
From: Karas David (Wilmington PD) <David.Karas@CJ.State.de.us>
Sent: Wednesday, December 4, 2024 2:07 PM
To: John D. Hawley
Subject: [EXTERNAL] FW: Tents on sidewalks

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From: Hall Matthew (Wilmington PD)
Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2024 8:18 AM
To: Hall Matthew (Wilmington PD) <matthew.hall@CJ.State.de.us>
Subject: Tents on sidewalks

The case *City of Grants Pass, Oregon v. Johnson* revolves around the city's laws that prohibit camping on public property. The city of Grants Pass has a significant homeless population, and its laws against public camping were challenged by homeless individuals who argued that these laws were unfair and violated their rights.

The Supreme Court ruled that enforcing these laws does not count as "cruel and unusual punishment" under the Eighth Amendment. This means that the city can continue to enforce its camping bans, even if there aren't enough shelter beds available for all homeless individuals¹

(https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/23pdf/23-175_19m2.pdf)² [[supremecourt.gov](https://www.supremecourt.gov)]

(<https://www.oyez.org/cases/2023/23-175>)³ [[oyez.org](https://www.oyez.org)]

(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/City_of_Grants_Pass_v._Johnson [en.wikipedia.org]).

In simpler terms, the court decided that cities can have rules against camping in public places, and enforcing these rules isn't considered excessively harsh or unconstitutional, even if it affects homeless people who have nowhere else to go.

Major Matthew Hall
Commander of Uniformed Operations
Wilmington Department of Police
302-824-3678

From: Karas David (Wilmington PD) <David.Karas@CJ.State.de.us>
Sent: Wednesday, December 4, 2024 1:27 PM
To: John D. Hawley
Subject: [EXTERNAL] FW: Coat Drive

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From: Karas David (Wilmington PD)
Sent: Thursday, November 14, 2024 12:40 PM
To: Banks Semaja (Wilmington PD) <Semaja.Banks@CJ.State.de.us>
Cc: Vasquez Jose <Jose.Vasquez@CJ.State.de.us>; Rice Daniel (Wilmington PD) <Daniel.Rice@CJ.State.de.us>
Subject: RE: Coat Drive

Good afternoon,

I shared this with the Chief and Majors and we discussed your questions this morning.

The beneficiaries of collected items should be Wilmingtonians, and the Chief suggested that we work with the Community Public Safety Initiative and Dr. Debra Mason to help distribute the clothing that is collected; she has multiple sites where they distribute resources and offer support to residents in need, and he thought that would be a great partnership opportunity. Let me know what you think and I can help facilitate an introduction when the time comes.

In terms of soliciting donations through other organizations, we would like to continue this effort as a drive from within WPD and among our sworn and civilian staff. There are a lot of organizations out there doing things like this and working with churches, nonprofits, offices, etc. to collect items, and we would like to maintain the model of collecting from WPD staff to help mobilize our WPD family to support the community during the holiday season.

Thank you!

David Karas, Ph.D.
Police Policy and Communications Director
Wilmington Police Department
Direct (302) 576-3679
Mobile (302) 463-4221

From: Banks Semaja (Wilmington PD) <Semaja.Banks@CJ.State.de.us>
Sent: Thursday, November 14, 2024 9:46 AM
To: Karas David (Wilmington PD) <David.Karas@CJ.State.de.us>
Subject: Coat Drive

Good morning, I recently spoke to M/Col Vasquez regarding starting a Coat Drive, and have a few questions.

Would we be able to partner with an organization? -Specifically thinking about Horizon House or Firm Foundation (a nonprofit organization), as I have recently made a connection with leadership there.

Would we be able to partner with local churches and have them collect donations from their parishioners?

