



# POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT

*Wethersfield*



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

## DECEMBER 2019

### SPECIAL PROJECTS / ACHIEVEMENTS / INNOVATIONS

Holiday's on Main was successful. It was discussed in an after action meeting to expand the road closure for Holidays in Main to include Main/Marsh intersection.

On December 9, 2019 an awards ceremony was held where eleven (11) officers received awards stemming from various situations from 2015-2018. Below is a list of the awards and the award recipients:

- Lt. Donald Crabtree - Lifesaving Award
- Lt. Michael Connolly - Lifesaving Award
- Det. Christopher Morris - Lifesaving Award
- Ofc. Peter McGee - Lifesaving Award
- SRO Eric Knapp - Lifesaving Award
- Det. James Darby - Lifesaving Award
- Ofc. Peter Salvatore - Medal of Merit
- Ofc. Robert Malinowski - Division Citation: Individual
- Sgt. Michael Wren - Lifesaving Award
- Ofc. Kevin Lawless - Division Citation: Individual
- Ofc. Kevin Foster - Chief's Letter of Commendation

During one of the commercial burglaries, over \$100,000 worth of equipment, including a work truck, was stolen from a locally owned business. A suspect was identified and a warrant has been issued for his arrest for this case.

The Wethersfield Police Cadets assisted with the Holiday on Main event which was scheduled on 12/05/2019. The Wethersfield Police Cadets held their Holiday gathering in the community room at Police Headquarters on 12/19/2019. During the Holiday gathering

new promotions were made within the Cadet Ranks which included two Corporals, three Sergeants, two Lieutenants and one Captain.

## **MONTHLY ACTIVITIES**

### **Patrol Division**

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

On December 20<sup>th</sup>, 2019, a citizen reported a male running through a backyard in a residential neighborhood on the north side of town. Officers responded and Officer Robert Malinowski soon after found a male matching the description provided by the citizen walking on a nearby sidewalk. Information provided by the male regarding where he was coming from was not consistent with the direction he was walking. The north side of Wethersfield had seen a recent rise in daytime residential burglaries, and due to the inconsistencies in the male's story, as well as the recent rise in daytime burglaries, Officer Malinowski looked at the soles of the boots the male was wearing and compared them to a photograph of shoe prints found at a recent residential burglary, discovering that they were consistent. Officer Malinowski then found that the male had absconded from Parole and needed to be arrested and detained for this purpose. A search of the male then revealed an iPhone in his pocket and that there were video game consoles, cameras, and a laptop visible in the openings of two bags that the male had been holding. A criminal records check of the male showed that he had a history of committing burglaries and Officer Malinowski believed it likely that the male had just committed a residential burglary. Detective Christopher Morris soon after assisted and determined that the items belonged to a nearby residence, and upon summoning the owner of said residence, it was discovered that the house had been burglarized in the minutes/hours before Officer Malinowski stopped the male and that all items the male was in possession of belonged to the burglarized residence. The male was arrested for burglarizing the Wethersfield residence and was soon after turned over to Parole Officers and brought back to prison. There were a total of five residential burglaries between 11/21/2019 and 12/20/2019 and as of this writing in January of 2020, there has not been another reported residential burglary. The male arrested by Officer Malinowski is a suspect in the residential burglaries that occurred between 11/21/2019 and 12/20/2019.

On December 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019, officers responded to a residence in Wethersfield on the report of a male who had a gun to his head. Upon responding to the scene, Officers took various perimeter positions so that the four different sides of the residence could be observed in case the male exited. Four family members who had been inside with the male ran from the house and were escorted to safety by officers. Through phone calls, the male repeatedly said he was going to kill himself, and mentioned more than one time that he wanted to commit suicide by cop through coming outside with his gun and having the police shoot him. The C.R.E.S.T. Regional S.W.A.T. team was activated and C.R.E.S.T. officers replaced Wethersfield PD officers on perimeter positions while Wethersfield PD officers began blocking streets and intersections around the incident. Wethersfield PD Dispatch sent a neighborhood wide phone/text message to the residents of the neighborhood surrounding Harlow's residence requesting that they shelter in place and stay in their basements, away from windows. Based on radio transmissions from C.R.E.S.T. officers, the male was seen exiting the rear of the residence with a gun in the waistband of his pants, and soon after

exited the front of the residence while holding a handgun in one of his hands. He reportedly began walking away from the residence with the gun in his hand before going back inside. Soon after, the male exited the residence and was handcuffed and detained by C.R.E.S.T. officers without incident or injury to anyone. The incident lasted just over four hours.

## **Support Services Bureau**

5 males and 1 female were transported to court throughout the month.

