

From: "Coleman, Chris (CI-StPaul)" <chris.coleman@ci.stpaul.mn.us>

To: >

Sent:

Subject: RE: Saint Paul Police Officers

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Thank you for reaching out to me on this important topic.

Public safety has consistently been my top priority since I took office. The work of our law enforcement agencies not only keeps our residents and visitors safe, but helps cultivate a vibrant community. I wholeheartedly believe in the work they do, and have consistently invested in those departments.

When we take into account the total compensation our police officers receive, our department is in the top five jurisdictions in the Metro area. That is something that I am proud of. I believe that the competitive compensation package and high-quality work environment that our officers receive is second to none.

This year, the City has offered to the Police Union a 5.5 percent pattern increase -- an equal increase to what has been accepted by all the other settled unions at the City. I strongly believe in equity and parity among our City workers. Going beyond that for just one division of our City workers would not only be unfair to other City workers, but would also stretch taxpayer dollars well beyond our budget. I value the safety of our city and the critical work that our brave officers perform, putting themselves in danger each and every day. The offer to increase officer pay and our generous benefits package is indicative of my respect and appreciation for their work.

Thank you for your message,

Chris Coleman