



Police Department Monthly Report



James L. Cetran
Chief of Police

February, 2011

SPECIAL PROJECTS / ACHIEVEMENTS / INNOVATIONS:

In February, 2011 the Wethersfield Police Department continued its hiring process for the position of Probationary Police Officer. The Department has two police officer vacancies. Wethersfield Police Department detectives conducted background investigations on eleven candidates who had previously been given a conditional offer of employment. It is anticipated that two candidates will be hired and we plan to have them attending the State of Connecticut Police Academy beginning in April, 2011.

On February 24, 2011 the Wethersfield Police Department, Training Unit, hosted one day of the Capital Region Police Recertification - Supervisor Program. This course was held in the WPD Community Room.

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES:

Patrol Division

Patrol Division (Cases of Interest)

On Tuesday, February 1, 2011 at approximately 10:12 PM a Wethersfield police officer conducted a traffic stop on Progress Drive, a short distance north of Wells Road (Rt. 175.) The driver of the car physically resisted the officer and struggled with the officer. The suspect became involved in a violent physical struggle with the officer. During the struggle, the suspect tried to gain access to the officer's service weapon. During the struggle the officer's weapon fell to the ground while the struggle continued. The suspect continued to be extremely violent and physically aggressive towards the officer encircling his arms around the officer's neck causing the officer to fear for his life. Both were struggling for the officer's service weapon. The officer was able to gain access to his service weapon and was compelled to discharge it at the suspect. The suspect was severely wounded. EMS responded and provided emergency care and transported the suspect to the hospital where he was pronounced dead. The officer also was injured during this violent struggle and was transported to Hartford Hospital for treatment. The incident is under investigation by the Connecticut State Police and the Wethersfield Police Department.

On Tuesday, February 22, 2011 at 8:37 PM officers were dispatched to a parking area in an apartment complex on the report of an intoxicated male. Officers were advised that a male was possibly damaging a vehicle in the lot and throwing property around. Officers observed a male subject standing next to a car hitting the roof of the car with his hands. Officers located this male, who was 20 years old. He had a full beer bottle in his pants pocket. This male was given an infractions ticket charging him with Possession of Alcohol by a Minor in a Private Location. At the conclusion of this incident, this male was advised that he should not operate a vehicle, as he was believed to be under the influence. After being released, this male did in fact

later return to his vehicle and at 11:34 PM a Wethersfield Police sergeant saw the same male subject driving a car on the Silas Deane Highway. The sergeant stopped the car and discovered it was the same male as officers had contact with earlier in the evening. After failing a battery of field tests, the male was arrested and charged with DWI.

Detective Division

In February, 2011 members of the Detective Division initiated or were assigned follow-up to nine new cases. Major case investigations included an officer-involved shooting, a threatening complaint, a fraud complaint and a larceny complaint. Detectives also continue to perform local background investigations and background investigations for pistol permit applicants.

Detective Division (Case of Interest)

On Friday, February 4, 2011 officers responded to a road rage incident in which one operator showed the other operator some type of handgun. A suspect was developed and officers responded to that person's residence. The suspect refused to cooperate with the police. Detectives were able to gather enough evidence to secure a search warrant for the suspect's vehicle and residence. A subsequent search of the vehicle revealed no weapons, however a small amount of heroin was found. Detectives and officers searched the home and found an airsoft gun and a bb gun both of which looked like real handguns. Also found in the residence was a small amount of marijuana and assorted smoking devices. The suspect was arrested for the threatening and narcotics related charges.

Juvenile Unit

In February, 2011 the Wethersfield Police Department, Juvenile Unit handled twenty-four incidents involving thirty-two juveniles. In these incidents, two juveniles were arrested for criminal violations, one was diverted to school punishment and one was diverted to parental punishment.

In February, 2011 the Wethersfield Police Explorers conducted practical training on the subject of DUI investigations.

On February 16, 2011 the juvenile detective and an officer presented a bullying awareness program to the parents of elementary and middle school students. The program was produced in cooperation with the Wethersfield Board of Education and the administrators of the elementary schools. Approximately thirty parents attended. Several positive comments were made regarding the program.

School Resource Officer

In February, 2011 the School Resource Officer (SRO) assigned to the Wethersfield High School (WHS) reported covering fourteen incidents which were entered into the School Cop Database. These incidents resulted in four case numbers and one incident report.

The SRO investigated a found property complaint which resulted in the returning of an Apple iPod Touch to its rightful owner. The SRO also assisted an officer with a threatening complaint and assisted a second officer with a motor vehicle complaint involving a WHS student.

WHS school administrators and the SRO held several mediations with students involving issues such as disputes involving dating relationships.

The SRO also participated in a senior English class discussion on ethics and values to include being

interviewed by these same students.

The WHS was not in session from February 21, 2011 through February 25, 2011 due to winter break vacation.

Support Services Bureau

In February, 2011 Wethersfield Communications Unit personnel dispatched the Wethersfield Volunteer Ambulance to 77 medical emergencies and Aetna Ambulance to 217 medical emergencies for a total of 294 medical emergencies.

In February, 2011 Wethersfield Communications Unit personnel dispatched the Wethersfield Volunteer Fire Department to sixty-four calls for service.

In February, 2011 there were sixty-one calls involving animal control issues. Of those calls, forty-two were handled by a part-time animal control officer and nineteen were handled by police officers.

