



POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT

Wethersfield



James Cetran
Chief of Police

JUNE 2020

SPECIAL PROJECTS / ACHIEVEMENTS / INNOVATIONS

Due to the closure of the schools with the Covid-19 pandemic, the School Resource Officers and D.A.R.E. officer were reassigned to the patrol bureau effective March 17, 2020.

Effective Tuesday, June 16th, 2020 the detective division resumed fingerprinting services. This service, which is offered three days per week, is now being done by appointment.

During the month of June 2020, members of the Patrol Bureau made four (4) arrests for Driving Under the Influence. Please note that self-initiated motor vehicle enforcement was lower than normal due to COVID-19 concerns.

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

Patrol Division

Patrol Division (Case of Interest)

During the morning hours of 06/15/2020, a male was shot in the leg by another male who had a rifle. The incident was reported to have resulted from a road rage dispute by the two men that occurred on Interstate-91 while each were driving their respective vehicles. Each involved vehicle exited the Old Wethersfield exit from Interstate 91. While on the exit ramp, the victim approached the other male's vehicle on foot, but began walking back to his own vehicle when he saw that the other male was holding a rifle. The male with the rifle fired several shots towards the victim and the victim was struck at least one time in the back of his leg while walking or running away. The victim got into his vehicle and began leaving the area and was soon after transported to a local hospital. The suspect left the scene and was not apprehended by officers. The incident is still under investigation.

On Sunday, 06/25/2020, at about 1730 hours, a male entered a Wethersfield business three separate times looking to fight with an employee. One of the times the male entered the business, he was holding a tire iron. The suspect left before officers arrived. A few minutes later, a citizen came to police headquarters to report a man and woman fighting outside of a

home, and the man, who reportedly had a weapon, put the woman in his car against her will several times. While officers were responding to this call, Wethersfield Police Dispatch received reports of a man and woman fighting in the parking lot of the Cove. It was determined that the same male was related to each of the three incidents. Witnesses at the Cove described the male pushing a female later determined to be his girlfriend, and shoved to the ground a female citizen who tried to intervene by putting herself between the male and his girlfriend. A few minutes later, an Officer located the suspect and his girlfriend sitting in the suspect's vehicle on Franklin Avenue, Hartford, a few yards north of the Wethersfield town line. While the officer attempted to give verbal commands to the suspect in order to separate him from the female and arrest him safely, a bystander began interfering with the Officer's actions, screaming, videotaping, and walking directly next to the suspect while he sat in his vehicle, even standing between the suspect and the Wethersfield officer. Several officers responded as backup and the male suspect soon after exited his vehicle, approached Wethersfield officers, and was handcuffed/ arrested without incident. The victim was taken to police headquarters to investigate her well-being. The suspect eventually confessed to the actions that had been reported to police. He was charged with Kidnapping 2nd Degree, Unlawful Restraint 1st Degree, and Breach of Peace. Many of the crimes were also captured on video taken by citizens on their cellular phones. The male suspect was released on bond shortly after his arrest and went immediately to the victim's residence, violating a Protective Order that had been put into place by officers due to the original arrest. The suspect ran into a wooded area and was apprehended by officers shortly after, who arrested him for a second time and charged him with Violation of a Protective Order. The male was held on Bond and transported to New Britain Superior court on the following morning, Monday, 06/26/2020.

Support Services Bureau

7 persons were taken into custody and held in lieu of bond; 6 males and 1 female were transported to court throughout the month.

There were 111 phone calls and 34 involving animal control issues. No dog licenses were obtained during the month. There was 5 impounds this month; 5 were redeemed by their owners or sold a pets. The incident synopsis for the month is: 6 wildlife complaint (Geese, raccoon, turtles, etc.) and 28 dog/cat cases (roaming, barking, left in cars, etc.).

Wethersfield Police Department Child Seat Technicians inspected / installed no child seats.

Wethersfield Public Safety Dispatchers received and handled 790 NG911 emergency phone calls. Text-to-911 is now an active feature in Wethersfield's E911 center.

The Wethersfield Volunteer Fire Department (WVFD) was dispatched to, or initiated, 52 calls for service, fire prevention activities, or assists / standbys.

The Wethersfield Volunteer Ambulance (WVAA) and Aetna Ambulance were dispatched to a total of 272 medical / ambulance calls this month.

Training Division

During the month of June, this unit continued to support/train/guide this agency by distributing literature through PowerDMS and department email detailing infectious control guidelines issued by the CDC, CCHD and measures established within our own agency to mitigate the impact from the COVID-19 pandemic that continues to affect our agency and the community. All measures established in recent months continued in an effort to meet the guidance from federal and state infectious control agencies. CT Reopen Phase 1 did not change guidelines/restrictions that were already established for Safe Workplace Rules for Essential Workers. Lead Dispatcher Karen Tomczyk participated in regional PPE Distribution Events.

In the month of June, there were no significant exposures/positive test results for COVID-19 involving WPD Employees.

Several courses/classes scheduled to be conducted at our facility and elsewhere were canceled/postponed due to COVID-19.

On-line COLLECT/NCIC Recertification continued through June 15, 2020 for six WPD Personnel. Officers are mandated to complete this training on a bi-annual cycle.

Human Trafficking: Initial/Annual Training continued through the month of June for WPD sworn personnel. This training was administered through C.I.R.M.A.'s (online) e-Learning portal.

On Monday, June 1, 2020, through Wednesday, June 3, 2020, Sergeant Oscar Rivera assisted the Hartford Police Department with Basic Recruit Firearms Training in support of P.O.S.T.C.'s Session 368 week long firearms qualifications.

