PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
OF THE
DUTCHESS COUNTY LEGISLATURE

Thursday, August 6, 2026, 5:40 p.m.

Committee Chair Alexander called the committee to order at 6:27 p.m.

PRESENT: 10 ALEXANDER, ARNOFF, ATKINS, FAUST, METZGER, MUNN, POLASEK, RHODES, ROLISON, VALDES SMITH

ABSENT: 2 DRAGO, KEARNEY

PRESENT/LATE: 0

QUORUM PRESENT

Presentations and Reports

Legislator Shah provided an update on the Animal Welfare and Community Stewardship Committee.

Privilege of the Floor with respect to printed agenda items

None.

Resolutions

2026126 Amending the 2026 adopted county budget as it pertains to the District Attorney

Moved by Majority Leader Atkins, seconded by Assistant Majority Leader Munn.

Discussion: Mike Braden, Chief Assistant District Attorney came to the podium to field any questions from Legislators.

Legislator Lawler asked about restrictions on forfeiture money. Chief ADA Braden noted that the medical examiner uses outdated cameras during autopsies and medical examinations and the DA's Office made sure that the use was a permitted use for forfeiture funds.

The Public Safety Committee unanimously advanced the foregoing Resolution, with Legislators Drago and Kearney absent.

2026127 Acknowledging appointments to the Dutchess County Legislature Animal Welfare and Community Stewardship Committee (AWCS)

Moved by Majority Leader Atkins, seconded by Assistant Majority Leader Munn.

Discussion: Legislator Rolison echoed the sentiments expressed by Legislator Shah during her report and said he looks forward to what we can accomplish.

Legislature Chair Valdes Smith thanked everyone being appointed, especially the three Legislators being appointed, said the committee is a long-overdue pathway to meaningful change, and reiterated her thanks to each member.

Legislator Shah read the names to the appointees aloud.

The Public Safety Committee unanimously advanced the foregoing Resolution, with Legislators Drago and Kearney absent.

There being no further business, Committee Chair Alexander adjourned the Committee meeting at 6:35 p.m.