



MARION POLICE DEPARTMENT

Marion, Ohio

Jay McDonald

Chief of Police



OPERATIONS

Major BJ Gruber

INVESTIGATIONS

Major Chris Adkins

ADMINISTRATION

Major Jon Shaffer

News Release 26.01

Date: 02/13/2026

Arrest of Marion Police Department Officer

“On February 12, 2026, the Marion Police Department received a criminal complaint involving an officer with the Marion Police Department. We immediately contacted the Marion County Sheriff’s Office to investigate that complaint which was reported to have occurred within the County outside the City of Marion.

As soon as I learned that the county sheriff’s office arrested Brendan Damron, I put him on administrative leave from the City of Marion Police Department. Pursuant to our obligations under Ohio law and Department Policy, an internal affairs investigation related to the suspects’ employment was initiated, remains open and is expected to be concluded in the very near future. It is without question, we insist on accountability for every person who works here. Until such time as the IA investigation is concluded and any Department Disciplinary charges are filed, I can assure the citizens the employee will not work in this department.

The credibility of police depends on holding ourselves to the same legal standards as everyone else. I have faith that County Sheriff Matt Bayles and the County Prosecutor Ray Grogan will complete their investigative and prosecution duties fairly and based on the law.”

Chief Jay McDonald

Issuing Officer