

## Village of Burr Ridge

## Mayor Gary Grasso

January 31, 2025

I have reviewed a YouTube video wherein the filming party deliberately confronts, then accuses Burr Ridge Police Officer Timothy Lesniak and Police Sergeant Ryan Husarik of being inebriated while working Wednesday evening within County Line Square. In an obvious attempt to escalate the self-created confrontation, the male filming party is heard making an unwarranted 911 call to demand additional police presence at the scene, stating amongst other assertions that he was "waiting for [the Police]" for two hours and "stalking them", then stating he feared for his life without basis in order to fabricate a 911 incident. Officer Lesniak and Sergeant Husarik professionally de-escalated the provocation, and they and the filming party went their separate way. After this interaction, Sergeant Husarik immediately initiated a video call to Deputy Chief Garcia to inform him of the incident as well as administering a breathalyzer test in the video presence of DC Garcia. The test, shown to DC Garcia, displayed .000, indicating zero alcohol in Sergeant Husarik's system.

The filming party's accusations against the Burr Ridge Police Department are patently manufactured and factually false. This was a staged set up that will not be tolerated. The filming party is a known, self-proclaimed "First Amendment auditor" whose channel's sole purpose is to be confrontational and attempt to place local governments in compromising situations. Based on his questions and spelling out of Sergeant Husarik's name in the video, the filming party did not even know who he was speaking to and was going to accuse whoever was on official duty of misconduct. As evidence of this intent, when Officer Lesniak accurately informed the filming party he was making an improper 911 call with no existing emergency, the filming party demanded to be arrested in another staged attempt to likely claim his civil rights had been violated. To their credit and training, the officers could not be baited to do so.

The Village of Burr Ridge always will vigorously defend its sworn law enforcement men and women against all false accusations such as created by this perpetrator. I have asked counsel to vigorously investigate legal action against the filming party for these actions.

Gary Grasso

Mayor

