



POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT

Wethersfield



James Cetran
Chief of Police

MAY 2014

SPECIAL PROJECTS / ACHIEVEMENTS / INNOVATIONS

During the month of May 2014, members of the Detective Bureau initiated or were assigned follow up to thirteen (13) new cases. The major case investigations involved; six (6) burglaries, one (1) homicide, one (1) fraud / Identity thefts, and one (1) sudden death. Detectives also continue to perform town background investigations and backgrounds for pistol permits applicants.

The 10 week Wethersfield Police Citizens' Police Academy concluded on Monday, May 12, 2014 with twenty-nine citizens graduating. During the program 20 members of the Department instructed various classes. Following are some of the comments from the course evaluations: "This is a very informative/ well put together class, shows the depth of the officers as well as the Department" and "I am extremely grateful to be a citizen of Wethersfield knowing that there is such a first-class group of people on the WPD to keep all of us safe."

Wethersfield Police Department, with the assistance of other Mid-State Police Departments and New Britain Police Department held a DUI Checkpoint on Monday, May 5, 2014 on the Berlin Turnpike south of Nott Street. 1108 vehicles were briefly stopped by officers with 44 motorists being flagged by the officers for DUI testing or other

- Twenty-four (24) motorists were detained for DUI assessment. Standardized Field Sobriety Tests were conducted and insufficient probable cause was established to make arrests in nineteen (19) cases.
- Five (5) motorists were charged with Driving Under the Influence
- Two (2) motorists were charged with Possession of Less Than One-Half Ounce of a Cannabis-Type Substance
- Twenty (20) motorists were charged with Operating an Unregistered Motor Vehicle
- One (1) motorist was charged with Operating with a Suspended License and/or Registration
- One (1) motorist was charged with Operating a Motor Vehicle without Insurance
- One (1) motorist was charged with Driving without a License
- One (1) motorist was detained and turned over to East Hartford Police Department on a criminal arrest warrant.

Officers from the Wethersfield Police Department participated in the semi-annual "Click It or Ticket" enforcement wave period that was held from May 19, 2014 through June 1, 2014. Below is a summary of the activity during that time period:

	# of Citations	# of Warnings
Seatbelt	30	27
Child Restraint	0	0
DUI/DUI Related	5	0
Speed	30	17
Other Traffic	61	134
Non-traffic Violations/Criminal	39	0

The Wethersfield Police Department, Training Unit, hosted one day of the Capital Region Police Recertification – Supervisor Program on Thursday, May 29, 2014. This course was held in the WPD Community Room. By hosting this training, the police department ends up receiving one free training seat.

Probationary Police Officer Peter Salvatore completed 10 weeks of Field Training and is scheduled to be on his own around the end of June 2014.

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

Patrol Division

Patrol Division (Case of Interest)

On Monday May 19, 2014 at 2:08 PM officers were dispatched to a home on Whippoorwill Way on the report of a possible theft of a leaf blower. The arriving officer saw an unoccupied landscaping truck parked at the side of the roadway in front of the home. The officer spoke to a landscaper employed by the company that owns the leaf blower. This employee stated that he just discovered that his Stihl backpack leaf blower, valued at \$600.00, was missing from the back of his landscaping truck. After speaking with the landscaper, the officer spoke to a homeowner on Whippoorwill Way. The homeowner told the officer that she was the person that had called the police. She stated that she saw an older dark colored pickup truck pull up in front of her home and stop directly in front of the landscaping truck. She stated that a heavy set white male in his forties, wearing jeans and a black colored t-shirt, exited from the truck and approached the landscaping truck. She watched as the male removed something from bed of the landscaping truck then quickly ran back over to his own vehicle. She stated that the male placed the item that he took inside the bed of his own pickup truck and drove away north on Back Lane. While the male was parked in front of her home, she grabbed her cell phone and took three photos of the suspect and his vehicle. She emailed the photos she took to the officer.

