

Press Release

Contact: Village Manager Randy Recklaus
Phone: (630) 286-5404

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 24, 2011

Clarendon Hills to Conduct Independent Review of Police Department Policies

In light of the recent arrest of one its former police officers, on charges of the theft and sale of guns that were in custody of the Police Department as part of a weapon turn in program, the Village has hired an outside attorney to conduct an independent review of the Police Department's internal policies and handling of the incident.

"When a problem of this nature comes up in our Police Department, particularly when relating to firearms under our control, we would be remiss if we didn't conduct an independent review to determine what could have been done differently, and what we can do to prevent similar problems in the future," said Village Manager Randy Recklaus.

Village President Tom Karaba added, "We have complete confidence in the very thorough criminal investigation undertaken by the F.B.I. and State's Attorney's Office on this matter. They have stated publicly that this incident is due to the poor decisions of a single police officer. We aren't second guessing that, and have faith in the integrity of our Police Officers. However, we owe it to the public to make sure that we are doing what it takes to be 100% certain our internal policies and procedures are adequate."

After interviews with several attorneys, the Village has hired Chuck Hervas of the Itasca based firm Hervas, Condon & Bersani, P.C. to conduct the independent review. Mr. Hervas is a municipal attorney who specializes in Police Department matters.

Recklaus added, "It is our hope that the review of this incident and our procedures can be completed in the next couple of weeks so we can learn from this situation and move on."