

THE PUTNAM COUNTY LEGISLATURE

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William Gouldman *Deputy Chair*
Diane Trabulsy *Clerk*



Nancy Montgomery	Dist. 1
William Gouldman	Dist. 2
Toni E. Addonizio	Dist. 3
Laura E. Russo	Dist. 4
Jake D'Angelo	Dist. 5
Thomas Regan Jr.	Dist. 6
Daniel G. Birmingham	Dist. 7
Amy E. Sayegh	Dist. 8
Erin L. Crowley	Dist. 9

AGENDA

PROTECTIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING

TO BE HELD IN ROOM #318

PUTNAM COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING

CARMEL, NEW YORK 10512

Members: Chairman Regan and Legislators Addonizio & Montgomery

Wednesday

6:00PM

September 9, 2026

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call
3. Acceptance of Minutes – April 8th, May 13th, and June 10th Meetings
4. Proclamation – Sheriff's Week – September 14-20, 2026
5. Introduction – Newly Hired Assistant District Attorneys – First Assistant District Attorney Breanne Smith
6. Discussion – Update – County EMS Plan – Emergency Services Commissioner James Oster
7. Discussion – Mounted Cameras/License Plate Readers – Sheriff Brian Hess
8. Other Business
9. Adjournment

**PROTECTIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD IN ROOM #318
PUTNAM COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING
CARMEL, NEW YORK 10512**

Members: Chairman Regan and Legislators Addonizio & Montgomery

Wednesday

April 8, 2026

(Immediately Following the Health Committee Mtg. at 6pm)

The meeting was called to order at 6:59pm by Chairman Regan who requested Legislator Montgomery lead in the Pledge of Allegiance. Upon roll call, Legislator Sayegh and Montgomery and Chairman Regan were present. Legislator Addonizio was absent.

Item #3 – Acceptance of Minutes – October 9, 2025 & November 12, 2025 Meetings

The minutes were accepted as submitted.

Item #4 – FYI – Fund Transfer 26T069 – Probation – Cover Pending Shortfall for Training Budget

Director of Probation John Osterhout stated he has two (2) brand new Probation Officers in need of training; in the past, new officers were sent down to Westchester County Probation Department for free training. However, this year there is no academy in Westchester, so the new officers must go up to Albany for the first part of their training. He stated the first part of training costs \$8,000, while the training budget he has is \$10,000. He is requesting to move \$20,000 from a previous grant from the year prior.

Chairman Regan questioned how many staff openings there are within the department.

Director Osterhout stated the two (2) openings are the only ones, he explained he is fully staffed.

Legislator Montgomery stated she is glad the Probation Department is fully staffed.

Director Osterhout stated that Westchester is dealing with their own budgetary issues, therefore unable to hire. He explained that he must train new hires within a year therefore this cannot be postponed to next year.

Item #5 – Approval – Budgetary Amendment 26A019 – Emergency Services – Additional Limestone at Fire Training Center

Commissioner of Finance William Carlin stated this amendment is transferring about \$3,000 to the Fire Training Center capital project.

Chairman Regan questioned if this item has been discussed within another Committee.

Commissioner Carlin stated that he was unsure, but a similar issue was brought up last year.

Chairman Regan stated there was an approval for this item but with zero fiscal impact transferring funds between accounts.

Legislator Sayegh questioned what the limestone's purpose was.

Commissioner Carlin stated he was unsure.

Legislator Birmingham stated that a memo could be sent to the administration asking for clarification.

Chairman Regan made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Montgomery. All in favor.

Item #6 – Approval – Budgetary Amendment 26A022 – Sheriff's Office – Record Remaining Expenditure & Revenue related to the Co-Response Team Grant

Chairman Regan made a motion to waive the rules and accept the revised addition of Item #6 on the agenda; Seconded by Legislator Montgomery. All in favor.

Commissioner Carlin stated the grant ends on June 30th, and the Sheriff was able to procure approval through the State allowing the remaining funds to be used to purchase out a vehicle that is currently being leased as well as spending down the half year funds for the person that works in Mental Health.

Chairman Regan questioned what that amount is.

Commissioner Carlin stated the car is \$26,416, as well as other expenditures to bring the grant down to zero.

Legislator Sayegh questioned if \$12,895 is being put back into contingency or being taken out.

Commissioner Carlin stated that is being taken out to cover everything within the grant.

Chairman Regan made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Sayegh. All in favor.

Item #7 – Approval – Sheriff's Office Intermunicipal Agreement – Police Tactical Team Cooperation

Undersheriff James Menton stated that the IMA (Inter-Municipal Agreement) is to assist with mutual aid jobs in conjunction with Carmel and Kent ERT (Emergency Response Team).

Chairman Regan questioned if there are any significant changes for this IMA from prior administrations to current.

Undersheriff Menton stated no.

Legislator Montgomery questioned why certain Putnam County towns are included in the agreement and not others.

Undersheriff Menton stated that Carmel and Kent ERT are together as one team.

Legislator Montgomery questioned whether there was a way to get all departments in Putnam County to train together.

Undersheriff Menton stated that these are specially qualified officers who are a part of the ERT and the SRT (Special Response Team), and other departments do not have that.

Legislator Gouldman questioned if Cold Spring was included in this.

Undersheriff Menton stated no, none of their members are included.

Chairman Regan made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Montgomery. All in favor.

Item #8 – FYI – Fund Transfer 26T053 – Sheriff's Office – Utilize Seized Asset Funds to Upgrade Electronic Equipment on Special Response Team Equipment Truck

Undersheriff Menton stated that upgrades including exterior flood lights and power banks were added.

Legislator Sayegh questioned if taxpayer dollars were being used toward this.

Undersheriff Menton said Seized Assets are being used rather than taxpayer dollars.

Commissioner Carlin stated the utilization of Seized Assets are decided on by the Sheriff to determine what the appropriate expenses are that those funds can be used for.

Legislative Counsel Heather Abissi stated that New York State and the Federal Government have an asset program, by which criminals are divested of the proceeds and

instrumentalities of their crime and that money is then taken and put to use to offset the expense to the taxpayer.

Item #9 – FYI – Fund Transfer 26T054 – Sheriff’s Office – Kitchen Supplies

Chairman Regan questioned if this was a new transfer.

Undersheriff Menton stated he believed this was something done several times a year.

Legislator Montgomery questioned if it was possible to stop using plastic supplies in the jail.

Chairman Regan questioned if this transfer was a normality that everything goes under miscellaneous supplies.

Commissioner Carlin states yes, throughout the year needs are identified.

Item #10 – Discussion – Sheriff’s Office – Budget Organization and Object Code Consolidation

Legislator Montgomery made a motion to waive the rules and accept the additional; Seconded by Legislator Sayegh. All in favor.

