

**Village of Fishkill Police Department  
4 Wood Place  
Fishkill, New York 12524**

**GLENN R. SCOFIELD JR.  
POLICE COMMISSIONER**

**FBINA – 214<sup>TH</sup> SESSION  
MEMBER – IACP  
MEMBER - NYSACOP**

On June 12, 2020, Governor Cuomo signed ***Executive Order No. 203: New York State Police Reform and Reinvention Collaborative***. The order mandates a process and creates impetus at the local level “to eliminate racial inequities in policing, to modify and modernize policing strategies, policies, procedures, and practices, and to develop practices to better address the particular needs of communities of color to promote public safety, improve community engagement, and foster trust.” The order provides that to remain eligible for future state funding, law enforcement agencies must adopt a plan and local governments must certify said plan by April 1, 2021. The plan must meet the requirements of the Executive order No. 203.

In August of 2020, New York State released guidance to help shape the goals and processes required by Executive Order No. 203. The guidance lays out the general expectation collaborative process as follows:

- ***Review the needs of the community served by its police agency, and evaluate the department’s current policies and practices:***

The Village of Fishkill Police Department published and distributed a “Citizen Satisfaction Survey” in September 2020.

Said survey and request for public comment / input was made available at: Police Headquarters, Village Hall, Blodgett Memorial Library, and via the Village of Fishkill Website, via the Village of Fishkill Business Association and via the various Churches within the Village.

- ***Establish policies that allow police to effectively and safely perform their duties:***

Policies create the foundation for all operations in a police agency....

In September 2016, The Village of Fishkill and its Police Department contracted with “Lexipol” to provide our agency a fully developed, state-specific policy manual that was researched and written by subject matter experts and vetted by attorneys.

Our agency’s policies are based on nationwide standards and best practices while also

incorporating state and federal laws and regulations where appropriate.

“Lexipol” keeps our agency’s policies updated when there have been changes to state or federal law.

- ***Involve the entire community in the discussion:***

The Village of Fishkill Police Department was an active member in the Dutchess County Collaborative on Police Reform & Modernization since its inception and participated in every scheduled meeting that was held.

The Village of Fishkill Police Department participated in The Dutchess County Commission on Human Rights public forum held via Zoom Tuesday, September 22, 2020. The following communities were the focus: Town of Wappingers including Village of Wappingers Falls, Town of East Fishkill, Town of Fishkill including Village of Fishkill, City of Beacon.

On January 4, 2021, The Village of Fishkill Mayor & Board of Trustees also hosted a forum seeking public comment and input.

The Village of Fishkill Police Department actively sought community input via its citizen satisfaction survey as well as participation in the Blodgett Library’s “Coffee with a Cop” event and other Village community activities.

- ***Develop policy recommendations resulting from this review:***

A comprehensive review was conducted and policies amended as necessary.

- ***Offer a plan for public comment:***

The Village of Fishkill Police Department anticipates having the proposed plan available for review by February 1, 2021 with public comment to be possible at the February 16, 2021 Village Board Meeting.

- ***Present the plan to the local legislative body to ratify or adopt it:***

The Village of Fishkill Police Department anticipates having the plan ready for ratification / adoption by the Village Board of Trustees by March 15, 2021.

- ***Certify adoption of the plan to the State Budget Director on or before April 1, 2021.***