

Statement of the Town of Windsor
September 7, 2023

The Town of Windsor has entered into a Consent Order with the Commonwealth of Virginia to dismiss the suit brought against it, with prejudice. This resolution upholds the Town's obligation to its community to avoid further unfair and unjustified financial impositions placed upon the citizens of Windsor by the Office of the Attorney General; and it successfully ends any debate on whether the Town violated Code of Virginia § 2.2-511.1 – a statute that was not even in effect at the time of the incident.

Evidence made available to both former Attorney General Mark Herring and current Attorney General Jason Miyares clearly shows that there is no, and has never been, any pattern of discrimination in the Town of Windsor Police Department. From 2016-2023, more than 23,000 contacts between citizens and Windsor police occurred; 20 of those cases had use of force applied, while only six of those instances involved African Americans. Over that seven-year period, only one complaint by any individual was validated by Windsor's police chief or any other authority, and appropriate action was undertaken.

The Town of Windsor has worked diligently within its police force to enhance training, improve policies and procedures, and ensure the public that its law enforcement operates without prejudice and within the law. Our officers patrol this Town to protect those who live, work, bank, worship, shop, dine, and travel within town limits, and will continue to do so without consideration of race or gender.

The Consent Order requires Windsor to seek accreditation with the Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission, a process the Town has already initiated proactively. For the integrity of our law enforcement and community, the Town determined the expense to be worth the return on investment. Similarly, in an effort to maintain impartialness, we have agreed to include the Isle of Wight Commonwealth's Attorney in any review of complaints arising out of "use of force" incidents and provide such reports to the Attorney General's office.

The full Agreed Consent Order is attached.