Undersheriff Menton explained what was handed out was a budget structure modernization pilot program they would like to implement. He stated this system will help to better track and manage resources. He stated the Sheriff’s Office is currently operating under 29 organization codes; many of which are outdated, redundant, or no longer reflect how the Sheriff’s Office operates today. He stated they are proposing a consolidation of eight (8) streamlined codes which are better aligned with current operations. He stated through the use of project codes they will maintain and enhance the ability to track grants, State mandates, and contract-based services. He stated this will be implemented in the year 2027 if approved. He stated they are looking for the Legislature’s support to move forward with this and any feedback is appreciated.

Captain of Administration Dominick Chiumento stated this budget structure is about efficiency and cost savings, while also maintaining the transparency that the Legislature and public deserve. He reviewed the current process and financial system utilized in the Sheriff’s Office. He stated there are currently 29 organization codes, many of which were created over the years and no longer used. He stated some are populated with zeros during the budget cycle. He stated they are looking to consolidate a lot of the similar features that fall under various units within the Sheriff’s Office. He stated they are looking to have eight (8) codes; one (1) for the Jail and the other seven (7) for the Law Enforcement side. He stated for each organizational code, they need to prepare a 22-page document that spells out how the funds would be used, which would be a more efficient task with eight (8) codes. He stated the same information would be made available, just in a more concise format. He stated another advantage of consolidation

would be a more efficient ordering process for office supplies or uniforms throughout the Sheriff's Office. He stated the same transparency will be maintained. He provided an example of the law books being updated; all units purchased their updates separately, on separate requisitions. He stated if this was consolidated it would be on one order, shipped all at once, resulting in cost and time savings. He reviewed the various units and sub-units and how they can be consolidated.

Legislator Montgomery questioned if Captain Chiumento could go into detail on Sheriff BCI (Bureau of Criminal Investigation), specifically Sheriff's Domestic Violence.

Captain Chiumento stated Sheriff's Domestic Violence was an old program; it is not currently funded. He explained these organization codes that have "0" are being consolidated to eliminate the blank ones.

Legislator Birmingham hypothesized that the organizational code for Sheriff's Domestic Violence was added to the budget with the receipt of a grant, which is typically done.

Commissioner Carlin stated that is correct.

Legislator Birmingham stated that would explain the zeros.

Captain Chiumento stated if a grant were to come through that would necessitate a budget line they could establish a project code and track it that way. He stated the use of project codes would have been a better function rather than object codes. He clarified that the Jail and Law Enforcement side of the Sheriff's Office will remain separate. He further explained the benefits of consolidation and how expenditures would be tracked. He stated he believes this will improve efficiency and save money.

Chairman Regan questioned if there would be a negative impact on any other department and asked Commissioner Carlin for verification.

Captain Chiumento stated no, it would not affect other departments.

Commissioner Carlin stated he would have to further look into it. He stated any lines with zero should not have to be reported.

Legislator Birmingham stated perhaps that could be made more clear through the Legislature's decentralized budget process.

Legislator Sayegh stated it would be interesting to find out if there was any effect on the Auditing Department.

Captain Chiumento stated that the consolidation amounts to about 6% of their budget.

Legislator D'Angelo stated he was appreciative of the Sheriff's Office for their effort since taking office. He stated his support for this proposal.

Legislative Counsel Abissi stated that this consolidation aligns with the initiative presented by Commissioner of Department of General Services John Tully during the last budget. She stated she believes this harmonizes well with what is trying to be implemented throughout the County.

Legislator Gouldman stated if this pilot works well, it could be a guide for other departments.

Legislator Birmingham stated that he and Chairman Regan met with Sheriff Hess the week prior and said he was appreciative of their efforts. He stated how transparency is important. He discussed the necessity of budgetary amendments for these lines.

Captain Chiumento stated that budgetary amendments would still be needed for any changes across those consolidated organization codes.

Legislator Birmingham questioned how transparency of the funding would work once the consolidation takes place.

Captain Chiumento stated once the consolidation takes place, what is grouped together will be in one line so the whole budget would be provided, but what comes from each budgeted line would not appear as an amendment.

Legislator Birmingham stated he is comfortable with that. He stated the Legislature relies heavily on the Sheriff's Office expertise of where the need for funding is.

Legislator Sayegh questioned the bike path patrol especially in light of the recent incidents. She stated she utilizes the bike path a lot and has never seen patrol.

Undersheriff Menton stated they plan to add patrol to the bike path therefore it would not be a separate project code.

Captain Chiumento stated that as of this spring and summer, a specific person would be assigned to the bike path. He said that they would be able to give answers to their questions about what division is used for what.

Legislator Russo stated she thinks this program is great and financially makes sense.

Captain Chiumento stated that nothing will change operationally; this will streamline the process and make it more efficient.

Commissioner Carlin pointed out that by combining lines past history may be lost since the funding is not in the same line it had been; therefore it is not as simple to look back to the previous years' budget.

Chairman Regan questioned what the next steps are.

Captain Chiumento stated that he would like to meet with the Finance and Audit Departments to make sure this is done correctly.

Item #11 – FYI – Coroner 1st Quarter Case Statistics – Duly Noted

Item #12 – Other Business – None

Item #13 – Adjournment

There being no further business at 7:51, Chairman Regan made a motion to adjourn; Seconded by Legislator Montgomery. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted by PILOT Intern Molly Hall.

**PROTECTIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD IN ROOM #318
PUTNAM COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING
CARMEL, NEW YORK 10512**

Members: Chairman Regan and Legislators Addonizio & Montgomery

**Wednesday May 13, 2026
(Immediately Following the Health Committee Mtg. at 6pm)**

This meeting was called to order at 7:44pm by Chairman Regan who requested Putnam County Sheriff Brian Hess lead in the Pledge of Allegiance. Upon roll call, Legislator Addonizio and Montgomery and Chairman Regan were present.

Item #3 – Approval – Budgetary Amendment 26A030 – Sheriff’s Office – Receipt of Grant Funds from Putnam/Northern Westchester Women’s Resource Center

Sheriff Hess stated the grant was approved in the budget, and it is for the space utilized to interview victims. He explained this is money they got back from the Women’s Resource Center.

Legislator Montgomery stated she always appreciates the partnerships when they leverage County resources alongside a vital non-profit.

Chairman Regan made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Addonizio. All in favor.

Item #4 – Approval – Budgetary Amendment 26A032 – Sheriff – Repair 2 Automobiles in Patrol Fleet

Sheriff Hess stated both automobiles were involved with accidents with deer; once the insurance recovery comes in the budget will be replenished.

