the District Attorney's Office.

In October, we opened up an online form and accepted mail-in comments from members of our community. At that time, we received 44 comments from Madison County residents as well as a submission from the Hamilton Area Anti-Racism Coalition. On October 30, 2020, the Police Reform Plan Committee [held a meeting](#) to review some of the questions and concerns brought up. Subsequently, the Madison County Sheriff's Office posted a [written response](#) to some of the questions brought up from the public comments.

As our next step in this process, we will be hosting an online public comment forum on December 16, 2020 from 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM via Zoom. Due to the increasing number of cases of COVID-19 in our community, we believe Zoom will be the safest way for members of our community to express their comments. If you wish to participate, please email [PoliceReform@madisoncounty.ny.gov](mailto:PoliceReform@madisoncounty.ny.gov) or call 315.366.2822. The link to the Zoom meeting will be posted closer to the date. Each person who would like to comment must register prior to the event, will be given 3 minutes for comment, and we ask that you have access to video as well as audio. If you cannot attend the forum and would like to submit a comment, you can email it or mail it in to:

Madison County Board of Supervisors  
138 N. Court St.  
PO Box 635  
Wampsville, NY 13163

*ACCOUNTABILITY*

*INTEGRITY*

*PROFESSIONALISM*

“The Madison County Sheriff’s Office prides itself on being one of 150 police agencies in New York State accredited by the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services,” said Sheriff Hood. “Accreditation provides a formal recognition that we here in Madison County meet or exceed general expectations in all operations (training, fiscal management, personnel practices, policies, etc.) and acknowledges the implementation of policies that are conceptually sound and operationally effective.”

“The Sheriff’s Office also, prides itself on its presence in our community, including programs like child bike safety, child car seat safety, Special Patrol Officers in the schools, and even our Yellow Dot program,” continued Sheriff Hood. “We look forward to solidifying our relationship with the community as we move forward with this plan.”

For more information visit: <https://www.madisoncounty.ny.gov/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=232>.