The photos were of an older model (1990s) Ford F150 pickup truck with what appeared to be a white tool box in the truck bed. The color of the vehicle was dark blue; however, the lower trim was a much lighter color blue. The vehicle also had a black colored ladder rack

and different color wheels. The color of the passenger front wheel was white while the passenger rear wheel appeared black or brown. The paint on the hood had faded/peeled significantly and was very noticeable in the photos. The photos also showed that the vehicle was occupied by a single white male wearing a dark colored shirt and hat. Surrounding agencies were provided with the description of the suspect vehicle and the photos were printed and distributed to each WPD district vehicle. A photo of the suspect vehicle and a brief description of the incident was also posted to this agency's Facebook page. Two days later this agency received a phone call from a citizen reporting that they believed they found the suspect vehicle related to this case traveling northbound on the Silas Deane Highway. The citizen had seen the Facebook post related to the suspect vehicle. The citizen followed the vehicle for a short distance until it was stopped by a Wethersfield officer for a motor vehicle violation on Route 5/15 northbound. The operator of the pickup truck was identified. Investigation at the scene of the motor vehicle stop revealed that the driver/suspect was in possession of narcotics. This male was arrested for possession of narcotics and advised of his Miranda Rights. While the officer was transporting the suspect to police headquarters, he began speaking with the suspect regarding the theft from 2 days earlier. He initially denied stealing anything. At police headquarters the suspect was again advised of his Miranda Rights. The officer showed the suspect the photo that was taken by the witness of his vehicle and that it only showed the operator inside the vehicle. Once he saw this, the suspect then admitted that he was the person that had stolen the leaf blower. An arrest warrant for this suspect is forthcoming.

Support Services Bureau

Eighteen persons were taken into custody and held requiring 553 hours of incarceration. Of the persons held, eleven were arrested by warrant. Personnel transported the prisoners to court, including fifteen males and three females. The females incarcerated by the department required 127 hours of matron coverage.

There were 115 phone calls and 65 calls for service involving animal control issues. Of the calls for service, forty-four were handled by the part-time animal control officers and twenty-one were handled by police officers. Seven animals were impounded with five being redeemed, one sold as a pet and one placed on in-house quarantine. Wethersfield Animal Control Officers covered for four calls in Newington. Newington Animal Control Officers covered for thirteen calls in Wethersfield. ACO Monde conducted three demonstrations for D.A.R.E. students at various elementary schools.

Wethersfield Police Department Child Seat Technicians inspected/installed 3 child seats.

Wethersfield Public Safety Dispatchers received and handled 918 E-911 emergency phone calls.

The Wethersfield Volunteer Fire Department (WVFD) was dispatched to 41 calls for service.

The Wethersfield Volunteer Ambulance (WVAA) was dispatched to 123 calls for service and Aetna Ambulance to 225 calls for service.

Administrative Services Bureau

This department has responded to 61 alarms in month of May. Residential locations made up 29 (48%) of the total, non-residential locations made up 30 (49%), and State / Town government made up 2 (3%) of the total alarm incidents. The alarms received were: 51 burglar, 5 holdup / panic, and 5 fire alarms. There are currently 1,572 alarm registrations on file, 52 of which experienced alarm(s) this month; this represents a 96% compliance rate. Eleven (11) new alarm registrations were entered this month. During this month, \$6,675 in alarm billing has occurred. There have been 325 actions performed by this unit with the CryWolf system, and 313 items of correspondence sent out.

The department is currently at full strength for sworn personnel and is in the hiring process for a Chief's Secretary/Records Unit Supervisor and part-time dispatcher.

