



CITY OF CALDWELL

**THE OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE**

REX R. INGRAM  
CHIEF OF POLICE

CALDWELL POLICE DEPARTMENT  
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**Tuesday, October 17, 2023**

To the Citizens of the City of Caldwell,

Today, in the District of Idaho, an indictment was unsealed charging Ryan Bendawald, a former Caldwell Police Department employee, with two felony counts of deprivation of rights under color of law, five felony counts of federal program bribery, and one misdemeanor count of deprivation of rights under color of law. The conduct Mr. Bendawald is accused of engaging in does not reflect the mission and vision of the Caldwell Police Department and is contrary to the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics.

The police profession is a noble and honorable calling that requires the highest level of integrity, honesty, dedication, and a commitment to serve. Now, more than ever, law enforcement officers are the nation's most valuable assets for ensuring peace and safety for all. The acts alleged in this indictment do not embody the bravery, integrity, and resilience of our men and women serving across this country.

The Caldwell Police Department has unified behind a concerted effort to renew and restore the cornerstones of a successful police agency. From relationships with surrounding agencies, to public trust, to internal culture – our purpose here at the Caldwell Police Department is more pointed and focused than ever before.

Our Mission Statement, adopted February 27, 2023, provides: ***The mission of the Caldwell Police Department is to preserve peace and safety while pursuing justice with compassion and respect; to guard the life, property, and constitutional rights of all; to encourage individual responsibility; and to promote community involvement.***

We will continue to cooperate with the Department of Justice and trust that the process will ensure justice is served. The City of Caldwell and the Caldwell Police Department request that all questions about the investigation be directed to the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Idaho.

As the Chief of Police, I am thankful for the continuing support of our community and law enforcement partners. I am confident in that support both now and in the future. I am proud of the men and women currently serving in our police department. I know that they are commendable, honest, admirable, and committed to the preservation of peace, the pursuit of justice, and the safeguarding of the lives, wellbeing, and dignity of the citizens of Caldwell.

Sincerely,

Rex R. Ingram  
Chief of Police