Chairman Regan made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Addonizio. All in favor.

Item #5 – Approval – Budgetary Amendment 26A036 – Sheriff – Record Remaining Expenditure and Revenues Related to Byrne State Crisis Intervention Programming Grant

Sheriff Hess stated the grant was started during the previous administration; they are looking to spend around \$500,000.

Chairman Regan made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Montgomery. All in favor.

Item #6 – Approval – Budgetary Amendment 26A037 – Finance – Receipt of SICG (Statewide Interoperable Communications Grant) Formula Grant

Chairman Regan made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Addonizio. All in favor.

Item #7 – Approval – Budgetary Amendment 26A038 – Emergency Services – Fund NYS Emergency Services IP Network Readiness Grant

Commissioner Oster stated this budgetary amendment is to accept monies from NYS for the consulting of their fiber optic network that provides operational functionality to the 911 center.

Legislator Addonizio questioned if this was a 5-year grant program.

Commissioner Oster stated yes.

Chairman Regan questioned if the selection of the vendor been done already.

Commissioner Oster stated yes, the vendor is NYSTEC, they are a technical consulting firm that a lot of the counties in NYS use.

Legislator Gouldman questioned the percentage of people that text 911 in Putnam County.

Chairman Regan stated they must keep conversation to the topic at hand, as there is a lot on the agenda for the night.

Chairman Regan made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Montgomery. All in favor.

Item #8 – Approval – Fund Transfer 26T110 – Emergency Services – Development of Continuity of Operations Plan

Commissioner Oster stated he would like to invite Seamus Leary from Meridan Strategic Services to answer any questions they may have. He stated a Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) is a plan most government entities have in place in order to ensure that the essential functions of government continue in the event of an emergency or a hazardous condition. He stated it essentially designates who the lines of successions are, how funding is appropriated, and how things are purchased. He explained the existing COOP plan that is in place is severely deficient, with many sections non-existent or incomplete. He stated he does not have a Deputy Commissioner or an Emergency Manager, therefore does not have the manpower to designate facilitating the completion of the COOP plan.

Chairman Regan stated neither him nor Commissioner Oster were in their positions the year prior, but they are both commenting on the severe deficiencies that there are. He

questioned why Commissioner Oster would be coming before the Legislature for funding to do a continuity plan for the entire Putnam County Government.

Commissioner Oster stated he is responsible for the Bureau's COOP, but he thinks the Bureau of Emergency Services should make sure there is a County-wide plan.

Legislator Montgomery questioned if this item came before them previously, and what the result was.

Legislator Birmingham stated the item never made it out of the committee.

Chairman Regan stated last year \$25,000 had been requested but not approved because there were no answers provided. He questioned if Mr. Leary could answer if they have a contract with his company.

Leary stated his company is currently helping the county recover from the July 2023 flood.

Legislator Montgomery questioned where the plan is deficient.

Commissioner Oster stated the COOP has many pages blank, with no information entered, therefore the effectiveness of the plan is not very good. He explained the information that is listed is very outdated, with names that do not work for the county anymore.

Legislator Montgomery stated she is familiar with putting together similar plans on the Town level. She stated that is something mandated by the state, but it is not something they take money out of the general fund to do, and they do not hire a consultant to do it. She stated she believes the information should come from the employees.

Commissioner Oster stated in regard to the hazard mitigation plan, the County is also working on a hazard mitigation plan and they do in fact have a subcontractor as a consultant, the cost is over \$100,000 to assist with the plan and that is funded through a grant. The funding transfer they are requesting is funds that come from a salary which is partially funded through a grant.

Legislator Birmingham stated he was present the year prior for the previous discussion and Commissioner Oster's description gives much more clarity. He stated during emergency purchases, he wants him to get whatever resources needed without worrying how to get them. He questioned that if this department already has staffing issues, is this the best department to handle the COOP.

Commissioner Oster stated as for staffing issues, they are in the second round of interviewing for the Deputy Commissioner position. He stated he thinks it is important to have this plan in place, along with one central department that can oversee the entirety of the plan and make sure that it is completed to its fullest extent.

Legislator Birmingham stated 30 years ago when he was Deputy County Executive, they were able to make purchases using a county voucher.

Commissioner Oster stated they cannot rely on printing out a voucher in the case of the computers being down. He stated there is a plan for if the 911 Center goes down, they need backup plans for all departments. He explained there needs to be plans to help citizens no matter the circumstances.

Legislator Crowley stated she is in full support of this, other surrounding counties all use consultants for COOP plans. She explained Dutchess County has saved \$27 million from having COOP plans throughout all their departments.

Chairman Regan stated that his hesitation comes from the individuals that work for Emergency Services are very competent and should be able to fulfill almost everything that is being asked in the proposal.

Mr. Leary stated he was the County Emergency Manager for Orange County during Hurricane Irene, and they did not have a COOP in place, and they had to spend a lot of unnecessary time figuring out the essential functions.

Legislator Russo stated she supports Commissioner Oster's request, it is a \$20,000 request for the entire County's emergency services.

Legislator Addonizio stated she is in favor of the budget transfer, and she believes it is important to note that the fiscal impact is zero.

Legislator Sayegh questioned if the COOP is specifically for the Bureau of Emergency Services or for the entire County.

Mr. Leary stated they are going to create a core plan that provides the overall strategy and essential functions for the County. He explained some departments are more complicated than others, but they will create a general template for each department to fill out and if they need help, they will get assistance.

Legislator Sayegh questioned if once the plan is complete, the Bureau of Emergency Services will take the plan to the other departments to be filled out.

Mr. Leary stated they will be creating the plan itself and each department will be given a template to fill out, and that will be incorporated into the main plan. He stated he is happy to help each of the departments individually.

Commissioner Oster stated that in his opinion, it will significantly reduce the amount of work that the Bureau has to do in order to facilitate getting a complete plan from the County, they will be the collectors of information from each department and combine that into one plan. He stated the template to be filled out by each Department would be provided by Meridian..

Chairman Regan stated he is hesitant to have an outside company handling this. He stated that logic would point him to believe the \$20,000 is just the initial cost and there will be further costs.

Mr. Leary stated the \$20,000 cost is for the County-wide COOP and there would be no further cost.

Legislator Birmingham questioned if they could go a little more in detail about succession planning.

Mr. Leary stated that typically they come up with a series of questions for the County, such as the roles in each Department and a few layers of leadership.

Legislator Birmingham stated a lot of that is already in place.

Commissioner Oster stated he has previously asked the same questions to Mr. Leary and was assured a full plan would be provided.

Legislator Addonizio questioned what the time frame of completion is.

Commissioner Oster stated the time frame is about 8 weeks.

