



# POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT

*Wethersfield*



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**James Cetran**  
**Chief of Police**

## November 2015

### SPECIAL PROJECTS / ACHIEVEMENTS / INNOVATIONS

During the month of November 2015, members of the Detective Bureau initiated or were assigned follow up to fifteen (15) new cases. The major case investigations involved; one (1) robbery, three (3) burglaries and three (3) sudden deaths. Detectives also assisted and processed the scene of multiple burglaries of storage units that were assigned to the Patrol Division. Detectives also continue to perform town background investigations and backgrounds for pistol permits applicants.

The Wethersfield Police Cadets participated in practical skills training “Domestic Violence Investigations”.

On Sunday, November 8, 2015 the annual Jamie’s Run 5K road race, 3K walk and 1K children’s fun run was held. The road race stepped off at 09:00 am. Both the 5K race and 3K walk began at the same time. The event was attended by approximately 750 runners making it their largest turnout in the six years of holding this event.

The Wethersfield Police Department hosted a Child Car Seat Clinic on Monday, November 9, 2015. The two WPD certified technicians installed/inspected ten child car seats during this event.

On Wednesday, November 25, 2015 the annual Wethersfield High School verses Newington High School football game was held at the Wethersfield High School with kickoff at 6:00 PM. The event was attended by several thousand spectators.

Officers from the Wethersfield Police Department participated in the semi-annual “Click It or Ticket” enforcement wave period that was held from Monday, November 23, 2015 through Monday, November 30, 2015. Below is a summary of the activity during that time period:

	# of Citations	# of Warnings
Seatbelt	2	5
Child Restraint	1	0
DUI/DUI Related	1	0

Cell Phone Use	1	2
Speed	6	15
Other Traffic	8	33
Non-traffic Violations/Criminal	5	0

## MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

### Patrol Division

#### Patrol Division (Case of Interest)

On Saturday, November 7, 2015 at approximately 4:10 PM officers were dispatched to Stop and Shop on a reported shoplifting. Officers were met by the store manager who stated he observed a male in the health and beauty aisle pushing a shopping cart with energy drinks, beauty products and candy. He then observed the male filling a backpack with merchandise. The manager made contact with the male and asked what he was doing. The male said he intended to steal the merchandise. Officers identified the male who also admitted to the officers that he was "going to steal." He said he used heroin on a regular basis and was going to sell the merchandise at a bodega in Hartford for one dollar for each item. He was handcuffed and brought to Police Headquarters. The total of items taken was \$164.35. The items were photographed. At WPD headquarters he was charged with Larceny in the Sixth Degree. He was released from custody on a non-surety bond. He was scheduled to appear in court on 11/23/2015.

On November 19, 2015 at 2:37 PM officers were dispatched to Ocean State Job Lot on the report of a shoplifter being detained by Loss Prevention. Arriving officers were met by store Loss Prevention (LP) personnel. LP stated she observed the suspect conceal 27 sticks of Suave Deodorant (total value of \$58.74) in his sweat pants and then walk past the registers. LP stated that she and the manager stopped the suspect in the store's vestibule where he admitted to the shoplifting and handed the merchandise back to them. LP said that the suspect was then taken to her office to await the police. LP provided a sworn written statement detailing the theft and stating that the store wanted to press charges. The suspect stated that he was a heroin user and planned on selling the deodorants to a bodega on Franklin Avenue in Hartford. The suspect was arrested and taken into custody and transported to Police Headquarters where he was charged with Larceny In The Sixth Degree. The suspect had numerous previous arrests for narcotic violations, burglary, larceny, criminal trespass, violation of probation and failure to appear. He was held on bond and was presented in court the next day.

