

Town of Machias
Machias, ME 04654

Dear Bill:

I am writing to inform you that I am resigning from my position as Chief of Police with the Town of Machias. My final day of work will be when my leave expires after July 18, 2021.

Working with the residents of Machias has been a pleasure. A large portion of the community has appreciated my service, forgiving me for being “from away.” Much of the population wants to have an agency which works on their behalf to improve the quality of life in this lovely coastal Downeast town. It is my sincere hope that they will be able to continue to experience the safety and security they deserve from the law enforcement agency they hire.

I want to thank Christina Therrien and the Town staff for the opportunity to have worked with them over the past year and a half. I sincerely appreciated the support Christina provided in our mutual mission of modernizing the Police Department, and in creating a professional agency which would serve the Town of Machias well, and one of which the Town could be proud. Christina was an advocate of providing essential resources including the funding to allow the Town to employ and retain qualified officers. She displayed the strength of character necessary to deal with a Select Board whose majority sought to exercise their own agenda rather than the community’s. Christina demonstrated the courage to stand up to bullying, remaining on course to do the right thing for Machias, regardless of the petty personal agendas, whose main priorities were to restrict the reorganization of an already demoralized, unprofessional, and extremely disorganized police department, rather than attending to the business of the people for which they were elected.

Be assured that I will work during my remaining tenure to provide my services to the people of the Town. I wish the people of Machias all the best as they work to clarify their desires to have a Police Department which is devoted to their needs specifically. I am hopeful that the new Select Board will support local law enforcement and the citizens will choose cautiously when voting for future select board candidates.

Sincerely,
Todd D. Hand
July 13, 2021