



Police Department Monthly Report



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Chief of Police

May, 2012

SPECIAL PROJECTS / ACHIEVEMENTS / INNOVATIONS:

The Wethersfield Police Department, Training Unit, hosted a two day course entitled "CIT-Youth Refresher Training" on May 2, 2012. This course was held in the WPD Community Room.

The Wethersfield Police Department, Training Unit, hosted one day of the Capital Region Police Recertification - Supervisor Program on Thursday, May 17, 2012. This course was held in the WPD Community Room.

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES:

Patrol Division

Patrol Division (Cases of Interest)

On May 19, 2012, at 1:18 PM officers were dispatched to a retail business on the Berlin Turnpike for the report of a shoplifting. Once on scene, officers were told that the two suspects left the store in a vehicle traveling northbound on the Berlin Turnpike. A store employee and witness told officers she witnessed a male subject in the gum aisle piling a purple basket full of Wrigley's Five gum. The employee thought this was suspicious because gum is commonly stolen from the store. The employee then saw the male exit the store without paying for the basket of gum. The employee saw this male get in the passenger seat of the vehicle. The employee stated there were sixty packs of Wrigley's gum missing from the display worth about \$ 240.00. A Wethersfield officer observed the vehicle on Zion Street at Ward Street in Hartford and stopped the vehicle. The officers saw on the front passenger side floor a pack of Wrigley's Five gum. In the rear seat of the vehicle was another pack of Wrigley's Five gum. The passenger admitted that he walked into the store and grabbed several packages of Wrigley's gum and threw them into a purple bag and left without paying. He admitted to selling the gum in Hartford. Both the operator and passenger were arrested and charged with Larceny in the Sixth Degree and Conspiracy to Commit Larceny in the Sixth Degree.

On May 24, 2012 at 8:42 PM officers were dispatched to the intersection of Hang Dog Lane and Highland Street on the report of a motor vehicle accident. The caller reported that a pedestrian was struck by a dark colored vehicle that evaded the scene and proceeded south on Highland Street. It was reported that the evading vehicle was stopped by a motorist on Hayes Road at Westerly Terrace in Rocky Hill, which is located a short distance from the accident scene. The officer that arrived at the accident scene saw a white male sitting on the sidewalk located at the southwest corner of the intersection. Across from the male was a green "Huffy" mountain bike. The victim told the officer that he was riding his bicycle on Hang Dog Lane and was approaching its intersection with Highland Street. He said he saw a vehicle traveling south on Highland

Street towards the intersection. When he entered the intersection, he saw that the vehicle traveling south was not slowing down for the stop sign. The victim stated that he began pedaling faster so that he could get out of the intersection. The vehicle failed to stop for the stop sign and drove through the intersection. The victim stated that the vehicle struck his right side, which caused him to roll onto the hood and windshield. He stated that he got up and walked over to the driver side of the vehicle and yelled something at the driver, but that the operator of the vehicle then drove away from the scene. Witnesses confirmed the account of the victim on the bicycle. A second officer drove to the location where the evading vehicle was stopped. The entire front windshield of the car was shattered and occupied by two males. The driver admitted that when he drove through the intersection he saw that someone was riding a bicycle in the intersection. He stated that he attempted to stop for the bicyclist but was unable to stop in time. The driver and the passenger exited the vehicle and approached the bicyclist in the roadway and asked "How are you? Are you okay?" The driver stated that the bicyclist replied, "I'm okay, I'm fine." After they heard the bicyclist's comment the driver and his passenger got back inside his vehicle and drove away. When asked why he drove away, the driver replied that he did it so that he could call the police. The victim on the bicycle claimed that he injured his neck, back and legs from the accident and was transported to a local hospital by ambulance. The driver was issued a misdemeanor summons charging him with Evading Responsibility - Injury and Failure to Obey Stop Sign.

Detective Division

In May, 2012 members of the Detective Bureau initiated or were assigned follow up to twenty-five new cases. The major case investigations included five burglaries, one robbery and seven fraud/ identity theft cases. Detectives also continue to perform town background investigations and backgrounds for pistol permits applicants.

In May, 2012 Wethersfield Detectives were assigned seven fraud and identity theft complaints. Most of the complaints have been some type of theft involving the victim's credit card number. A suspect will illegally obtain the victim's credit card number and either makes purchases over the internet and have the stolen items mailed to another address or open up a service account such as a cell phone or utility. The suspects all appear to be either in other countries or other states that will only investigate the crime if the victim agrees to go to that state.

