

**ORDINANCE 2026-10**

**ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CHATHAM, COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING THE TOWNSHIP CODE CHAPTER 2, ADMINISTRATION, ARTICLE III, DEPARTMENTS ESTABLISHED, SECTION 2-11.7, POLICE DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL**

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Chatham (the “**Township**”) desires to amend the Township Code, Chapter 2, Administration, Article III, Departments Established, Section 2-11.7, Police Department Personnel, to increase the number of patrol officers in the Township from a maximum of fourteen (14) to a maximum of fifteen (15); and

**WHEREAS**, the increase of one (1) additional police officer increasing the total number of sworn officers from twenty-two (22) to twenty-three (23) brings the Township’s ratio of number of police offers per number of residents to a number more consistent with surrounding jurisdictions resulting in a strengthened staffing resilience, improved patrol coverage capacity, and continued delivery of high-quality public safety services; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township understands that maintaining appropriate staffing levels within the Police Department is essential to effective community policing, operational readiness, and long-term strategic planning and therefore desires to amend the Township Code to increase the maximum number of patrol officers to fifteen (15) thereby increasing the total number of sworn officers to twenty-three (23).

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Township Committee of the Township of Chatham, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, as follows:

**Section 1.** The aforementioned recitals are incorporated herein as though fully set forth at length.

**Section 2.** Township Code Chapter 2, Administration, Article III, Departments Established, Section 2-11.7, Police Department Personnel, is hereby amended to read as follows:

**§ 2-11.7 Police Department Personnel.**

The Police Department shall consist of a Chief of Police, up to two (2) Lieutenants, up to five (5) Sergeants, and up to fifteen (15) Patrol Officers. In addition, there may be clerical staff as shall be deemed necessary from time to time by the Township Committee.

**Section 3.** If any section, paragraph, subdivision, clause or provision of this Ordinance shall be adjudged invalid, such adjudication shall apply only to the section, paragraph, division, clause or provisions so adjudicated and the remainder of the Ordinance shall be deemed valid and effective.

**Section 4.** All Ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent or in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

**Section 5.** This Ordinance shall take effect according to law.

Introduced: May 26, 2026

TOWNSHIP OF CHATHAM, COUNTY OF  
MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Adopted:

Attest:

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jennifer Rowland, Mayor

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Gregory J. LaConte, Clerk