

## Falcon Heights Police Contract Services Background Information

The City of Falcon Heights has been looking for a long-term fit for its policing services since 2022.

The St. Anthony Police Department (SAPD) previously provided contract law enforcement services for Falcon Heights from 1994 to 2017. The St. Anthony Village City Council voted to terminate the contract in 2017 as both cities evaluated the partnership following the killing of Philando Castile by a St. Anthony Village police officer during a July 2016 traffic stop. The Falcon Heights City Council agreed to the termination.

The Ramsey County Sheriff's Office (RCSO) has provided policing services for Falcon Heights since January 1, 2018. Falcon Heights and the RCSO are in the process of finalizing a contract through December 31, 2024. Falcon Heights and the RCSO mutually agreed in March 2023 that Falcon Heights should explore law enforcement options that are a better long-term fit, primarily for logistical reasons.

Falcon Heights staff have carefully analyzed their city's needs and available options over the past several months. Based on this review – and preliminary conversations between both mayors and St. Anthony Village City Manager Charlie Yunker and Falcon Heights City Administrator Jack Linehan – Falcon Heights has identified several initial reasons why a renewed partnership with SAPD might be a good fit: our high level of service, physical proximity, logistics, financial considerations, and an alignment between SAPD practices and the values of Falcon Heights residents.

Falcon Heights partnered with the Center for Values-Based Initiatives to analyze its existing police services contract and resident satisfaction with law enforcement. In community engagement for the study, many residents expressed that they miss the level of services previously provided by SAPD and appreciated our department's community-based policing approach.