



# Police Department Monthly Report



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Chief of Police

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

In compliance with state law, the quarterly E-911 total call count report was provided to the State of Connecticut Department of Public Safety Office of Statewide Emergency Telecommunications. For the quarter April 1, 2012 to June 30, 2012 Wethersfield Police Dispatchers handled 2,655 E-911 calls. Year-to-date E-911 total call count is 4,959 calls.

The police explorer program conducted its annual traffic direction training/review in preparation for the summer.

During the month of May 2012, members of the Detective Bureau initiated or were assigned follow up to approximately twenty (20) new cases. The major case investigations involved, three (3) burglaries, one (1) sexual assault, four (1) robberies and five (5) fraud / identity theft cases. Detectives also continue to perform town background investigations and backgrounds for pistol permit applicants.

The Wethersfield Police Department, Training Unit, hosted a one day Powerphone Dispatch course on Wednesday, June 13, 2012. This course was held in the WPD Community Room. Due to hosting the course, the Wethersfield Police Department was able to send one officer and three dispatchers at no cost.

## **MONTHLY ACTIVITIES:**

### **Patrol Division**

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

On June 3, 2012 at 9:50 PM officers were dispatched to a commercial business on Wolcott Hill Road on the report of a customer that was the victim of a strong-arm robbery. The male victim reported that he was robbed by two males while walking to work. The victim stated that one of the males had punched him in the face and stole his wallet, cell phone, and iPod touch mp3 player. The officer noticed that the victim's left cheek was swollen and slightly bruised. The victim reported that the robbery happened on Wolcott Hill Road just south of the Hartford town line. The victim described the suspects as two (2) black males in their early 20s, 5'9", thin build. One male was wearing a black t-shirt with tan khakis. The second male was wearing a blue hooded sweatshirt, a dark colored baseball cap, and dark pants. Several of the items that were stolen were recovered. The only items reported stolen were the iPod Touch, cell phone, wallet and a small amount of cash. Numerous officers searched the area, but with negative results.

On June 10, 2012 at 2:42 AM an officer was driving north on Wolcott Hill Road near Judd Road when he was

approached by a black male who appeared flustered and out of breath. This male reported to the officer that he had just been robbed. The victim explained that he was walking south on the sidewalk in front of the Department of Corrections located at 24 Wolcott Hill Road when he heard footsteps behind him and when he looked back he saw three people following him so he began to walk faster. Three (3) males ran after him and caught him on the street between Judd Road and Saxon Road. The victim saw 2 black males and 1 Hispanic male standing over him. Both of the black males were wearing handkerchiefs over their faces, one red and one white and one of the black males was holding what appeared to be a beer bottle and yelled at him to hand over all of his jewelry. The victim said he took off his jewelry and handed them to the black male who then said, "And give me your wallet." He then gave his wallet to the black male who then ran off with the other two males through people's yards in a westerly direction. After they ran off he flagged down the officer. Numerous officers searched the area, but with negative results.

On June 11, 2012 at 6:43 PM several officers were dispatched to the area of Goodwin Park Road on the report of a strong arm robbery. The officer located the victim (a juvenile) on Goodwin Park Road. The victim was upset and explained that he was approached by three Hispanic males, two on bicycles and one on foot. One of the Hispanic male asked to see the victim's headphones. When the victim refused to show them to him, the Hispanic male said something to him, and then struck him in the right side of his jaw. The victim stated that he then stood up and ran into a back yard in an effort to get away from the three males. The victim stated that the Hispanic male then caught up to him, so he handed over his headphones and Android phone. Numerous officers searched the area, but with negative results.

Officers are investigating whether these robberies could be related.

## **Detective Division**

Wethersfield Detectives are investigating three separate street robberies which all occurred near the Hartford line. The victims reported that they were walking in Hartford and followed into Wethersfield by several young males. All three had various possessions stolen from them by these young males. The suspects punched one of the victims and threatened to assault the other two. There was no serious injury reported.

Wethersfield Detectives continue to investigate a robbery in which an elderly female resident was followed from Stop and Shop in Rocky Hill to her Wethersfield residence. A black male exited his car and approached the female who was now in her garage. He showed a handgun and demanded her money, threatening to shoot her if she did not comply. The suspect took the victim's purse and took all her money out. The suspect then closed the garage door and fled in a white Chrysler 300. This case is similar to two other robberies which occurred in New Britain and Berlin. Wethersfield detectives are working with various agencies to solve these crimes.

## **Juvenile Unit**

The Wethersfield Police Department handled approximately 37 incidents, involving approximately 53 juveniles. In these incidents, no juveniles were arrested for criminal violations, 11 were diverted to parental punishment, while 3 were diverted to school based punishment.

## **School Resource Officer**

During the month of June the SRO covered a total of 10 incidents including activities at the school, which were entered into the School Cop Database. Of these incidents, 4 case numbers were pulled.

