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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: February 23, 2023

SARATOGA COUNTY ANNOUNCES PASSAGE OF CONTRACT FOR SARATOGA COUNTY DEPUTY SHERIFF'S POLICE BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION

Ballston Spa, NY – Saratoga County Board of Supervisors Chairman Theodore T. Kusnierz, Jr. today announced the County Board of Supervisors has passed a resolution for a new contract with the Saratoga County Deputy Sheriff's Police Benevolent Association. The Union represents 138 Sheriff's Office employees.

Chairman of the Saratoga County Board of Supervisors Theodore T. Kusnierz, Jr. said, "At a time when law enforcement nationwide is facing an unprecedented staffing crisis, the contract agreement with the Saratoga County PBA incorporates measures that will help our Sheriff's Office recruit and retain highly motivated and qualified employees while also providing a fair and reasonable contract for employees and taxpayers of Saratoga County."

Supervisor John Lant (Wilton), Chair of the Board of Supervisors' Public Safety Committee, said, "I am incredibly proud of the brave men and women who work in the Saratoga County Sheriff's Office. This contract agreement not only ensures our Sheriff's Deputies receive comprehensive benefits but also makes changes that will help us in our ongoing recruitment efforts."

Supervisor Phil Barrett (Clifton Park), member of the negotiating committee, said, "The County's priority in any union negotiation is to ensure a contract that is fair for not only our employees, but also the taxpayers of Saratoga County. This agreement does just that, providing a comprehensive benefit package to current and prospective deputies while ensuring the County continues its fiscally conservative principles."

The agreement adopts a 20-year retirement plan for Sheriff's Deputies, which aligns the Saratoga County Sheriff's Office with the same retirement plan as surrounding law enforcement agencies. This will help the county attract and retain law enforcement professionals dedicated to keeping Saratoga County one of the safest communities in New York State.

The Union agreed to a gradual wage increase over five years and increased contributions from employees to their healthcare premiums and copays.

As part of the agreement, all affected employees will increase their health care contribution to 20% beginning in 2024 and will pay increased copays for health insurance services.

The agreed upon wage increases will begin in 2025 with a 1% increase with a \$750 annual stipend for body cam requirements, a 1.5% increase in 2026 and a 2% increase in 2027.

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