Legislator Montgomery questioned if they are considering that the staff and department can take the next steps on their own or if they will need more money to do that.

Mr. Leary stated there is no agenda and the next steps are just to demonstrate what other services are out there.

Commissioner Oster stated, with the future proper staffing, most of the "next steps" can be done by the Deputy Commissioner.

Legislator Birmingham questioned how the vendor was chosen before requesting money.

Commissioner Oster stated he met him at an event and thought his skills would be helpful.

Chairman Regan made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Addonizio. Legislator Montgomery voted no.

Item #9 – Discussion – Co-Responder Team Program – Transition and Future Direction – Sheriff Hess & DSS Commissioner Servadio

Chairman Regan made a motion to accept the additional; Seconded by Legislator Addonizio. All in favor.

Putnam County Sheriff Brian Hess stated that, as part of the 2026 budget review, he evaluated all Sheriff's Office programs and determined that assigning a full-time deputy to the County Co-Responder Team (CRT) was not the most effective use of resources. He emphasized that mental health related calls remain a critical issue and that the Sheriff's Office will continue responding to incidents involving violence, threats, criminal activity, weapons, or other situations requiring law enforcement. He noted that while the CRT program provides valuable services, the deputy position is funded by the Sheriff's Office at an annual cost of approximately \$250,000 and that CRT responded to only about 3% of the County's mental health related calls during the review period. He further stated that deputies reported law enforcement involvement is necessary in only a small percentage of CRT responses, raising concerns about operational efficiency and cost-effectiveness. In addition, he cited concerns regarding the program's governance, including the lack of a formal memorandum of understanding (MOU), clearly defined leadership, and a unified command structure. He stressed that these concerns are not a criticism of the mental health professionals or deputies involved but rather reflect questions about program structure and accountability. He concluded that the Sheriff's Office remains committed to supporting mental health response efforts and collaborating with partner agencies to develop a more effective and clearly governed model, but that the current CRT structure does not justify the continued assignment of a full-time deputy, leading to the decision to end the Sheriff's Office participation in the program at the conclusion of the current grant period in June.

Chairman Regan stated that the additional information that was accepted was the original budget amendment request that was forwarded to the Legislature.

Commissioner of the Department of Social Services Sara Servadio stated the numbers from the mental health documents in 2024 differ than current. She explained it has been broken down by geographic location, the amount of mental hygiene orders written, hospitalizations, and the amount of children being engaged. She stated their numbers are much different than the numbers the Sheriff's Department has.

Legislator Addonizio questioned how they find the discrepancy.

Sheriff Hess stated his numbers came from the 911 center; they are the CAD calls.

Commissioner Servadio stated those numbers do not take into account all the times deputies and officers reach out to the co-responder team directly.

Sheriff Hess stated he would disagree with that.

Legislator Montgomery stated the Legislature recognizes the value of the work performed by the deputies and mental health professionals. She stated what matters to her is the apparent decision to end the program. She stated that it is about \$380,000 a year for the program, therefore they need to look into resources. She explained she is frustrated because a plan to keep the CRT active maybe in a different way is not being pursued. She stated the County's data reports the co-response team has been responding to 70

calls a month, and that data needs to be worked out. She is fearful that they are losing services throughout the County.

Sheriff Hess stated he has no problem with Legislative inquiries; there have been other issues with no inquiry by the Legislators. He stated there is real work to do and the numbers do not reflect the need.

Legislator Montgomery stated she believes mental health workers should be in on those types of calls. She stated that the grant is being used to purchase another vehicle for the Sheriff's Department.

Sheriff Hess stated that is not true, it is a County vehicle and will be returned to the Department of General Services for future placement.

Legislator Birmingham stated he defers to Sheriff Hess about law enforcement issues, but he also defers to Commissioner Servadio for mental health issues.

Sheriff Hess stated there are other models to look into. He stated one of the challenges is day versus night tours, most mental health calls occur at night but the deputy is assigned during the day. He explained he does not think having a dedicated deputy assigned to this does not make sense.

Legislator Birmingham stated that there could be a possible IMA.

Chairman Regan stated perhaps the NYS Police would have the overlapping coverage.

Legislative Counsel Heather Abissi stated that the Sheriff does not want to devote a full-time patrol deputy to calls where there is no safety or criminal issue. She stated alternatively, to ensure the deputy's time is devoted to criminal matters, the mental health professional could join the patrol.

Legislator Addonizio stated Sheriff Hess previously stated he is open to exploring alternative models that may be a better fit for Putnam County.

Legislator Crowley stated she fully supports the CRT, she uses it a lot with her other job and it is very helpful.

Commissioner Servadio stated all of these conversations could have been discussed if the Department of Social Services was included in the comprehensive review.

Legislator Gouldman questioned if it has to be a deputy or if it could be an SPO, which would save money.

Sheriff Hess stated while yes it is cheaper, it would be difficult to find someone because they have restricted hours. If someone is having a mental health crisis, you do not need an officer.

Chairman Regan stated that sometimes the presence of a police officer prevents a situation from escalating.

Legislator Sayegh stated she really appreciates the job the deputies are doing. She thinks the CRT is meant to support these calls and do the follow ups.

Sheriff Hess stated yes mental health workers are much needed, but he does not believe a police officer needs to go on the follow ups.

Commissioner Servadio stated they did look at the times of day people call in crisis prior to setting up the schedule of when the team would be working and based on the snapshot and time that we looked at, it was best to do it during the day.

Legislator Sayegh stated they are all in favor of the CRT continuing. She questioned if there was any way for it to continue.

Commissioner Servadio stated the first deputy on the team was trained and experienced, she explained you cannot just throw any deputy on the team and expect it to work. She stated they would be willing to have an SPO.

Chairman Regan stated he would like to thank the both of them.

Sheriff Hess stated they have until June 30th to use the budget transfer.

Johnathon Cummings stated he has an extensive background in emergency services, he believes a lot of the issues discussed could be handled by proper call taking. He stated there is a limitation of what could be taken by CAD.

Chairman Regan made a motion to accept the budgetary amendment; Seconded by Legislator Addonizio. All in favor.

Item #10a – Other Business – Discussion – Letter of Necessity from County Executive Byrne – Requesting Legislature’s Consideration for County Participation in Article 78 and SEQRA Declaratory Judgement Action

Chairman Regan made a motion to waive the rules and accept the other business; Seconded by Legislator Addonizio. All in favor.

Legislator Birmingham stated outside of the Legislature, he is an attorney and his law firm represents the Village of Cold Spring as bond counsel. He stated there has been an initiation from the Village, therefore out of caution he will recuse himself from the conversation due to conflict of interest.

