



MAYOR CHRIS BOLLWAGE

CITY OF ELIZABETH

PRESS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## CITY OF ELIZABETH SWEARS IN 29 NEW POLICE OFFICERS & 2 SERGEANTS

**ELIZABETH, NJ— January 3, 2019** — Earlier this morning, the City of Elizabeth increased the ranks and promoted two sergeants of the Elizabeth Police Department at a ceremony in City Hall Council Chambers. The new recruits were welcomed by Mayor J. Christian Bollwage, Councilman-At-Large Manny Grova, Jr., Councilwoman-At-Large Patricia Perkins-Auguste, Council President William Gallman, Jr., Councilman Kevin Kinery, Councilman Carlos Cedeno, Assemblywoman Annette Quijano, Freeholder Sergio Granados, Director James Cosgrove, Chief John Brennan and Deputy Chief Alexander Sofianokos. The twenty-nine (29) recruits will attend the John H. Stamler Police Academy.

“Public safety is one of our biggest priorities in Elizabeth and additional law enforcement means increased services and patrols throughout our communities,” said Mayor J. Christian Bollwage. “This is what our residents expect from government and it is what we are delivering. I wish all of the new recruits much success in the Academy.”

Many of the new recruits are also bilingual, increasing the ability to interact and communicate with the diverse communities located throughout the municipality. New recruits include: Luis Rodriguez, Tiara Rosita Okpych, Melissa Madonna Caballero, Julio Andres Jimenez, Zuannette L. Serrano, Sean M. Hankins, Mario R. Cavalheiro, Ferney Diaz, Brian Z. Carvalho, Alberto Luis Soto, Gorgina Samantha Romero, Irlanda Stefany Garcia, Charles J. Lawson, Jr., Pablo A. Gilleon, Carlos M. Morales, Bryan Martinez, Tahiry Duran, Leonard Moreno, Michael Colletti, Devante Ali Bravo, Robert P. Mercado, Diego Pernando Jimenez, Gabriel J. Pereira, Kevin Soares, Brian S. Velez, Brittany B. Martins, Glauciene Santos De Lima, Devin Santiago and Anthony Gilberto Triguero. The two new sergeants are Jorge Farinas and Paulo Fidalgo.

“I would like to welcome each recruit to our Police Department, which is very well equipped and very well trained,” said James Cosgrove, Police Director. “I hope you will find fulfillment in your new positions and I look forward to seeing each of you at your graduation in a few months, ready to implement the valuable lessons learned in training.”

The City of Elizabeth is the fourth largest municipality in the State of New Jersey with a population of over 125,000. With its close proximity to the entire tri-state area, the Elizabeth Police Department responds to an array of calls, incidents and emergency issues. Additional recruits will strengthen operations and increase overall assistance to residents.