



Police Department Monthly Report



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Chief of Police

March, 2011

SPECIAL PROJECTS / ACHIEVEMENTS / INNOVATIONS:

In March, 2011 the Wethersfield Police Department continued its hiring process for the position of Probationary Police Officer. As of March 31, 2011 the Department has two police officer vacancies. Several candidates who were previously the subject of an extensive background investigation underwent polygraph, psychological and medical testing during the month. It is anticipated that two candidates will be hired and will be attending the State of Connecticut Police Academy beginning on April 15, 2011.

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES:

Patrol Division

Patrol Division (Cases of Interest)

On Thursday, March 17, 2011 at approximately 12:42 AM officers from the Wethersfield Police Department were dispatched to a home on Thornbush Road on the report of a burglary into a motor vehicle. The victim informed Dispatch that her son saw the suspects in their vehicles and he was now confronting the suspects on Thornbush Road. Officers arrived to find the son following the suspects southbound on Thornbush Road. The two male suspects gave conflicting stories for being on Thornbush Road so late at night. The two males told the officers that they did not take anything from the vehicles in the driveway. Officers discovered evidence, however, indicating that the victim's vehicles had been tampered with and entered. Officers arrested the two male subjects for Burglary Third Degree, Conspiracy to Commit Burglary Third Degree and Attempted Larceny Sixth Degree. They were released after posting a bond and were given a court date for later in the month.

On Friday, March 25, 2011 at approximately 7:03 PM an officer stopped a vehicle for motor vehicle violations. It was discovered that the operator's driver's license had been suspended since 2007. The driver gave officers consent to search his car. As the officers were about to begin the search, the driver told the officers that there was a machete in the car. Based on the driver's consent and admission, the officers searched the car. Located in the car was a very large, metal machete. This machete was eighteen inches long and encased in a black nylon sheath. The machete was seized as evidence. The driver was arrested for Weapon in a Motor Vehicle, Operating under Suspension, Operation Without Insurance, Misuse of Plates and Operating an Unregistered Motor Vehicle. He was later released on bond and is scheduled to appear in court at a later date.

Detective Division

In March, 2011 members of the Detective Division initiated or were assigned follow-up to seventeen new cases. Major case investigations included five fraud complaints, two identity theft complaints, two burglary complaints, two assault complaints and a missing person complaint. Detectives also continue to perform local background investigations and background investigations for pistol permit applicants.

Detective Division (Case of Interest)

On Wednesday, March 23, 2011 a local pawn shop contacted the Detective Division to report what they believed to be a suspicious person and situation. A male had entered the pawn shop and attempted to sell a laptop computer. Personal files were found on the computer. The employee did not believe these types of files would be on a computer owner by someone who was attempting to sell the property. The Department continues to investigate this suspicious situation.

Juvenile Unit

In March, 2011 the Wethersfield Police Department, Juvenile Unit handled thirty incidents involving forty-one juveniles. In these incidents, three juveniles were diverted to parental punishment.

In March, 2011 the Wethersfield Police Explorers participated in a stations day activity at the Manchester Police Department. The Explorers experienced crisis intervention, domestic violence, felony stops and shoot/don't shoot situations.

School Resource Officer

In March, 2011 the School Resource Officer (SRO) assigned to the Wethersfield High School (WHS) reported covering twenty-five incidents which were entered into the School Cop Database. These incidents resulted in fourteen case numbers and six incident reports. The SRO made two arrests during the month, both for Assault Third Degree and Breach of Peace Second Degree.

The SRO investigated four larceny complaints, one found property complaint, two trespass complaints, one suspicious situation involving a 911 hang up call, one medical call and two youth complaints at the Silas Deane Middle School. The SRO, along with WHS school administrators, held several mediation sessions with students in regards to dating relationships, harassing/bullying incidents involving the Internet and cell phone texts, defiance issues, and general disputes.

Due to many thefts from the locker rooms at WHS, the SRO met with the spring sports teams. The SRO reminded the student-athletes to secure their belongings in the locker room and informed them how to properly use the new wall safes that were installed in the locker room at the beginning of the school year.

Support Services Bureau

In March, 2011 Wethersfield Communications Unit personnel dispatched the Wethersfield Volunteer Ambulance to ninety-six medical emergencies and Aetna Ambulance to 208 medical emergencies for a total of 304 medical emergencies.