Chairman Regan stated County Executive Byrne requested that Putnam County join the town of Philipstown and the Village of Cold Spring in their article 78 and SEQRA litigation

related to the Hudson Highlands Trails Final Generic Environmental Impact Statement (FGEIS). He stated he would like to note that although the Legislature has been asked to consider County participation in litigation involving a potential taxpayer expense and legal exposure, the Committee has not been provided with the proposed Article 78 draft petition. He explained he looked for guidance from the Law Department, but as they do not possess either legal documents or case documentation, the County Attorney recommends the Committee consult with Legislative Counsel.

Chairman Regan made a motion to refer this matter to Legislative Counsel for review and analysis; Seconded by Legislator Addonizio.

Legislator Montgomery stated she has been aware of this project. She stated she does not have the Article 78 or the FGEIS.

Legislator Addonizio questioned if Chairman Regan read the letter from the County Attorney. She read the letter aloud dated May 11, 2026 from the County Attorney.

Cindy Trimble, resident, stated she would like to raise a fundamental issue of representation, accountability, and integrity regarding the Hudson Highlands Trail. She stated elected officials should engage when a project affects their constituents. She stated the Village of Cold Spring Board of Trustees identified and addressed the deficiencies in the FGEIS issued by the NYS Office of Parks, and those deficiencies are not minor. She stated Legislator Montgomery has not publicly addressed the concerns. She stated Legislator Montgomery should recuse herself.

Legislative Counsel Abissi stated a difference of opinion is not a conflict of interest, they also have not been provided with actual source documentation as to the nature of the project, or nature of the litigation. She stated she could not access the litigation without actual source documentation.

Chairman Regan called for a roll call vote on the motion made to refer this item to Legislative Counsel. Two Ayes: Legislator Addonizio and Chairman Regan. One Nay: Legislator Montgomery. Motion carries.

Town of Philipstown Supervisor John Van Tassel stated the Town needs to file by May 19, 2026.

Item #11 – Adjournment

There being no further business, Chairman Regan made a motion to adjourn at 9:25pm; Seconded by Legislator Addonizio. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted by PILOT Intern Molly Hall.

**PROTECTIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD IN ROOM #318
PUTNAM COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING
CARMEL, NEW YORK 10512**

Members: Chairman Regan and Legislators Addonizio & Montgomery

**Wednesday June 10, 2026
(Immediately Following the Health Committee Mtg. at 6pm)**

The meeting was called to order at 7:58pm by Chairman Regan who requested Commissioner Jim Oster lead in the Pledge of Allegiance. Upon roll call, Legislator Addonizio and Montgomery and Chairman Regan were present.

Item #3 – Introduction – Bureau of Emergency Services Leadership Appointments

- a. Deputy Commissioner Drew Kinash**
- b. Director of Emergency Management Matthew Nadolny**

Commissioner of the Putnam County Bureau of Emergency Services Jim Oster stated they have hired two (2) new members to the Department. He stated Drew Kinash is a retired FDNY firefighter and he will be performing the duties of the Deputy Commissioner position, he explained he is very excited to have his help and support. He stated the other new addition to the team is Director of Emergency Management Matthew Nadolny. He stated he is a recently retired police officer from the Town of Newburgh and has a degree with a concentration in emergency management. He stated he would like to formally recognize them both and thank them for becoming a part of the team.

Chairman Regan stated he would like to welcome them both and wish them the best. He stated they all very much support the mission of Commissioner Oster and the work they all do is essential.

The other Legislators present welcomed the new employees.

Item #4 – Approval – Emergency Services Safety Advisory Board (ESSAB) Appointment – Bradley

Commissioner Oster stated that Mr. Bradley will fill a vacancy on the ESSAB for a term ending December 31, 2026.

Chairman Regan made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Addonizio. All in favor.

Item #5 – Approval – Emergency Services Safety Advisory Board Reappointments – Cuomo, DiMarco, Prentice, and Lewis

Commissioner Oster stated that these four individuals have been on the ESSAB for quite some time now and are seeking reappointment.

Chairman Regan stated all of these appointments would run through December 31, 2028.

Legislator Montgomery stated she would like to thank these Board Members for their volunteerism and hard work.

Legislator Russo stated she would like to thank them as well.

Chairman Regan made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Montgomery. All in favor.

Item #6 – Approval – Budgetary Amendment 26A046 – Sheriff's Office – Use T-Commission Funds to Purchase Furniture

Putnam County Sheriff Brian Hess stated they were lucky enough to have DPW help them with their conference room and is requesting this money to be transferred for new furniture. He stated T-Commission funds are being utilized.

Legislator Sayegh questioned if the T-Commission funds needed to be used to the benefit of the inmates.

Sheriff Hess stated no, that is the commissary funds.

Chairman Regan made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Addonizio. All in favor.

Item #7 – Approval – Budgetary Amendment 26A050 – Emergency Services – Statewide Interoperable Communications Targeted Grant Award

Commissioner Oster stated Putnam County has received an award of \$3 million dollars under the NYS combined 2024 and 2025 SICG, which is the Statewide Interoperable Communications Targeted Grant Program. The \$3 million will be used for the continued build up and buildout of the radio communications system.

Chairman Regan questioned if costs that have already been paid for can be covered by this grant.

Commissioner Oster stated no, there has not been any specific purchase for the grant.

Legislator Montgomery questioned if the \$3 million is allocated toward anything specific.

Commissioner Oster stated they are still in the process of completing radio towers, which is very expensive. Additionally, they need other components of their radio system that will allow them to operate more efficiently.

Legislator Montgomery questioned if there is a specific plan for the money, specifically questioning if it will be used for shelters and what type.

Commissioner Oster said the shelters being discussed are built at the tower site, which houses all the electronic equipment, computers, radio equipment, etc. He stated it can be difficult to assign money to specific purposes when the needs may change as the project progresses.

Chairman Regan made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Montgomery. All in favor.

Item #8 – Approval – Grant Application – Emergency Services – Statewide Interoperable Communications Grant Program

Chairman Regan questioned if there is any commentary on the current interoperability.

Commissioner Oster stated there is a significant issue with the departments being able to interact with radio communications to neighboring departments or counties, specifically the County of Westchester. He stated millions of dollars are coming from the State so that they can have communications between agencies, and the fact there is none right now is unacceptable and needs to be resolved.

Chairman Regan questioned if during the horrific fire in Mohegan Lake, how much did this hinder the response because it had to go through so many departments.

Commissioner Oster stated he did not think it hindered the response, some departments have taken it upon themselves to go to a vendor and have the inter-agency channels put into their radios.

Chairman Regan questioned if Putnam Valley was able to communicate.

Commissioner Oster stated no, Putnam Valley was not able to communicate with Westchester departments directly.

