



Police Department Monthly Report



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Chief of Police

March, 2012

SPECIAL PROJECTS / ACHIEVEMENTS / INNOVATIONS:

The Wethersfield Police Department, Training Unit, hosted one day of the Capital Region Police Recertification - Supervisor Program on Thursday, March 15, 2012. This course was held in the WPD Community Room.

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES:

Patrol Division

Patrol Division (Cases of Interest)

On Thursday, March 1, 2012 at 12:09 PM an officer came upon a car parked in a parking lot on Wolcott Hill Road near the intersection of Jordan Lane. The officer saw that the male operator and female passenger were engaged in narcotics use. Upon seeing the narcotics, the officer opened the driver's door however the male and female immediately left the scene in the motor vehicle. The open car door struck the officer's hand. The officer pursued the suspect vehicle onto Route 5/15 southbound where the pursuit ultimately ended after the suspect vehicle collided with a Wethersfield Police cruiser. The male and female were arrested at the scene and were transported to Wethersfield Police Headquarters. The officer received minor injuries to his hand and did not require medical attention. Officers recovered a small amount of heroin from inside the suspect vehicle. The male was charged with Assault on a Police Officer, Possession of Narcotics, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, Engaging Police in Pursuit, Reckless Driving and Operating Under Suspension. He was held on bond and was presented in court. The female was charged with Possession of Narcotics. She was released on bond with a future court date.

On Friday, March 16, 2012 at 8:03 AM officers were dispatched to the intersection of Wolcott Hill Road and Wells Road on the report of a two car crash in which one of the vehicles had evaded the scene. Responding officers met with the one driver that stayed on scene. After getting details about the crash from this person, the officer located various car parts from the evading vehicle, including the car's front marker plate. A witness to the crash explained that the driver of the evading vehicle was at fault and fled the scene knowing he was involved in a crash. The evading vehicle, which had heavy front end damage, was located in the parking lot of a local hospital. The investigating officer went to this hospital and located the driver of the evading vehicle. The officer believed that he knowingly left the scene of the accident. The evading operator was subsequently issued a misdemeanor summons charging him with Evading the Scene of Motor Vehicle Crash and Traffic Control Red Light Violation. The operator was released on a written promise to appear in court on March 30, 2012.

On Monday, March 26, 2012 at 10:00 AM an officer was dispatched to Elm Street at Great Meadow Rd near the Interstate 91 overpass. The officer met with a Connecticut Department of Transportation (DOT) employee who stated that he and his DOT crew noticed that two steel I-beams had been taken from the jobsite underneath the Interstate 91 overpass. The DOT employee stated that his crew last saw the materials the previous Friday. There were drag marks in the dirt from where the items were taken. The I-beams were each cut to a specified length of 93 1/2 inches and each weighed approximately 300 lbs. Estimated value of the missing steel beams is \$1,200. The incident remains under investigation.

Detective Division

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

Detective Division (Cases of Interest)

The Detective Division is investigating a fraud case in which the suspects went into a local business establishment and purchased large items with a check. The suspects then returned to the business the following day and returned the items receiving cash for the return. After several days the business found that the original checks were from fraudulent accounts or accounts with no money in them. The case is currently under investigation.

Wethersfield Detectives are investigating several burglaries which have occurred at vacant and for sale homes. The suspects enter the vacant homes and remove the copper piping throughout the house. The copper is typically sold to local scrap metal dealers. The theft is usually not discovered until a much later date making the identity of suspects difficult.

Juvenile Unit

In March, 2012 the Juvenile Unit handled thirty-seven incidents involving fifty-four juveniles. In these incidents, two juveniles were arrested for criminal violations and thirteen juveniles were diverted to parental punishment.

In March, 2012 the Wethersfield Police Explorers participated in a stations day training session at the Manchester Police Department. This stations day event focused on searches incident to custodial arrest, building searches and domestic violence.

