



# Police Department Monthly Report



*James L. Cetran*  
Chief of Police

**January, 2012**

## **SPECIAL PROJECTS / ACHIEVEMENTS / INNOVATIONS:**

The Wethersfield Police Department, Training Unit, hosted one day of the Capital Region Police Recertification - Supervisor Program on Thursday, January 19, 2012. This course was held in the WPD Community Room.

## **MONTHLY ACTIVITIES:**

### **Patrol Division**

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

On Friday, January 6, 2012 at approximately 8:06 PM an officer was dispatched to a home on Yale Street on the report of a mailbox fire. The homeowner told the officer that someone had placed a fire work device in the mailbox and ignited it. The fire work proceeded to light the black, plastic mailbox on fire. The homeowner was able to extinguish the small fire however the fire melted the entire back side of the mailbox. The homeowner was unable to identify who had put the fire work into the mailbox. Earlier in the same night, the officer was dispatched to a home on Spruce Street for the same kind of complaint. The Spruce Street homeowner witnessed a vehicle drive to the mailbox and an occupant of the vehicle get out and place a fire work into the mailbox. The fire work went off as the vehicle drove away. The homeowner stated that there were two males in the vehicle. The mailbox did not suffer any permanent damage. A search of the area was negative for a vehicle matching the description given. This case remains under investigation.

On Saturday, January 14, 2012 at approximately 10:14 PM an officer was dispatched to Police Headquarters for a reported robbery complaint. The victim, a pizza delivery person, told an officer that about a half an hour earlier a group of young males took his pizza and tip money when he tried to deliver to a home on Lancaster Road in Wethersfield. The victim told the officer that he was delivering a pizza order on Lancaster Road when a young black male approached his passenger's side window and said that the delivery location that he was looking for was over there, at which time he pointed across the way. As the victim was walking to the delivery location, he heard someone trying to open his car door and saw a different young black male attempting to get into his car. This second black male then approached the victim at which time the original individual grabbed the pizza bag out of the victim's hands and the money that was in his other hand and said "Run!" All of suspects ran towards a brick building across the street. The victim left immediately and returned to work, then came to the Police Department to make the report. The victim was not injured. The total of items taken was around \$100.00. Detectives continue to investigate several leads in this case.

## **Detective Division**

In January, 2012 members of the Detective Bureau initiated or were assigned follow up to approximately twenty-five new cases. Major case investigations included eight burglaries, one forgery complaint, one sexual assault case, two robberies and four fraud / identity theft cases. Detectives also continue to perform town background investigations and backgrounds for pistol permits applicants.

### **School Resource Officer**

In January, 2012 the School Resource Officer (SRO) assigned to the Wethersfield High School (WHS) reported covering eighteen incidents which were entered into the School Cop Database. These incidents resulted in nine case numbers, five case reports and three supplemental reports. Two arrest warrants were also prepared. There were four arrests at WHS during the month which included one arrest for Breach of Peace Second Degree, one arrest for Assault on a Police Officer, Interfering with a Police Officer, Breach of Peace Second Degree and two arrests for Breach of Peace Second Degree.

The SRO also investigated a larceny complaint and a found property complaint.

The SRO also assisted school administrators with several mediations involving dating relationships, social media issues and general disputes. The SRO also assisted WHS administration and Silas Deane Middle School staff with truancy issues.

In January, 2012 the SRO attended and participated in two separate expulsion hearings for WHS students.

The SRO also attended STARS/SRBI meetings on Fridays during the month. These meetings assist at risk students.

In January, 2012 the SRO also attended Wethersfield Juvenile Review Board meetings for juveniles that are referred to the board diverting them from the juvenile justice system.

Finally, the SRO also spoke to a WHS Civics class in regards to criminal and motor vehicle law.

## **Support Services Bureau**

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

In January, 2012 there were 103 calls involving animal control issues. Of those calls, eighty-six were handled by the part-time animal control officers and seventeen were handled by police officers. Seven animals were impounded with three being redeemed. Cases included one roaming dog that walked over and ruined a homeowner's pool cover. The animal control officers have been giving extra attention to various town parks, including Millwoods Park, Cove Park and Cedar Street Playground for owners that are allowing their dogs off leash and failing to control the dogs properly.

In January, 2012 Wethersfield Volunteer Ambulance (WVAA) personnel were dispatched to seventy-two medical emergencies and Aetna Ambulance to 220 medical emergencies for a total of 292 medical emergencies.

In January, 2012 eight persons were taken into custody and held requiring 90 hours of incarceration. Of the persons held, seven were arrested by warrant.

In January, 2012 Wethersfield Police Department Child Seat Technicians inspected/installed four child seats.

SSB receives requests via the WPD web site as well as phone messages.

In January, 2012 the Wethersfield Police CVSA (Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance) certified officer conducted six level 1 commercial motor vehicle inspections resulting in finding thirteen violations and one vehicle being taken out-of-service due to the seriousness of the violation(s).

In January, 2012 Support Service Bureau officers covered for patrol vacancies on seven shifts.

