



Police Department Monthly Report



James L. Cetran
Chief of Police

November, 2010

SPECIAL PROJECTS / ACHIEVEMENTS / INNOVATIONS:

In November, 2010 the Wethersfield Police Department participated in the semi-annual "Click It or Ticket" enforcement campaign coordinated by the State of Connecticut, Department of Transportation. This campaign was held from November 8, 2010 through November 21, 2010. During this time Department members issued twenty-seven Failure to Wear Seatbelt infractions tickets, fifteen speeding infractions tickets and seventeen other traffic-related infractions tickets. Department members also made thirteen DUI arrests during this time period.

On Monday, November 22, 2010 the Department finished accepting on-line applications for the position of Police Officer. The Department currently has two police officer vacancies. As in the past, the Department has accepted these on-line applications through the website, PoliceApp.com. This website has allowed the Department to recruit persons specifically interested in a law enforcement career, greatly reduce staff time associated with the process, all but eliminate postage associated with the process and communicate with candidates in a timely manner. The Department received 581 applications for the position of police officer. This includes 512 applications from residents from the State of Connecticut, twenty-five from the State of Massachusetts and twenty-seven from the State of New York. Twenty-seven candidates are residents of Wethersfield. The written examination is scheduled for Saturday, December 4, 2010.

In November, 2010 the Wethersfield Police Department submitted their statistics to the Connecticut Police Chief's Association (CPCA) for the Thanksgiving holiday period. This time period included noon Wednesday, November 24, 2010 to midnight, Sunday, November 28, 2010. The CPCA collects the statistics from each local department in four areas. During this time period the Wethersfield Police Department recorded 162 motor vehicle stops, five driving under the influence arrests, five motor vehicle accidents and no motor vehicle accidents involving a fatality.

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES:

Patrol Division

Patrol Division (Cases of Interest)

On Monday, November 1, 2010 at 2:45 PM an officer noticed suspicious activity at a motel located on the Berlin Turnpike. The officer and a detective conducted an investigation into this activity. This investigation resulted in the arrest of one female for prostitution and one male for patronizing a prostitute.

On Thursday, November 4, 2010 at 1:11 PM officers and detectives investigated the case of a dog that was

accidentally shot by its owner in the owner's home. The person that accidentally shot the dog was subsequently arrested and charged with Reckless Endangerment. This charge was brought because there was another person in the home when this incident occurred. The dog has since recovered from serious wounds.

On Wednesday November 17, 2010 at 2:58 PM several officers were dispatched to an office building in Wethersfield on the report of a threat made to employees in the office. Officers met with a female employee who stated that throughout the day a male subject had been calling the office. Approximately five calls were made in total. The calls initially were harassing in nature. The last call of the day, however, was threatening in nature. The male subject physically threatened several people including those in the office. After police were contacted, officers investigated and were able to arrest the male later in the evening. He was charged with Breach of Peace Second Degree, Threatening Second Degree and Harassment Second Degree and later released on bond. On Thursday November 18, 2010 at 2:18 PM officers were again dispatched to the same office building as described above for the complaint of harassing telephone calls being made by the same male subject that was arrested by the Department on November 17, 2010. While investigating this complaint at this office building, the male subject came to Police Headquarters seeking information about his arrest the day before. As officers were questioning him about this incident, he physically struggled with the officers in an attempt to get away. After a brief struggle, he was placed under arrest and charged with Interfering with Officer and Harassment Second Degree. The subject was held on bond and presented in court the next day.

Detective Division

In November, 2010 members of the Detective Division initiated or were assigned follow-up to twenty-eight new cases. Major case investigations included one death investigation, one fraud, one identity theft, one reckless endangerment and one possible arson. Detectives also continue to perform local background investigations and background investigations for pistol permit applicants.

Juvenile Unit

In November, 2010 the Wethersfield Police Department, Juvenile Unit handled thirty incidents involving thirty-six juveniles. In these incidents, two juveniles were arrested for criminal violations, three were diverted to parental punishment, two were diverted to school punishment and two were diverted to the Town Social and Youth Services.

On November 29, 2010 the Fall Police Adventures Crossroads program concluded with a stations day followed by a pizza party. The Police Adventures program is an after-school program comprised of Silas Deane Middle School students, Wethersfield police officers as well as Town Social and Youth Services staff members. The stations day consisted of police combat, simmunition firearms familiarization, a vehicle search and a felony stop. In each of the stations, the students were placed into the role of police officers.

School Resource Officer

In November, 2010 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 ten incidents resulted in seven case numbers and six incident reports. These reports included one arrest for Creating a Public Disturbance, CGS 53a-181 and four larceny complaints.

The SRO reported investigating truancy issues which resulted in locating students off school grounds and transporting them back to WHS. The SRO, along with a WHS administrator, conducted several mediations which included bullying and harassment issues.

Finally, the SRO reported attending the Mr. Wethersfield contest, a Teen Texting and Driving assembly as well as STARS meetings in regards to at risk students. The SRO also participated in a WHS Key Club fundraiser consisting of a dodge ball tournament.

