



# POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT

*Wethersfield*



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

## AUGUST 2015

### SPECIAL PROJECTS / ACHIEVEMENTS / INNOVATIONS

On Sunday, August 23, 2015 the Hartford Marathon Foundation held their annual Old Wethersfield 5K and 10K road race. The road race stepped off at 08:30 am with registration beginning at 07:30 am. Both the 5K and 10K races began at the same time. The event was attended by 1,200 runners and was sold out several days before taking place. Through the cooperative effort of members of the Hartford Marathon Foundation, Inter-Community Health, Town of Wethersfield Physical Services and the Wethersfield Police Department the road race was completed safely and without incident.

The Wethersfield Police Department, with the assistance of other Mid-State Police Departments held a DUI Checkpoint on Thursday, August 27, 2015 on the Berlin Turnpike south of Nott Street. 1361 vehicles were briefly stopped by officers with 38 motorists being flagged by the officers for DUI testing or other investigative interviews.

- Three (3) motorists were detained for DUI assessment. Standardized Field Sobriety Tests were conducted and insufficient probable cause was established to make arrests in all cases.
  - Four (4) people were charged with Possession of Less Than One-Half Ounce of a Cannabis-Type Substance – 1<sup>st</sup> Offense
  - One (1) motorist was charged with Possession of Less Than One-Half Ounce of a Cannabis-Type Substance – 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense
  - One (1) motorist was charged with Possession of Drug Paraphernalia
  - Eight (8) motorists were charged with Operating an Unregistered Motor Vehicle
  - Four (4) motorists were charged with Operating with a Suspended License and/or Registration
  - Four (4) motorists were charged with Operating a Motor Vehicle without Insurance
  - Three (3) motorists were charged with Driving without a License
- One (1) motorist was charged with Misuse of Registration Plates

During the month of August 2015, members of the Detective Bureau initiated or were assigned follow up to fourteen (14) new cases. The major case investigations involved; one (1) robbery, two (2) burglaries and three (3) fraud / identity thefts. Detectives also continue to perform town background investigations and backgrounds for pistol permits applicants.

## **MONTHLY ACTIVITIES**

### **Patrol Division**

#### **Patrol Division (Case of Interest)**

On Saturday, August 8, 2015 at 5:53 PM officers were dispatched to a retail establishment on the Berlin Turnpike on the report of white female concealing items in a blue handbag. Wethersfield Police Dispatch advised that store Loss Prevention currently had the female under surveillance. As one officer arrived, he saw store Loss Prevention exiting the southern (Pharmacy) entrance/exit with a white female. The white female was carrying two handbags, one being blue. The female and store Loss Prevention both looked in the direction of the police cruiser. The Loss Prevention officer waved to the officer and the female then took off running in the parking lot. As the Loss Prevention officer chased her, the officer drove the cruiser west along an adjacent parking aisle in order to place the cruiser in the running suspect's path. As the running female approached the officer, the officer noticed that she looked directly at him and began to smile. She ran around the rear of the police cruiser and began to run northbound through the parking lot. The officer chased after her on foot and caught her after about 20 feet. The female suspect was arrested. A search of her and her two handbags revealed a small glass vial in her left front pants pocket. The glass vial contained a small portion of a white powdery substance, suspected to be cocaine. The search of the blue handbag revealed the following: 1 container of Flintstone's gummy vitamins (valued @ \$7.99), Liquid Pepto Bismil (valued @ \$4.69), 2 packages of Cherry Pepto Bismol (valued @ \$4.69 each), a container of 5000MC Vitamin B12 (valued @ \$12.99), a package of Pepto Bismol Max (valued @ \$6.49), a package of Neocell Collagen (valued @ \$15.99) and a package of BOS Collagen 90 (valued @ \$10.49). The total value of the items recovered is \$68.02. The items were returned to the store. She was arrested and transported to Police Headquarters where she was charged with Possession of Narcotics, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, Interfering with an Officer and Larceny 6th. She was held on a \$500.00 surety bond and appeared in court on 8/10/15 at 1000 hours. She also had an outstanding PRAWN arrest warrant.