The SRO investigated an incident involving a juvenile with mental health issues in regards to a possible hazard at the juvenile's home.

The School Administrators and the SRO held several mediations with students over disputes and defiance issues.

The SRO attended two civic classes and spoke to students in regards to ethics and values. The SRO attended a Career Prep class with Detective Demonte and they spoke to students about a career in law enforcement as well as specialized units found in a law enforcement career.

The SRO attended STARS meetings on Fridays during the month of June pertaining to at risk students at WHS.

The SRO also participated in the Town of Wethersfield Juvenile Review Board which juveniles who reside in town are deferred from the Juvenile Justice System to our board.

The SRO participated as a chaperone at the Wethersfield High School Senior Prom.

The SRO also attended the 2012 Wethersfield High School Graduation.

### **Support Services Bureau**

Wethersfield Police Department Child Seat Technicians inspected/installed eight (8) child seats.

Wethersfield Public Safety Dispatchers received and handled 897 E-911 emergency phone calls.

The Wethersfield Volunteer Fire Department (WVFD) was dispatched to 36 calls for service.

The Wethersfield Volunteer Ambulance (WVAA) was dispatched to 77 medical emergencies and Aetna Ambulance to 214 medical emergencies, for a total of 291 medical emergencies.

There were 176 calls involving animal control issues. Of those calls, one hundred forty two (142) were handled by the part-time animal control officers and thirty-four (34) were handled by police officers. Six (6) animals were impounded with one (1) being redeemed, two (2) adopted, one (1) euthanized and two (2) still held. Cases included one nuisance/ aggressive dog that the ACO assisted Police Officers with on Marmor Court. One summons for a nuisance dog was issued and one custodial arrest made. There were numerous calls regarding wildlife, including fox, rabbits and opossum.

Fourteen (14) persons were taken into custody and held requiring 319 hours of incarceration. Of the persons held, five (5) were arrested by warrant. Support Services personnel transported the fourteen prisoners to court, including eleven (11) males and three (3) females. The females incarcerated by the department required 22 hours of matron coverage.

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

On Monday, June 4, 2012 members of the Capitol Region Emergency Services Team (CREST) to include Lieutenant Mark Poisson, Sergeant Michael Connolly, MPO Ronald Floyd, and Officer Justin Lord, attended an annual five-day training session.

On Thursday June 7, 2012 Dispatcher Karen Tomczyk attended "Regional Incident Dispatch (RID) Quarterly Training." This meeting was held at the Manchester Police Department, Manchester, 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 June 11, Sergeant Michael Connolly began attending a two day course entitled "ICS-400, Advanced Incident Command." Training was held at the East Hartford Police Department. Objectives of this course included providing instruction on large-scale organization development, roles and relationships of primary staff, considerations related to large and complex incident or event management, area command and the importance of interagency coordination.

On Wednesday June 13, 2012 six officers began two days of training entitled "Patrol Rifle Training." This training was held at the Berlin Police Range in Berlin, CT. This training is in support of the Colt AR-15 Patrol Rifles that currently part of the equipment in the patrol vehicles. Objectives included technical and safety issues, fundamentals for marksmanship, basic patrol rifle techniques, close quarter rifle shooting, reloading and malfunction clearing and live fire drills. All officers passed a 60 round rifle qualification course. At the conclusion of the third day of training, these six officers will be authorized to carry the patrol rifle on duty.

On Wednesday June 13, 2012 Lieutenant Donald Crabtree and Officer Albert Whaples attended a course entitled "Powers and Responsibilities of a Municipal Legal Traffic Authority (MLTA)." This training was held at the Windsor Town Hall Chambers, Windsor, CT. Training topics included information on the planning, design, construction, maintenance, operation and management of roads, bridges and public transit.

On Wednesday June 13, 2012 Officer Kenneth Newton, and Dispatchers Barry Skip, Welles Hale, and Lauren Hammond attended "Suicide Intervention." 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 recognizing behaviors of potential suicidal persons from a dispatch standpoint. Due to hosting this course, this Department saved \$836.00 in tuition costs.

On Thursday June 14, 2012 Officer Norberto Mendez attended a one day course entitled "Juvenile Update Training." This training was held at the Farmington Police Department, Unionville, CT. Training topics included new information regarding the age change as it pertains to Juvenile Law.

On Tuesday June 19, 2012, 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 June 20, 2012 Sergeant Michael Connolly attended a one day course entitled "School Crossing Guard Training, TRAIN-THE-TRAINER." This training was held at the Connecticut Police Academy, Meriden, CT. Course topics included being certified to train others on the proper duties and functions of a School Crossing Guard.

On Thursday June 25, 2012 Dispatcher Karen Tomczyk began attending a one week course entitled "All Hazards Incident Management Training (AHIMT)." This training was held at the Northeast Utilities Building, Windsor CT. Dispatcher Tomczyk is part of the IMT Team, which is designed to provide personnel that are trained and organized to support emergency response and recovery efforts in event of a large crisis, man-made/ natural disaster etc.

