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**From:** Surber [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, July 8, 2022 1:23 AM  
**To:** Neukirch, Ghida  
**Subject:** RE: Training for Police Officers  
**Attachments:** image006.png; image002.png; image003.png; image004.png; image005.png

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Your narrative paints a rosy picture of your loving and compassionate officers especially inserting the word citizen for stranger and leaving off the part where it took 3 hours before that child's safety was secure. Are your officers 'trained' to hand over a child to strangers (oops, I meant citizens) when they are too busy to babysit?

Your officer saying he did not have time to babysit was an extremely poor choice of words for refusing to assume immediate responsibility for a baby who should have been transported to a hospital if not by your officers then by rescue personnel.

My husband and I had a discussion after listening to a lady that was interviewed and she stated that a man ask her to watch his daughter while he went back to his wounded wife. She agreed to watch his daughter. When he returned he ask that total stranger to take his daughter to their (the stranger's) home.

I said to my husband, if we found ourselves in such a horrible situation, I would want you to secure our child's safety first and foremost and handing over our son to a total stranger would NEVER be an option. He agreed. That should never, ever be an option for a police officer to do in any situation, either. That child's parents were dead in the street and your loving, compassionate officer thought that telling total strangers to just keep the child was in that child's best interest? It does not matter what that officer's duties were on that day, once those folks came to him with a baby then his duty should have been to secure the child's safety.

I truly hope our local police officers are never too busy to babysit and would assume responsibility for a traumatize child with dead parents.

Mildred Surber

On 07/07/2022 5:14 PM Neukirch, Ghida <[gneukirch@cityhpil.com](mailto:gneukirch@cityhpil.com)> wrote:

Hello Mildred,

Thanks for taking time to reach out. The toddler was in the care of a citizen and then picked up by the police and stayed in police care until the child was met with family members. Several weeks ago, one of our residents contacted a police officer in the middle of the night to be with their baby because they didn't know who else to call and our officer stayed there for a few hours until the parent returned. Our officers are loving and compassionate and do these things because of who they are and not the training they receive. Happy to discuss further if you have questions. Thanks.

Ghida S. Neukirch, CM  
City Manager



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[gneukirch@cityhpil.com](mailto:gneukirch@cityhpil.com)



**From:** Surber <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 7, 2022 9:24 AM  
**To:** Neukirch, Ghida <[gneukirch@cityhpil.com](mailto:gneukirch@cityhpil.com)>  
**Subject:** Training for Police Officers

*[EXTERNAL EMAIL]*

It was reported on national TV that police officers refused to assume responsibility for the safety of a toddler who was orphaned after the roof top shooter killed both parents. It was reported they said they didn't have time to be a babysitter.

I would be willing to come to Highland Park (at my own expense) to provide training for your insensitive officers who do not know the difference between baby sitting and assuming responsibility for the safety of a child.

Mildred Surber

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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**From:** Google Alerts <googlealerts-noreply@google.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 8, 2022 1:25 AM  
**To:** chersch@cityhpil.com  
**Subject:** Google Alert - Highland Park, IL

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]



## Highland Park, IL

As-it-happens update · July 8, 2022

NEWS

Funeral services Friday for 88-year-old **Highland Park** shooting victim - WGN-TV  
WGN-TV

**HIGHLAND PARK, III.** — Funeral services will be held Friday for 88-year-old Stephen Straus, who was one of seven people killed during a mass ...



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**Highland Park** Attack

People

Cooper Roberts was shot in the chest when a gunman opened fire at a **Highland Park** parade; his mother and twin brother also suffered injuries.



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