Senior Corporal Semaja Banks
Community Engagement Unit Sector One
Special Operations Division
Wilmington Department of Police
300 N. Walnut Street
Wilmington, DE 19801
Work Cell: 302-547-6177

From: Karas David (Wilmington PD) <David.Karas@CJ.State.de.us>
Sent: Tuesday, October 8, 2024 9:21 AM
To: Banks Semaja (Wilmington PD) <Semaja.Banks@CJ.State.de.us>
Cc: Rice Daniel (Wilmington PD) <Daniel.Rice@CJ.State.de.us>
Subject: RE: Coat Drive at The Flats Nov 9th

Good morning,

Unfortunately, we do not have budgeted funds to support things like this. However, we would encourage you and your unit to start a drive to solicit donations from department employees. I have included Dan on this so he can assist; he helps M/Cpl. Vasquez with his coat drive each year.

There is also a school collecting socks, and they plan to drop them off to us this fall to provide to our partners. We can send those your way if we have them in hand by the time of this distribution.

Thanks,

David Karas, Ph.D.
Police Policy and Communications Director
Wilmington Police Department
Direct (302) 576-3679
Mobile (302) 463-4221

From: Banks Semaja (Wilmington PD) <Semaja.Banks@CJ.State.de.us>
Sent: Monday, October 7, 2024 9:27 PM
To: Karas David (Wilmington PD) <David.Karas@CJ.State.de.us>
Subject: Fw: Coat Drive at The Flats Nov 9th

New Castle County PD is requesting WPD Community Engagement Units partnership with a coat drive/give away that will occur in the City Of Wilmington.

They are asking if we can contribute coats for adults. Do we have access to any funding or external resources to assist with this request?

Senior Corporal Semaja Banks
Community Engagement Unit Sector One
Special Operations Division
Wilmington Department of Police
300 N. Walnut Street
Wilmington, DE 19801
Work Cell: 302-547-6177

From: Pierce, Anthony <Anthony.Pierce@newcastlede.gov>
Sent: Monday, September 30, 2024 12:10 PM
To: Banks Semaja (Wilmington PD) <Semaja.Banks@CJ.State.de.us>
Subject: Coat Drive at The Flats Nov 9th

Good afternoon,

I hope this email finds you well.

I had a productive meeting with Michelle Sapp at The Journey, and they are thrilled to have both of our agencies partnering for the upcoming Coat Drive event. Their primary objective is to provide members of the community with much needed resources, including coats and shoes.

They have estimated that we will be serving approximately 200 adults and 100 children. New Castle County Police has committed to providing coats, and potentially some shoes as well.

Given that The Flats are in city, I have to defer to your unit regarding resource contributions. Could you please advise on what commitment WPD can make in terms of coat donations and other resources? The Journey wants to ensure that we coordinate efforts and avoid duplicating any invited resources.

Once I have your input, I will share our contributions with Michelle.

Thank you in advance for your support, and I look forward to your response.

Anthony T. Pierce Sr.
New Castle County Police
Community Services Unit
(O) 302-395-8050
(D) 302-395-8061

From: Karas David (Wilmington PD) <David.Karas@CJ.State.de.us>
Sent: Wednesday, December 4, 2024 1:26 PM
To: John D. Hawley
Subject: [EXTERNAL] FW: Public Safety Agencies

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From: Howard Sharps <hesharps@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, November 8, 2024 1:42 PM
To: Bozeman Harold (Wilmington PD) <harold.bozeman@CJ.State.de.us>; Karas David (Wilmington PD) <David.Karas@CJ.State.de.us>
Cc: John Ridgeway <jridge02@aol.com>; Banks Scott (Wilmington PD) <Scott.Banks@CJ.State.de.us>
Subject: Re: Public Safety Agencies

Good afternoon Lt. Bozeman,

I am a member of a group of men representing five United Methodist Churches in Wilmington. We recently had a very successful Men's Health Symposium led by doctors from Delaware, Pennsylvania and Virginia. We are interested in hosting a Home Security Workshop on February 8,, 2025 at Ezion Mount Carmel United Methodist Church in partnership with police and fire departments and other public safety agencies.

This will be a community event with public safety agencies manning tables explaining the used of smoke detectors, exterior motion sensor lights, dead bolt locks, security alarms systems and more. The goal would be to have a limited number of these items as giveaways to incentivize people to attend and be educated about there used. We would create flyers and used social media to promote the event and offer light refreshments to attendees.

