

Town of North Haven

P.O. Box 400
16 Town Office Square
North Haven, Maine 04853

July 29, 2020

Tim Carroll, Knox County Sheriff
301 Park Street
Rockland, Maine 04841

Re: North Haven Deputy

Dear Sheriff Carroll,

We are writing for two reasons. First, we want to say how pleased we are with Deputy Lemoi. His approach to law enforcement — straightforward, even-handed community policing — is precisely what North Haven has wanted in a deputy. The Town has been able to work out an arrangement with Deputy Lemoi and your office to provide Deputy Lemoi and his family with housing that we hope will make them feel welcome on the island for a long time to come.

Our second reason for writing is to express our concern about using Deputy Lemoi to cover Vinalhaven's calls. As North Haven has noted previously, asking one deputy to cover both islands' law enforcement needs — particularly during the busy summer months — puts that officer at risk of burning out. Getting across the Thoroughfare to Vinalhaven can also be an issue, even in the summer.

Like you, we have Deputy Lemoi's welfare in mind and therefore urge you to develop a protocol to ensure North Haven's assigned deputy is not automatically or routinely assigned to handle calls on Vinalhaven. It would be unfair to ask the residents of North Haven to provide housing to a deputy that spends more time policing off-island than on the island.

In sending you this letter, the North Haven Select Board expresses no opinion as to Vinalhaven's voters' decision about funding County law enforcement. We simply want to make sure that North Haven's interests are not neglected as you adjust to Vinalhaven's decision.

Sincerely yours,

Jonathan Demmons
Chair, North Haven Select Board

Copy to: Honorable Sharyn L. Pohlman, Knox County Commissioner