On November 20, 2015 at 9:05 PM officers were dispatched to Falla's Department Store for a reported shoplifter. The WPD Dispatcher reported the male suspect was arguing with the manager and attempting to flee the store. Arriving officers were met by the manager, who had a male suspect stopped at the front door. The manager stated he observed the suspect remove jeans from a rack and conceal them in a white bag and inside his jacket. The suspect then walked to the front of the store, passed all points of purchase and did not make any attempt to pay for the merchandise. The suspect admitted to the manager that he had stolen some "stuff." Total merchandise included nine (9) pairs of Levi Jeans, valued at \$19.99 each and one (1) gray vest, valued at \$12.99. Total value of items taken was

\$205.15. A search of the suspect revealed a knife and a pair of pliers, both commonly used to remove store tags and security devices. Also found during the search of the suspect was a bag that contained two (2) wax bags with a white powder consistent to heroin and multiple white rectangular pills, that were split in pieces and appeared to be Xanax. All items were seized as evidence. A criminal appearance bond from West Hartford Police Department was in the suspect's pocket. He was released from WHPD custody on 11/20/2015 at approximately 1945 hours for larceny at West Farms Mall. The suspect explained the WHPD arrest from earlier in the evening was a mistake and he did not want to "rat" on his friend. The suspect was transported to WPD Headquarters where he was charged with Possession of Narcotics, Possession of Controlled Substance, Larceny in the Sixth Degree and Possession of a Shoplifting Device. During the booking process, the suspect stated the heroin was for personal use. He stated the rectangular pills were Xanax and used for pain management. He was held on bond and was scheduled to appear in court on 11/23/2015.

### **Support Services Bureau**

Six persons were taken into custody and held requiring 193 hours of incarceration. Of the persons held, two were arrested on warrants. Five males and one female were transported to court. The female incarcerated by the department required 7 hours of matron and/or officer coverage.

There were 104 phone calls and 26 calls for service involving animal control issues. Of the calls for service, twenty-two were handled by the part-time animal control officers and four were handled by police officers. Five animals were impounded with five being redeemed, and one carrying over. Wethersfield Animal Control Officers covered for two calls in Newington. Newington Animal Control Officers covered for four calls in Wethersfield. 13 licenses were obtained due to the delinquent dog licensing efforts of the ACOs.

Wethersfield Police Department Child Seat Technicians inspected/installed 15 child seats.

Wethersfield Public Safety Dispatchers received and handled 910 E-911 emergency phone calls.

The Wethersfield Volunteer Fire Department (WVFD) was dispatched to 42 calls for service.

The Wethersfield Volunteer Ambulance (WVAA) was dispatched to 80 calls for service and Aetna Ambulance to 266 calls for service.

### **Administrative Services Bureau**

This department has responded to 57 alarms in month of December. Non-residential locations made up 30 (53%) of this total and residential alarms made up 27(47%.) The alarms received were: 48 burglar, 9 holdup / panic, and 0 fire. There currently are 1,699 alarm registrations on file after the annual purge of inactive registrations. This month, 48 locations of experienced false alarm(s); this represents a 97% compliance rate. Eight new

alarm registrations were entered this month. During this month, \$3,550 in alarm billing has occurred. There have been 100 actions performed by this unit with the CryWolf system, and 73 items of correspondence sent out.

The department will be recruiting and then testing to fill two public safety dispatcher positions, and one police officer position.

## **Detective Division**

On 11/12/2015 Patrol officers were dispatched to Santander Bank, 1400 Berlin Turnpike, on the report of a bank robbery in progress. The first officers to arrive found that a lone male had entered the bank and committed a robbery of just over \$1,000.00. After taking the money the male left in a white car and exited the parking lot. Wethersfield Detectives found that the suspect looked like a male who had previously robbed a bank in Hartford who had not been arrested for that robbery. Wethersfield detectives went looking for the white car and found it in the city of Hartford. Two males fled from the officer and after a short chase they were arrested for being in a stolen car. One of the males was the bank robbery suspect. This male was placed under arrest for the Hartford Bank robbery and charges are pending from the Wethersfield Bank robbery.

## **Juvenile Detective**

The Wethersfield Police Department handled approximately 39 incidents, involving approximately 59 juveniles during the month of November 2015. In these incidents there were 7 Juvenile arrests made, 2 Juveniles were diverted for parental discipline, 7 Juveniles were diverted for school discipline and 2 Juveniles were seen at the Wethersfield Juvenile Review Board "JRB".