School Resource Officer

In March, 2012 the School Resource Officer (SRO) assigned to the Wethersfield High School (WHS) reported covering fourteen incidents which were entered into the School Cop Database. These incidents resulted in ten case numbers, three incident reports, two supplemental reports and one arrest warrant. The SRO investigated two larceny complaints and one suspicious person complaint. The SRO also reported one arrest for Assault Third Degree and Disorderly Conduct. The SRO also assisted the Department Juvenile Detective with a missing youth complaint from the Silas Deane Middle School.

The SRO, along with WHS school administrators, held mediations with students concerning matters such as dating relationships, defiance issues as well as general disputes.

The SRO attended STARS meetings on Fridays during the month of March 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 March, 2012 Wethersfield Volunteer Fire Department personnel were dispatched to thirty-nine calls for service.

In March, 2012 there were 101 calls involving animal control issues. Of those calls, eighty-four were handled by the part-time animal control officers and seventeen were handled by police officers. Six animals were impounded with three being redeemed and one adopted. Cases included two dog bites.

In March, 2012 Wethersfield Volunteer Ambulance (WVAA) personnel were dispatched to eighty medical emergencies and Aetna Ambulance to 194 medical emergencies for a total of 274 medical emergencies.

In March, 2012 eleven persons were taken into custody and held requiring 97 hours of incarceration. Of the persons held, ten were arrested by warrant.

The Support Services Bureau Commander continues to receive requests for added or replacement road signs. Work orders completed in March, 2012 included installing a "CROSS TRAFFIC DOES NOT STOP" placard on the west side existing stop sign pole below the actual stop sign at the intersection of Stillwold Drive and Longvue Drive, replacing existing stop sign poles to breakaway poles on the southeast, northeast and northwest corners of the intersection of Fox Hill Road and Two Brook Road and replacing the existing stop sign on the southeast corner of intersection of Fox Hill Road and Two Brook Road.

Support Services Bureau, Training Unit

On Monday March 5, 2012 a lieutenant and a sergeant began attending a one day class entitled "Taser Instructor Recertification." This training was held at the Manchester Police Department. This recertification course is required every two years. This certification enables both officers to renew Department members' certification on all of Taser's law enforcement products.

On Monday March 5, 2012 a dispatcher began attending a week long course entitled "Standardized Authorized Awareness Training." The training was held at the Center for Domestic Preparedness in Anniston, Alabama. This is a Train-the-Trainer course which provides instruction on and delivery of information on chemical and biological agents, radiological materials, explosives, and the Emergency Response Guidebook.

On Tuesday March 6, 2012 an animal control officer attended a four hour course entitled "Animal Hoarding - More Than Rescuing the Animals." The training was held at the Connecticut Police Academy, Meriden, CT. Course topics included identifying animal hoarding and the problems it presents to animal control officers.

On Wednesday, March 7, 2012 five Department members of the Capitol Region Emergency Services Team began attending monthly two-day training.

On Thursday March 8, 2012 an officer began attending a two day course entitled "The Secret Service, Protective Operations Briefing." The training was held at the Yale University West Campus, Orange CT. Course topics included the U.S. Secret Services Protection Model and Basic Protection Operations for state and local police departments.

On Monday March 12, 2012 a detective began attending a week long course entitled "Digital Photography for Law Enforcement." The training was held at the Connecticut Police Academy, Meriden, CT. Training areas

included achieving quality exposures using various lighting techniques, achieving quality close-up photographs and employing digital imaging in the photographic documentation of crime scenes.

On Tuesday March 13, 2012 an officer/ school resource officer attended a course entitled "Conducting Vulnerability Assessments." The training was held at the East Hartford Police Department. Course topics included determining how vulnerable a school is to violence, which types of violence are most likely to occur and how to reduce or eliminate the threat of danger.

On Tuesday March 13, 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 March 15, 2012 a sergeant attended a one day course entitled "Understanding and Leading Generation X and Generation Y Employees." The course was held at the New Britain Police Department and was presented by Roger Williams University. Course topics include viewing employees of different generations not as problems but as leadership challenges that can improve our organizations and enhance our mission.

