



## City of Grinnell

...Jewel of the Prairie

Office of the  
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Chief of Police

Media Release

Date: June 30th, 2022

Reference: **Press Release: Grinnell Police Officer placed on Administrative Leave for social media post displaying Confederate Flag**

**Grinnell, IA** – On June 2nd, 2022, the Office of the Chief of Police was made aware that a Confederate Flag was being displayed at one of our police officer's residences, open to public view. The officer in question was requested several times to remove the flag from public view as it is considered a symbol of black slavery, racial segregation, white supremacy and hate, which places our organization into disrepute and distrust with the public. On June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022, after several requests, the officer finally complied and removed the flag from public view, but performed a social media post portraying an image of the Confederate Flag in a favorable light. (See picture below)

The Grinnell Police Department depends on the respect and trust of the community and on the perception that the laws of the city are enforced uniformly and without bias. If the Department is perceived as treating a segment of our citizens with contempt or as non-equal, respect and trust of the police is eroded and the ability to perform our duties within the city is impaired. Displaying a symbol of hatred and racism undermines the Department's reputation and its ability to effectively carry out its mission to serve all in the community.

The officer in question has been placed on Administrative Leave with pay pending the outcome of an Internal Affairs investigation for possible GPD policy violations. The outcome of this investigation may result in discipline up to and including termination of employment with the City of Grinnell.



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