



LA CROSSE

POLICE DEPARTMENT

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January 14, 2026

Honorable Police & Fire Commission:

Police Department Personnel Report

Personnel

We currently have ten sworn vacancies. Today I am requesting approval to hire five Officers, which would bring us to five vacancies. As mentioned, due to budgetary cuts, we are keeping three positions open for the year 2026. This leaves us with two open positions as we continue through this next recruitment process.

Hiring Process

Recently, Lieutenant Steve Pataska has worked to include new members for the Recruitment Team. These individuals are joining other members in attending job fairs, classroom visits, completing ride-alongs, and more.

Succession Planning

With last month's approval to promote Jorrey Olson to Sergeant, we will have quite a bit of movement come January 30th. Jorrey will be promoted (ceremony information coming soon) and assume his role on Night Shift Patrol allowing Sergeant Andy Tolvstad to move to the position of Detective Sergeant overseeing the Investigative Services Bureau (ISB) VICE/Narcotics Unit. Detective Sergeant Tom Hansen, currently in VICE, will move to the open position in the ISB White Collar Crime Unit which was vacated when Det. Sgt. Ryan Fitzgerald retired. Sergeant Danny Mandujano, who currently serves Day Shift Patrol will move to his new position as the Detective Sergeant supervisor of the Neighborhood Resource Officer team. Sergeant Ethan Purkapile, currently on night shift, will take Danny's place on Day Shift Patrol.

These moves complete the many-years long succession plan that was put in place for the six retirements and other changes we expected in 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

Shawn P. Kudron
Chief of Police