

PROUD TO SERVE

THE NEWSLETTER OF TEMPLE UNIVERSITY'S DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Chief's Corner

Thank you to everyone who attended the graduation of our five new Police Officers. The day symbolized the culmination of months of hard work, sacrifice and dedication, but it was also the beginning of a new chapter in their lives as they take on the noble and profound responsibility of becoming police officers. Across the nation, policing is under intense scrutiny, and the expectations placed on officers have never been higher. But let me tell you this: Our Police Officers are here because they have demonstrated the qualities and commitment needed to not only meet these expectations, but to exceed them. Read more about our new police officers on Page 3.

-Jennifer Griffin, Chief of Police & Vice President for Public Safety



Temple University's Department of Public Safety is growing and just hired five new Police Officers.

Temple Police presents 'Bravery Bag' to young boy



Temple Police Sgt. Francisco Gonzalez, Ian Bangs and Police Officer Chantelle McCrea

Ian Bangs, 7, of North Philadelphia, walks home to and from school with his mother, smiles and waves to all of the Temple Police Officers he sees as he passes through campus Monday through Friday. Recently, Temple Police Officer Chantelle McCrea put together a bravery bag to thank you him for the kindness he has shown law enforcement. "We wanted to show you our appreciation," she said. The gifting of the bravery bag comes after Officer McCrea and Sergeant Gonzalez recently offered Ian and his mother a tour of Temple's Department of Public Safety. At the time, his mother also shared that a friend of Ian's at school made a negative comment about police. However, Ian encouraged his friends to always be respectful to law enforcement because they do good for the community. "We hope this small gift encourages him to grow into the person and the leader that he wants to become," said McCrea. Read more [here](#). Great job, all!

-Mike Smith, Deputy Dir. of Organizational Affairs

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SA Awareness Month

A big thank you to our Engagement unit and patrol operations who worked together with student athletes to make more than 200 lunches for a women's shelter to recognize Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month. For those who are receiving the lunches, it's our hope that they see how much we care about them and that we are here to lift them up. For survivors of sexual assault, there are several service organizations located right in the city, including shelters like Dawn's Place and Covenant House. Additionally, WOAR-Philadelphia Center Against Sexual Violence has a 24/7 hotline for survivors: 215-985-3333.

-Denise Wilhelm, Executive Deputy Director



Temple Police Captain Ed Woltemate retired after 40 years in law enforcement.

Temple Police captain reflects after successful 40-year career

In 1985, Ronald Reagan was president, the country was in the Cold War and Ed Woltemate was just entering the police academy. Woltemate would spend the next 40 years of his career in law enforcement, including 17 years as a Temple Police Captain. Woltemate, a Philadelphia native, retired on March 31 and reflected about many changes within policing. "I remember in 2008 at Temple, I was issued a Blackberry for the first time, and that was a big deal because you could read emails on that device from anywhere. You didn't have to be at your computer," he said. As he retires, we hope the next chapter of his life brings him many years of health, fulfillment and joy. He will truly be missed! Read more of his reflections [here](#).

Know someone seeking employment?

Refer your friends to work with us and Public Safety will offer a \$500 referral payment for eligible positions through TERP. The referral payment amount will be paid after the referred employee successfully completes 90 days of employment. Contact Amber James, Associate Director of Administrative Operations, for more information: Aajames@Temple.edu



Mark Your Calendar!



We are looking forward to celebrating with our graduating students on Wednesday, May 7, 2025! Graduates will gather for Temple University's 138th Commencement ceremony for this significant milestone. Commencement is a multi-day culmination of student achievement and University tradition that marks the completion of each academic year. Congrats to all! It's been our honor to serve and protect you over the years.



Graduation is on Wednesday, May 7, 2025.

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Welcome, K9 Zaki!

Congratulations to K9 Officers Natalie and Zaki ! We are thrilled to have this dynamic duo on campus after the successful completion of the Explosive Scent certification last month! They completed a rigorous 10-weeks of training. Here's to new beginnings and endless teamwork!

-Chris Willard, Director of Tactical and Professional Development



Meet Our New Police Officers!



Phillip Easton is a Philadelphia native and considers himself a service-minded individual. "As a police officer, I am looking forward to making a difference in the lives of those we serve within Temple and the surrounding communities," he said. In his new role with TUDPS, he looks forward to getting to know many students, faculty, staff and neighbors by name. "I think community engagement is very important to build a bridge between us and those we are serving," he said. He's also interested in utilizing the university's tuition remission program.

Cheyne Geverd of Montgomery County learned in the police academy that being organized is an important skill to have as an officer because "you have to manage multiple things at once and be able to think quickly on your feet," he said. He learned organization from running a small, independent farm, where he produces an award-winning line of hot sauces. He wanted to add Temple Police Officer to his resume because he always had a passion for law enforcement.

Sow Mamadou hails from Northeast Philadelphia. He said that he is excited for the opportunity of protecting and serving the Temple community. He stated that he is proud to wear a badge, which comes with honor and responsibility. "It means that we have to hold ourselves to a higher standard," he said.

William Patterson is from north New Jersey and previously worked at a nonprofit that helped people learn job skills. "I wanted a career where I could continue to help others," he said. "I was drawn to law enforcement, because it can be an extremely rewarding career. It allows me to do something different every day." He is also looking to advance his education through the university's tuition remission program.

Jacob Sastre of Northeast Philadelphia previously worked in the trucking industry. However, he decided to switch careers and become a Temple police officer after encouragement from his family - many of whom also work in law enforcement. Sastre's mother works for the Philadelphia Department of Prisons. He also has a brother who works for the Philadelphia Police Department, another brother who works for the Philadelphia Fire Department and a sister who works in corrections as a counselor.