On Thursday, August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 1:28 PM officers were dispatched to a retail establishment on the Silas Deane Highway in response to shoplifting complaint. The first arriving officer met the store loss prevention (LP) employee. He relayed the following: that at about 1115 hours a store associate notified him that a white female customer appeared to have pocketed a ring from a clearance rack. As a result, LP began monitoring the heavy-set, white female via closed circuit TV. The white female then used two empty, reusable shopping bags to go throughout the store and conceal numerous items, including jewelry, small luggage pieces, sunglasses and clothing. She put one of the two bags full of items down (presumably to come back for later) and proceeded to register #2, where she presented a full bag of stolen items as though they had been previously purchased. She asked for a refund for the stolen items, although she had no receipt. She was issued a store credit in the amount of \$235.91. She then proceeded to the jewelry counter and made a purchase using the fraudulently obtained store credit receipt. She then picked up an eyeglass case as well as a boxed necklace, concealed those items under a bag in her shopping cart, and exited the store, passing all points of purchase. She was then confronted

by store LP outside of the store and escorted back to the loss prevention office. When asked, she did not deny stealing the items or doing the fake return, but simply requested that a 'ticket' be issued to go to court rather than handcuffing her. She was placed under arrest, handcuffed and search. The search produced one silver ring with the store tag still on it, worth \$32.00, that was in her front, right pants' pocket. A search of her purse revealed numerous ripped price tags from the items she had brought to register #2 and presented as items she had previously purchased. The total theft was \$289.90 (\$235.91 in merchandise refunded off the sales floor, \$21.99 for the two shoplifted items (eyeglass case and boxed necklace) and \$32.00 for the ring). All of this merchandise was recovered and returned to the store. She was transported to headquarters for processing. She was charged with Larceny Sixth Degree. She was released on \$1,000 non-surety bond and was scheduled to appear in court on 8-27-15 at 1000 hours.

## Support Services Bureau

Sixteen persons were taken into custody and held requiring 296 hours of incarceration. Of the persons held, nine were arrested on warrants. Fourteen males and two females were transported to court. The females incarcerated by the department required 71 hours of matron and/or officer coverage.

There were 140 phone calls and 53 calls for service involving animal control issues. Of the calls for service, thirty-eight were handled by the part-time animal control officers and seventeen were handled by police officers. Four animals were impounded with two being redeemed, one sold as a pet, and one carrying over. Wethersfield Animal Control Officers covered for eleven calls in Newington. Newington Animal Control Officers covered for nine calls in Wethersfield. Eight warnings were issued for unlicensed dogs.

Wethersfield Public Safety Dispatchers received and handled 1002 E-911 emergency phone calls.

The Wethersfield Volunteer Fire Department (WVFD) was dispatched to 44 calls for service.

The Wethersfield Volunteer Ambulance (WVAA) was dispatched to 87 calls for service and Aetna Ambulance to 263 calls for service.

## Training Division

On Wednesday, August 5, 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 Tuesday, August 11, 2015, Officer Shane Murphy, along with his canine, Marley, attended a one day training class entitled "**Police Canine/ Police Canine Handler Training.**" Officer Murphy and Marley participated in this monthly canine training with several other area law enforcement canine teams. Training included evidence recovery and tracking, and narcotics searches.

On Tuesday, August 18, 2015, MPO David Gove and Officers Roanld Floyd and Peter McGee began attending a class entitled "**Public Safety Telecommunicator Training.**" This training was held at the Connecticut Police Academy, Meriden, CT. Training topics included interpersonal communications, stress management, basics of radio broadcasting, telephone techniques and telecommunicator liability issues. This class is one of several mandated training classes in order to be certified as a telecommunicator by the State of Connecticut.

On Wednesday, August 25, 2015, Dispatcher Karen Tomczyk attended "**Regional Incident Dispatch (RID) Team Training**". This training was held at the Enfield Police Department, Enfield, CT. 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 Tuesday, August 25, 2015, Officer Shane Murphy, along with his canine, Marley, attended a one day training class entitled "**Police Canine/ Police Canine Handler Training.**" Officer Murphy and Marley participated in this monthly canine training with several other area law enforcement canine teams. Training included evidence recovery and tracking, and narcotics searches.

On Thursday, August 27, 2015, Officer Barry Veilleux began attending a training class entitled "**Large Truck and Bus Enforcement.**" This training was held at the Connecticut Police Academy, Meriden, CT. Training topics included discussion on which charges are appropriate for Commercial Trucks and Busses.

## **Administrative Services Bureau**

This department has responded to 73 alarms in month of August. Non-residential locations made up 23 (32%) of this total, residential alarms made up 45 (62%), and State and Town government made up 5 (6%). The alarms received were: 61 burglar, 5 holdup / panic, and 7 fire. There currently are 1,675 alarm registrations on file, 62 of which experienced alarm(s) this month; this represents a 96% compliance rate. Twelve new alarm registrations were entered this month. During this month, \$3,650 in alarm billing has occurred. There have been 120 actions performed by this unit with the CryWolf system, and 93 items of correspondence sent out.

