



Police Department Monthly Report



James L. Cetran
Chief of Police

May, 2011

SPECIAL PROJECTS / ACHIEVEMENTS / INNOVATIONS:

The Wethersfield Police Citizens' Police Academy concluded on Monday, May 9, 2011 with twenty-seven citizens completing the course. Citizens met at the Police Department Community Room weekly for ten weeks for 2 1/2 hours and received instruction on police matters such as search & seizure, laws of arrest, police training, criminal investigations and juvenile law. Instructors included Chief of Police James Cetran, command staff members, sergeants, officers and detectives.

Three Wethersfield Police Department Probationary Police Officers have completed five weeks of basic training at the Connecticut Police Academy. Graduation is expected in September, 2011.

The Wethersfield Police Department, Training Unit, hosted one day of the Capital Region Police Recertification - Supervisor Program on Thursday, May 19, 2011. This course was held in the WPD Community Room.

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES:

Patrol Division

Patrol Division (Cases of Interest)

On Tuesday, May 10, 2011 about 1:20 PM, officers were dispatched to a home on Cloverdale Circle on the report of a suspicious male going door-to-door selling magazines. Arriving officers located the male. The male confirmed that he was going door to door selling magazine subscriptions and stated he was from Tennessee and that he did not have a permit to solicit in Wethersfield. A second officer spoke to the complainant. The complainant stated she was sitting in the kitchen when all of a sudden her dogs began barking in the rear yard. She walked to the side kitchen door and was surprised to see a male climbing up the side of the porch. The male said, "Hi" to the victim and then asked if her parents were home. He told her that he was selling magazines and then asked to come inside the home and light a cigarette, which she replied, "No." The male left and the victim watched as the male walked away from the home. She was surprised that he didn't walk to her neighbor's house or talk to one of her neighbors that were standing outside. The male did not have a permit to solicit in Wethersfield and based on the fact that he entered an enclosed property, he was arrested and charged with Criminal Trespass in the Third Degree and Soliciting without a Permit.

On Thursday, May 26, 2011, at 12:08 AM, several officers were dispatched to a motor vehicle accident on the Berlin Turnpike near the intersection of Nott Street. The caller stated that a pedestrian was struck after

the initial car accident and the car that struck the pedestrian left the scene. The caller also said that the pedestrian accident appeared intentional. As officers arrived, the ambulance was already on scene treating the pedestrian. The driver of the car that was on scene stated that her car was struck by another car from the rear and she believed this was intentional. After this collision, her passenger got out of the car to inspect for damage when he was struck by the car that first struck her vehicle. After striking the passenger, this car then left the scene. The driver said she knew who was driving the car that left the scene. Officers conducted an investigation and were able to locate the evading driver. The driver was subsequently charged with Assault Second Degree with a Motor Vehicle, Evading Responsibility in an Accident with Injury and Following with Intent to Harass. Officers believed that the driver was acting with intent when the car crash happened and that it was not an accident. Officers felt that the driver was also acting with intent when the driver struck the pedestrian and that it also was not an accident.

Detective Division

In May, 2011 members of the Detective Bureau initiated or were assigned follow up to approximately twenty-one new cases. Major case investigations included three fraud complaints, four identity theft complaints, one burglary complaint, five larceny complaints and one sexual assault investigation. Detectives also continue to perform town background investigations and backgrounds for pistol permits applicants.

Detective Division (Case of Interest)

Wethersfield Police Department detectives continue to investigate numerous credit card fraud cases involving Wethersfield residents. The Department is reminding residents to thoroughly check their statements for unauthorized charges. Many of the frauds and identity thefts from the past two months have been committed by people who steal credit card numbers and some personal information. The victims report never losing their credit cards.

Juvenile Unit

In May, 2011 the Wethersfield Police Department Juvenile Unit handled thirty-six incidents involving forty-five juveniles. In these incidents, five juveniles were arrested and two juveniles were diverted to school punishment.

On May 7th, 2011, the Wethersfield Police Department Police Explorers competed in the 20th Annual Connecticut Police Cadet Stations Day competition. The Explorers competed against over 400 other explorers and cadets from Massachusetts, New York, Rhode Island, New Hampshire and Connecticut. The Wethersfield post won awards in nine events placing them in the top ten posts in the competition.