Detective Division

On May 15, 2014 Wethersfield detectives were dispatched to Stillman Road after a patrol supervisor asked them to respond to the home. Patrol Officers had been dispatched to the home on a well-being check of a female resident by her estranged son. Upon arrival, the officers discovered that the elderly female homeowner had passed away in the home and her son and only other resident had been living with the body for some time. Detectives initially processed the scene as a sudden death. Following an autopsy, it was determined that the death was a homicide. Detectives continued their investigation and eventually were able to secure a warrant for the arrest of the victim's son. He was taken into custody and transported to court the following day.

Juvenile Detective

Wethersfield Police Department handled approximately 39 incidents, involving approximately 44 juveniles during the month of May. In these incidents 1 Juvenile was arrested and 3 juveniles were diverted for parental discipline.

School Resource Officer

During the month of May the SRO covered a total of thirty three (33) incidents including activities at the school; there were no arrests during the month of May. Three (3) incident reports were completed and one accident report. The incident reports included the following:

- Vandalism to a student's vehicle.
- Found property (a Connecticut license plate) that was previously reported stolen.
- A suspicious incident involving a student in possession of a controlled substance.

The SRO conducted selective enforcement on Wolcott Hill Road for hazardous violations after receiving several complaints from the administration, faculty, and citizens.

The SRO conducted enforcement on the main driveway on school grounds for various violations.

The SRO attended the STARS/SRBI (Support Team - Assistance & Response Early Intervention Program - Scientific Research-Based Intervention) meetings for at risk youths at WHS.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Based on citizen concerns and traffic study results, officers performed selective enforcement at various locations throughout town. Officers performed selective enforcement 66 different times spending approximately 45 hours 10 minutes doing selective enforcement on various roads in town. Locations given extra attention included the Ridge Road and Wolcott Hill Road.

A traffic study on Ridge Road near Oakdale Street was initiated and completed utilizing a speed monitoring device over the course of fifteen (15) days. The posted speed limit on this road is 35 MPH. During the 339.5 survey hours, 71,342 cars were recorded, averaging 210 cars per hour. Results from the speed monitoring device showed an average speed of approximately 38 MPH, the 50th percentile speed of 38.5 MPH, the 85th percentile speed of approximately 44 MPH and a top speed of 89 MPH.

Based on a citizen complaint about speeding vehicles, a traffic study on Main Street near Kelly Avenue (northbound traffic only) was initiated and completed utilizing a speed monitoring device over the course of twelve (12) days. The posted speed limit on this road is 20 MPH. During the 265 survey hours, 11,936 cars were recorded, averaging 45 cars per hour. Results from the speed monitoring device showed an average speed of approximately 25.59 MPH, the 85th percentile speed of approximately 32 MPH and a top speed of 67 MPH.

The following work orders were completed during May, 2014:

- On Dale Road just west of Wolcott Hill Road Replace current 'No Parking Anytime' sign on the north side.
- On Olney Road northbound in front of 272 Olney Rd Install 'Speed Limit 25 MPH' sign.
- For the Memorial Day Parade on Saturday, May 24th, cones, barricades, and temporary "No Parking" signs were placed on numerous streets, including State Street, Nott Street, Garden Street, Church Street, Main Street and Broad Street, in Old Wethersfield.
- For the Fireworks Event on Saturday, May 31st, barricades and temporary "No Parking" signs were placed on numerous streets around the Wethersfield Cove Park.

Training Division

On Tuesday, May 6, 2014, Dispatchers Karen Tomczyk, Frank Liberatore and Welles Hale attended a one day training entitled “**911 Supervision: Leading Teams in a Crisis.**” This training was held in the Wethersfield Police Department Community Room. This course discussed leadership strategies to build a cohesive dispatch environment.

On Tuesday, May 6, 2014, Lieutenant Donald Crabtree attended a one day training class entitled “**Right Response CT Network Team Leader Training.**” Training was held at the Courtyard by Marriott, Cromwell, CT. The Right Response CT Network is a new school-police-community collaboration for school safety through consistent and appropriate handling of disruptive students.