### **Support Services Bureau, Training Unit**

On Wednesday, January 4, 2012 members of the Capitol Region Emergency Services Team (CREST) began attending monthly two-day training.

On Thursday, January 12, 2012 a sergeant, four officers and two dispatchers 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 Thursday, January 12, 2012 a sergeant assisted the Connecticut Police Academy with "Practical Skills Day (ROCC)" for the 334th Training Session. The sergeant served as an assistant instructor 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 Tuesday January 17, 2012 a canine officer, along with his canine, Owen, attended a one day training class entitled "Police Canine/ Police Canine Handler Training." The canine officer and Owen participated in this monthly canine training with several other area law enforcement canine teams. Training included evidence recovery and tracking

On Thursday, January 19, 2012 a lieutenant and a sergeant attended "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 Sexual Violence, Domestic Violence and Criminal Law Update. This training is held once per month concluding in May, 2012.

On Monday January 23, 2012 two officers began attending the five day "Capital Region Police Officer Recertification 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 legal updates, bias crimes, patrol procedures, emotionally disturbed persons, suicide prevention, juvenile law and domestic violence laws.

On Tuesday, January 31, 2012 a canine sergeant and Narcotic Canine Elaine began attending a three day training class entitled "Narcotics Detection Canine In-Service Training." The sergeant and Canine Elaine attended training at the Connecticut State Police Training Unit, Meriden, CT. This in-service training is conducted quarterly in order to maintain certification through the Connecticut State Police.

### **Administrative Services Bureau**

In January, 2012 police personnel responded to sixty-four police related alarms to include sixty-one burglar alarms and three hold-up/ panic alarms. Locations included twenty-five residential alarms, thirty-one non-residential alarms and eight State and Town government alarms. A total of 1,566 alarm permits are currently on file with the Police Department. During the month, fifty-one locations experienced a false alarm resulting in a 96% compliance rate. This month there were ninety items of correspondence sent in connection with

billing, registration and false alarm violations with \$ 2,350 in alarm billing.

As of January 31, 2012 the Wethersfield Police Department has expended \$290,508 on overtime this fiscal year. This is equivalent to 64.6% of the Department's total budgeted overtime for this fiscal year. In January, 2012 ninety-three shifts were staffed with no shifts staffed below critical staffing levels.

As of January 31, 2012 the Department has no police officer vacancies and is at its authorized strength of forty-seven sworn officers. Finally, as of January 31, 2012 the Department has two 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 January, 2012 officers performed selective enforcement nine different times and spent approximately 8.15 hours doing selective enforcement on these identified roads.

Several traffic studies were completed in January, 2012 to include traffic studies on Maple Street near Meadowgate Road, Willow Street and Morrison Avenue.

To assist with traffic issues during a major sewer project on Maple Street near Meadowgate Road, a traffic study in the area of 562 Maple Street was initiated and completed utilizing a speed monitoring device for ten days. During the 194 survey hours, 37,035 cars were recorded, averaging 190 cars per hour. Results from the speed monitoring device showed an average speed of approximately 38.8 MPH, the 50th percentile speed of 39 MPH, the 85th percentile speed of approximately 44 MPH and a top speed of 90 MPH.

A traffic study was completed in the area of 138 Willow Street. A speed monitoring device was used in the area for four days. During the 71.5 survey hours, 4,031 cars were recorded, averaging fifty-six cars per hour. Results from the speed monitoring device showed an average speed of approximately 37.3 MPH, the 50th percentile speed of 37 MPH, the 85th percentile speed of approximately 43 MPH and a top speed of 57 MPH.

A traffic study was initiated on Morrison Avenue and completed utilizing a speed monitoring device for eleven days. During the 243.25 survey hours, 7,016 cars were recorded, averaging 29 cars per hour. Results from the speed monitoring device showed an average speed of approximately 22.2 MPH, the 50th percentile speed of 22 MPH, the 85th percentile speed of approximately 29 MPH and a top speed of 52 MPH.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

NCIC/COLLECT inquiry recertification for select department personnel is scheduled for February, 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:**

	<b>January 2011</b>	<b>January 2012</b>	<b>YTD 2011</b>	<b>YTD 2012</b>

<b>Criminal Arrests</b>				
Criminal Arrests	61	59	61	59
<b>Burglaries and Robberies</b>				
Residential Burglaries	3	4	3	4
Commercial Burglaries	0	4	0	4
Armed Robberies	0	0	0	0
Strong-Arm Robberies	1	2	1	2
<b>Family Violence Arrests</b>				
Family Violence Arrests	3	7	3	7
<b>Traffic Related</b>				
Infractions/ MV Summons	178	198	178	198
DUI	11	7	11	7
MV Crashes	66	54	66	54
Parking Tags	59	19	59	19
<b>Miscellaneous Activities</b>				
911 Calls	762	790	762	790
Alarm Responses	52	64	52	64
Records Requests	230	191	230	191
Prisoners Transported	8	8	8	8
Child Car Seat Installations	8	4	8	4