## **Detective Division**

On 08/25/15, a Wethersfield Detective was at local pawn shop going over the businesses surveillance equipment with the owner. While using the camera equipment, the detective was able to view customers on the sales floor. He saw a customer take a car stereo off of a display rack and place the item under his shirt. The male suspect then left the store without paying for the stereo. The Detective confronted the suspect outside the store and arrested him for stealing the stereo. A second stereo component was found in the suspect's car that had also been stolen form the pawn shop. The suspect was later found to be wanted in the state of Pennsylvania on a parole violation. He was held on bond and delivered to GA 15 in New Britain on the larceny charges, and held pending an extradition hearing for the Pennsylvania warrant.

## **Juvenile Detective**

The Wethersfield Police Department handled approximately 41 incidents, involving approximately 53 juveniles during the month of August 2015. In these incidents there were no Juvenile arrest made and 3 Juveniles were diverted for parental discipline.

## **School Resource Officer**

N/A

## **COMMUNITY RELATIONS**

Based on citizen concerns and traffic study results, officers performed selective enforcement at various locations throughout town 3 different times for a total of approximately 5 hours 31 minutes. Locations given extra attention included Maple Street and Hartford Avenue.

A traffic study on Wolcott Hill Road in the area of #772 was initiated and completed utilizing a speed monitoring device over the course of sixteen (16) days. The posted speed limit in this area is 35 MPH. During the 355 survey hours, 94,588 cars were recorded, averaging 266 cars per hour. Results from the speed monitoring device showed an average speed of approximately 33.1 MPH, the 50th percentile speed of 34 MPH, the 85th percentile speed of approximately 39 MPH and a top speed of 77 MPH.

The Speed Awareness Monitor Trailer was used to conduct a traffic survey on Wolcott Hill Road in the area of #53 over the course of ten (10) days. The radar was programmed to capture data for both northbound and southbound traffic along the road. The display was positioned facing southbound traffic. The posted speed limit in this area is 35 MPH. During the 195.5 survey hours, 49,203 cars were recorded, averaging 251.7 cars per hour. Results from the device showed an average speed of 29.86 MPH, the 85th percentile speed of approximately 36 MPH and a top speed of 84 MPH.

In an effort to create awareness of the beginning of the school year, the Speed Awareness Monitor Trailer was used to conduct a traffic survey on Nott Street in the area of Charles Wright School over the course of five (5) days. The radar was programmed to capture data for both eastbound and westbound traffic along the road. The display was positioned facing westbound traffic. The posted speed limit in this area is 30 MPH. During the 102 survey hours, 13,648 cars were recorded, averaging 133.8 cars per hour. Results from the device showed an average speed of 27.32 MPH, the 85th percentile speed of approximately 32 MPH and a top speed of 80 MPH.

The following work orders were completed during August, 2015:

- Place temporary NO PARKING signs, barricades and cones at various locations throughout Old Wethersfield for the Inter-community Mental Health 5K & 10K road races.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

The Wethersfield Police Cadets will be assisting the Wethersfield Cornfest event held on 09/19/2015 on the Broad Street Green.

The opening day for the CREC Discovery Academy at 176 Cumberland Avenue is Wednesday, September 2, 2015.

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

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## PERFORMANCE MEASURES

	August 2014	August 2015	YTD 2014	YTD 2015
<b>Criminal Arrests</b>				
Criminal Arrests	90	73	562	579
<b>Burglaries and Robberies</b>				
Residential Burglaries	3	1	23	11
Commercial Burglaries	4	1	22	5
Armed Robberies	0	1	1	2
Strong-Arm Robberies	0	0	1	2
<b>Family Violence Arrests</b>				
Family Violence Arrests	3	13	57	61
<b>Traffic Related</b>				
Infractions/ MV Summons	162	275	1325	1426
DUI	10	13	67	49
MV Crashes	44	50	379	512
Parking Tags	88	15	627	493
<b>Miscellaneous Activities</b>				
911 Calls	929	1002	6166	2714
Alarm Responses	50	73	460	467
Records Requests	206	219	1641	1753
Prisoners Transported	14	16	139	124
Child Car Seat Installations	2	0	24	24