On Wednesday, May 7, 2014, members of the **Capitol Region Emergency Services Team (CREST)**, including Lieutenant Mark Poisson, Sergeant Michael Connolly, MPO Luis Gonzalez, and Officers Jeffry Poulin and Shane Murphy began attending monthly two-day training.

On Wednesday May 9, 2014, Dispatcher Karen Tomczyk attended a “**Regional Incident Dispatch (RID) Quarterly Meeting.**” This training was held at the Windsor Police Department, Windsor CT. The RID Team is a group of approximately twelve telecommunicators comprised from local law enforcement agencies. The RID Team is designed to supplement area Dispatch Centers in the event of a large crisis, man-made/natural disaster etc.

On Monday, May 12, 2014, Officers Kevin Lawless, Robert Malinowski and Justin Hilchuk began attending a course entitled “**TECC Tactical Officer Rescue Course.**” Training was hosted by the Manchester Police Department, Manchester, CT. Course topics included performing lifesaving medical aid at the same time dealing with active threats which included gunfire.

On Monday, May 12, 2014, Detective Norberto Mendez began attending a five day training class entitled “**Intermediate Crime Scene Processing.**” Training was held at the Connecticut Police Academy, Meriden, CT. Detective Mendez had previously attended the Basic Crime Scene Processing class. Course objectives include lifting latent prints from unusual surfaces, locating and collecting trace evidence, learning casting methods and preparing a case for court.

On Monday, May 19, 2014, Detective Norberto Mendez began attending a five day training class entitled “**Advanced Crime Scene Processing.**” Training was held at the Connecticut Police Academy, Meriden, CT. Detective Mendez had attended the Intermediate Crime Scene Processing class the week before. Course objectives include advanced techniques to process more advanced crime scenes.

On Monday, May 19, 2014, Officers Barry Veilleux and Robert Malinowski began attending the five day “**Capitol Region Police Recertification Program.**” This training was held at the East Hartford Police Department, East Hartford, 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 training including legal updates, bias crimes, patrol

procedures, juvenile law and domestic violence laws. This particular training class was designed specifically for police supervisors.

On Tuesday, May 21, 2014, Officer Joseph Baich, along with his canine, Owen, attended a one day training class entitled "**Police Canine/ Police Canine Handler Training.**" Officer Baich and Owen participated in this monthly canine training with several other area law enforcement canine teams. Training included evidence recovery and tracking.

On Wednesday May 21, 2014, Detective Christopher Morris attended "**DEP's Annual Boating Law Enforcement Seminar.**" Course objectives include review of new and current boating laws.

On Thursday, May 29, 2014 Sergeants Delroy Warmington, Kevin O'Leary, Michael Fisher and Michael Connolly attended "**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 supervisor liability and domestic violence issues.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wethersfield Detectives are working with the Mid-State Narcotics Task Force, assisting with personnel and the development of active narcotic cases. Detectives are also working closely with the Drug Enforcement Agency to investigate local individuals.

The Wethersfield Police Cadets will be starting up the Curbs for Cadets program once again for the summer season.

Spring Firearms if scheduled to take place the week of June 2-6, 2014.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

	MAY 2013	MAY 2014	YTD 2013	YTD 2014
Criminal Arrests				
Criminal Arrests	63	76	365	304
Burglaries and Robberies				
Residential Burglaries	2	5	12	11
Commercial Burglaries	0	1	0	8
Armed Robberies	1	0	1	0
Strong-Arm Robberies	0	0	1	1
Family Violence Arrests				
Family Violence Arrests	6	11	16	31

Traffic Related

Infractions/ MV Summons	233	277	826	784
DUI	14	12	43	38
MV Crashes	58	55	234	197
Parking Tags	24	205	172	382

Miscellaneous Activities

911 Calls	941	918	4137	3274
Alarm Responses	78	61	301	279
Records Requests	195	259	1091	918
Prisoners Transported	18	18	70	69
Child Car Seat Installations	12	3	41	22