



BUFFALO GROVE POLICE DEPARTMENT
STEVEN R. CASSTEVENS, CHIEF OF POLICE
46 Raupp Boulevard, Buffalo Grove, IL 60089
Non-Emergency: 847.459.2560



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

Deputy Chief Michael Szos
847-459-2560
pdpio@vbg.org

NEWS RELEASE

Buffalo Grove Police Welcome Therapy Dog to Team

Buffalo Grove, IL – Buffalo Grove Police are welcoming a therapy dog to the department. 'Gus' is a 4-year-old white Labrador Retriever / Standard Poodle mix and will work with the department's Social Worker, Brittany Wilson, to make positive connections in the community. Gus was adopted to assist with public relations and community engagement, in addition to helping with victim's advocacy, mental health and trauma response. He will also be a valuable resource to first responders dealing with the stress and impact of experiences on the job, while supporting department members with overall wellness.

Gus is a graduate of [Paws & Stripes®](#) comfort and therapy dog obedience program, which is facilitated by the Brevard County Sheriff's Office. The program pairs trained and carefully selected jail inmates with shelter dogs who are trained to provide therapy services with law enforcement. All dogs selected receive basic obedience training and are screened for temperament and behavioral characteristics.

Wilson underwent a 40-hour advanced training course with Gus to become certified as a Nationally Registered Therapy Dog Team member. "I am thrilled to be part of a program that gives comfort to those who are experiencing a range of challenges or trauma," she said. "Gus will provide a truly valuable service to the Buffalo Grove community."

The therapy dog training program is free, and the Police Department thanks the many local businesses that contributed donations for Gus' routine care and ongoing training.

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