## **School Resource Officer (High School)**

During the month of November the WHS SRO covered a total of forty-four (44) incidents including activities at the school.

Three (3) incident reports were completed. The incident reports included the following:

- Larceny – Criminal Mischief – Conspiracy.
- Hate crime – Breach of Peace
- Creating a public disturbance.

There were two (2) arrests at the school during the month of November. One student issued a complaint ticket for creating a public disturbance.

## **School Resource Officer (Middle School)**

During the month of November the SRO covered a total of twenty - two (22) incidents including activities at the school, which were entered into the School Cop database. The SRO attended the Crisis Management team meetings with BOE, Administration, Guidance, Nurses, and Security.

The SRO participated in the sessions of the Town of Wethersfield Juvenile Review Board. This is for juveniles who reside in our town when they are deferred from the Juvenile Justice System to our board.

## **COMMUNITY RELATIONS**

Based on citizen concerns and traffic study results, officers performed selective enforcement at various locations throughout town 36 different times for a total of approximately 20 hours 45 minutes. Locations given extra attention included Ridge Road, Silas Deane Highway and Wolcott Hill Road.

The Speed Awareness Monitor Trailer was used for a traffic study in the area of 50 Eastern Drive (display facing southbound traffic) over the course of five (5) days. The posted speed limit on this road is 30 MPH. During the 96.5 survey hours, 2,271 cars were recorded, averaging 23.5 cars per hour. Results from the device showed an average speed of 23.77 MPH, the 85th percentile speed of approximately 31 MPH and a top speed of 50 MPH.

The Speed Awareness Monitor Trailer was used for a traffic study in the area of 54 Harold Street (display facing northbound traffic) over the course of three (3) days. During the 48.5 survey hours, 252 cars were recorded, averaging 5 cars per hour. Results from the device showed an average speed of 15.9 MPH, the 85th percentile speed of approximately 28 MPH and a top speed of 77 MPH.

The Speed Awareness Monitor Trailer was used for a traffic study in the area of 176 Cumberland Avenue, the CREC Discovery Academy (display facing westbound traffic) over the course of five (5) days. The posted speed limit on this road is 25 MPH. During the 99 survey hours, 5,674 cars were recorded, averaging 57.3 cars per hour. Results from the device showed an average speed of 21.9 MPH, the 85th percentile speed of approximately 28 MPH and a top speed of 55 MPH.

The following work orders were completed during November, 2015:

- For the annual Jamie's Run 5K on November 8, 2015 cones, barricades, one-way signs and temporary 'No Parking' signs were placed on numerous streets around Garden Street and the Broad Street Green in Old Wethersfield.
- For the annual St. Paul's Church Fair temporary 'No Parking' signs were placed on Westway and Wolcott Hill Road in the area of the church.
- For the Wethersfield High School/ Newington High School football game cones, barricades and temporary 'No Parking' signs were placed on numerous streets around the high school

## **Training Division**

On Wednesday, November 4, 2015, members of the **Capitol Region Emergency Services Team** (CREST), including Lieutenant Mark Poisson, MPO Luis Gonzalez, and Officers Jeffrey Poulin and Shane Murphy, began attending monthly two-day training.

On Wednesday, November 4, 2015, Officer Kevin Lawless attending a three day training class entitled "**Basic Crime Scene Processing.**" Training was held at the Connecticut Police Academy in Meriden, CT. Training topics included evaluation of the crime scene, protection of the crime scene, recording the crime scene via notes, sketches and photography and techniques for latent fingerprint location and collection.

On Thursday, November 5, 2015, Officer Barry Veilleux attended a course entitled "**Complete Streets.**" This training was held at the CT DOT, Rocky Hill, CT. Training topics included information on the planning, design, construction, maintenance, operation and management of roads, bridges and public transit.