School Resource Officer

In May, 2011 the School Resource Officer (SRO) assigned to the Wethersfield High School (WHS) reported covering fifteen incidents which were entered into the School Cop Database. These incidents resulted in six case numbers and three incident reports. The incident reports were for two larceny complaints and one assault complaint.

There were three arrests made at the Wethersfield High School in May, 2011. These arrests were for Assault Third Degree (1) and Larceny Sixth Degree (2).

The SRO also reported holding numerous incidents of mediation, mentoring and handling incidents of bullying, threatening, internet and texting. Finally, the SRO also attended the WHS Junior Prom as a

chaperone and participated in the Memorial Day Celebration at Highcrest Elementary School.

Support Services Bureau

In May, 2011 Wethersfield Communications Unit personnel dispatched the Wethersfield Volunteer Ambulance to ninety-three medical emergencies and Aetna Ambulance to 212 medical emergencies for a total of 305 medical emergencies.

In May, 2011 Wethersfield Communications Unit personnel dispatched the Wethersfield Volunteer Fire Department to fifty-one calls for service.

In May, 2011 there were 127 calls involving animal control issues. Of those calls, eighty-seven were handled by a part-time animal control officer and forty were handled by police officers.

In May, 2011 thirteen persons were taken into custody and held requiring 248 hours of incarceration. Of the persons held, eight were arrested by warrant. Support Services personnel transported the thirteen prisoners to court to include eleven males and one female.

The Support Services Bureau Commander continues to receive requests for added or replacement road signs. Work orders completed in May, 2011 included the positioning of cones, barricades and the posting of temporary "No Parking" signs on various roads in Old Wethersfield in support of the Saturday, May 28, 2011 Memorial Day Parade.

Support Services Bureau, Training Unit

On Tuesday, May 3, 2011 a sergeant and a detective attended a one day class entitled "Use of Force-Legal Issues." Instruction topics included recent court decisions and legislative actions regarding use of force, policy issues and legal standards applicable to liability for failure to train and methods of training to avoid liability.

On Tuesday, May 3, 2011 a sergeant attended a two hour training class entitled "Sexual Harassment Training." This training was held in South Windsor, CT. This training class was designed for supervisors and was sponsored by CIRMA.

On Wednesday, May 4, 2011 six members assigned to the Capitol Region Emergency Services Team (CREST) began attending monthly two-day training.

On Monday, May 9, 2011 a dispatcher attended a one day training class entitled "RID Team Quarterly Training." This training was held in Manchester, CT. This exercise for the RID Team was part of a larger disaster exercise being held in the Capital Region area.

On Tuesday, May 10, 2011 two sergeants attended a course entitled "Suspicious Activity Reporting/Sovereign Groups - Officer Safety & Awareness." This training was held at the Connecticut Police Academy in Meriden, CT. Course objectives include suspicious activity documentation and proper reporting to the Connecticut Intelligence Center and general awareness and methods of operation of Sovereign Citizens.

On Wednesday, May 11, 2011 a detective attended a course entitled "Cognitive Interviewing, An interactive program for investigators and first responders." This training was held at the Connecticut Police Academy in Meriden, CT. Course objectives include proper techniques to use when interviewing victims and witnesses of crimes in order to solicit good information.

On Wednesday, May 11, 2011 a lieutenant and a sergeant attended "DEP's Annual Boating Law Enforcement Seminar." Course objectives include review of new and current boating laws.

On Wednesday, May 11, 2011 two officers 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 officers to keep their State of Connecticut MRT certification, which is good for two years.

On Monday, May 16, 2011 a detective, an officer and a retired detective began attending the five day "Capital Region Police Officer Recertification Training." This training was held at the Farmington Police Department, Farmington, 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, May 17, 2011 a lieutenant attended the "Capital Region Chiefs of Police Recertification" training held in Rocky Hill, CT. This recertification program, which is required every three years, is open to Chiefs of Police and Second in Command Officers only. This training is held once per month and concluded in May, 2011.

