

NEW FREEDOM BOROUGH
YORK COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-12

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF NEW
FREEDOM, YORK COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE
BYLAWS AND THE CODE OF ETHICS OF THE SOUTHERN POLICE COMMISSION**

WHEREAS, the Borough of New Freedom is a participating member municipality in the Southern Regional Police Department pursuant to the Third Amended and Restated Joint Municipal Agreement for Law Enforcement Services dated May 15, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the governing body of said regional police department is the Southern Police Commission, which exercises the authority granted to it under the Joint Municipal Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Southern Police Commission has adopted formal Bylaws governing the organization, membership, meetings, and operations of the Commission; and

WHEREAS, the Southern Police Commission has further adopted a Code of Ethics establishing standards of professional conduct, conflict-of-interest procedures, and ethical obligations of Commissioners in accordance with the Pennsylvania Public Official and Employee Ethics Act; and

WHEREAS, the Joint Municipal Agreement contemplates that the member municipalities acknowledge and approve governance procedures necessary for the proper administration of the Southern Regional Police Department; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of New Freedom finds that adoption of said Bylaws and Code of Ethics promotes transparency, accountability, ethical governance, and efficient operation of regional police services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of New Freedom, York County, Pennsylvania, as follows:

Section 1. Approval of Bylaws.

The Borough Council hereby approves, ratifies, and adopts the Bylaws of the Southern Police Commission as adopted by the Commission and attached as Exhibit A.

Section 2. Approval of Code of Ethics.

The Borough Council hereby approves, ratifies, and adopts the Code of Ethics governing the conduct of Southern Police Commission members as adopted by the Southern Police Commission and attached as Exhibit B

Section 3. Applicability.

All individuals appointed by the Borough of New Freedom to serve as members or alternate members of the Southern Police Commission shall comply with said Bylaws and Code of Ethics.

Section 4. Cooperation.

The Borough Manager, Secretary, and appropriate Borough officials are authorized and directed to execute any documentation and take any administrative actions necessary to implement this Resolution.

Section 5. Severability.

If any provision of this Resolution is declared invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining provisions.

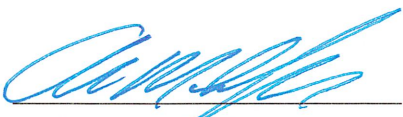
Section 6. Effective Date.

This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

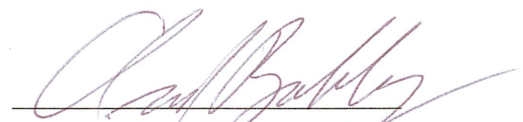
RESOLVED this 13th day of July, 2026.

ATTEST:

NEW FREEDOM BOROUGH COUNCIL



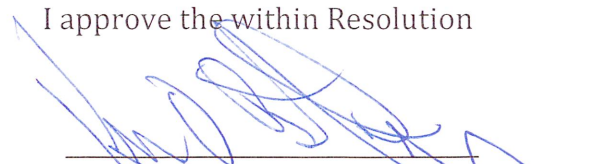
Andrew N. Shaffer, Secretary



Andy Bobby, President

BOROUGH SEAL

I approve the within Resolution



Kim Butcher, Mayor

BY-LAWS OF THE SOUTHERN POLICE COMMISSION

ARTICLE I **NAME OF ORGANIZATION**

The name of the organization shall be The Southern Police Commission (hereinafter referred to as the "Commission").

ARTICLE II **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the organization is to oversee generally the Southern Regional Police Department and to exercise such authority and control as has been granted to it under the terms of the Southern Regional Police Department Third Amended and Restated Joint Municipal Agreement for Law Enforcement Services, dated May 15, 2024 (the "Joint Municipal Agreement"), as adopted by Ordinance No. 2024-1 of New Freedom Borough, York County, Pennsylvania, Ordinance No. 2024-3 of Shrewsbury Borough, York County, Pennsylvania, and Ordinance No. 2024-06 of Stewartstown Borough, York County, Pennsylvania respectively, which were duly adopted and promulgated. New Freedom, Shrewsbury, and Stewartstown Boroughs may hereafter be referred to individually as "Member Municipality" and/or collectively as "Member Municipalities."