During the week of November 9, 2015 the WPD Training Unit conducted **Fall 2015 Low Light Firearms Training.** Thirty seven (37) officers participated in this training, which was held at the Berlin Police Range in Berlin, CT. Firearms training consisted transitioning to a new holster and a weapon mounted light and a night/low light qualification course. The use of a flashlight was required for portions of the courses. Officers were then required to complete a 60 round qualification course in low light conditions, which all officers successfully passed. Prior to this training, officers received instruction on the Department Deadly Force and were given a written examination on the Department's Use of Deadly Force policy. Select officers also qualified with the Colt AR-15 patrol rifle and were required to complete a written examination on the same.

On Thursday, November 12, 2015, Detective Michael Patkoske began attending a two day training seminar entitled "**Arson Investigators' Seminar.**" This training was held at the Hartford Marriott Rocky Hill, Rocky Hill, CT. Topics included arson investigation, gas explosions and scientific methods.

On Thursday, November 12, 2015, Dispatchers Christopher Sinsigalli and Kerianne Motta attended training entitled "**Special Licensing and Firearms Unit Database Training System.**" This training was held at the CT State Police Headquarters, Middletown, CT. This training allows users to access this database which contains State firearms permit information as well as registered weapons information.

On Thursday, November 12, 2015, Dispatcher Karen Tomczyk attended "**Regional Incident Dispatch (RID) Team Training.**" This training was held at the Wethersfield Police Department. The RID Team is a group of approximately twelve telecommunicators comprised from local law enforcement agencies. The RID Team is designed to supplement area Dispatch Centers in the event of a large crisis, man-made/ natural disaster etc.

On Wednesday, November 17, 2015, Officer Nuno Martins, along with his canine, Thor, attended a one day training class entitled "**Police Canine/ Police Canine Handler Training.**" Officer Martins and Thor participated in this monthly canine training with several

other area law enforcement canine teams. Training included evidence recovery and tracking.

On Wednesday, November 18, 2015, members of the **Midstate Major Crime Squad (MSMC)**, including Lieutenant Mark Poisson and Detectives Michael Patkoske and Christopher Morris, began attending monthly training. MSMC is a team comprising of Detectives from the Midstate towns, who work together to investigate major incidents.

On Thursday, November 24, 2015, Officers David Gove, Barry Veilleux, Eric Knapp, Ronald Floyd, Bridget Camara, Michael Forrest and Dispatcher Frank Liberatore, attended a one day recertification class entitled "**NCIC/ COLLECT Recertification Training.**" Training was held at the Middletown Police Department, Middletown, CT. This class is a recertification class for persons presently certified on the NCIC/ COLLECT computer system. Recertification is for a period of two years.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

The department will undergo an on-site assessment for POST reaccreditation on Monday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

Wethersfield Detectives are assisting with patrol personnel and the development of active narcotic cases. Detectives are also working closely with the Drug Enforcement Administration to investigate local individuals.

The Wethersfield Police Cadets will assist with the "Holiday on Main" event on Main Street in Old Wethersfield. The Wethersfield Police Cadets will have their annual Holiday Banquet.

The annual Wethersfield Police Department Toy Drive began on Monday, November 30, 2015 and continues through Sunday, December 20, 2015. A special 'Stuff a Cruiser' event will be held at the Holidays on Main event on December 3, 2015.

The Chamber of Commerce Holidays on Main event will be held on Thursday, December 3, 2015 at 5:00 PM.

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## PERFORMANCE MEASURES

	November 2014	November 2015	YTD 2014	YTD 2015
<b>Criminal Arrests</b>				
Criminal Arrests	61	61	757	762
<b>Burglaries and Robberies</b>				
Residential Burglaries	2	1	30	15
Commercial Burglaries	0	2	23	86
Armed Robberies	1	1	5	6
Strong-Arm Robberies	1	0	4	3
<b>Family Violence Arrests</b>				
Family Violence Arrests	11	3	77	74
<b>Traffic Related</b>				
Infractions/ MV Summons	158	130	1935	1870
DUI	5	8	83	66
MV Crashes	51	62	541	697
Parking Tags	22	32	840	635
<b>Miscellaneous Activities</b>				
911 Calls	951	910	8986	10394
Alarm Responses	43	57	617	651
Records Requests	180	184	2209	2341
Prisoners Transported	12	6	178	152
Child Car Seat Installations	0	15	32	39