

November 3, 2025

To The Residents of Bath Township:

The Board of Trustees of Bath Township would like to address the shooting incident that recently occurred following a large gathering at a residence obtained through Airbnb in the 900 block of Top O Hill Dr.

On November 2, 2025 at approximately 12:16 a.m., multiple individuals were injured as a result of gunfire at the gathering. The Bath Township Police Department promptly responded. At the scene, the Bath Police activated mutual-aid protocols with neighboring agencies who responded to assist to secure the scene and render first aid. We commend the rapid and coordinated response, that in all likelihood, prevented further harm.

The Bath Township Police Department is leading the investigation. The Bath Police are working in conjunction with the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) to process the crime scene, gather forensic and technical evidence, and identify the responsible parties. Our investigators remain committed to bringing the perpetrators to justice.

In light of this incident, we feel compelled to reiterate the township's regulatory stance on short-term rentals. Under our Zoning Resolution, the use of residential property for short-term rentals, (including any rentals through Airbnb or similar platforms) is prohibited in our township. By allowing a home in a residentially zoned district to function as a short-term rental, the property owner may expose themselves to significant civil liability, particularly when such a gathering leads to violence or other crimes. The legal consequences may include zoning enforcement, fines, and potential legal action.

We want to be very clear: short-term residential rentals are not permitted in Bath Township. If you are a property owner, you must ensure that your dwelling is not offered for rent for short term events and/or stays. If you are aware of a property being used for such purposes, please report it to the Bath Township Zoning Department immediately. If you have concerns about a large gathering in your neighborhood, please immediately contact the Bath Police Department.

We appreciate everyone's cooperation in making Bath Township a safe, peaceful place to live.

Sincerely,

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Elaina E. Goodrich, Trustee

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Sharon A. Troike, Trustee

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Sean F. Gaffney, Trustee