In February, 2011 eleven persons were taken into custody and held requiring 120 hours of incarceration. Of the persons held, nine were arrested by warrant. Support Services personnel transported the eleven prisoners to court to include six males and five females. Also, during the month Support Services personnel processed twenty-one arrestees.

The Support Services Bureau Commander continues to receive requests for added or replacement street signs. In February, 2011 temporary 'No Parking' signs were installed on and around Greenfield Street for the annual UNICO Macaroni Dinner held at the Community Center on Sunday, February 13, 2011.

Support Services Bureau, Training Unit

On Thursday, February 3, 2011 five members of the Capitol Region Emergency Services Team (CREST), attended monthly two-day SWAT training.

On Monday February 7, 2011 an officer attended a class entitled "Responding to Situations Involving People with Mental Illness." Training was held at the Connecticut Police Academy, Meriden, CT. Course objectives included what a police officer should do, as a first responder, with persons believed to be suffering from a mental illness.

On Tuesday February 8, 2011 a sergeant attended a one day training class entitled "Ethical Decision Making and Performance Management." This training was held at the Connecticut Police Academy, Meriden, CT. Objectives of this course included recognition of incidents and root causes, decision implementation, documentation and record consideration. Objectives also included understanding performance evaluations, auditing their process and strategies for continuous improvement.

On Wednesday, February 9, 2011 a dispatcher attended a "Regional Incident Dispatch (RID) Meeting." This training was held at the Rocky Hill Police Department, Rocky Hill, 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 Monday, February 14, 2011 a sergeant began attending the five day "Capitol Region Police Recertification - Supervisor Program." This training was held at the Manchester Police Department, Manchester, 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 training including legal updates, bias crimes, patrol procedures, juvenile law and domestic violence laws. This particular training class was designed specifically

for police supervisors.

On Wednesday February 23, 2011 a detective began attending "Basic Cell Telephone Investigations Training." Course topics include gaining proper techniques in requesting search warrants and obtaining and processing the information needed for a quality investigation.

On Thursday, February 24, 2011 a lieutenant attended the "Capital Region Police Recertification - Supervisor Program." This training was held in the Wethersfield Police Department Community Room. This training is mandatory every three years and is open only to supervisory personnel. The training this month was on the topics of bias, sexual harassment and labor relations. This training is held once per month concluding in May, 2011.

On Monday February 28, 2011 a detective began attending "Financial Records Examination and Analysis Training." Course topics include gaining proper techniques in reviewing bank statements / reports and reviewing financial data in white collar / money laundering type cases.

Administrative Services Bureau

In February, 2011 police personnel responded to seventy police related alarms to include sixty-four burglar alarms and six hold-up/ panic alarms. Locations included thirty-two residential alarms, thirty-four non-residential alarms and four state/ town government alarms. A total of 1,470 alarm permits are currently on file with the Police Department. During the month, fifty-four locations experienced a false alarm resulting in a 96% compliance rate. This month there were 109 items of correspondence sent in connection with billing, registration and false alarm violations with \$ 2,125 in alarm billing.

As of February 27, 2011 the Wethersfield Police Department has expended \$295,696.40 on overtime. This is equivalent to 72.60% of the Department's total budgeted overtime.

In February, 2010 eighty-four shifts were staffed with no shifts staffed below minimum or critical staffing levels.

As of February 28, 2011 the Department has two Probationary Police Officer vacancies. A hiring process to fill these two vacancies is under way and was previously mentioned in this report. The Department also has a part-time Animal Control Officer vacancy. A review of applications was completed and interviews conducted. Finally, the Department currently has two sworn officers assigned to light duty and a third officer assigned to administrative duty.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

In February, 2011 several complaints had been received regarding parking and traffic issues in and around Webb Elementary School. Officers responded to the school six times and spent approximately 2 hours 58 minutes enforcing parking violations and advising parents. This has been an ongoing problem. Several employees from the Town of Wethersfield and the Board of Education met to propose solutions to the problem. Several also attended a PTO meeting to listen to the parents' complaints and try to work out a solution. A second meeting with the Town and Board of Education staff was conducted and it was agreed that the school would change its' dismissal procedure and advise staff not to park on the south side in an attempt to alleviate some of the problems.

Parking and traffic issues in and around Charles Wright School continue. Officers responded to the school three times and spent approximately 37 minutes enforcing parking violations and advising parents.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Annual CPR/ AED, Airborne/ Bloodborne Pathogen and First Aid training is scheduled for March and April, 2011.

A dispatch class entitled "911 Liability" will be held in the WPD Community Room on March 17, 2011.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

	February 2010	February 2011	YTD 2010	YTD 2011
Criminal Arrests				
Criminal Arrests	50	61	106	122
Burglaries and Robberies				
Residential Burglaries	2	0	5	3
Commercial Burglaries	0	0	0	0
Armed Robberies	0	0	0	0
Strong-Arm Robberies	0	0	1	1
Family Violence Arrests				
Family Violence Arrests	15	12	15	15
Traffic Related				
Infractions/ MV Summons	163	147	369	325
DUI	7	11	21	22
MV Accidents	52	67	108	133
Parking Tags	172	21	474	80
Miscellaneous Activities				
911 Calls	683	842	1402	1604
Alarm Responses	52	70	110	122
Records Requests	n/a	239	n/a	469
Prisoners Transported	11	11	22	19
Child Car Seat Installations	4	9	10	17