



All Saints Episcopal Parish

February 9, 2023

To the Honorable Ravi Bhalla, Mayor
Members of the Hoboken City Council

We are writing this letter in support of Fire Chief Brian Crimmins. Chief Crimmins has been a member of this parish for many years. As a leader in this congregation, he currently serves on the vestry and consistently demonstrates and promotes the values we affirm in baptism to “strive for justice and peace among all people and respect the dignity of every human being.” We know Chief Crimmins to be an intelligent, compassionate, and well-respected member of the community, always willing to serve in whatever capacity he is needed.

We understand that Chief Crimmins was placed on paid administrative leave nearly two years ago and that the matter remains unresolved. During his leave—which has overlapped with a global health and safety crisis—he has not only continued to serve All Saints, but the region at large. In 2020, Chief Crimmins served on a committee to establish COVID-19 protocols for the Episcopal Diocese of Newark, involving 92 parishes across northern New Jersey. This committee convened weekly for months to write life-saving protocols, protecting the health and welfare of more than 21,000 faithful Episcopalians and their neighbors. Crimmins has also been instrumental in assisting our rector with essential doctoral research, shining a light on Hoboken’s history of fire and arson victims—as well as taking an active role in public programs related to the remembrance of these individuals.

As a community of faith, All Saints has made significant contributions to Hoboken—from participating in the establishment of the Hoboken Shelter, to founding the Jubilee Center, to serving the most vulnerable children in our city. Our clergy and members of this congregation have contributed in countless ways to make Hoboken a great place to live. We support one another not simply as our faith compels us to do, but because we genuinely love and care for one another.

Chief Crimmins is a valued member of this community, and we hope to see his employment matters settled expeditiously, with transparency and in good faith, so that he can return to the work to which he has devoted his life: protecting the people of Hoboken.

Respectfully yours,

The Rev. Dr. Elaine Ellis Thomas, Rector
The Vestry and Wardens of All Saints Episcopal Parish

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