Legislator Montgomery stated she is looking forward to seeing how all this operates together.

Commissioner Oster stated it is a lot of money dedicated to communications. He stated some grants are targeted and others are non-targeted.

Legislator Crowley stated reports came out on July 23rd and the Deputy Commissioner of Westchester stated they were working with Putnam County Bureau of Emergency

Response. She questioned if The Law Department had heard anything since it left their office.

Senior Deputy County Attorney Katherine McNeal stated not to her knowledge, but she would have to check.

Chairman Regan stated he wanted everyone to understand how important this is.

Legislator Crowley stated she would send a memo to follow up as the Fire Advisory Board Liaison.

Commissioner Oster stated it is his understanding that Westchester County has authorized each department that does respond to mutual aid to have their radios programmed. He stated he does not see it as a County legal issue to have the fire departments take it upon themselves to deal with Westchester County.

Senior Deputy County Attorney McNeal stated the IMA (Inter-Municipal Agreement) is necessary for protection. She stated even inter-departments will always have something in writing.

Legislator Crowley stated that it was done per the response of Commissioner of Westchester. She questioned who has signed the Simple User Agreement.

Chairman Regan stated the Simple User Agreement requires Putnam County to go to their vendor to have the keys installed in the radio.

Senior Deputy County Attorney McNeal stated a user agreement is a contract, she stated if they go through the Law Department and have it looked at, that will protect everyone.

Chairman Regan made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Addonizio. All in favor.

Item #9 – Approval – Grant Application – Emergency Services – Public Safety Answering Point Operation Grant Program

Commissioner Oster stated this is a request to approve a grant application, they have already applied because the deadline was last week prior to the meeting. The grant is a Public Safety Answering Point Grant, if approved County will receive \$248,182 with no County matching funds. He stated the money would cover around \$140,000 worth of Dispatcher Salaries and the remainder to be used to cover software purchases and leases for the 911 Center.

Chairman Regan made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Addonizio. All in favor.

Item #10 – Other Business

Legislator Birmingham stated last month they had approved a home rule request to the State to alienate Parkland for a tower, and both the State Senate and Assembly have passed the home rule request.

Item #11 – Adjournment

There being no further business at 8:33pm, Chairman Regan made a motion to adjourn; Seconded by Legislator Montgomery. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted by PILOT Intern Molly Hall.

7#

Proclamation

Recognizing Sheriff's Week – September 14-20, 2026

WHEREAS, the Office of Sheriff has been an integral part of the criminal justice system in New York State and in Putnam County throughout our history, having been established in the State's first constitution in 1777 and continued in every succeeding Constitution, and having been one of the original Constitutional offices upon the founding of our County; and

WHEREAS, despite changes in its function, status, and powers during its long history, the Office of Sheriff has maintained a continuous existence, preserved its distinguishing heritage, and continued to be an essential component of our criminal justice community; and

WHEREAS, the Office of Sheriff has evolved into a modern, professional, full-service law enforcement and corrections agency, manned by well-trained police officers and correctional officers using state-of-the-art technology and applying the latest and most advanced theories and practices in the fields of law enforcement and corrections; and

WHEREAS, the Office of Sheriff is unique in the community, and the duties of the Office go far beyond the traditional role of "Keeper of the Peace," and extend into many facets of public service, beyond law enforcement and corrections, to include providing security in our courts, dispatching emergency services, and handling civil process for our courts; and

WHEREAS, as a Constitutionally empowered Office directly responsible to the People, the ancient Office of Sheriff remains, even today, responsive and accountable to the public it serves; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting to celebrate the historical contributions of the Office of Sheriff and the significant role that the Sheriffs play in our modern criminal justice system; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Putnam County Executive and Putnam County Legislature do recognize the important services provided to the citizens of this County by the Putnam County Sheriff's Department, and do hereby proclaim September 14-20, 2026, to be Sheriff's Week in Putnam County.

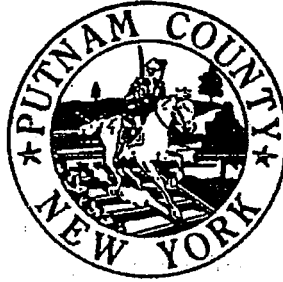
Kevin Byrne, Putnam County Executive

Daniel G. Birmingham, Chair, Putnam County Legislature

THE PUTNAM COUNTY LEGISLATURE

40 Gleneida Avenue
Carmel, New York 10512
Phone (845) 808-1020 • Fax (845) 808-1933
putcoleg@putnamcountyny.gov

Daniel G. Birmingham *Chairman*
William Gouldman *Deputy Chair*
Diane Trabulsy *Clerk*

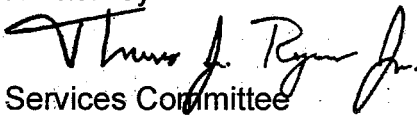


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William Gouldman	Dist. 2
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Laura E. Russo	Dist. 4
Jake D'Angelo	Dist. 5
Thomas Regan Jr.	Dist. 6
Daniel G. Birmingham	Dist. 7
Amy E. Sayegh	Dist. 8
Erin L. Crowley	Dist. 9

MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 31, 2026

TO: Robert Tendy
Putnam County District Attorney

FROM: Thomas Regan Jr. 
Chairman, Protective Services Committee

RE: Introduction of New Assistant District Attorneys

As a follow up to our conversation, I respectfully request your attendance at the September 9, 2026 meeting of the Protective Services Committee to introduce the 2 newly hired Assistant District Attorneys in your office.

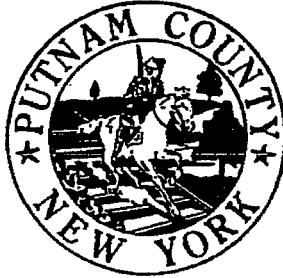
Thank you to your attention to this request, I look forward to the introduction.

THE PUTNAM COUNTY LEGISLATURE

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#6

Daniel G. Birmingham *Chairman*
William Gouldman *Deputy Chair*
Diane Trabulsy *Clerk*



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MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 26, 2026

TO: Kevin Byrne
Putnam County Executive

CC: James Oster
Commissioner, Bureau of Emergency Services

FROM: Thomas Regan Jr. 
Chairman, Protective Services Committee

RE: County EMS Plan

As you know, New York State now requires counties to develop and maintain a comprehensive EMS plan, with a December 19, 2026 deadline. Accordingly, I respectfully request Emergency Services Commissioner James Oster, or his designee, attend the September 9, 2026 Protective Services Committee Meeting to provide an update on said plan. The meeting will begin at 6:00pm, please confirm your ability to attend with the Legislative Office at your earliest convenience.

