



Johnstown

POLICE DEPARTMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEDIA CONTACT

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Johnstown Police Department Responds to Inquiries Regarding Former Sergeant

JOHNSTOWN, Colo., October 14, 2026 — The Johnstown Police Department is aware of and is cooperating fully with a criminal investigation by the Larimer County District Attorney's Office related to the May 28 incident involving former Sergeant William Ward.

Sergeant Ward was immediately placed on administrative leave and subsequently terminated from the Johnstown Police Department on July 20, following an internal investigation into his reporting for duty while impaired.

The department acknowledges that notification to the Larimer County District Attorney's Office did not occur within the expected timeframe. The current administration recognizes the importance of timely notification and is fully cooperating with the District Attorney's Office as it reviews the matter.

Prior decisions regarding this matter were made by a former Police Department employee who is no longer with the organization. The prior actions taken did not follow the Police Department Policy. Our Policy specifically requires an outside law enforcement agency to take the lead and independently investigate this or any incident that involves a Johnstown Police Officer. The Department's current leadership is taking appropriate steps to address identified concerns and strengthen accountability moving forward as our trust and relationship with the Community depends on it.

With the Larimer County District Attorney's Office now conducting an active criminal investigation, the Department will refrain from commenting on potential criminal charges, investigative findings, or any other matters that could compromise the integrity of the investigation.

The Johnstown Police Department remains committed to the highest standards of professionalism, integrity, and accountability. Maintaining the trust of the community is fundamental to our mission, and we recognize the importance of transparency, adherence to established policies, and accountability at all levels of the Department.