

Appointing the Next Chief of Police

The Board, which has jurisdiction to appoint a Chief of Police under state law, will be undertaking the process to appoint Chief Barnes' successor.

The Board of Police and Fire Commissioners of the City of Madison (PFC) interviewed the three finalists for the position of Police Chief on August 14, 2025. A recording of a question and answer session with each finalist is **available for viewing in multiple formats**:

[English Language Recording with ASL Interpretation](#)

[Comisión Especial de Policía y Bomberos: Preguntas y respuestas de la entrevista para jefe de policía.](#)

[特别警察和消防委员会：警察局长面试问答详细中文翻译](#)

A Hmong translation will be added as it becomes available.

The start times of each finalist's interview is as follows:

[0:08 – Steven Johnson](#)

[20:14 – John Patterson](#)

[42:26 – Stephanie Drescher](#)

Public input may be submitted to the PFC in writing at pfc@cityofmadison.com. Written submissions will be accepted until 4:30pm on Wednesday, August 27.

[Police Chief Finalist Process – July 28, 2025](#)

The PFC has selected three (3) finalists who will advance in the hiring process for the position of Police Chief for the City of Madison. The PFC is pleased to announce the final candidates, together with a short biography and photograph from each candidate.

[PFC Announces Three Finalists for Chief of Police - July 11, 2025](#)

[Final Candidates' Biographies and Pictures](#)

[Final Candidates' Recorded Interviews with the PFC](#)