



PRESS RELEASE

From Mayor Dean E. DePiero

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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City of Parma and police patrolman's union ink new contract

(Parma) – The City of Parma and the Ohio Patrolmen's Benevolent Association which represents Parma Police Department patrol officers today signed a new three-year contract which will run through March 2008.

Highlights of the contract include:

- A three percent raise each year over the life of the contract which is consistent with cost of living adjustments. (This pattern was set by the union representing Parma firefighters through state arbitration.)
- First-time employee participation to pay for a portion of their health care insurance – a rising cost burden for municipalities across the nation, including the City of Parma.
- Streamlining the disciplinary process and formalizing the monitoring of sick leave and overtime payments of patrol officers.

"In these tight budget times, labor negotiations can be difficult, but we believe that we have struck a fair contract for the taxpayer and all parties involved," said Mayor Dean DePiero.

The new contract puts Parma police in the mid-level range of compensation paid to officers working in surrounding municipalities.

In other labor news from City Hall, a contract has also been signed with emergency dispatchers for a three-year period which involves a provision that would train dispatchers to handle over the phone health related emergencies such as heart attack or choking. This provision would provide crucial, potentially life-saving, training to the dispatchers to be relayed during the first precious moments of an emergency.

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