I hope you will a be partner and refer other public safety agencies to participate. Suggestions are welcomed an appreciated,

Howard Sharps
[Hesharps@yahoo.com](mailto:hesharps@yahoo.com)
(302)-229-9571

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone [mail.onelink.me]

On Friday, November 8, 2024, 9:13 AM, Bozeman Harold (Wilmington PD) <harold.bozeman@CJ.State.de.us> wrote:

Good morning Mr. Sharps.

The Community Engagement officers and I have a few programs that would be appropriate for your events.

When you have a list of dates and locations, please let us know and we will check the officers' calendars for availability.

Also let me know what kinds of presentations you are looking for.

Be well

HB

Lt. Harold Bozeman
Wilmington Police Dept.
Community Engagement
(302) 983-5720

From: Karas David (Wilmington PD) <David.Karas@CJ.State.de.us>
Sent: Thursday, October 31, 2024 8:34 AM
To: 'Howard Sharps' <hesharps@yahoo.com>
Cc: John Ridgeway <jridge02@aol.com>; Bozeman Harold (Wilmington PD) <harold.bozeman@CJ.State.de.us>; Banks Scott (Wilmington PD) <Scott.Banks@CJ.State.de.us>
Subject: RE: Public Safety Agencies

Good morning Howard,

It is wonderful to meet you!

I have included on this message Lt. Harold Bozeman and Sgt. Scott Banks, who lead our Community Engagement Unit and who can assist with programs like this. We are limited in terms of giveaway items, but can provide information on programs, resources and how to contact our agency for help.

Thank you,

Dave

David Karas, Ph.D.

Police Policy and Communications Director

Wilmington Police Department

Direct (302) 576-3679

Mobile (302) 463-4221

From: Howard Sharps <hesharps@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 31, 2024 8:25 AM
To: Karas David (Wilmington PD) <David.Karas@CJ.State.de.us>
Cc: Howard Sharps <hesharps@yahoo.com>; John Ridgeway <jridge02@aol.com>
Subject: Public Safety Agencies

David Karas, Ph.D.
Police Policy and Communications Director

Wilmington Police Department

Good morning Dr. David Karas,

I am one of six leaders representing six churches in Wilmington and New Castle. We are planning to have a Home Security and CPR Workshop for local residents. We are looking for Public Safety Agencies that can assist us with volunteer speakers, demonstrators and items to giveaways to those who attend the workshop. Can you provide me with names and contact information?

I am also the Community Outreach Coordinator at Ezion Mount Carmel United Methodist Church. If the church is selected as a site for your Community Resource Fair next year, I will probably be one of the persons working with you.

Please reply at your earliest convenience,

Howard Sharps

hesharps@yahoo.com

From: Karas David (Wilmington PD) <David.Karas@CJ.State.de.us>
Sent: Wednesday, December 4, 2024 1:25 PM
To: John D. Hawley
Subject: [EXTERNAL] FW: An Update from Fr. Patrick

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From: Karas David (Wilmington PD)
Sent: Wednesday, November 27, 2024 8:13 AM
To: Campos Wilfredo (Wilmington PD) <wilfredo.campos@CJ.State.de.us>
Subject: RE: An Update from Fr. Patrick

Received sir

David Karas, Ph.D.
Police Policy and Communications Director
Wilmington Police Department
Direct (302) 576-3679
Mobile (302) 463-4221

From: Campos Wilfredo (Wilmington PD) <wilfredo.campos@CJ.State.de.us>
Sent: Wednesday, November 27, 2024 8:12 AM
To: Karas David (Wilmington PD) <David.Karas@CJ.State.de.us>
Subject: Fwd: An Update from Fr. Patrick

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Michael Maggitti <MMaggitti@downtownvisions.org>
Date: November 27, 2024 at 08:00:22 EST
To: "Campos Wilfredo (Wilmington PD)" <wilfredo.campos@cj.state.de.us>
Subject: Fw: An Update from Fr. Patrick

Chief,

Want to give you a heads up. Let me know if we can help.

