



**IAFF L5026**  
**International Association of Firefighters**  
**P.O. Box 703**  
**Lake Delton WI, 53940-0703**  
**[IAFF5026@gmail.com](mailto:IAFF5026@gmail.com)**

Tuesday, February 15, 2022

It is with a heavy heart and feeling of helplessness that we come to the community, our advocates. Our fears of retaliation and intimidation are now reality, and no one should ever be too afraid to come into work. Since coming forward, we have had a member call out of work due to being physically and emotionally ill, and we have also had members too afraid to identify their sleeping quarters as concerns continue to mount into the overall jeopardized security of the building.

In a Village of Lake Delton press release, dated Tuesday, February 08, 2022, it was relayed to Local 5026 and the community that Police Chief and Director of Public Safety, Daniel Hardman had been placed on administrative leave. However, we have later learned that this is not entirely true- Mr. Daniel Hardman has been kept on as a consultant for the Lake Delton Police Department construction project, affording him the ability to further incite fear. The Village of Lake Delton has been made aware of our concerns. Despite this attempt, they quickly dismissed these concerns citing resources to combat “emotional issues”, rather than validate these safety failures.

This patronizing display is both alarming and unsettling, raising serious questions into our overall safety and security within the workplace. This construction project is adjacent to our building, with a direct line of sight into our building. The only separation from our parking lot to the site of construction is a chain-link fence. Given the serious allegations against Mr. Hardman, we are not only **legitimately fearful** of his presence, but also **profoundly intimidated** by it. We believe that the engineering firm, general contractor, and sub-contractors thereof are more than qualified to continue this structurally complete project without his consultation.

All members within Local 5026 fully support the building process for the Lake Delton Police Department. The concern within our Local, and membership, is the safety of our employees, both inside and outside the workplace. *Intimidation, harassment, and assault are not claims to take lightly nor can they be tolerated or overlooked.* Construction projects cannot be an exception to these standards.

The displayed gross oversight by the Village of Lake Delton Board of trustees has rippled through our department, further poisoning culture, fostering fear, and increasing the concern of capricious discipline. We have an obligation to create an environment where our members are comfortable being honest and speaking out about what they see, and what they have experienced.



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We wholeheartedly agree that every accused person deserves due process, as this is the fundamental core of the judicial system, and nothing should jeopardize the integrity of this. However, the safety and security of community and members alike is of equal importance, and we do not believe it is prudent or necessary to alienate and demoralize victims in this process

Despite these growing safety concerns, we remain committed to each and every citizen, business owner, and tourist within our beloved community. It is our continued promise to provide you with the utmost professional and quality care available.

We, the community, must demand complete transparency. Please join us in voicing these concerns, as we all share a collective responsibility for workplace safety.

Phone: (608) 254-2558

<https://lakedelton.org/trustees/>

With hope,

-Local 5026