In March, 2011 Wethersfield Communications Unit personnel dispatched the Wethersfield Volunteer Fire Department to ninety-nine calls for service.

In March, 2011 there were eighty-one calls involving animal control issues. Of those calls, forty-two were handled by a part-time animal control officer and thirty-nine were handled by police officers.

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

Support Services Bureau, Training Unit

On Wednesday, March 2, 2011 five Department members of the Capitol Region Emergency Services Team (CREST) began attending monthly two-day training. On Wednesday, March 30, 2011 the CREST members began attending monthly two day training for the month of April.

On Tuesday March 8, 2011 two dispatchers attended "911 Liability" training. 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 actions that increase liability therefore protecting dispatchers and the agency from costly legal actions. As the host agency for this training, the Department saved \$418.00 in tuition costs.

On March 14, 2011 two officers began attending "CIT-Youth Train the Trainer." The training was hosted by the Wethersfield Police Department Training Unit and held in the WPD Community Room. Course topics include crisis intervention specifically for young persons. The officers who attended will now be able to pass along the information learned, by training other CIT officers.

On Thursday, March 17, 2011 two officers and a dispatcher 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 Wednesday, March 23, 2011 an officer attended a one day training class entitled "Medical Response Technician (MRT) Refresher." This training was held at the West Hartford Police Department, West Hartford, CT. This class enables the officer to keep her State of Connecticut MRT certification which is good for two years.

On Thursday March 31, 2011 an officer attended "Motor Vehicle Enforcement Seminar: Commercial Vehicles (Trucks 101.*)" Course topics included discussion on DMV statutes pertaining to commercial vehicles, specifically license classes and vehicle weights. After discussion, a commercial truck was stopped and a hands-on inspection was conducted.

Administrative Services Bureau

In March, 2011 police personnel responded to fifty police related alarms to include forty-three burglar alarms and seven hold-up/ panic alarms. Locations included thirty-one residential alarms, eighteen non-residential alarms and one state/ town government alarm. A total of 1,478 alarm permits are currently on file with the Police Department. During the month, forty-six locations experienced a false alarm resulting in a 96% compliance rate. This month there were 111 items of correspondence sent in connection with billing, registration and false alarm violations with \$ 2,650 in alarm billing.

As of March 27, 2011 the Wethersfield Police Department has expended \$330,127.00 on overtime. This is equivalent to 81% of the Department's total budgeted overtime for this fiscal year.

In March, 2010 ninety-three shifts were staffed with no shifts staffed below minimum or critical staffing levels.

As of March 31, 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. It is expected that this vacancy will be filled in April, 2011. Finally, as of March 31, 31, 2011 the Department has three sworn 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 March, 2011 officers performed selective enforcement ten different times and spent approximately eight hours doing selective enforcement on these identified roads.

In March, 2011 a complaint was received from a resident of Stillman Walk about vehicles speeding on Nott Street east of the Silas Deane Highway. The SMART Machine (speed measuring device) was set up at that location for several days.

In March, 2011 the crossing guard that is posted at the intersection of Silas Deane Highway and Church Street reported that vehicles were violating the cross walk and his signal when turning right onto the Silas Deane Highway from Church Street. A support services officer conducted selective enforcement at that location on two separate occasions with no violations recorded.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

In cooperation with the Central Connecticut Health District, one car seat technician will be inspecting and/or installing child car seats on Thursday, April 7, 2011 as a part of National Public Health Week, which is April 4-9, 2011.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

	March 2010	March 2011	YTD 2010	YTD 2011
Criminal Arrests				
Criminal Arrests	56	70	162	192
Burglaries and Robberies				
Residential Burglaries	10	1	15	4
Commercial Burglaries	0	1	0	1
Armed Robberies	0	0	0	0
Strong-Arm Robberies	0	0	1	1
Family Violence Arrests				
Family Violence Arrests	7	2	22	17
Traffic Related				
Infractions/ MV Summons	288	222	657	547

DUI	25	11	46	33
MV Accidents	63	50	171	183
Parking Tags	34	55	508	135
Miscellaneous Activities				
911 Calls	767	845	2169	2449
Alarm Responses	51	50	161	172
Records Requests	254	269	n/a	738
Prisoners Transported	17	11	39	30
Child Car Seat Installations	8	8	18	25