Juvenile Unit

In May, 2012 the Juvenile Unit handled thirty-nine incidents involving fifty-eight juveniles. In these incidents, one juvenile was arrested for criminal violations, seventeen juveniles were diverted to parental punishment and five were diverted to school-base punishment.

On Saturday, May 5, 2012 the Wethersfield Police Explorers participated in the Connecticut Police Cadet Stations Day competition. In this competition, eight Wethersfield Police Explorers won awards.

School Resource Officer

In May, 2012 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, five incident reports, one supplemental report and one motor vehicle accident report. The SRO investigated two larceny complaints, a reckless burning complaint and a medical incident. The SRO reported three arrests at WHS during the month to include one arrest for Larceny Sixth Degree, a second arrest for Possession of less than a Half Ounce of Marijuana and an infractions ticket was issued for Operating a Moped without a License and Failure to Wear a Helmet while Operating a Moped under the age of Eighteen Years Old. A written warning was also issued stemming from a motor vehicle accident for Unsafe

Backing.

During the month of May, 2012 the SRO also covered numerous incidents involving mediation and the mentoring of students involving issues such as bullying, the internet and texting.

The SRO attended STARS/ SRBI meetings during the month involving at-risk students at the school. The SRO also participated in the Town of Wethersfield's Juvenile Review Board for students who reside in Town and are deferred from the juvenile justice system. Finally, the SRO also was invited to speak at a WHS academic literacy class in regards to careers in law enforcement.

Support Services Bureau

In May, 2012 Wethersfield Volunteer Fire Department personnel were dispatched to twenty-nine calls for service.

In May, 2012 there were 147 calls involving animal control issues. Of those calls, 116 were handled by the part-time animal control officers and thirty-one were handled by police officers. Seven animals were impounded with four being redeemed. Cases included three dog bites and one cat bite. Animal Control Officers assisted police officers with an aggressive dog on Dudley Road. ACOs also assisted Newington PD with an aggressive dog. There were also numerous calls during the month regarding wildlife including foxes and turtles.

In May, 2012 the Wethersfield Volunteer Ambulance (WVAA) was dispatched to 116 medical emergencies and Aetna Ambulance to 249 medical emergencies for a total of 365 medical emergencies.

In May, 2012 twenty-one persons were taken into custody and held requiring 347 hours of incarceration. Of the persons held, nine were arrested by warrant.

The Support Services Bureau Commander continues to receive requests for added or replacement road signs. Work orders completed in May, 2012 included installing a new "No Outlet" placard on top of the existing street sign for Merriman Road at the intersection of Griswold Road and placing numerous cones, barricades, and temporary "No Parking" signs on numerous streets, including State Street, Nott Street, Garden Street, Church Street, Main Street and Broad Street, in Old Wethersfield in support of the Town Memorial Day parade which was held May 26, 2012.

Support Services Bureau, Training Unit

On May 2, 2012 two officers began attending a two-day class entitled "CIT-Youth Refresher Training." The training was hosted by the Wethersfield Police Department Training Unit and held in the WPD Community Room. Course topics included crisis intervention review specifically for young persons. The officers who attended will now be able to continue to pass the information learned by training other CIT officers.

On Wednesday, May 2, 2012 members of the Capitol Region Emergency Services Team (CREST) began attending monthly two-day training.

On Thursday, May 3, 2012 a detective began attending the "CTIC Intelligence Liason Conference." This training was held at the Club at Rentschler Field, East Hartford, CT. The Connecticut Intelligence Center, (CTIC), which serves as the designated and primary state fusion center, bringing together local, state and federal partners to collect, evaluate, analyze, and disseminate pertinent, vetted information to authorized and appropriate agencies within the first responder and private sectors regarding criminal and terrorist activity relevant to Connecticut, while following established Fair Information Principles to ensure the rights and privacy of citizens. CTIC is one of seventy-two fusion centers around the country and has the capacity to

exchange classified information with the national intelligence community.

On Tuesday May 8, 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 Monday May 14, 2012 five officers attended a one day class entitled "Career Survival, Officer Suicide, Suicide by Police and Handling of Suicidal Persons." Instruction topics include handling persons that are depressed and for whatever reason want to harm themselves or someone else. This could mean a person on the street or an officer from within your own department.

