



City of Oshkosh Police Department

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Dean Smith
Chief of Police

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE OSHKOSH POLICE DEPARTMENT

Date: 02/27/2026
Time: 01:00 PM
Contact: Officer Kate Mann
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Subject: Oshkosh Police Department Introduces New Uniform Patch

OSHKOSH, WI (February 27, 2026): The Oshkosh Police Department is transitioning to a new uniform patch for sworn officers. The change will be introduced in a phased rollout beginning on March 1st, 2026.

The City of Oshkosh Police Department is introducing a new shoulder patch for sworn personnel that reflects feedback from officers and the department's ongoing commitment to professionalism, community pride, and respectful representation of national symbols. This patch will replace the current patch that officers have been wearing for the past 25 years.

Over the past year, officers requested that the Chief of Police consider updating the department's current patch. In response, the Oshkosh Police Department created a committee of department members to review options, gather ideas, and develop a design that honors the department's identity and aligns with proper standards.

The committee's work included addressing a concern with the previous patch design: it included the outline of the State of Wisconsin placed on the American flag in a way that did not conform to accepted U.S. flag etiquette. The updated patch replaces that element with a revised design intended to represent both the department and the community it serves appropriately.

The department also wishes to recognize the generosity of a community donor who covered the costs associated with the patch change. This support eliminated the financial impact of the transition while allowing the department to implement the updated design.

The department appreciates the community's continued support and looks forward to wearing a patch that modernizes its appearance while maintaining a clear Oshkosh identity and consistent department representation.