



Office of the Mayor

William R. Wild - Mayor

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Once again, I want to express my sympathies to the family of William Marshall. We would hope, pray and expect that no one in the custody of the Westland Police or Fire Departments would ever lose their life. I know the police officers and firefighters throughout both departments, from the lowest ranks to the Chiefs, feel as terrible about the situation as do I.

I will honor the commitment I made to the family of William Marshall that I will do everything in my power to make sure and incident like this never happens again.

I have had the Chiefs conduct a review of departmental policies to strengthen and clarify policies should this type of situation ever present itself in the future.

I have also instructed them to communicate to command staff the importance of adhering to these policies for the safety of the public and those under their charge.

I have also told the Chiefs to take the time necessary for additional training, as necessary.

The Wayne County Prosecutors Office continues to investigate this matter. The City will cooperate with the Prosecutor and our intention is not to impede the investigation in any way so this matter can be brought to conclusion.

Tragedies such as this have legal implications. We appreciate the Marshall family's willingness to have conversations and negotiations about a civil resolution. Tonight, the City Council has been asked to approve a settlement that the Marshall family and their attorneys worked out with the City's insurer, MMRMA. This matter goes before the Probate Court later this week for approval, and this would resolve this civil matter.

Because this matter still needs court approval and because of the Prosecutors Office investigation, I am not able to make further comment about this matter. My heart and prayers go out to everyone impacted by this tragedy.