

BOROUGH OF
MIDDLETOWN
FOUNDED 1755 • DAUPHIN COUNTY'S OLDEST COMMUNITY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Middletown Family:

Since becoming your Mayor nearly five years ago, my goal has been to reestablish the lines of communication between you and your local government. You need and deserve to be apprised of all developments within the town you call home. Naturally, that means occasionally discussing difficult and uncomfortable topics. For me, this statement cannot be more difficult or uncomfortable. Nevertheless, my promise to keep you informed remains.

On Thursday, August 16, 2018, at approximately 10:45 p.m., I received an extremely emotional telephone call, during which the caller made a serious allegation against the Chief of Police, George Mouchette. The allegation was so serious that, upon conclusion of the call, I immediately contacted the Borough Solicitor and directed him to engage the Dauphin County District Attorney's Office to commence an investigation.

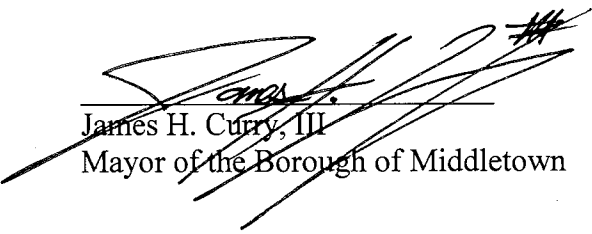
The investigation commenced Friday, August 17, 2018. Today, criminal charges have been filed against Chief Mouchette. As I'm sure you'll easily understand, the information available to disseminate is limited. I can promise you two things. First, as it has since the moment it was made aware of the allegation, the Borough of Middletown will continue to cooperate and work with the Dauphin County District Attorney's Office. Second, the Borough of Middletown will provide reasonable updates when they are available and permitted by the Dauphin County District Attorney's Office.

Our justice system holds an individual innocent until proven guilty and the charges against Chief Mouchette will be adjudicated in a court of law. That being said, effective immediately, Chief Mouchette has been suspended without pay, as required by the Confidence in Law Enforcement Act. The Borough of Middletown will move quickly to attempt to resolve Chief Mouchette's employment status.

In closing, I ask for your patience and understanding moving forward. I wish to remind you the alleged actions of one are not a reflection upon the whole. The Middletown Borough Police Department is comprised of good and talented people, who will continue their mission to ensure your safety and protection. They will continue to do their job.

The Borough of Middletown is grateful for the work of District Attorney Fran Chardo, the detectives, and the staff. We greatly appreciate their responsiveness and professionalism.

Finally, and most importantly, the thoughts and concerns of the Borough of Middletown rest with the alleged victim of these charges. Words do not do justice to express the collective feelings within our hearts. I am confident, however, that where words do no justice, the courts will.


James H. Curry, III
Mayor of the Borough of Middletown

08-21-2018
Date