ARTICLE III **MEMBERSHIP**

Pursuant to the Joint Municipal Agreement adopted on May 15, 2024 by the Boroughs of New Freedom, Shrewsbury, and Stewartstown, the membership of the Commission shall be constituted as follows:

Two (2) members from each Member Municipality, with each member being either:

- a) an elected official from the respective Member Municipality, or
- b) a non-elected resident of each respective Member Municipality who legally resides in said Municipality.

Each Member Municipality shall also appoint at least one (1) alternate member of the Commission to serve in the event of the illness or absence of one of the regular appointees. Said alternate member of the Commission must meet the membership requirements set forth in this Article, and the Member Municipality must submit a formal letter of appointment of the alternate member of the Commission before the alternate member may attend Commission meetings as a voting member.

ARTICLE IV **TERM OF OFFICE**

Pursuant to the Joint Municipal Agreement, each member of the Commission shall serve a term of two (2) years which shall commence on the date of the appointment at the reorganizational meeting of the governing body of each respective Member Municipality.

Such term shall end on the day of the Commission's annual reorganization meeting following the second year of each individual member's respective term.

ARTICLE V **ALTERNATE MEMBERSHIP**

Where a regularly appointed member is separated from his or her elected office for any reason or is otherwise absent or incapacitated for a continual period of three (3) months, his or her office on the Commission shall be declared vacant and the Member Municipality shall make an appointment to its vacant seat for the remainder of the unexpired term or appoint an interim member for a period of limited duration, within sixty (60) days from the date the Commission declares such vacancy.

ARTICLE VI **OFFICERS**

The officers of the Commission shall be the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Secretary-Treasurer. Their duties shall be as prescribed by Roberts Rules of Order, revised, with the exception that all members shall be voting members. Each officer shall be appointed to said office for a term of two (2) years with elections for such Officers occurring at the reorganizational meeting of the Commission.

ARTICLE VII **VOTING**

Each member of the Commission shall have one (1) vote.

A quorum shall consist of a majority of the membership of the Commission.

ARTICLE VIII **ADOPTION AND AMENDMENT OF BY-LAWS**

By-laws may be adopted and/or amended from time to time by a majority vote of Commission members.

ARTICLE IX **ANNUAL ORGANIZATION MEETINGS**

The bi-annual organizational meeting of the Commission shall be held at 7:00 p.m. on the first Wednesday in January of each even numbered year, but only if such date follows the annual reorganization meetings of all of the Member Municipalities such that each Member Municipality has had an opportunity to make the necessary appointments as provided by the Joint Municipal Agreement for Law Enforcement Services; however, if by the first Wednesday of January of the even numbered year each respective Member Municipality has not held its bi-annual reorganization meeting, then the bi-annual organizational meeting of the Commission, which shall also constitute the first meeting of the Commission for the even numbered calendar years, shall be held on the continuation date as set forth in Article XI.

The purpose of such meeting shall be for the election of officers to serve a two (2) year term, and to

officially swear in any newly appointed or reappointed Commission member(s) for a term of two (2) years.

In the event that the annual organizational meeting day falls upon a legal holiday as recognized under the laws of the Commonwealth, then the annual organizational meeting of the Commission shall be held the next succeeding secular day not a legal holiday under the laws of the Commonwealth, or at such other times as may be determined by the Commission.

ARTICLE X **REGULAR MEETINGS**

Regular meetings of the Commission shall be held at 7:00 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month for the purpose of conducting the usual, customary, and regular business of the Commission. Meeting dates, times, and locations shall be advertised according to law.

In the event that such regular meeting day is a legal holiday under the laws of the Commonwealth, then such regular meeting shall be held on the continuation meeting date as set forth in Article XI.

The agenda for the regular meetings of the Commission shall be determined by the Chairperson of the Commission and advertised on the Department's website in accordance with the law.

ARTICLE XI **CONTINUATION MEETINGS**

In the event that continuation meetings are deemed necessary and/or desirable, such meetings may be called by the Chairperson or by the request of any two (2) or more members of the Commission.