On Monday May 14, 2012 two officers 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 Wednesday May 16, 2012 two officers attended a one day class entitled "Use of Force-Legal Issues." Instruction topics included recent court decisions and legislative actions regarding use of force. Additionally, training and policy issues and legal standards applicable to liability for failure to train and methods of training to avoid liability was also discussed.

On May 17, 2012 an officer began attending "CIT-Youth Continuing Education." The training was held at the Old Saybrook Fire Department, Old Saybrook CT. Course topics included adolescent development principles, youth mental health symptoms and disorders, crisis de-escalation intervention skills and communication techniques for youth and local service and resource linkages for youth.

On Monday, May 21, 2012 an officer began attending a five day training class entitled "Crisis Intervention Team Training." This training was held at the Farmington Police Department, Farmington, CT. Training topics included mental illness, substance abuse, safe de-escalation techniques, suicide by cop, suicide assessment and prevention, excited delirium, child mental health and trauma and mental health and the law.

During the week of May 21, 2012 the WPD Training Unit conducted "Spring 2012 Firearms Training." Thirty-eight officers participated in this training. Training was held at the Berlin Police/ Mattabasset Gun Range, Berlin, CT. Officers were required to complete a sixty 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. Nine officers also qualified with the Colt AR-15 patrol rifle. Several officers were also certified in non-division issued firearms.

During the week of May 21, 2012 the WPD Training Unit conducted "Spring 2012 Mossberg Shotgun and Less Lethal Training." Training was held at the Berlin Police/ Mattabasset Gun Range, Berlin, CT. Ten officers participated in this 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 Thursday, May 17, 2012 a lieutenant and a sergeant attended the "Capital Region Police Recertification - Supervisor Program." This training was held in the Wethersfield Police Department Community Room. This training is mandatory every three years and is open only to supervisory personnel. The training this month was on the topics of Bias, Sexual Harassment and Labor Relations. This training was held once per month for five months concluding in May, 2012.

Administrative Services Bureau

In May, 2012 police personnel responded to sixty chargeable police related alarms to include fifty-eight burglar alarms and two hold-up/ panic alarms. Locations included thirty-five residential alarms, twenty-one non-residential alarms and four State/ Town government alarms. A total of 1,490 alarm permits are currently on file with the Police Department. During the month, fifty-five locations experienced a false alarm resulting in a 96% monthly compliance rate. This month there were 144 items of correspondence sent in connection with billing, registration and false alarm violations with \$ 3,125 in alarm billing.

As of June 3, 2012 the Wethersfield Police Department has expended \$ 420,937 on overtime this fiscal year. This is equivalent to 93.5 % of the Department's total budgeted overtime for this fiscal year. In May, 2012 ninety-three shifts were staffed with no shifts staffed below critical staffing levels.

As of May 31, 2012 the Department has one police officer vacancy and 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 May, 2012 officers performed selective enforcement sixty-two different times and spent approximately forty hours doing selective enforcement on these identified roads.

In May, 2012 a traffic study in the area of 26 Buckland Road was initiated and completed utilizing a speed monitoring device for fourteen days. There is no posted speed limit on this road. During the 300.75 survey hours 5,143 cars were recorded, averaging 17 cars per hour. Results from the speed monitoring device showed an average speed of approximately 20.7 MPH, the 50th percentile speed of 20 MPH, the 85th percentile speed of approximately 28 MPH and a top speed of 48 MPH.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Officers from the Wethersfield Police Department will be participating and aggressively enforcing seatbelt violations during the upcoming Annual "Click It or Ticket" enforcement period being held May 21, 2012 through June 3rd, 2012.

A Powerphone Dispatch Class entitled "Suicide Intervention" will be held in the WPD Community Room on June 13, 2012.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

	May 2011	May 2012	YTD 2011	YTD 2012
Criminal Arrests				
Criminal Arrests	68	85	336	382
Criminal Arrests				
Residential Burglaries	2	2	8	17
Commercial Burglaries	0	3	1	12

Armed Robberies	0	0	0	0
Strong-Arm Robberies	0	0	1	2
Family Violence Arrests				
Family Violence Arrests	7	11	39	40
Traffic Related				
Infractions/ MV Summons	222	186	934	988
DUI	16	11	63	60
MV Crashes	64	64	297	247
Parking Tags	75	27	263	153
Miscellaneous Activities				
911 Calls	861	985	4107	4062
Alarm Responses	83	60	312	322
Records Requests	217	232	1147	1091
Prisoners Transported	13	15	55	69
Child Car Seat Installations	6	9	41	30