



# POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT

*Wethersfield*



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

## DECEMBER 2013

### SPECIAL PROJECTS / ACHIEVEMENTS / INNOVATIONS

During the month of December 2013, members of the Detective Bureau initiated or were assigned follow up to approximately fifteen (15) new cases. The major case investigations involved; five (5) burglaries, two (2) fraud / Identity thefts, one (1) sexual assault and two (2) larcenies. Detectives also continue to perform town background investigations and backgrounds for pistol permits applicants.

The Wethersfield Police Cadets assisted with the Holiday on Main Street event on December 5, 2013. The Police Cadets held their annual Christmas Dinner on December 19, 2013.

In compliance with state law, the quarterly E-911 total call count report was provided to the State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Division of Statewide Emergency Telecommunications. For the quarter October 1, 2013 to December 31, 2013 Wethersfield Police Dispatchers handled 2393 E-911 calls. Year-to-date E911 total call count is 10,115 calls.

With the assistance of numerous department personnel, Officer Albert Whaples coordinated the annual WPD Toy Drive. Unwrapped toys were donated by citizens and businesses throughout the town. All of the toys were collected at police headquarters.

Probationary Police Officer Justin Hilchuk completed all four Field Training phases and has been assigned to solo patrol duties as of December 9, 2013.

Probationary Police Officer Peter Salvatore has completed twelve weeks of basic training at the Connecticut Police Academy. Graduation is expected in March 2014.

### MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

#### Patrol Division

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

On December 4, 2013 at 4:20 PM several officers were dispatched to a commercial clothing store on the Silas Deane Highway on the report of a male shoplifter in custody. Arriving officers spoke to loss prevention personnel. The loss prevention employee told the officers that he noticed a white male believed to be a person that has performed fraudulent returns at their store before. He saw this male enter the store with no merchandise. The loss prevention employee watched this male go to the bedding department with a shopping cart. He watched as this male selected a blanket (valued @ \$49.99) and sheet set (valued @ \$59.99). The male placed both items into the cart and walked to the register line and then attempt to complete a "Return without Receipt." The male was issued a store value card for the amount of \$116.96. After receiving this credit, the loss prevention employee approached this male and escorted him back to the loss prevention office. The male was arrested and transported to Headquarters. He was charged with Larceny 6<sup>th</sup> Degree. He was released on a non-surety bond and was scheduled to appear in court on 12/18/13. A criminal history check of this male showed 28 prior arrests, including 15 prior larceny arrests.

On December 18, 2013 several officers were dispatched to a commercial clothing store on the Silas Deane Highway on the report of a male shoplifter in custody. Arriving officers met with loss prevention. They were detaining a male suspected of shoplifting from the store. Loss prevention observed this male enter the store pushing an empty shopping cart. After he entered the store, he walked over to the men's department and quickly selected two pairs of men's gloves which he placed into the shopping cart. He then went into the homegoods department. As he walked into this section he picked up some merchandise and placed it into an empty shopping bag which was lying on the bottom of the cart. He then placed the two pairs of gloves into the bag as well. After placing the items into the shopping bag, he picked up a blanket and placed it underneath the shopping bag which was still in the cart. He then exited the store making no attempt to pay for the merchandise. As soon as he exited the store, loss prevention personnel approached him and asked him to walk back into the store with him. This male refused to do so until the police arrived. The officer approached the male and asked him what happened. The male admitted to concealing some merchandise. The male added that he was not going to listen to loss prevention and admitted that he tried walking away, but stopped when he saw the officer approach. He said he would cooperate with the police, but did not respect the store's loss prevention. The total value of the recovered items was \$202.41. He was arrested and brought to Headquarters. He was charged Larceny 6<sup>th</sup> Degree. He was released on a non-surety bond and was scheduled to appear in court on 1-2-2014.

## **Support Services Bureau**

Five infraction tickets were issued this month due to 'Passing a Standing School Bus' violations captured on video from the Student Guardian school bus cameras. There have been a total of eleven infraction tickets issued since the beginning of the 2013-14 school year.

Twenty persons were taken into custody and held requiring 351 hours of incarceration. Of the persons held, eleven were arrested by warrant. Support Services and Detective personnel transported the prisoners to court, including seventeen males and three females. The females incarcerated by the department required 8 hours of matron coverage.

There were 60 phone calls and 37 calls for service involving animal control issues. Of the calls for service, twenty-five were handled by the part-time animal control officers and twelve were handled by police officers. Five animals were impounded with four being redeemed and one kept in an in-home quarantine. Cases included one rabid skunk that attacked two dogs. Animal Control Officers gave extra attention to town parks and common areas for leash law violations. Wethersfield Animal Control Officers covered for seven calls in Newington. Newington Animal Control Officers covered for three calls in Wethersfield.

