



# DODGE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Dale J Schmidt Sheriff Chad Enright Chief Deputy

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Date: September 18, 2024

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## **Former Lomira Fire Chief and Village of Lomira Employee Arrested**

The Dodge County Sheriff's Office has arrested former Lomira Fire Chief and Village of Lomira employee Keith Joas, age 40 of Campbellsport, for two counts of misconduct in public office and one count of theft. On February 13, 2024, Keith Joas' employment with the Village of Lomira was terminated. On February 15, 2024, the Dodge County Sheriff's Office initiated an investigation into allegations of theft brought by the village.

It is alleged that Joas utilized his position within the Village of Lomira to obtain items for personal use using taxpayer funds. Detectives, in collaboration with the Village of Lomira, analyzed financial records, conducted a thorough investigation, and determined that these charges were appropriate in this case.

Sheriff Dale Schmidt expresses his disappointment when a public employee violates the trust of the citizens in our community and indicates that public employees must be held accountable and held to a higher standard for that violation of trust. For this reason, the sheriff's office has not only requested charges of theft but is also requesting charges of misconduct in public office. The sheriff wants all public employees to understand that while public service can be very honorable and rewarding when you cross the line and commit crimes in the performance of that duty, there will be consequences.

As a reminder, all persons are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

No further information on this case will be available from the sheriff's office or the village of Lomira pending the outcome of potential criminal prosecution.

Questions may be directed to Sheriff Dale J. Schmidt

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