TOWN OF MOUNT GILEAD

Post Office Box 325 110 West Allenton Street Mount Gilead, North Carolina 27306 Incorporated 1899 Phone (910) 439-5111 – Fax (910) 439-1336

Mayor Sheldon Morley

Mayor Pro Tem Tim McAuley Commissioners Paula Covington Vera Richardson Mary Lucas Town Manager Dylan Haman

Town Clerk Lessie D. Jackson

10-17-2024

The Town of Mount Gilead is aware of the concerns from residents regarding the recent incident that occurred on High Street. While this incident occurred outside of the Mount Gilead Police Department's Jurisdiction, we share the concerns of our residents who are correctly concerned about crime in our County.

Recent shootings in Montgomery County are a tragedy for everyone involved. We understand and appreciate the public's concern each time there is a crime anywhere in our community, whether it occurred in the Town limits or under the County's Jurisdiction. Our residents can be assured that our police officers work every day to protect the public and respond to crime.

Our goal is to make our community a safe and fair place to work for everyone. We expect everyone to follow the law; That is why the Town of Mount Gilead has reached out to Montgomery County Sheriff Pete Herron to offer our help in whatever capacity that we can. As the Town, we are requesting that the Sheriff's Department offer additional enforcement in the Southwestern portion of their jurisdiction.

The Town of Mount Gilead is also taking proactive steps to reduce crime within our jurisdiction. Below you can find details regarding our strategy.

- 1. We have worked with the Housing Authority to remove tenants that we believe are the "common denominator" associated with criminal activity. Any tenant in Public Housing should be aware that associating with violent criminals means they risk losing access to their housing.
- 2. We have implemented an "Act as Agent" program. This program is a contractual agreement with business owners that allows the Mount Gilead Police Department to act as if they were the business owner, which streamlines our ability to trespass people on private property when the business owner is not present. We highly recommend all Businesses to contact Chief Legrand and be a part of this program.
- 3. We are utilizing our "no-parking" ordinance, particularly in neighborhoods that have high levels of crime. Residents have traditionally complained that criminal activity is coming from other communities, which is why we are doing our best to keep transient vehicles out of our high crime neighborhoods.

- 4. We have utilized our "Streets and sidewalks" ordinance to prohibit loitering on sidewalks.
- 5. We have increased our Part Time officer pay, and are working to recruit additional officers for patrol during high crime time periods.

With Respect,

Dylan Haman, Town Manager

Sheldon Morley, Mayo