Such continuation meeting shall be called/requested before the expiration of the next scheduled regular meeting and shall take place on the third Tuesday of the month in which it is called.

ARTICLE XII **EMERGENCY MEETINGS**

In the event that any member of the Commission shall request that the Chairperson hold an emergency meeting to address matters of urgent concern, the Chairperson may, at the Chairperson's discretion, call an emergency meeting upon twenty-four (24) hours notice to the membership. Such notice shall be provided by any reasonable means. If an emergency meeting is held, then at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Commission, an announcement of such meeting and the topics and actions taken, if any, will be made known as provided by law.

ARTICLE XIII **MINUTES OF MEETINGS**

The minutes of all meetings of the Commission and a record of same shall be taken and such record(s) shall be maintained and preserved for public inspection by any citizen at any reasonable time in accordance with applicable law.

ARTICLE XIV
APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

The Chairperson of the Commission may appoint him/herself and other members of the Commission as deemed necessary or desirable to serve on standing committees or ad hoc committees as the membership deems necessary or desirable in furtherance of the purposes of the Commission.

Such committees shall, upon request of the Chairperson, provide periodic reports, recommendations and other information necessary for the management and governance of the Commission.

Currently, the Commission maintains five (5) standing committees which are: Personnel, Budget and Finance, Insurance and Pension, Facilities and Equipment, and Negotiating (leading up to and during contract negotiation periods).

ARTICLE XV
EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

At the request of the Chairperson or any other member(s) of the Commission, the Commission may recess into executive session for purposes of discussing those executive session issues permitted by law, as amended from time to time. Further, the Commission, by majority approval, reserves the right to invite into its executive session any individual(s) it deems necessary to ensure an adequate discussion/evaluation of the topic(s) presented. In no case shall any individual(s) other than the members of the Commission and the Commission's Solicitor be permitted to participate in an executive session without majority approval of the Commission.

ARTICLE XVI
**ADMISSION TO MEMBERSHIP OF
REPRESENTATIVES OF ADDITIONAL MUNICIPALITIES**

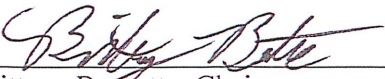
Upon approval of the admission to membership of any representative of an additional municipality pursuant to the Joint Municipal Agreement, such members shall abide by these by-laws as originally adopted or amended.

ARTICLE XVII
SIGNATURES ON CHECKS

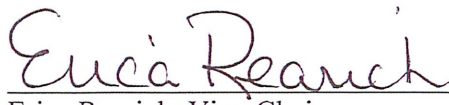
It shall be the policy of the Commission that all checks shall have two (2) signatures, at least one of which must be a current member of the Southern Police Commission.

[Signature Page Follows]

AND NOW BE IT RESOLVED ON THIS, THE 4th DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2026, THAT THE FOREGOING BY-LAWS ARE HEREBY ADOPTED BY THE SOUTHERN POLICE COMMISSION.



Brittany Barnette, Chair

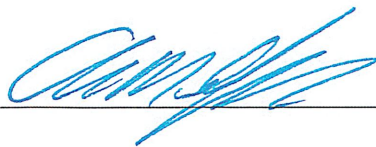


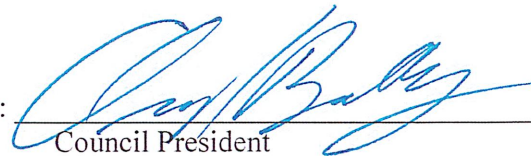
Erica Rearich, Vice-Chair

AND NOW, ON THIS, THE _____ DAY OF _____ 2026, THE FOREGOING BY-LAWS ARE HEREBY APPROVED BY THE MEMBER MUNICIPALITIES.