On Monday, June 1, 2020, through Friday, June 5, 2020, Lieutenant Connolly, Sergeant Gonzalez and Officers Murphy, DiLoreto and Hilchuk attended Capital Region Emergency Services Team (C.R.E.S.T.) Training (a yearly week long training event.) C.R.E.S.T. is the regional SWAT team.

On Tuesday, June 9, 2020, Officer Nuno Martins, along with his canine, Jax, took part in a one-day training class titled Police Canine/Police Canine Handler Training. Officer Martins and Jax participated in this monthly canine training with several other area law enforcement canine teams.

On Tuesday, June 9, 2020, Officer Shane Murphy, along with his canine, Marly, attended a one-day training class titled Police Canine/Police Canine Handler Training. Officer Murphy and Marly participated in this monthly canine training with several other area law enforcement canine teams.

On Tuesday, June 9, 2020, and Thursday, June 11, 2020, Lieutenant Michael Connolly and Officer Barry Veilleux attended Powers and Responsibilities of a Connecticut Municipal Local Traffic Authority – Virtual Training sponsored by CT Training and Technical Assistance Center.

On Tuesday, June 9, 2020, through Thursday, June 11, 2020, and on Monday, June 15, 2020, Officer Justin Hilchuk attended a Field Training Officer Course. This training was provided in-house with WPD Sergeant Joseph Baich instructing. This course is designed to provide knowledge and training to develop Field Training Officer skills.

On Monday, June 15, 2020, Lieutenant Anthony DeMonte and Officer Barry Veilleux provided practical skills training in Fingerprint for a recruit that is currently attending Basic Recruit Training. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, P.O.S.T.C. was unable to provide this training to any of the recruits.

On Tuesday, June 16, 2020, Officer Justin Hilchuk attended Police Motorcycle Operator Training. This training, hosted by the Hartford Police Department, is conducted monthly.

On Friday, June 19, 2020, Sergeant Jennie Rivera with Officers Barry Veilleux, Robert Arduini and Peter McGee provided practical skills training in High and Low Risk Motor Vehicle Stops for a recruit that is currently attending Basic Recruit Training. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, P.O.S.T.C. was unable to provide this training to any of the recruits.

On Monday, June 22, 2020, through Friday, June 26, 2020, Master Patrol Officer Michael Forrest with Officers Anthony Mendes and Zachary Gonzalez attended Capital Region Chiefs of Police Review Training – Class 206 in Zoom (Online Format.) This recertification training provides mandated and elective areas of training towards officer recertification with P.O.S.T.C.

On Tuesday, June 23, 2020, Officer Nuno Martins, along with his canine, Jax, took part in a one-day training class titled Police Canine/Police Canine Handler Training. Officer Martins and Jax participated in this monthly canine training with several other area law enforcement canine teams.

On Thursday, June 25, 2020, Officer Shane Murphy, along with his canine, Marly, attended a one-day training class titled Police Canine/Police Canine Handler Training. Officer Murphy and Marly participated in this monthly canine training with several other area law enforcement canine teams.

On Friday, June 26, 2020, Officer Shane Murphy along with other area firearms instructors provided instruction on Rifle and Shotgun Familiarization; as well as Low Light Firearms (Handgun) Qualification. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, P.O.S.T.C. was unable to provide this training to all of the recruits assigned to Session 368.

Administrative Services Bureau

The finances from FY 2020 are being finalized within the Division. There are two entry level officers attending the police academy in New Britain, and the selection process continues for three additional vacancies.

Detective Division

During the month of June, 2020, members of the Detective Bureau initiated or were assigned to fourteen (14) new cases. These cases involved the following:

- 5 Commercial Burglaries
- 1 Serious Assault
- 1 Embezzlement
- 1 Sexual Assault
- 1 Vandalism
- 2 Assist Other Jurisdiction
- 1 Sudden Death
- 1 Permit Denial
- 1 Theft

In addition to the above cases, members of the Detective Bureau completed eight (8) supplemental reports on follow up investigations for four (4) additional cases, including:

- 1 Firearms Transfer
- 1 Sudden Death
- 1 Commercial Burglary
- 1 Attempted Burglary

Nine (9) cases from the current and previous months/years were closed.

Pistol Permit/Background Investigations:

Fourteen (14) new background investigations for pistol permits applicants were received.

Background investigations for police applicants, both certified and entry level continue, with three (3) additional this month.

Fourteen (14) background checks were completed for employment in various departments within the Town of Wethersfield.

Juvenile Detective

The Wethersfield Police Department handled approximately 18 incidents, involving approximately 26 Juveniles during the month of June 2020. In these incidents 3 Juveniles were diverted for parental discipline.

School Resource Officer

N/A

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

To efficiently address speeding complaints, Lt. Demonte has patrol officers immediately conduct selective enforcements showing presence in the requested area. Lt. Demonte also created Google Documents for each complaint requiring officers to document the enforcement. This has been working well but will continue to monitor for effectiveness.

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.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

	JUNE 2019	JUNE 2020	YTD 2019	YTD 2020
Criminal Arrests				
Criminal Arrests	38	25	357	143
Burglaries and Robberies				
Residential Burglaries	1	0	5	3
Commercial Burglaries	0	5	2	17
Armed Robberies	0	1	0	3
Strong-Arm Robberies	3	0	3	4
Family Violence Arrests				
Family Violence Arrests	----	10	-----	36
Traffic Related				
Infractions/ MV Summons	102	37	658	256
DUI	7	4	59	45
MV Crashes	47	32	316	348
Parking Tags	54	0	366	200
Miscellaneous Activities				
911 Calls	10115	790	4772	4642
Alarm Responses	43	48	275	323
Records Requests	120	125	659	784
Prisoners Transported		7		39
Child Car Seat Installations	4	0	24	9