



Police Department Monthly Report



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Chief of Police

February, 2012

SPECIAL PROJECTS / ACHIEVEMENTS / INNOVATIONS:

The Wethersfield Police Department, Training Unit, hosted a one day course entitled "Powerphone's Law Enforcement Dispatch" on February 2, 2012. This course was held in the WPD Community Room.

The Wethersfield Police Department, Training Unit, hosted one day of the Capital Region Police Recertification - Supervisor Program on Thursday, February 16, 2012. This course was held in the WPD Community Room.

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES:

Patrol Division

Patrol Division (Cases of Interest)

On Tuesday February 7, 2012 at 10:48 AM an officer was dispatched to a retail store on the Berlin Turnpike for a report of a shoplifting that had just occurred. Dispatch reported that the suspect was fleeing the scene in a green SUV east on Jordan Lane. An officer saw the suspect vehicle driving east on Jordan Lane and then make a left turn onto the Silas Deane Highway. The suspect vehicle then drove onto the Route 5/15 highway and continued north. The vehicle continued north on Rt. 5/15 now disregarding the officers attempts to stop the car. The officer terminated the pursuit and did not continue to try to stop the car. Store employees reported seeing the car's passenger leave the store with numerous clothing items in his arms causing the security sensor alarm to sound. The total value of the stolen items was \$ 584.91. This case remains under investigation.

On Friday February 10, 2012 at 2:23 PM several officers were dispatched to the Department of Motor Vehicles, 60 State Street, for a report of a woman shouting threatening statements. Arriving officers located the woman on the west side of the building adjacent to State Street. A witness told officers that he saw the woman banging on the door and using profanity. When the woman was told that DMV was closed she became more angry and said she was going to call her brother to come down and he would "shoot this place up." The witness called police because her statement of threats concerned him. When questioned by police, the woman said that the DMV was not letting her in to renew her license. The woman was told that DMV was closed because of the upcoming holiday. When asked about threatening statements, she denied making any. The female was arrested and transported to Police Headquarters. She was processed and charged with Breach of Peace Second Degree and Threatening Second Degree and was released on bond. She was scheduled to appear at GA 15 in New Britain on February 24, 2012.

Detective Division

In February, 2012 members of the Detective Bureau initiated or were assigned follow up to twenty-four new cases. The major case investigations involved two burglaries, five larceny complaints and three fraud / identity theft complaints. Detectives also continue to perform town background investigations and backgrounds for pistol permits applicants.

Juvenile Unit

In February, 2012 the Juvenile Unit handled thirty-two incidents involving thirty-five juveniles. In these incidents, five juveniles were arrested for criminal violations, five were diverted to school punishment and six were diverted to parental punishment.

In February, 2012 the Wethersfield Police Explorers conducted practical training involving officer safety and the investigation of assaults. In the upcoming months the Explorers will continue their practical training regimen focusing on search and seizure, suspicious persons, suspected shots fired calls and DUI investigations.

School Resource Officer

In February, 2012 the School Resource Officer (SRO) assigned to the Wethersfield High School (WHS) reported covering fifteen incidents which were entered into the School Cop Database. These incidents resulted in five case numbers, four case reports, one supplemental report and one accident report. The SRO investigated two larceny complaints and one evading motor vehicle accident complaint.

The SRO, along with WHS school administrators, held mediations with students over disputes and defiance issues. The SRO also assisted with several truancy issues at the school.

The SRO attended the Freshman Experience Health Class and spoke with the students in regards to the SRO's role at WHS.

The SRO attended STARS meetings on Fridays during the month of February pertaining to at risk students. Finally, the SRO also participated in the Town of Wethersfield's Juvenile Review Board (JRB) in which juveniles who reside in town are diverted from the Juvenile Justice System to JRB.

Support Services Bureau

In February, 2012 Wethersfield Volunteer Fire Department personnel were dispatched to thirty-five calls for service.

In February, 2012 there were eighty-four calls involving animal control issues. Of those calls, seventy-four were handled by the part-time animal control officers and ten were handled by police officers. Three animals were impounded with two being redeemed. Cases included one dog bite.