Attest:

BOROUGH OF NEW FREEDOM

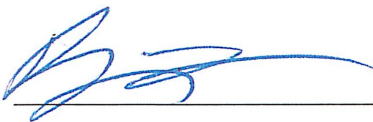


By: 

Council President

Attest:

BOROUGH OF SHREWSBURY

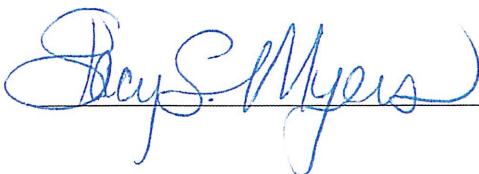


By: 

Council President

Attest:

BOROUGH OF STEWARTSTOWN



By: 

Council President

**SOUTHERN POLICE COMMISSION
YORK COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-02

**A RESOLUTION OF THE SOUTHERN POLICE
COMMISSION TO ADOPT THE FIRST AMENDED CODE
OF ETHICS GOVERNING THE CONDUCT OF THE
SOUTHERN REGIONAL POLICE COMMISSIONERS**

WHEREAS, the Southern Police Commission, also known as the Southern Regional Police Commission (the “Commission”) is the governing body of the Southern Regional Police Department (the “Department”), which provides policing services to the Boroughs of New Freedom, Shrewsbury, Stewartstown, Glen Rock, and Railroad, all of the County of York, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, the Commission is governed by the Commissioners, presently consisting of appointed elected officials from the Member Municipalities, New Freedom Borough, Shrewsbury Borough, and Stewartstown Borough (the “Commissioners”); and

WHEREAS, Title 65 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, Section 1101, *et seq.*, called the Public Official and Employee Ethics Act (the “Act”) governs the ethical conduct of public officials and employees in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, including the Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, the Act establishes, among other things, proper and ethical conduct for public officials and employees related to the acceptance of gifts, disclosing conflicts of interest, and refraining from seeking improper influence or personal financial gain as a result of the office or employment; and

WHEREAS, at the February 4, 2026 regularly scheduled Commission meeting, the Commission adopted Resolution No. 2026-1, adopting a Code of Ethics to govern the conduct of the Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioners desire to amend the previously adopted Code of Ethics to which the Commissioners are required to adhere so as to promote the highest and utmost caliber of individual and organizational conduct;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Southern Police Commission, also known as the Southern Regional Police Commission, York County, Pennsylvania, as follows:

Section 1. Relationship with the Act. The provisions of this Code of Ethics are meant to be read in connection, and conjunction, with the Act. The Commissioners acknowledge they are subject to the Act and shall acquaint themselves with the Act and all relevant provisions thereof. In the event of a conflict between the terms of this Code and the Act, the Act shall prevail.

Section 2. Statement of Values. The Commissioners hereby accept and value the following principles and strive to demonstrate them in all their professional and personal interactions and dealings:

- Impartiality, fairness, honesty, and truthfulness
- Equal opportunity and diversity, equity, and inclusion
- Rewarding performance based on merit, effort, ability, and skill and not on personal relationships or ulterior motives
- Consistent and purposeful improvement
- Adhering to all laws, regulations, ordinances, and policies, including those of the municipal governing body on whose behalf such Commissioner is serving
- Respecting the Commission's organizational structure and adhering to the approved chain of command
- Embody servant-leadership with the utmost degree of concern for those receiving the Department's policing services
- Respect and consideration for others and their viewpoints, even in the face of disagreement
- Responsible fiscal stewardship and guardianship of public funds, recognizing that Commissioners are entrusted with taxpayer resources and must ensure that all financial decisions, expenditures, and oversight actions are conducted with integrity, transparency, prudence, and accountability

Section 3. Conflicts of Interest: Recusal

- A. Whenever a matter requiring the exercise of discretion comes before a Commissioner, either individually or as a member of a board, and disposition of the matter could result in a direct or indirect financial or material benefit to himself or herself, a relative, or any private organization in which he or she is deemed to have an interest pursuant to the Act, the Commissioner shall disclose in writing the nature of the interest and file the same with the Secretary of the Commission.
- B. The disclosure shall be made when the matter requiring disclosure first comes before the Commissioner, or when the Commissioner first acquires knowledge of the interest requiring disclosure, whichever is earlier.
- C. No Commissioner may participate in any decision or take any official action with respect to any matter requiring the exercise of discretion, including

discussing the matter and voting on it, when he or she knows or has reason to know that the action could confer a direct or indirect financial or material benefit on himself or herself, a relative, or any private organization in which he or she is deemed to have an interest pursuant to the Act. The Commissioner so conflicted shall complete any and all required recusal paperwork and submit the same to the Secretary for the Commission.