Mike Maggitti

Downtown Visions
(cell) 302-530-8950
(office) 302-425-5371



Downtown Visions is the non-profit management company for Wilmington's Downtown Business Improvement District. Our mission is to create, manage and promote a quality environment for people who live, work and visit Downtown Wilmington. To learn more visit www.downtownwilmingtonde.com [downtownvisions.org].

From: The Episcopal Church of Saints Andrew and Matthew <danny-w2mw.com@shared1.ccsend.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 26, 2024 3:25 PM
To: Michael Maggitti <MMaggitti@downtownvisions.org>
Subject: An Update from Fr. Patrick

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An Update from Fr. Patrick

November 26, 2024

Beloved in Christ,

I am writing to provide an update regarding the removal of the benches outside of the Orange Street entrance to the church building and our next steps. Since I last wrote to you there have been several developments. We have had ongoing discussions with Friendship House and other community and ministry partners about their needs and experiences.

We focused our monthly walk for Peace and Justice on the housing crisis, through the lens of the removal of the benches, to share this story and elevate the need for solutions into the public sphere. We have also had multiple conversations with the WPD, including with the area Captain, regarding their decision, their tactics towards us and those we serve, their decision to remove the benches, their tactics in and around the church, and a verbal request to return the benches.

Unfortunately, we have not seen meaningful progress from those conversations. Finally, we were able to confirm when the benches were installed, that they were placed there as part of the ministry of the Andrew's Place Shelter, and we believe that SsAM is, and was at the time of their removal, the rightful owners.

In consultation with the Vestry, other members of parish leadership, and multiple ministry and community partners including Friendship House, we have decided to proceed with issuing a public letter to the Mayor, the City Council, and the Wilmington Police Department. We are renewing our request for a wider community conversation for meaningful solutions to the housing crisis starting with monthly meetings between city leadership, Friendship House, and SsAM.

We are also requesting restoration, or replacement, of our benches so they may again support our ministry in the community to care for our most vulnerable neighbors as we have for generations. Finally, we are requesting that the WPD fully comply with the recent directive from the state Attorney General regarding how they enforce anti-loitering statutes and stop all tactics that dehumanize our siblings in Christ or harass or threaten us and our ministry partners.

Before we send this letter to the city, we are asking members of SsAM and members of the wider community, who are comfortable to join myself, the Vestry, Canon Casson, our Bishop and other clergy of the Diocese, and partner organizations such as Friendship House and the Poor People's Campaign in co-signing this letter to our city and police officials.

If you wish to sign the letter, you can do so by following this [link \[sf4lwidab.cc.rs6.net\]](#). We will also have signup sheets available at both entrances to the church on Sunday morning.

We are also asking everyone to forward the request on to anyone else who might be interested in joining us to show the city just how many people are concerned about this issue. To do so, simply pass along the [link \[sf4lwidab.cc.rs6.net\]](#) which has our letter and instructions included.

In my last note I noted that "as a faith community to living out God's call for justice and equity for all of creation, we will not be silent when the most vulnerable among us, and those who support them, are treated unjustly". We are sending this letter to the Mayor and the WPD to push for more options, and better options, to solving the housing crisis understanding that we cannot police our way out of it. I would again ask for your continued prayers as we seek to faithfully follow God's call to us in this time, with gratitude for all the ways the SsAM community has born witness to God's love for the world.

With love and gratitude,

Patrick+

[Link \[sf4lwidab.cc.rs6.net\]: https://forms.gle/zgnxoz6H5wm5bpGE9 \[sf4lwidab.cc.rs6.net\]/](#)

[CLICK HERE \[sf4lwidab.cc.rs6.net\]](#) to visit the SsAM website!

The Episcopal Church of Saints Andrew and Matthew

719 N. Shipley Street
Wilmington, Delaware 19801

Church Office Hours:
M-Th 9 to 4:30; F 9-1

TELEPHONE EXTENSIONS FOR STAFF

Church Number 302-656-6628
Rev. Patrick Burke (x 201)
D-L Casson (x 202)
David Christopher (x 203)

See what's happening on our social sites



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The Episcopal Church of Saints Andrew and Matthew | 719 N. Shipley Street | Wilmington,
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