In February, 2012 Wethersfield Volunteer Ambulance (WVAA) personnel were dispatched to seventy-nine medical emergencies and Aetna Ambulance to 182 medical emergencies for a total of 261 medical emergencies.

In February, 2012 seventeen persons were taken into custody and held requiring 251 hours of incarceration. Of the persons held, fourteen were arrested by warrant.

In February, 2012 Wethersfield Police Department Child Seat Technicians inspected/installed eight child seats. SSB receives requests via the WPD web site as well as phone messages.

In February, 2012 the Wethersfield Police CVSA (Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance) certified officer conducted three level one commercial motor vehicle inspections which resulted in the discovery of seven violations.

In February, 2012 Support Service Bureau officers covered for patrol vacancies on one shift.

The Support Services Bureau Commander continues to receive requests for added or replacement road signs. Work orders completed in February, 2012 included placing temporary signs in the area of the Wethersfield Community Center in support of the UNICO Macaroni Dinner, removing the 25 MPH speed limit sign in front of 88 Highcrest Road and reinstalling the sign on Highcrest Road near Cedarwood Drive, replacing the current stop sign and pole on Cedarwood Drive at its intersection of Highcrest Road and replacing the School Crossing Assembly sign across from 196 Highcrest Road.

Support Services Bureau, Training Unit

On Thursday, February 2, 2012 a dispatcher attended "Law Enforcement Dispatch." This training, instructed by Powerphone, Inc., was hosted by the Wethersfield Police Department Training Unit and held in the WPD Community Room. Training topics included updating users on the latest public safety dispatch techniques. By hosting this course, this Department saved \$210.00 in tuition costs.

On Thursday, February 2, 2012 six members of the Capitol Region Emergency Services Team (CREST) began attending monthly two-day SWAT training.

On Monday, February 7, 2012 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 include what a police officer should do, as a first responder, with persons believed to be suffering from a mental illness.

On Tuesday February 14, 2012 an officer, who is a member of the CREST team, attended a monthly one day training class entitled "Explosive Breaching School." This training included updates to explosives used by SWAT teams in breaching buildings.

On Tuesday February 14, and Tuesday February 28, 2012 a canine officer, along with his canine, Owen, attended a training class entitled "Police Canine/ Police Canine Handler Training." The canine officer participated in this monthly canine training with several other area law enforcement canine teams. Training included evidence recovery and tracking.

On Thursday February 16, 2012 a dispatcher attended a course entitled "COLLECT V2 Release." This training was held at the Connecticut State Police Headquarters, Middletown, CT. Course topics included updates on the latest version of COLLECT.

On Wednesday, February 23, 2012 a dispatcher attended "Incident Management Team (IMT) Training." This training was held at the Regional Communications Center, Manchester CT. The IMT Team is designed to provide personnel that are trained and organized to support emergency response and recovery efforts in the event of a large crisis, man-made or natural disaster.

On Thursday, February 16, 2012 a lieutenant and a sergeant 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, 2012.

Administrative Services Bureau

In February, 2012 police personnel responded to fifty-seven police related alarms to include fifty-two burglar alarms and five hold-up/panic alarms. Locations included thirty-three residential alarms, twenty-one non-residential alarms and three State and Town government alarms. A total of 1,570 alarm permits are currently on file with the Police Department. During the month, fifty-two locations experienced a false alarm resulting in a 96% monthly compliance rate. This month there were seventy-three items of correspondence sent in connection with billing, registration and false alarm violations with \$ 950 in alarm billing.

As of February 26, 2012 the Wethersfield Police Department has expended \$320,351 on overtime this fiscal year. This is equivalent to 71.2% of the Department's total budgeted overtime for this fiscal year. In February, 2012 eighty-seven shifts were staffed with no shifts staffed below critical staffing levels.