During the week of May 23, 2011 the WPD Training Unit conducted "Spring 2011 Firearms Training." Thirty-six officers participated in this training. Training was held at the Berlin Police/ Mattabasset Gun Range, Berlin, CT. Officers were required to complete a 60 round qualification course, which all officers successfully passed. Officers also completed two point-instinctive courses. The first point-instinctive course emphasized moving and shooting. The second point-instinctive course emphasized close quarter combat shooting while under timed, stressful circumstances. Officers were required to take a written test on the nomenclature of the Glock handgun. All officers passed this test. Ten officers also qualified with the Colt AR-15 patrol rifle. Several officers were also certified in non-division issued firearms. Additionally, officers participated in "Spring 2011 Mossberg Shotgun and Less Lethal Training." Training included qualification on the Department shotgun, Mossberg, Model 590A1, less lethal sock rounds as well as training scenarios with the less lethal ammunition.

On Tuesday, May 24, 2011 an officer attended a one day course entitled "Child Passenger Safety Workshop." The training was held at the Central Connecticut State University Student Center, New Britain CT. Course objectives include proper safety and positioning requirements for children when riding in vehicles.

Administrative Services Bureau

In May, 2011 police personnel responded to eighty-three police related alarms to include seventy-seven burglar alarms and six hold-up/ panic alarms. Locations included forty-one residential alarms, forty non-residential alarms and two state/ town government alarms. A total of 1,493 alarm permits are currently on file with the Police Department. During the month, sixty-four locations experienced a false alarm resulting in a 95% compliance rate. This month there were 114 items of correspondence sent in connection with billing, registration and false alarm violations with \$ 3,300 in alarm billing.

As of May 31, 2011 the Wethersfield Police Department has expended \$ 427,716.00 on overtime. This is equivalent to 105% of the Department's total budgeted overtime for this fiscal year. In May, 2011 ninety-three shifts were staffed with no shifts staffed below critical staffing levels.

As of May 31, 2011 the Department has no police officer vacancies and is at its authorized strength of forty-seven officers. The Department has one Records Clerk vacancy within its Records Unit. The application

process for this position continues with a written examination completed and an oral board examination scheduled for mid-June, 2011. Finally, as of May 31, 2011 the Department has one sworn officer assigned to light duty and one officer on maternity leave.

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 May, 2011 officers performed selective enforcement thirty-nine different times and spent approximately twenty-two hours doing selective enforcement on these identified roads.

The Wethersfield Police Department recently submitted their motor vehicle activity statistics in four categories to the Connecticut Police Chief's Association (CPCA) for the recent 2011 Memorial Day long weekend, Friday, May 27, 2011 through Monday, May 30, 2011. The Wethersfield Police Department reported the following activity to the CPCA; Number of Motor Vehicle Stops (38), Number of DWI Arrests (2), Number of Motor Vehicle Accidents (6) and Number of Motor Vehicle Fatalities (0).

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Officers from the Wethersfield Police Department will be participating in the upcoming annual "Click It or Ticket" enforcement period being held May 23, 2011 through June 5, 2011 and aggressively enforcing seat belt and child car seat statutes.

A Powerphone Dispatch Class entitled "Dispatch Judo" will be held in the WPD Community Room on June 23 and 24, 2011.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

	May 2010	May 2011	YTD 2010	YTD 2011
Criminal Arrests				
Criminal Arrests	54	68	281	336
Burglaries and Robberies				
Residential Burglaries	1	2	17	8
Commercial Burglaries	0	0	0	1
Armed Robberies	0	0	0	0
Strong-Arm Robberies	0	0	1	2
Family Violence Arrests				
Family Violence Arrests	9	7	43	39
Traffic Related				
Infractions/ MV Summons	263	222	1214	934
DUI	11	16	76	63

MV Accidents	46	64	272	297
Parking Tags	148	75	768	261
Miscellaneous Activities				
911 Calls	866	861	3856	4107
Alarm Responses	51	83	288	312
Records Requests	132	217	n/a	1147
Prisoners Transported	14	13	65	55
Child Car Seat Installations	19	6	43	41