- D. Commissioners shall not use their positions or information they acquire because of such positions to secure personal, financial gain for themselves or family members.
- E. Commissioners shall not seek or accept from others any favor or thing of value as a condition for an official action or judgement. To the extent possible, even the appearance of such shall be avoided. Acceptance of items of nominal value, as defined by the Act, which are customarily given for goodwill or general promotional purposes are not expressly prohibited, however Commissioners are urged to exercise caution.
- F. Commissioners shall not have an interest in any contract with the Commission unless it poses no conflict and unless the interest has been fully disclosed in an appropriate manner or as otherwise required by the Act or other applicable law.

Section 4. Confidentiality: Integrity of Information

- A. Commissioners shall not knowingly sign or permit the issuance of any statement or report which contains false or misleading information or which makes a material omission.
- B. Commissioners shall be truthful in giving out information to the public. Where possible and appropriate, official or other public statements shall be issued by only individuals authorized to do so by Commission policy.
- C. Commissioners shall not use their positions to secure personal or confidential information about other parties unless it is required by a legitimate business purpose of the Commission or Department. Except as required by law, such personal or confidential information shall not be communicated beyond the extent necessary to accomplish the legitimate business purpose.
- D. Commissioners shall manifest honesty in all financial transactions and submit only completely accurate reports in conformance with applicable accounting rules.

- E. Commissioners acknowledge that pursuant to Title 65 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, Section 701, *et seq.*, known as the Sunshine Act, or Open Meetings Law, the Commissioners may discuss certain Commission-related business in an executive session, closed to the public. The Commissioners agree to comply with the provisions of the Sunshine Act prohibiting the disclosure of lawful business discussed during any such closed executive session.

Section 5. Role as Commissioners.

- A. Commissioners shall be responsible for becoming familiar with their role, responsibilities, and obligations imposed by the Commission's Joint Municipal Agreement, the Act, the Sunshine Act, and all other applicable statutes, laws, ordinances, regulations, and policies.
- B. Commissioners shall be directly responsible for timely communicating Commission- and Department-related business to the municipalities receiving policing services from the Department.
- C. Commissioners shall come to all regular, special, and committee meetings prepared to discuss Commission- and Department-related business and all applicable items identified on any agenda for such meeting(s).
- D. Commissioners shall work only within the authorized scope of authority of their office and shall follow the authorized channels of communication and chain of command when interacting with Commission and Department staff and the Chief of Police.
- E. Commissions shall act with integrity and diligence in fulfilling their duties of fiscal stewardship, recognizing that public funds originate from the taxpayers of the participating municipalities and must be safeguarded accordingly.

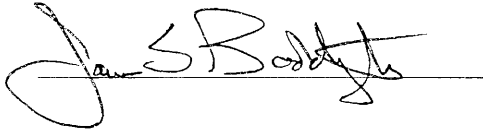
Section 6. Violations. Violations of this Code may result in the Commission requesting the appointing governing body to remove such Commissioner. Violations of the Act, the Sunshine Act, or other applicable laws, may lead to prosecution under those laws.

Section 7. Severability. If any section, paragraph, subsection, clause or provision of this Resolution shall be declared invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of this Resolution as a whole or any part thereof other than that portion specifically declared invalid.

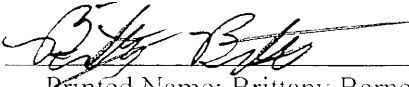
Section 8. Effective Date. This Resolution shall become effective immediately.

RESOLVED this 6th day of May, 2026, by the Southern Police Commission, also known as the Southern Regional Police Commission, York County, Pennsylvania.

WITNESS/ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. S. B. Ady", written over a horizontal line.

SOUTHERN POLICE COMMISSION

By: 
Printed Name: Brittany Barnette
Title: Chair

(SEAL)