Support Services Bureau

In November, 2010 Wethersfield Communications Unit personnel dispatched the Wethersfield Volunteer Ambulance to seventy-four medical emergencies and Aetna Ambulance to 179 medical emergencies for a total of 253 medical emergencies.

In November, 2010 Wethersfield Communications Unit personnel dispatched the Wethersfield Volunteer Fire Department to thirty-five calls for service.

In November, 2010 there were fifty-one calls involving animal control issues. Of those calls, thirty-seven were handled by a part-time animal control officer and fourteen were handled by police officers.

In November, 2010 twelve persons were taken into custody and held requiring 228 hours of incarceration. Of the persons held, nine were arrested by warrant. Support Services personnel transported twelve prisoners to court to include ten males and two females. Also, during the month Support Services personnel processed twenty-seven arrestees.

The Support Services Bureau Commander continues to receive requests for added or replacement street signs. Work orders completed in November, 2010 include placing temporary signage in support of several events to include the Wethersfield High School football game on November 6, 2010; the Jamie's 5K Race and 3K Walk on November 7, 2010 and the Wethersfield High School playoff football game on November 30, 2010.

Support Services Bureau, Training Unit

On Wednesday, November 3, 2010 the Support Services Bureau lieutenant began attending a one day class entitled "911 System Administrator." This training was held at the AT&T Hartford Office, Hartford, CT. Training areas include information on the 911 system and using various functions to produce reports generated by the system.

On Wednesday, November 3, 2010 six Department members of the Capitol Region Emergency Services Team (CREST) began attending monthly two-day training.

On Thursday November 4, 2010 two dispatchers attended a one day recertification class entitled "NCIC/ COLLECT Recertification Training." Training was held at the Connecticut State Police Complex, 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 Friday November 5, 2010 a sergeant attended a one day class entitled "The Essentials of Human Resource Law." Training areas include topics such as the rights and duties of employers.

On Monday November 15, 2010 a dispatcher attended a "Regional Incident Dispatch (RID) Meeting." This training was held at the State EOC Building, Hartford, 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.

During the week of November 15, 2010 the WPD Training Unit conducted Fall 2010 Low Light Firearms

Training. Forty officers participated in this training which was held at the Berlin Police Range in Berlin, CT. Training consisted of three hours of low-light/ no light firearms training and one hour of classroom training. Officers were required to complete a sixty round qualification course in low light conditions which all officers successfully passed. Officers also completed two point-instinctive courses and a stress / motor vehicle stop course. The stress / motor vehicle course required officers to properly approach a vehicle, use their flashlight and quickly and accurately decide to shoot or not shoot a possible threat. Prior to this training, officers received instruction on the Department Deadly Force policy and a discussion about the recent shooting of four police officers in Lakewood, Washington. All officers were also given a written examination on the Department's Use of Deadly Force policy. Ten officers also qualified with the Colt AR-15 patrol rifle and were required to complete a written examination.

On Tuesday November 16, 2010 a lieutenant and a retired lieutenant began attending "Capital Region Chief's 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 concluding in May, 2011.

On Thursday, November 18, 2010 a detective began attending a two day training seminar entitled "Arson Investigators' Seminar." This training was held at the Hartford Marriott Rocky Hill, Rocky Hill, CT. Topics included arson investigation, gas explosions and scientific methods.

Administrative Services Bureau

In November, 2010 police personnel responded to seventy-four police related alarms to include sixty-eight burglar alarms and six hold-up/ panic alarms. Locations included thirty-five residential alarms, thirty-seven non-residential alarms and two state/ town government alarms. A total of 1,445 alarm permits are currently on file with the Police Department. During the month, sixty-eight locations experienced a false alarm resulting in a 95% compliance rate. This month there were 107 items of correspondence sent in connection with billing, registration and false alarm violations with \$3,975.00 in alarm billing.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

In November, 2010 the Wethersfield Police Department Child Seat Technicians inspected/installed eight child seats. The Support Services Division receives requests for this service via the Wethersfield Police Department website as well as phone requests.

The Support Services Bureau continues 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 several town schools. To address these complaints, officers performed selective enforcement at numerous locations throughout town. In October, 2010 officers performed selective enforcement sixty-four times and spent a total of thirty-eight hours doing selective enforcement on various roads in town.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

	November 2009	November 2010	YTD 2009	YTD 2010
Criminal Arrests				
Criminal Arrests	54	55	684	654
Family Violence Arrests				
Family Violence				

Arrests	10	7	90	92
Traffic Related				
Infractions/ MV Summons	236	224	2694	2477
DUI	15	26	205	168
MV Accidents	48	66	593	578
Parking Tags	48	33	698	942
Miscellaneous Activities				
911 Calls	828	745	9372	8755
Alarm Responses	38	74	662	684
Records Requests	n/a	235	n/a	n/a
Prisoners Transported	18	12	171	150