

## CITY OF JERSEY CITY OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## \*\*\*\* PRESS RELEASE \*\*\*\*

## Jersey City Approves New Contract for Police Benevolent Association Through 2025 Impacting Nearly 700 Officers

Agree to Re-Open The Last Two Years of Arbitration Award; increases Salary for starting officers; Agree to work rule changes; Provided Long Term Budget Visibility for taxpayers.

JERSEY CITY – Mayor Steven M. Fulop, Police Division Director Tawana Moody and the Jersey City Police Officers Benevolent Association (POBA) have announced that the City will re-open the last two years of the 2016 Arbitration Award in exchange for an increase in starting salary, modifications to healthcare benefits, work rule changes and a four-year extension to the award.

Effective January 1, 2019, the starting salary for Jersey City Police Officers will be increased to \$41,000 from the current starting salary of \$37,000. The City will also restore two pay steps that the new officers lost during the arbitration period and restore longevity payments to Officers hired after January 1, 2013.

"Over the last five years, our administration has hired hundreds of officers and today is another validation of our commitment towards our Police Department and safety of our residents," said Mayor Steven M. Fulop. "I'm glad that the administration was able to work with the Jersey City POBA to find common ground."

Additionally, the City will increase the salary at top pay during the last two years of the Arbitration Award. These are the last two years of service for the three large classes of officers who served honorably for 23 years.

"Previous contracts cut starting salaries and put the savings into top pay; the \$4,000 increase for new officers is over 10% and sorely needed as they start their careers," said Police Division Director Tawana Moody. "We were also able to increase flexibility for our Police Chief, who is implementing innovative crime fighting and community relations programs."

The City also achieved significant health care changes which will be phased in over the next two years and an elimination of all longevity payments for new hires. These changes are important for the City's fiscal health now and in the future.

The agreement will now go to the POBA member and the City Council for final verification.

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