



MAYOR
WILLIAM R. WILD



CityofWestland.com

For Immediate Release

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Westland Police Department Swears in New Officer



Westland, MI (December 7, 2021) - On Monday, December 6, the Westland Police Department swore in their newest member, Officer Cole Rice.

Rice grew up in Garden City and graduated from Garden City High School. He went on to obtain an Associates Degree in Criminal Justice from Schoolcraft College and then graduated from the Wayne County Regional Police Academy.

Officer Rice served as a Westland Police Explorer for four years and then as a Westland Police Service Aide for two years. He advanced to a Trainer and was ultimately selected to receive the "Chief's Exemption" allowing him to test for a police officer position.

"In an effort to recruit officers and diversify the Police Department, the Westland Police Department offers a "Chief's Exemption Program" to our Police Service Aide employees.," commented Police Chief Jeff Jedrusik.

"Police Service Aides are part time employees who work in the jail, answer non-emergency calls, transport prisoners to/from Court, and assist the officers with day to day duties. If a Police Service Aide works for a minimum of 8 months, he/she has positive performance evaluations and based on approval of the Chief, they are provided the ability to take the police civil service test without the requirement of the police academy."

"The Westland Police Service Aide program continues to serve as an excellent feeder program to attract bright, young talent to our department," commented Mayor William R. Wild. "We are pleased to welcome Officer Rice and wish him the best in his future career, here in Westland."

For More information, contact the Mayor's Office at (734)467-3200

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Westland, Michigan is the state's 10th largest municipality, with a population of over 84,000.

Westland has been recognized as one of 24/7 Wall Street's America's Best 50 Cities to Live, offering residents and visitors an ideal blend of single – family affordable homes, apartments and condominiums, great schools, and access to numerous outdoor activities. Public safety is delivered by full-service, professional law enforcement and firefighting personnel.

Westland is well known as a premier destination for shopping and dining in Wayne County with hundreds of shops and restaurants anchored by the Westland shopping Center, one of the country's original four regional malls.

The City is served by two public school districts. Wayne-Westland Community Schools serving 12,000 youth was recently named one of the best schools in Michigan by WXYZ-TV and is the proud recipient of 14 Golden Apple and two Michigan Blue Ribbon Exemplary School Awards. Livonia Public Schools, educating nearly 15,000 students, is proud of their MEAP/MME scores that exceed State averages and the district has also earned Golden Apple and Michigan Blue Ribbon Exemplary School awards.

The City provides competitive incentives for those who are interested in investing in Westland, making it one of the hottest investment markets in the region. Westland's Fast-Track to Business Team, which consists of key decision makers who work diligently to "cut the red tape" and expedite the approval process for new business development.