

**A RESOLUTION  
HONORING POLICE CHIEF CHRISTOPHER J. KOSTURA ON THE  
OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT AS POLICE CHIEF FROM THE  
ORANGE VILLAGE POLICE DEPARTMENT.**

WHEREAS, Police Chief Christopher J. Kostura graduated from Bedford High School in 1976 (later being elected to the BHS Hall of Fame), continued his education at Kent State University (while working as a dispatcher for the Pepper Pike Police Department), and received his degree in Business Administration from Kent State in 1979; and

WHEREAS, Chief Kostura joined the Orange Village Police Department in 1979, was promoted to the rank of Sergeant in 1984, was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant in 1990, and was promoted to the rank of Chief on March 7, 2001; and

WHEREAS, Chief Kostura has continued his education throughout his career with various courses of study and achievements including becoming an Advanced Hostage Negotiator, a certified Emergency Medical Technician, and in 1991 he graduated from the acclaimed FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Chief Kostura has directed several security teams, received many professional accolades, and is not only affiliated with but has led numerous organizations during his career, such as being the former President of the Chagrin Valley Enforcement Group, being a member of the FBI National Academy Associates, the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #57, Crimestoppers, S.P.A.N. Detective Network, as well as the following Associations for Chiefs of Police: Cuyahoga County, State of Ohio (Executive Board) and the International Association; and

WHEREAS, Chief Kostura has not only been a dedicated member of the Orange Village Police Department for decades, he has also served as a member of the Orange Village Fire Department, where he worked as an EMT (emergency medical technician) and firefighter, serving with his father, Lou Kostura, alongside retired Fire Chief Robert H. Wilson, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, Chief Christopher J. Kostura is retiring from his role as Chief of the Orange Village Police Department, effective July 31, 2024; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Judson A. Kline wanted to express his sentiments regarding Chief Kostura in the following manner:

Chief Kostura has served the Orange Village Community since 1979 with distinction. His service as the Village's Chief of Police for 23 years has provided exemplary leadership and guidance for both the officers who served with him, as well as the Orange Village and Chagrin Valley communities. It is with great appreciation for his knowledge, experience, and selfless commitment that I thank and congratulate him. I wish him continued purpose and great satisfaction as he moves on to the next phase of his life.

WHEREAS, Staci Vincent, a current member of the Orange Village Council, shared these words of praise for Chief Kostura:

Chief Kostura has always represented that stalwart strength that has made our family, neighbors, and friends feel secure, protected, and at home in Orange Village. He leads

by example and, while definitive in his authority, the Chief conveys a friendly, warm demeanor behind the smile he is unable to conceal when conversing with residents and staff alike. Thank you, Chief Kostura, for everything. I wish you peace and quiet in retirement.

WHEREAS, Police Lieutenant Michael Roberts, the Orange Village Police Chief nominee, offered these words to characterize Chief Kostura's leadership style:

Chief Kostura understands the difference between emergency and inconvenience. He is the master of the 24-hour rule, always electing to take time when responding to frustration or inconvenience. He also knows the difference between needs and wants and spared no expense on the equipment needs of the men and women of the Orange Village Police Department. Chief Kostura's 45 years of "how-to" and "how-not-to" have left their mark on a police department well positioned to leverage these lessons learned, now and for years to come.

WHEREAS, Stephen L. Byron, Orange Village Law Director expressed his esteem for Chief Kostura in the following manner:

The Orange Village Police Department has, under the leadership of Chief Chris Kostura, continued its upward trajectory of professionalism and competence from the "small-time village" department that it was not so long ago. The Chief made a practice of hiring good people and then making sure their training positioned them to function well, both as individual officers and as a team. Officers in Orange Village, and across the nation, would do well to emulate Chief Kostura's methodology.

WHEREAS, former Council President Frances Kluter added her words of praise for Chief Kostura as follows:

I knew Chris Kostura originally as a detective for Orange Village during my 32 years as an Orange Village councilwoman. Chris was always professional, exemplary and hardworking as he climbed the ranks to Police Chief. Totally trustworthy and fair – he was always a credit to the Orange Village Police Department. I wish him a peaceful, healthy, happy retirement. He is deserving.

WHEREAS, former Council President Brandon Duber wanted to memorialize his high regards for Chief Kostura as follows:

Chief Kostura was a great leader of our Village who had a unique ability to actively engage with the residents so that everyone knew him. Whether it was in his earlier years as a patrolman, interacting in pick-up games of running bases with my brothers and me, or as the Chief in neighborhood meetings, he was always involved with the community and well-respected. I wish him the best in his retirement

WHEREAS, Robert Zupan, the long-time and deeply respected Service Director for Orange Village, added his thoughts as follows:

It has been the utmost pleasure working with Chief Kostura for the last 35 years. I will miss our conversations and friendship forged through thoughtful discussions, somewhat humorous banter (he thinks he's funnier than he is) and a shared desire to

serve the residents of Orange Village with pride and professionalism. His wealth of knowledge, ability to listen and a drive to make things right is what made him a dedicated employee and an exceptional leader during his 45-year career. I wish him many years of enjoyment in retirement and commend him on a job well done. KOZ you will be missed.

WHEREAS, former Mayor Kathy U. Mulcahy summed up her feelings for Chief Kostura as follows:

Chris Kostura was hired by Mayor Elmer White, promoted to sergeant by Mayor Norman Singer, promoted to lieutenant by Mayor Joseph Dubyak and, finally, promoted to chief by me. Under Mayor Kline, there was no position higher in the Police Department, so he retired. I am grateful to Chief Kostura for our very long-term partnership leading the Orange Village Police Department, and the greater community, to where it is today. I express my heartfelt best wishes, both personal and professional, to Chris Kostura as he heads into the next phase of life. I can attest that retirement is just the next beginning.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF ORANGE VILLAGE, COUNTY OF CUYAHOGA, AND STATE OF OHIO:**

SECTION 1. That the Mayor and Council of Orange Village, Ohio, on behalf of the entire staff of the Orange Village government and all of the citizens of Orange Village, convey their deep gratitude to Police Chief Christopher J. Kostura for his extraordinary dedication and unparalleled service to our community as the leader of the Police Department for over two decades, and extend their heartfelt best wishes to Christopher J. Kostura for a wonderful retirement, full of happiness, time with family and friends, good health and successful endeavors.

SECTION 2. That the Clerk of Council shall forthwith certify a copy of this Resolution and deliver it to Police Chief Christopher J. Kostura

SECTION 3. That this Resolution shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

PASSED: July 10, 2024



Council President

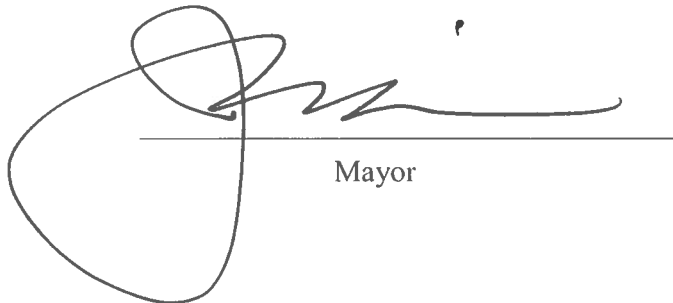
Submitted to the Mayor for approval on this 10<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2024

Approved by the Mayor this 10<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2024

ATTEST:



Clerk of Council



Mayor