On Tuesday March 20, 2012 a lieutenant attended a one day course entitled "Responding to Resistance and Aggression - A Police Executive's Perspective." The training was held at the Connecticut Police Academy, Meriden, CT. Course topics included covering strategies for today's law enforcement executive and mid-management on addressing issues pertaining to training, reporting, investigating and tracking use of force.

On Friday March 16, 2012 two sergeants assisted the Connecticut Police Academy with "Practical Skills Day, Recruit Officers Combat Crucible (ROCC)" for the 335th Training Session. These sergeants served as assistant instructors 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 Monday March 26, 2012 two officers attended a course entitled "Operating Under the Influence Overview of the Interlock Ignition Device." The course was held at the Middletown (CT) Superior Court House. Course topics included an overview of the interlock ignition device, its benefits and the law pertaining to its use.

On Thursday March 29, 2012 an officer attended a course entitled "North American Standard Driver-Vehicle (NASDI) In-Service Training." The training was held at the Connecticut Police Academy, Meriden, CT. Course topics included informational review of driver and vehicle inspections for commercial motor vehicles. The officer attending the training is part of the Department's regional traffic team.

Administrative Services Bureau

In March, 2012 police personnel responded to sixty-four chargeable police related alarms to include sixty burglar alarms and four hold-up/ panic alarms. Locations included thirty-four residential alarms, twenty-six non-residential alarms and four State and Town government alarms. A total of 1,476 alarm permits are currently on file with the Police Department. During the month, fifty-seven locations experienced a false alarm resulting in a 96% monthly compliance rate. This month there were 301 items of correspondence sent in connection with billing, registration and false alarm violations with \$ 6,475 in alarm billing.

As of March 25, 2012 the Wethersfield Police Department has expended \$ 339,880 on overtime this fiscal year. This is equivalent to 75.5% of the Department's total budgeted overtime for this fiscal year. In March, 2012 ninety-one shifts were staffed with no shifts staffed below critical staffing levels.

As of March 31, 2012 the Department has no police officer vacancies and is at its authorized strength of

forty-seven sworn officers. Finally, as of March 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 March, 2012 officers performed selective enforcement twenty-three different times and spent approximately 14.3 hours doing selective enforcement on these identified roads.

In March, 2012 a traffic study in the area of 57 Spring Street was initiated and completed utilizing a speed monitoring device for eight days. The speed limit in this area is posted at 30 MPH. During the 151.5 survey hours, 18,652 cars were recorded, averaging 118 cars per hour. Results from the speed monitoring device showed an average speed of approximately 33.4 MPH, the 50th percentile speed of 33.5 MPH, the 85th percentile speed of approximately 38 MPH and a top speed of 54 MPH.

In March, 2012 a traffic study in the area of 501 Goff Road was initiated and completed utilizing a speed monitoring device for ten days. The speed limit in this area is posted at 25 MPH. During the 215.75 survey hours, 30,481 cars were recorded, averaging 142 cars per hour. Results from the speed monitoring device showed an average speed of approximately 32.7 MPH, the 50th percentile speed of 34 MPH, the 85th percentile speed of approximately 39 MPH and a top speed of 70 MPH.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Annual CPR/ AED, Airborne/ Bloodborne Pathogen and First Aid training is scheduled for 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:

	March 2011	March 2012	YTD 2011	YTD 2012
Criminal Arrests				
Criminal Arrests	70	75	192	223
Burglaries and Robberies				
Residential Burglaries	1	5	4	10
Commercial Burglaries	1	0	1	5
Armed Robberies	0	0	0	0
Strong-Arm Robberies	0	0	0	2
Family Violence Arrests				
Family Violence Arrests	2	5	17	19

Traffic Related				
Infractions/ MV Summons	222	221	547	619
DUI	11	13	33	39
MV Crashes	50	50	183	145
Parking Tags	55	70	133	106
Miscellaneous Activities				
911 Calls	845	783	2449	2304
Alarm Responses	50	78	172	199
Records Requests	269	208	738	629
Prisoners Transported	11	11	30	36
Child Car Seat Installations	8	6	25	18