As of February 29, 2012 the Department has no police officer vacancies and is at its authorized strength of forty-seven sworn officers. Finally, as of February 29, 2012 the Department has four officers assigned to light duty.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Support Services Bureau officers continue to address citizen complaints involving traffic, parking violations and other motor vehicle violations. Citizens regularly complain of a variety of different violations on various town streets and at several town schools. To address these complaints, officers performed selective enforcement at numerous locations throughout town. In February, 2012 officers performed selective enforcement twenty-five different times and spent approximately twenty hours doing selective enforcement on these identified roads.

Several traffic studies were completed in February, 2012 to include traffic studies on Wells Road, Highcrest Road, Main Street, Thornbush Road and Garden Street.

A traffic study on Wells Road in the area of 523 Wells Road was initiated and completed utilizing a speed monitoring device for five days. The speed limit in this area is posted at 40 MPH, with a change to 25 MPH during the opening and closing hours of Emerson Williams Elementary School. During the 95.5 survey hours 16,541 cars were recorded averaging 173 cars per hour. Results from the speed monitoring device showed an average speed of approximately 35.5 MPH, the 50th percentile speed of 36 MPH, the 85th percentile speed of approximately 40 MPH and a top speed of 60 MPH.

A traffic study on Highcrest Road in the area of the Highcrest Elementary School was initiated and completed utilizing a speed monitoring device for eight days. The speed limit in this area is posted at 25 MPH which changes to 30 MPH approximately 1/10 mile south on Highcrest Road. During the 171.5 survey hours 9,681 cars were recorded averaging 58 cars per hour. Results from the speed monitoring device showed an average speed of approximately 28.7 MPH, the 50th percentile speed of 30 MPH, the 85th percentile speed of approximately 38.5 MPH and a top speed of 66 MPH.

A traffic study on Main Street in the area of 350 Main Street was initiated and completed utilizing a speed monitoring device for five days. The speed limit in this area is posted at 30 MPH. During the 91.25 survey hours 9,190 cars were recorded averaging 101 cars per hour. Results from the speed monitoring device showed an average speed of approximately 32.2 MPH, the 50th percentile speed of 32 MPH, the 85th percentile speed of approximately 37 MPH and a top speed of 54 MPH.

A traffic study on Thornbush Road in the area Baneberry Lane was initiated and completed utilizing a speed monitoring device for five days. The speed limit in this area is posted at 35 MPH. During the 95 survey hours 11,814 cars were recorded averaging 124 cars per hour. Results from the speed monitoring device showed an average speed of approximately 38.7 MPH, the 50th percentile speed of 39 MPH, the 85th percentile speed of approximately 44 MPH and a top speed of 67 MPH.

A traffic study on Garden Street in the area of Mikey's Place was initiated and completed utilizing a speed monitoring device for eleven days. The speed limit in this area is posted at 25 MPH. During the 247.75 survey hours 27,944 cars were recorded averaging 113 cars per hour. Results from the speed monitoring device showed an average speed of approximately 24.8 MPH, the 50th percentile speed of 25.5 MPH, the 85th percentile speed of approximately 33 MPH and a top speed of 63 MPH.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Annual CPR/ AED, Airborne/ Bloodborne Pathogen and First Aid training is scheduled for March and April 2012.

The Wethersfield Police Department continues to prepare for an on-site inspection conducted by members of the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). This inspection is scheduled for April 9–12, 2012.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

	February 2011	February 2012	YTD 2011	YTD 2012
Criminal Arrests				
Criminal Arrests	61	89	122	148
Burglaries and Robberies				
Residential Burglaries	0	1	3	5
Commercial Burglaries	0	1	0	5
Armed Robberies	0	0	0	0
Strong-Arm Robberies	0	0	1	2
Family Violence Arrests				
Family Violence Arrests	12	7	15	14
Traffic Related				
Infractions/ MV Summons	147	200	325	398
DUI	11	19	22	26
MV Crashes	67	41	133	95
Parking Tags	21	17	80	36

Miscellaneous Activities				
911 Calls	842	731	1604	1521
Alarm Responses	70	57	122	121
Records Requests	239	230	469	421
Prisoners Transported	11	17	19	25
Child Car Seat Installations	9	8	17	12