

PO Box 278  
Carroll, NH 03598-0278  
June 30, 2025

Carroll Select Board  
PO Box 146  
Twin Mountain, NH 03595

*Sent via email only*

Dear Carroll Select Board,

After reading Carroll Police Chief Tadd Bailey's column in the Town of Carroll Summer Newsletter, and recalling his Carroll Police Department 2024 report in the latest Annual Report of the Town of Carroll, I felt compelled to write.

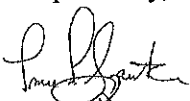
The challenges of properly staffing police departments in New Hampshire cannot be ignored. State, county, city, and municipal law enforcement agencies are all experiencing increased calls for service while grappling with reduced staff. Funding shortfalls due to the reduction or elimination of federal and state grants place an additional burden on already-overloaded agencies. Overworked and underappreciated law enforcement officers in the field are leaving their chosen careers for other, less dangerous lines of work. And finally, the retirement of seasoned officers and the reduction in the number of people seeking careers in law enforcement does not bode well for the future of public safety.

Chief Bailey's explanation that his department is handling four times the number of calls for service with the same staffing level implemented 20 years ago should serve as a warning that without change, public safety of our residents, businesses, and visitors could suffer. Further, asking our current staff to do more with less resources only further contributes to personnel burnout.

I urge you to immediately begin working with Chief Bailey to facilitate creation of one additional full-time law enforcement officer position. Further, I implore you to seek additional resources, such as non-sworn personnel, to relieve sworn officers of some burdensome administrative duties. Putting officers behind the wheel instead of behind a keyboard contributes to better community relations and public safety.

With assistance from the public, I believe you will have the support to move forward with ensuring the Carroll Police Department has the necessary personnel and resources to keep the Town of Carroll as a favorable location for all to live, work, and visit.

Respectfully,



Imre F. Szauter