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.

## **Administrative Services Bureau**

This department has responded to 64 alarm calls in month of June. Residential locations made up 37 (58%) of the total, non-residential locations made up 26 (40%), and State / Town government made up 1 (2%) of

the total alarm incidents. The alarms received were: 55 burglar, 5 holdup / panic, and 4 fire. There currently are 1,501 alarm registrations on file, 57 of which experienced alarm(s) this month; this represents a 96% compliance rate. Eleven new alarm registrations were entered this month. During this month, \$5,000 in alarm billing has occurred. There have been 252 actions performed by this unit with the Cry Wolf system, and 225 items of correspondence sent out.

Lt. David Scales, the Administrative Bureau Commander, will be retiring on July 1, 2012. This retirement with the addition of one other separation of employment causes two vacancies. An entry hiring process will be initiated on 7/1/2012. The department currently has two officers on light duty for work related injuries.

## **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.

Based on citizen concerns and traffic study results, officers performed selective enforcement at various locations throughout town. Officers performed selective enforcement six (6) different times and spent approximately 4 hours 8 minutes doing selective enforcement on various roads in town.

An employee of the Wethersfield Housing Authority contacted the Town Manager's Office requesting a 'Slow-Children Playing' sign be placed on Mitchell Court. The Support Services Bureau Commander contacted the complainant who stated she was just forwarding this request from one resident who requested this due to the large number of children in the area and the speeding vehicles on the street. The speed was questioned due to the short length of the street but she was unable to provide any further detail. Mitchell Court is a cul-de-sac that is approximately 320 feet long. An email was prepared and sent to the town manager recommending against this sign request due to the following reasons: 1. they create a false sense of security for parents and children. 2. they are generally disregarded by motorists and are not of a regulatory nature. 3. they can create the endorsement that children can or should be allowed to play safely on or near a street. 4. the sign has never been proven to be effective. The Town Manager agreed with this finding. The complainant was advised about this recommendation.

A resident wrote an email to the mayor, town manager, town planner and town engineer regarding the closing of the former Rocky Hill Landfill and the proposed truck routes that come through the town. The Support Services Bureau Commander attended a meeting at the town hall regarding this issue. Also attending this meeting was the town manager, town engineer, town planner, fire marshal and director of parks and recreation. The landfill property owner submitted several route proposals for large dump trucks that would be traveling from various locations throughout the state to the landfill. One of the proposals included the use of Middletown Avenue, which is designated as a 'No Thru Truck' route by the Department of Transportation. One of the proposals included the use of Elm Street from Maple Street. At the intersection of Maple Street southbound at Elm Street there is a turn restriction. Trucks could not legally travel either route. A letter, which included this information was prepared by the town manager and forwarded to all persons involved with this project, including the Rocky Hill Town Manager and the attorney for the property owner.

A resident contacted the Town Manager's Office requesting that pedestrian crossing signs be placed on Wolcott Hill Road at the intersection of Brimfield Road. The Support Services Bureau Commander checked this area and noted that this was a part of the Heritage Way Bike Trail. The town engineer was contacted and he confirmed this. He checked the original plans for the intersection and then checked the area noticing that one of the signs was missing. Once this sign is replaced there will be advance warning signs for both northbound and southbound traffic.

The following work orders were completed during June, 2012:

- For the annual Keane Foundation 5K Road Race held on Sunday, June 3, 2012, cones, barricades, and temporary 'No Parking' signs were placed on numerous streets in Old Wethersfield.
- For the Wethersfield High School Graduation held on Tuesday, June 19, 2012, temporary 'No Parking' signs were placed on numerous streets around Cove Park in Old Wethersfield.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

The police explorers are preparing themselves for the annual Connecticut Police Cadet Academy, which is being held at the University of Hartford.

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 department will be awarded with CALEA reaccreditation in July in Scottsdale, Arizona.

## **PERFORMANCE MEASURES:**

	<b>June 2011</b>	<b>June 2012</b>	<b>YTD 2011</b>	<b>YTD 2012</b>
<b>Criminal Arrests</b>				
Criminal Arrests	66	60	402	442
<b>Burglaries and Robberies</b>				
Residential Burglaries	6	4	14	21
Commercial Burglaries	2	0	3	12
Armed Robberies	0	1	0	1
Strong-Arm Robberies	0	3	2	5
<b>Family Violence Arrests</b>				
Family Violence Arrests	7	12	46	41
<b>Traffic Related</b>				
Infractions/ MV Summons	189	156	1123	1144
DUI	8	9	71	69
MV Crashes	64	57	361	304
Parking Tags	48	8	309	161
<b>Miscellaneous Activities</b>				
911 Calls	891	897	4998	4959
Alarm Responses	71	64	383	386
Records Requests	233	201	1380	1292

Prisoners Transported	9	14	64	83
Child Car Seat Installations	9	8	50	38