

STSO Documentary Educational Guide

Chapter 9: Police and Community Relations 7:26

Special police surveillance of gays had long been the norm throughout the U.S. Police in Rochester regularly raided bars, harassed patrons, and recorded license plate numbers. Following interaction with Gay Alliance representatives, the first police liaison with the gay community was appointed in 1974. Destined to become police chief, Gordon Urlacher proved to be genuinely interested in learning about the LGBT community, their concerns and experiences. This was a major turning point in police attitudes.

Rochester Police Attitude Toward Victims – EC April, 1972 pg.2
Anti-Spy Court Order Sought – EC March, 1973 pg. 2
Monroe County Laws Effecting Homosexuals – EC May, 1973 pg. 2
Police Launch Crackdown of Homosexuals in the Park – EC Sept., 1973 pg.3
Several Arrested at Monroe Theater – EC January, 1974 pg. 1
Police Continue Street and theater Arrests – EC February, 1974 pg. 1
Gay Alliance Comments on Arrests – EC February, 1974 pg. 1
Police to Address Gay alliance Meeting – EC April, 1974 pg. 1
Police Reps Address Gay Meeting – EC May, 1974 pg. 1
GAGV Pres. Talks with Head of Police Tactical Unit – EC June, 1974 pg. 1
Increase in Reports of Crimes Against Gays – EC, July, 1974 pg.1

Oral History -

In 1974, Midge Costanza was Vice –Mayor. The appointment of Gordon Urlacher as Police liaison to the LGBT community would have come from the mayor's office. Midge pushed for Urlacher's appointment – may be correspondence to that effect – check in Costanza's records in San Diego – Archives in LA – All of a sudden the push came to a screeching halt.

Rochester Chief of Police - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rochester_Police_Department

1970 – 1972	John Mastrella
Nov., 1972 – Nov., 1973	James J. Cavotti
1973 – 1974	Joseph E. Battaglia
1974 – 1981	Thomas F. Hastings

Monroe County Sheriff

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Monroe_County_Sheriff's_Office_%28New_York%29

Jan., 1938 – Dec., 1973	Albert w. Skinner
Jan., 1974 – Dec., 1979	William F. Lombard
Jan., 1980 – May, 2001	Andrew P. Meloni

Featured Persons – Video and Audio Recordings of Most

Bob Crystal	Gordon Urlacher
Tim Mains	Patty Evans
Gary Sweet	John Davidson
Claire Parker	Maureen Boyle
Michael Robertson	Vicki Fumia