



September 18, 2023

President Dan,

When I received your email about the sudden departure of Jake Bobrowski and that a retired St. Paul Police Officer would be assisting with security on a temporary basis, I immediately began to wonder, who? After thinking about who recently retired and would excel at that job, Bill Baudette was the first person who came to mind, so naturally I sent him a text asking and he said he was filling in temporarily.

If you get the chance to hire Bill Baudette permanently, take it. I have known Bill for about 25 years. When I was a new officer, Bill was someone young officers, including me, looked up to, admired and respected.

There are two clear reasons why Bill Baudette is an excellent choice for head of security at Hill Murray.

We are all too familiar with school violence and school shootings and this is something that is in the back of all parents' minds. Bill Baudette was a long time SWAT officer. He has years of experience related to training and preparing for active shooter events and critical incidents. While we hope this never happens at Hill, Bill helped to create and lead the active shooter training for the St. Paul Police Department at St. Casimir's school almost 20 years ago. He understands threats and vulnerabilities and more importantly how to prepare for and respond to them. Bill can help Hill Murray create a safe campus space, mitigating those threats as best anyone can.

Bill was a great ambassador for the St. Paul Police Department. He worked well with the community and could easily interact with adults and young people alike. He never shied away from tough conversations and holding people accountable, including his peers, while also embracing our philosophy of service and care for our community. This was demonstrated in 2022 when he saved several people from a house fire on the East Side, putting his own safety at risk to save others. This got a lot of media attention, but Bill provided this type of service to our community every day.

Because of Bill's experience with training police officers, Hill Murray also has a great opportunity to have Bill train staff in issues surrounding school safety. Bill's continued connections to the St. Paul Police Department also gives him access to current information about school safety and provides an additional resource for Hill Murray when additional public safety issues arise.

Knowing Bill Baudette is the interim security director at Hill Murray puts my mind at ease. It is one less concern in the back of my mind and I hope he is considered to fill the job permanently.

Thank you,

Axel C. Henry
CHIEF OF POLICE

Paul Ford
Deputy Chief, Major Crimes