



**Brian U. Stratton**  
Mayor

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**MAYOR STRATTON SWEARS-IN 10 NEW POLICE OFFICERS**

*Two Transfer Officers from N.Y.P.D. to Begin Field Training Immediately*

**SCHENECTADY** – Mayor Brian U. Stratton today announced the hiring of 10 new Schenectady Police Officers, administering the oath of office to the group during a ceremony at City Hall. The Mayor was joined by Public Safety Commissioner Wayne Bennett and other police and city officials for the ceremony.

Eight of the new recruits will begin an extensive, six-month training program at the Zone Five Police Academy in Schenectady on Wednesday, followed by 12 weeks of Department supervised field training. Two officers, who have successfully transferred to Schenectady from the New York City Police Department, will go directly into eight weeks of modified field training, as they have previously fulfilled their police training requirements as NYPD officers.

“The City of Schenectady is proud to continue to expand the ranks of our Police Department with 10 new officers, as we work toward our goal of a fully staffed department of 166 sworn officers,” Mayor Stratton said. The new class follows nine new police officers hired last summer, and who recently completed their Academy training, and a total of 37 new officers brought into the Police Department since Mayor Stratton took office in 2004.

“We send our new class of officers to the Academy with the highest of hopes and best of expectations. We also welcome two lateral transfers from the New York City Police Department, who come to Schenectady not only with the experience of working in one of the most challenging urban policing environments in our country, but also pre-certified in Academy training. As such, the former NYPD officers will go directly to field training and be ready for street deployment in Schenectady within a few weeks.”

Public Safety Commissioner Wayne Bennett, who joined Mayor Stratton for the ceremony, said, “The Mayor and I remain committed to bringing the ranks of the Schenectady Police Department to fully staffed strength, and to rebuilding this department overall with men and women who will exemplify nothing less than the standards of excellence and professional conduct that the citizens of this city expect and deserve.”

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The new officers are:

- **Sean Donovan**, 31, of Rotterdam. Donovan comes to the Schenectady Police Department after being employed for three years with the New York City Police Department.
- **Samuel Gonzalez**, 25, of Yonkers. Gonzalez is originally from Fonda, New York, and joins the Schenectady Police Department after being employed for two years with the New York City Police Department.
- **Christopher Haigh**, 23, of Rotterdam. Haigh graduated with honors from Schenectady County Community College in 2005 and had been employed as a Loss Prevention Officer for JC Penney.
- **Jonathan Haigh**, 21, of Rotterdam. Haigh is a 2007 graduate of Schenectady County Community College and had been a security officer for Macy's. He is the younger brother of Christopher Haigh, making it the first time in Department history that two brothers were hired in the same class.
- **Gordon Iwan**, 30, of Scotia. Iwan has attended the College of the United States Air Force and had been working as an Aircraft Mechanic.
- **Jeffery McCutcheon**, 29, of Schenectady. McCutcheon is a 2002 graduate of Schenectady County Community College and had been a Security Police Officer at Knolls Atomic Power Laboratory.
- **Jonathan Moore**, 26, of Saratoga Springs. Moore is a 2003 graduate of Clarkson University, and had been a Public Safety Dispatcher with the Saratoga Springs Police Department.
- **Adam Nowicki**, 24, of Cohoes. Nowicki graduated from Buffalo State College in 2006, and had been a New York State Corrections Officer.
- **Michael Pommer**, 23, of Schenectady. Pommer has attended Hudson Valley and Schenectady County Community Colleges and had been employed by Time Warner Cable. Pommer has also served in active duty combat with the United States Marines.
- **Jennifer Shewczyk**, 22, of Watervliet. Shewczyk is a 2007 graduate of SUNY Albany and had been working as a restaurant manager.