Wethersfield Public Safety Dispatchers received and handled 880 E-911 emergency phone calls.

The Wethersfield Volunteer Fire Department (WVFD) was dispatched to 35 calls for service.

The Wethersfield Volunteer Ambulance (WVAA) was dispatched to 109 calls for service and Aetna Ambulance to 210 calls for service.

## **Administrative Services Bureau**

This department has responded to 64 alarms in month of December. Non-residential locations made up 30 (47%) of this total, residential alarms made up 34(53%), and State and Town government made up 0 ( 0%). The alarms received were: 52 burglar, 9 holdup / panic, and 3 fire. There currently are 1,523 alarm registrations on file after the annual purge or inactive registrations. This month, 56 locations of experienced false alarm(s); this represents a 96% compliance rate. Twelve new alarm registrations were entered this month. During this month, \$3,150 in alarm billing has occurred. There have been 126 actions performed by this unit with the CryWolf system, and 107 items of correspondence sent out.

The certified officer hiring process should conclude next month and fill the current officer vacancy. A certified dispatcher hiring process is anticipated for January as well; this will fill the vacant part time position that is utilized to provide increased staffing during peak hours.

## **Detective Division**

In November of 2013 a Wethersfield detective investigated the theft of over \$16,000 from an elderly victim, with the suspect being the victim's caregiver. The detective found that the suspect stole the victim's checks and cashed them at a local bank. The detective obtained video evidence, and also a confession. On December 16, 2013 the suspect was arrested by warrant.

*The following are the burglary and robbery statistics for the month of December 2013, along with comparative statistics for the same period of last year. The figures in the parenthesis represent the number of cases cleared by arrest, or in which the perpetrators have been identified.*

<i>Criminal Activity</i>	<i>December 2012</i>	<i>December 2013</i>
<b>Residential Burglaries:</b>	4(0)	3(0)
<b>Commercial Burglaries:</b>	0(0)	1(0)
<b>Armed Robberies:</b>	0(0)	0(0)
<b>Strong-arm Robberies:</b>	0(0)	0(0)

## **Juvenile Detective**

Wethersfield Police Department handled approximately 30 incidents, involving approximately 38 juveniles. In these incidents, 3 juveniles were arrested for criminal violations, 2 juvenile were issued infractions, 2 juveniles were diverted to parental discipline and 2 juveniles were diverted to the Town of Wethersfield Juvenile Review Board.

## **School Resource Officer**

During the month of December the SRO covered a total of twelve (12) incidents including activities at the school, which were entered into the School Cop database.

Four (4) incident reports were completed. The incident reports included the following:

- Theft of a cellular phone (2).
- Theft from a motor vehicle.
- Creating a Public Disturbance.

There were no arrests at the school during the month of December.

One student was issued a Complaint Ticket for Creating a Public Disturbance.

One student was issued a Complaint Ticket for Possession of Tobacco by a Minor.

The SRO assisted with the following issues:

- Addressed one student/parent regarding a truancy violation.
- Held mediation between two students because one student believed the other student hacked his Twitter account three years ago.
- Assisted ISS Teacher and a Vice Principal with a defiant student refusing to follow school rules.
- A Vice Principal and I addressed a student who was repeatedly leaving alarming writings in a school classroom.
- Assisted the Cromwell Police Department with a missing person case. The student was previously a Wethersfield resident and a WHS student.
- Spoke with a student at the request of his mother over her concerns about house rules and possible legal violations.

The SRO participated in the session 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.

The SRO assisted school administrator's with a fire drill.

The SRO did selective enforcement on Wolcott Hill Road for hazardous violations after receiving several complaints from the administration, faculty and citizens.

## COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Based on citizen concerns and traffic study results, officers performed selective enforcement at various locations throughout town. Officers performed selective enforcement twenty different times spending approximately 11 hours 44 minutes doing selective enforcement on various roads in town. Locations given extra attention included Highland Street, Prospect Street and Jordan Lane.

The following work orders were completed during December, 2013:

- For the Chamber of Commerce Holidays on Main Street event on December 5, 2013 barricades, cones and temporary 'No Parking' signs were placed along Main Street between Church Street and Center Street.
- On Highland Street just east of Thornbush Road, replace the Bike Path sign on the island.
- On Thornbush Road in the area of #232, install new 35 MPH speed limit sign.