There were 64 phone calls and 28 calls for service involving animal control issues. Wethersfield Animal Control Officers covered for 1 call in Newington, Newington Animal Control Officers covered for two calls in Wethersfield, and police officers covered for 19 calls. No dog licenses were obtained. There were 28 impounds this month: 2, and 25 sold as pets, 1 carry over from the ongoing animal abuse criminal case, 1 dog vs human bite, 1 dog vs dog bite, and 1 cat vs human (owners own cat). The incident synopsis for the month is: 3 wildlife complaints (Geese, raccoon, turtles, etc.), 25 dog/cat cases (roaming, barking, left in cars, etc.), and 2 warnings issued for unlicensed dogs.

- Eser Case continues. ACO Monde spent the greater part of Dec 6, 7, and 8th preparing for the hearing of the civil court case gathering critical information requested by the attorneys. ACO Monde met with attorneys on 12/9/2019 prior to the beginning of the hearing on 12/10/2019 that went on through 12/11/2019. Per the Judge the Town of Wethersfield won full rights and custody of the animals. All animals were adopted that same day by two private parties, and the remaining by the CT Humane Society (CHS). The defense motioned for an automatic stay and was argued and reargued on 12/23/2019. Criminal Court date for the animal neglect case is 1/10/2020.
- ACO's Santoro and Monde attended CHS University on 12/16/2019 and begun training for the new net gun that will be used to humanely capture animals if need be.
- ACO's Santoro and Monde were both called in for service 12/22/2019 and 12/25/2019, Dave and Ron were both requested on 12/11/2019 to assist in moving the Eser dogs to CHS when the court ordered ownership.

Wethersfield Public Safety Dispatchers received and handled 1039 NG911 emergency phone calls, and 2 car seats were installed this month by the WPD certified technician.

## **Administrative Services Bureau**

There are two officers in field training for the next several months, one entry level officer heading to the police academy in January, and one vacant police officer spot being filled.

## Detective Division

During the month of December 2019, members of the Detective Bureau initiated or were assigned to nineteen (19) new cases. These cases involved the following:

- 4 Frauds
- 4 Residential Burglaries
- 3 Commercial Burglaries
- 2 Suspicious Situations
- 2 Sudden Deaths
- 1 Stolen Motor Vehicle
- 2 Disorderly Conducts
- 1 Wanted Person

In the stolen motor vehicle case, detectives processed the recovered car. In doing so, items stolen from residential car break-ins from jurisdictions in three different states were located within the vehicle.

Suspects have been identified in two of the commercial burglaries with an active arrest warrant for one of the cases.

A suspect has also been identified in several residential burglary cases. This suspect was arrested by patrol officers just after the commission of a burglary.

Detectives also followed up and/or closed at least five (5) cases from the current and previous months/years.

Five (5) new background investigations for pistol permits applicants were received.

Detectives conducted one (1) background investigation for a police applicant.

The following are the burglary and robbery statistics for the month of December 2019, 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.

<b>Criminal Activity</b>	<b>December 2018</b>	<b>December 2019</b>
<b>Residential Burglaries:</b>	1 (1)	4 (3)
<b>Commercial Burglaries:</b>	0 (0)	3 (2)
<b>Armed Robberies:</b>	3 (3)	0 (0)
<b>Strong-arm Robberies:</b>	1 (1)	0 (0)

## Juvenile Detective

The Wethersfield Police Department handled approximately 36 incidents, involving approximately 45 Juveniles during the month of December 2019. In these incidents there

were 2 Juvenile Arrests/ Summons and 4 Juveniles were seen at the Wethersfield JRB/CBR Board.

## **School Resource Officer- WHS**

During the month of December the WHS SRO covered eighteen (18) incidents, including activities at the school, which were entered into the School Cop database.

There was one (1) arrest due to an incident on the school property during the month of December.

- Assault – 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree / Breach of Peace – 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree

One (1) incident report was completed. The incident report was completed for the following:

- Physical altercation in the school cafeteria serving area.

## **COMMUNITY RELATIONS**

The SSB continues to working on assisting with traffic issues around town.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Detectives continue to work on a regional basis with several different task forces in an effort to solve criminal cases throughout the area.

The Wethersfield Police Cadets will participate in practical skills training DUI during the month of January 2020.

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## PERFORMANCE MEASURES

	DEC 2018	DEC 2019	YTD 2018	YTD 2019
<b>Criminal Arrests</b>				
Criminal Arrests	52	47	770	683
<b>Burglaries and Robberies</b>				
Residential Burglaries	1	4	11	23
Commercial Burglaries	0	3	5	12
Armed Robberies	3	0	5	2
Strong-Arm Robberies	1	0	2	4
<b>Family Violence Arrests</b>				
Family Violence Arrests	-	4	-	-
<b>Traffic Related</b>				
Infractions/ MV Summons	76	72	1173	1064
DUI	6	2	86	117
MV Crashes	53	79	734	709
Parking Tags	38	38	984	619
<b>Miscellaneous Activities</b>				
911 Calls	741	1039	10115	10536
Alarm Responses	48	94	649	762
Records Requests	116	154	1500	1344
Prisoners Transported	-	6	-	-
Child Car Seat Installations	3	2	87	64