Thank you for your attention to this request. I look forward to the discussion.

Attachment

New Legislation Requires Counties to Develop Comprehensive EMS Plans



By Megan Novak, NYSAC Legislative Coordinator

Emergency medical services have long been a patchwork of providers across New York State—volunteer squads, municipal agencies, private contractors, and everything in between. A new state law aims to bring greater clarity to that landscape, not by mandating how counties deliver EMS, but by requiring them to take stock of what they have, identify the gaps, and put a plan on paper.

The law (Chapter 703 of the Laws of 2025) directs every county in the state to develop and maintain a comprehensive EMS plan. The New York State Department of Health is expected to release a model plan template this month that will serve as the primary guide for counties as they begin their planning work.

What the Law Requires Counties to Do

Under Chapter 703, each county must convene a planning process in coordination with its municipalities—cities, towns, and villages—and its regional EMS council. The process must be led by the county EMS coordinator, a designee of the county Office of Emergency Management, or another county-designated lead.



The resulting plan must address several core questions:

WHO IS PROVIDING EMS, AND WHERE?

Counties must identify which EMS providers are responsible for responding to emergency calls in each part of the county and, critically, flag any areas where no provider currently exists.

HOW ADEQUATE IS CURRENT SERVICE?

The plan must assess the existing level of EMS coverage across the county and include a plan to increase or provide service in areas where it falls short.

WHAT ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE WILL BE USED?

Counties must specify how service will be delivered in each area—whether through municipal operations, intermunicipal agreements, not-for-profit contracts, special districts, or regional arrangements.

WHAT WILL IT COST?

For areas where current service levels are insufficient, the plan must include cost estimates for bringing service up to an adequate level.

WHAT LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACTIONS ARE NEEDED?

The plan must detail any specific steps—such as intermunicipal agreements or the creation of special districts—that may be necessary to implement it.

It is important to note that while counties must develop and submit these plans, there is no legal requirement to implement them. The sponsors have stated their intent is to use the resulting data to assess statewide EMS needs and then pursue funding support through the state budget process.

The Chapter Amendment

Shortly after Chapter 703 was enacted, the Legislature passed a chapter amendment (S.8806/A.9440), that makes two important changes to the original legislation.

First, it extends the timeline. Under the original law, counties had six months from the date of enactment to complete and submit their plans—a deadline that would have been extremely difficult to meet. The amendment delays the law's effective date by six months from that effective date to complete their plans. In practical terms, county plans will be due on December 19, 2026.

Second, it places new obligations on the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH). Rather than leaving counties to interpret the law's requirement on their own, NYSDOH, in consultation with the State EMS Council and regional EMS councils, must develop a model comprehensive county EMS plan template and make it publicly available on its website. This template is expected to be released this month and will serve as the primary guide for counties as they begin their planning work.

The goal is to build a statewide picture of EMS coverage and gaps that can inform future policy, and ultimately, future funding.

What to Expect from DOH

NYSDOH's model plan template will be a key resource. Counties should watch for its release and use it as the foundation for their local planning process. Once a county submits its completed plan, NYSDOH has 60 days to review it and provide written feedback and recommendations.

The department's role is advisory, it reviews and comments, but the law does not give DOH authority to reject or require revision of county plans.

Looking Ahead

The sponsors of this legislation have been clear that the planning process is a first step, not a final destination. The goal is to build a statewide picture of EMS coverage and gaps that can inform future policy, and ultimately, future funding. Counties that engage seriously with the planning process will be better positioned to make the case for the resources they need.

NYSAC will continue to monitor the release of the DOH model template and any guidance from SEMSCO. We will provide additional information and resources to help counties meet the December 2026 deadline as the process unfolds.

How Effective is EMS Response in Your County?



cgr.org



Under new requirements, every county must develop a plan to ensure that EMS is meeting the needs of the community.

Why Partner with CGR?

- Proven New York Success
- Transparent Methodology
- Prepared to Engage Stakeholders
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We're ready to share our expertise to help you craft the specific comprehensive plans now required by the state.

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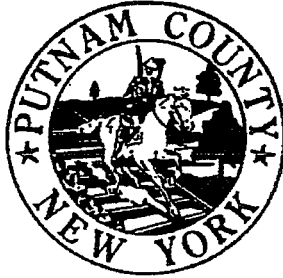


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MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 26, 2026

TO: Brian Hess
 County Sheriff

FROM: Thomas Regan Jr.
 Chairman, Protective Services Committee

RE: Mounted Cameras within Putnam County

As Chairman of the Protective Services Committee, I respectfully request your attendance at the September 9, 2026 Committee meeting to discuss the Putnam County Sheriff's Office use of mounted cameras throughout the County. After recent community engagement on this topic, I believe a transparent discussion would be beneficial for the residents we serve.

Please feel free to extend this invitation to any other professionals you may deem necessary to add to the discussion from a technical or usage standpoint. The meeting will begin at 6:00pm, please confirm your ability to attend with the Legislative Office at your earliest convenience.

Thank you, I look forward to the discussion.



Sheriff Brian Hess

August 17 at 3:37 PM · 🌐

I want Putnam County residents to have the facts about our license plate reader system.

This technology has been an invaluable public safety tool for more than five years helping us recover stolen vehicles, identify criminal crews, locate missing persons and apprehend dangerous offenders. Just as importantly, our system is locally controlled, our data remains in government hands, and we have safeguards in place to protect the privacy of our residents.

I encourage everyone to read the full statement below and learn more about how we're using this technology responsibly to keep Putnam County safe. [See less](#)



NOT FLOCK.

HOW PUTNAM COUNTY'S LICENSE PLATE READERS REALLY WORK

PRESS RELEASE

PUTNAM COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

PUTNAM COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Putnam County Law Enforcement to Residents: Our License Plate Readers Are Not Flock. Your Data Stays Here, Under Local Control.

Sheriff and police chiefs issue joint statement answering questions raised by national reporting on commercial camera networks

CARMEL, N.Y., August 13, 2026. In response to growing national questions about license plate reader (LPR) technology, and in particular about the Flock Safety camera network in use in many communities across the country, the law enforcement agencies of Putnam County are speaking with one voice to explain how our county's system works, how it is different, and what it has done to keep Putnam residents safe.

Recent national reporting has raised serious concerns about commercially operated camera networks: data stored on a private company's cloud, footage searchable by thousands of agencies nationwide, and searches conducted for purposes residents never agreed to. Those concerns deserve straight answers. In Putnam County, the answer is simple: that is not our system.

"When residents read those stories, they deserve to know exactly how our program compares, and the answer is that it does not," said **Sheriff Brian Hess**. "Putnam County deliberately chose not to join any commercial camera network. Our data sits on a government server controlled by law enforcement, right here in the region. It is never sold, never shared with private companies, and never available to some nationwide search network. If someone wants to search historical data, they need an active criminal investigation. Period."

