

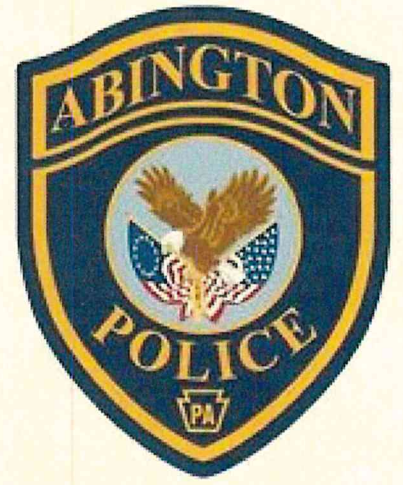
# Agreement

Between The

**Willow Grove N.A.A.C.P.**

And The

**Abington Twp. Police Department**



## Historical Background

Since the mid---1990's, the Willow Grove N.A.A.C.P. and the Abington Township Police Department have worked together to facilitate better communication and understanding, and to improve the police protection and service to all citizens in the community. In fact, on August 27, 1998, Willow Grove N.A.A.C.P. President Sandra Fields Henley and Police Chief Bill Kelly signed a historic agreement encouraging citizens to come forward with complaints against the police and providing guidelines for the handling of those complaints. In addition, the document described how citizens could go to the Willow Grove N.A.A.C.P. to serve as the complainant's ombudsman in the filing of complaints, and in receiving the final report about the complaint investigation, officer discipline, if any, and the disposition of the complaint. That document contained the official seal of the Willow Grove N.A.A.C.P and the Abington Police Department, as well as the signature of President Fields Henley and Chief Kelly.

## Current Perspective

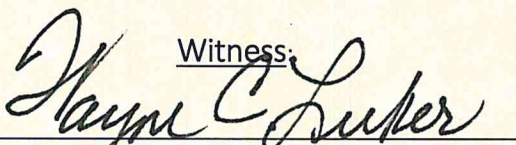
Now, as a result of current issues across the U.S. and locally, the Willow Grove N.A.A.C.P. and the Abington Township Police Department are again entering into a formal agreement to ensure that lines of communication and cooperation are open and effective, and that these organizations are working together to obtain the goals listed below.

## Agreement

On January 16, 2017 at the Annual Abington Township Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Commemorative Service, The Willow Grove N.A.A.C.P. and the Abington Township Police Department entered into the following historic agreement:

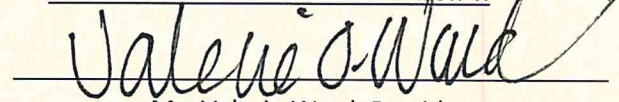
1. **COMMUNICATION.** Both parties agree to maintain an open and active communication, immediately bringing forward questions, concerns or problems.
2. **KEY CONTACT LIST.** To facilitate this communication, both organizations will maintain a current list of key contacts.
3. **AVAILABILITY.** Both parties agree to make themselves available to the other whenever either party deems such meeting as important or necessary.
4. **PERIODIC MEETINGS.** Both parties agree to meet at least once each calendar year to ensure ongoing lines of communication.
5. **POLICE TRAINING.** Both parties agree to work together to ensure that Abington Police Officers are regularly being given training that enhances their ability to have effective, respectful, and peaceful interactions with all citizens, but especially minority citizens.
6. **POLICE RECRUITMENT.** Both parties agree to work together to encourage and assist local residents, especially African American residents, to consider serving the Abington/Willow Grove community by becoming a Police Officer with the Abington Township Police Department.
7. **MISCONDUCT COMPLAINTS.** Both parties agree to work together to encourage all citizens to report all incidents of perceived police misconduct either:
  - a. Directly to any Abington Township Police Department Supervisor
  - b. To any NAACP Representative
  - c. To an Abington Township Commissioner or other elected official
  - d. Any Pastor, Minister, or community leader of the complainant's choice
8. **COMPLAINT INVESTIGATIONS.** The Abington Police Department agrees that, as in the past, ALL citizen complaints, regardless of their source, will be thoroughly investigated, and that appropriate follow---up, training, or discipline will be applied to the involved officer(s).
9. **INVESTIGATION TRANSPARENCY.** The Abington Police Department also agrees that information about the complaint, its investigation, and follow-up will be disclosed to:
  - a. The complainant
  - b. Anyone that the complainant asks to act on their behalf
  - c. The Willow Grove N.A.A.C.P. upon request, and on a periodic basis.
10. **ONGOING COOPERATION AND COLLABORATION.** Going forward, the leadership of both organizations agree to work in cooperation to continue to improve police/community relations and to ensure just and caring police protection and service, and improved quality of life, for all citizens within the borders of Abington Township, Pennsylvania.

Witness:



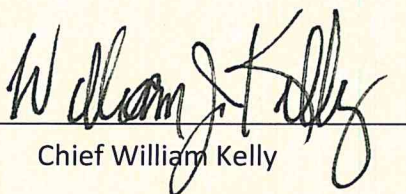
Mr. Wayne Luker, President  
Abington Township Board of Commissioners

For the Willow Grove N.A.A.C.P.:

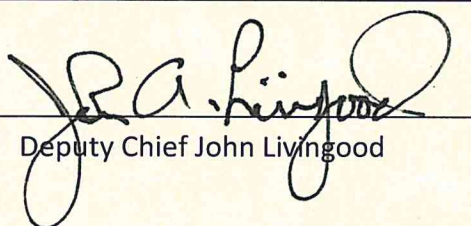


Ms. Valerie Ward, President  
Willow Grove N.A.A.C.P.

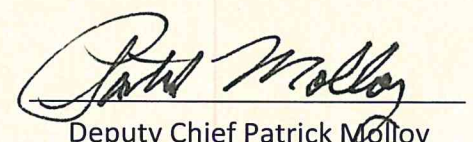
For The Abington Township Police Department:



Chief William Kelly



Deputy Chief John Livingood



Deputy Chief Patrick Molloy