## Training Division

On Tuesday December 3, 2013 Officer Joseph Baich, along with his canine, Owen, attended a one day training class entitled "**Police Canine/ Police Canine Handler Training.**" Officer Baich and Owen participated in this monthly canine training with several other area law enforcement canine teams. Training included evidence recovery and tracking.

On Wednesday, December 4, 2013, members of the **Capitol Region Emergency Services Team** (CREST,) including Lieutenant Mark Poisson, Sergeant Michael Connolly, Master Police Officers Luis Gonzalez and Officer Jeffrey Poulin began attending monthly two-day training.

On Wednesday, December 4, 2013, Detective Norberto Mendez attended a training class entitled "**The Tolland County MDT Child Abuse Conference 2013.**" This training was held at the Hartford/Windsor Marriott, Windsor, CT. The speaker at this conference spoke about Investigating Technology Facilitated Crimes Against Children.

On Thursday December 5, 2013, MPO David Gove, Detectives Robert DeRoehn and Michael Patkoske, Officer Brent Bowman, and Dispatcher Welles Hale attended a one day recertification class entitled "**NCIC/ COLLECT Recertification Training.**" Training was held at the Connecticut State Police Forensics Laboratory, Meriden, 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.

On Monday December 9, 2013, Officer Shane Murphy began attending a week long course entitled "Patrol Rifle/Shotgun Instructor." This training was held at the Manchester Police Range, Glastonbury, CT. This course will give Officer Murphy the ability to teach Rifle/Shotgun to other officers.

On Tuesday December 10, 2013 Dispatcher Karen Tomczyk attended a "**Regional Incident Dispatch (RID) Team Training Drill.**" This training was held at the Simsbury Police Department, Simsbury 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 Thursday December 12, 2013, Officer Justin Lord assisted the Connecticut Police Academy with "**Practical Skills Day**" for the 340<sup>th</sup> Training Session. Officer Lord served as a role player in exercises that put into practice the knowledge recruits have gained in the classroom under controlled conditions.

On Friday December 13, 2013, Lieutenant Donald Crabtree and Sergeant Michael Connolly assisted the Connecticut Police Academy with "**Practical Skills Day (ROCC)**" for the 338<sup>th</sup> Training Session. Lieutenant Crabtree and Sergeants Rivera and Connolly served as assistant instructors by monitoring and encouraging the recruits to complete very strenuous drills which encompass a variety of techniques they have learned during their entire time at the academy.

On Monday December 16, 2013 Detectives Michael Patkoske and Norberto Mendez, and Officers Jeffrey Poulin and Shane Murphy began attending the five day "**Capitol Region Chiefs of Police Review Training.**" This training was held at the Middletown Police Department, Middletown, CT. This forty hour class is mandatory every three years to keep officers certified in the State of Connecticut. The training encompasses a wide variety of topics including ICS training, PRAWN training, legal updates, bias crimes, patrol procedures, juvenile law and domestic violence laws.

On Thursday December 19, 2013, Officers Eric Knapp and Bridget Camara attended a one day recertification class entitled “**NCIC/ COLLECT Recertification Training.**” Training was held at the Connecticut State Police Forensics Laboratory, Meriden, 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**

Wethersfield Detectives are working with the Mid-State Narcotics Task Force, assisting with personnel and the development of active narcotic cases. Detectives are also working closely with the Drug Enforcement Agency to investigate local individuals.

The Wethersfield Police Cadets will participate in practical skills training, “Building Searches & SWAT” during the month of January.

**“Capital Region Police Recertification – Supervisor Program”** will begin in January 2014 at the Wethersfield Police Department Community Room. This class will meet once per month for a total of 5 classes.

NCIC/COLLECT inquiry recertification for select department personnel is scheduled for January, 2014.

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## PERFORMANCE MEASURES

	December 2012	December 2013	YTD 2012	YTD 2013
<b>Criminal Arrests</b>				
Criminal Arrests	69	84	862	996
<b>Burglaries and Robberies</b>				
Residential Burglaries	4	3	55	34
Commercial Burglaries	0	1	13	14
Armed Robberies	0	0	1	0
Strong-Arm Robberies	0	0	7	1
<b>Family Violence Arrests</b>				
Family Violence Arrests	3	10	85	41
<b>Traffic Related</b>				
Infractions/ MV Summons	231	233	2075	2117
DUI	7	9	115	127
MV Crashes	57	50	625	750
Parking Tags	10	43	468	400
<b>Miscellaneous Activities</b>				
911 Calls	789	880	9980	10115
Alarm Responses	69	64	819	761
Records Requests	224	220	2886	2613
Prisoners Transported	13	20	185	186
Child Car Seat Installations	3	0	52	90