How Putnam County's System Is Different

- **Not part of any national network.** Putnam County's cameras are not Flock cameras and are not connected to any commercial, nationally searchable database.
- **Government controlled.** All data is stored on a government-owned server operated by law enforcement through the regional Real Time Crime Center partnership, not on a private company's cloud.
- **No third parties.** There is no integration with any third-party company or data broker.
- **Local access only.** Only local law enforcement officers have access, and a search of historical data requires an active criminal investigation.
- **Plates, not people.** The cameras photograph license plates only. There is no facial recognition, no identification of drivers or passengers, and no monitoring of ordinary residents. These are not speed cameras and they do not issue tickets. A plate that matches no alert list simply passes through.
- **Nothing is kept forever.** In accordance with New York State Municipal Police Training Council (MPTC) standards, records are retained for two years and then permanently deleted.

By the Numbers: This Year Alone

From January 1 through August 11, 2026, the county's 21 active fixed LPR sites generated 808 investigative alerts on 250 distinct vehicles of interest, roughly 25 alerts per week:

- **184 stolen vehicles** (546 alerts). Stolen cars are rarely joyrides. In our investigators' experience, they are driven into Putnam by offenders intending to steal more vehicles and commit larcenies while hiding their identity. Real-time alerts let officers intercept them before the next crime happens.
- **27 known burglary crew vehicles** (100 alerts), tied to residential burglaries across the region, many connected to New York City based crews. When one of these vehicles shows up here, it is a strong indicator that a crew is canvassing our neighborhoods for target homes. Nearly half of these alerts (46%) fired at cameras on the county line, catching them at the moment they entered Putnam.
- **22 vehicles linked to organized retail theft rings** (141 alerts), typically out-of-state criminal organizations that travel here specifically to steal from our local stores.
- **17 vehicles flagged in special alerts** (21 alerts) for violent wanted suspects, missing or suicidal persons, and domestic violence cases, situations where a single alert can save a life.

And that is just this year to date. This system has been protecting Putnam County for more than five years. Go back through those years and the successes compound: more stolen vehicles recovered, more burglary crews turned away, more cases solved, every single year. The 2026 numbers are simply the latest chapter in a long record of results.

Real Cases, Real Results

Over those five-plus years, the technology has helped identify a homicide suspect who confessed to murder, intercept a violent suspect entering the county to harm a family member, solve an armed robbery that had no witnesses and no video, corroborate evidence in child sex crime cases, catch the person who sabotaged the county's 911 center, capture a suspect wanted in a New York City shooting, dismantle multi-state fraud rings now under federal investigation, and locate missing and suicidal people before it was too late.

"For us this is a daily policing tool, not an abstraction," said **Chief Anthony Hoffmann of the Carmel Police Department**. "Our department alone has used LPR in 42 cases so far this year: hit-and-run crashes, stolen cars, larcenies, a missing person. It helps us solve crimes that used to go unsolved, and it does it without watching a single law-abiding resident."

"Within three days of installing our first camera, we identified the vehicle and suspect in a daytime home burglary within hours," said **Chief Kevin Owens of the Kent Police Department**. "Since then our readers have helped capture a suspect wanted in a New York City shooting and break open a burglary series spanning six counties. These cameras earn their keep, and the data stays in law enforcement hands."

Our Commitment

Putnam County remains one of the safest counties in New York. That is not an accident. Offenders travel here from New York City, from neighboring counties, and from out of state. The LPR network is the county's early-warning system, and it was built the right way: locally controlled, law enforcement governed, and respectful of the privacy of the people it protects. Residents with questions about the program are encouraged to contact the Sheriff's Office or their local police department. We welcome the conversation.

This statement is issued jointly by **Sheriff Brian Hess, Putnam County Sheriff's Office; Chief Anthony Hoffmann, Carmel Police Department; and Chief Kevin Owens, Kent Police Department**, with our partners in Brewster, Cold Spring, and the New York State Police.

Media contact: Putnam County Sheriff's Office, Public Information Office.

CC: A11



BRIAN M. HESS
SHERIFF

PUTNAM COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Three County Center
Carmel, New York 10512
(845) 225-4300



JAMES T. MENTON
UNDERSHERIFF

2026 SEP - 2 PM 5:04
LEGISLATURE
PUTNAM COUNTY
CARMEL, NY

Date: August 31st, 2026

To: Honorable Members of the Putnam County Legislature

From: Sheriff Brian M Hess *B. Hess*

Re: LPR Annual Report for 2025

The county ALPR policy adopted by Resolution #289-2023 directs that the Sheriff produce an annual report to the Legislature, which may be made available to the public, and specifies the information that report shall contain. This report covers calendar year 2025 and is presented in the order of the ten elements the policy requires.

No data breach, and no unauthorized use of the ALPR database by any member of this office, was identified or reported during the reporting period.

Element required by the county ALPR policy	Calendar year 2025
a. Total number of license plates scanned	71,713,780
b. Number of preservation requests	0
c. Number of disclosure orders	0
d. Any changes within the Putnam County Sheriff's Office affecting access to, use of, or retention of ALPR data	None.
e. Number of disclosure orders resulting in criminal charges	None.
f. Total number of license plate readers operated by the Putnam County Sheriff's Office	20 fixed Rekor readers, and 34 Axon Fleet mobile
g. Number of license plate reads being retained	Not applicable. All reads captured during the reporting period remain held under the two year retention period and none have aged out of the system.
h. Number of requests for ALPR data made by private persons or commercial entities, including requests made under the Freedom of	No ALPR data was released to any private person or commercial entity during the reporting period.



BRIAN M. HESS
SHERIFF

PUTNAM COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Three County Center
Carmel, New York 10512
(845) 225-4300



JAMES T. MENTON
UNDERSHERIFF

Element required by the county ALPR policy	Calendar year 2025
Information Law, and whether the requests were approved	
i. Number of requests for ALPR data made by law enforcement agencies, to the extent known, and whether the request was granted	Not separately quantifiable. Participating agencies operate within a shared regional system rather than by request to this office. No ALPR data was provided to any agency outside the region during the reporting period.
j. Any data breaches or unauthorized uses of the ALPR database	None.

This is the first report filed under Resolution #289. When the county ALPR policy was adopted, the annual reporting requirement was not carried into the Sheriff's Office policy manual, and as a result it was not built into this office's annual reporting cycle. That was identified by this office in preparation for the Protective Services Committee meeting. The requirement is being added to the policy manual, with a fixed annual filing date, so that it is not missed again.