



Brian U. Stratton
Mayor

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STRATTON ISSUES STATEMENT ON STATE POLICE
LEADING THE INVESTIGATION INTO MISSING
EVIDENCE IN POLICE DEPARTMENT

SCHENECTADY - Mayor Brian U. Stratton today issued the following statement in conjunction with the announcement by Schenectady County District Attorney Robert Carney and Police Chief Michael Geraci that the New York State Police Bureau of Criminal Investigation have been asked to lead the investigation of missing criminal evidence in the Schenectady Police Department

Mayor Stratton is in Washington, D.C. for his previously scheduled participation in the United States Conference of Mayors Winter meeting, and at the request of Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton (D-NY) to meet with Senator Clinton and other New York mayors regarding federal issues important to New York State's cities. He will return to Schenectady Thursday evening.

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I fully support today's announcement by District Attorney Carney and Chief Geraci that the New York State Police will lead the investigation into the disappearance of crack cocaine criminal evidence from the Schenectady Police Department. The District Attorney, Chief and I reached the decision jointly to request the assistance of the State Police in assuming lead responsibility for this investigation.

I believe it is absolutely essential to the integrity and success of the investigation, and of the Schenectady Police Department, that this investigation be conducted by an independent and objective law enforcement agency.

I have directed Chief Geraci and the entire Schenectady Police Department to cooperate fully and immediately during the complete course of this investigation, no matter how long it may take, and that the full resources of the Police Department be made available as needed to State Police investigators during the course of the investigation.

I want to thank State Police Superintendent Wayne Bennett for honoring our request to have the State Police lead this important investigation.

As Mayor, I pledge my complete support to the Superintendent and State Police personnel to expedite this investigation.

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