



Police Department Monthly Report



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Chief of Police

November, 2011

SPECIAL PROJECTS / ACHIEVEMENTS / INNOVATIONS:

On November 1, 2011 the Wethersfield Police Department began offering access to WPD accident reports on-line. The Wethersfield Police Department has partnered with Docview, LLC so as to provide this service. It is estimated that the Wethersfield Police Department Records Unit receives approximately two thousand requests yearly for accident reports. It is expected that this service will significantly reduce the time previously dedicated to assisting insurance agencies, attorneys and citizens seeking copies of accident reports. It will now allow persons requesting this report to do so from the convenience of their home or business twenty-four hours a day via the internet. Persons can visit www.docview.us.com to get a copy of a Wethersfield Police Department accident report.

In November, 2011 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 14, 2011 through November 27, 2011. During this time Department members issued thirty-eight Failure to Wear Seatbelt infractions tickets, twenty-one speeding infractions tickets and sixty-nine other traffic-related infractions tickets. Department members also made nine DUI arrests during this time period.

Three probationary police officers have completed the second of four field training phases and began Phase Three training. This Field Training is under the supervision of Department Field Training Officers. During the Field Training Program these probationary police officers are observed and evaluated on a daily basis while they are expected to perform more duties with each phase. Completion of the Field Training Program is expected in late December, 2011.

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES:

Patrol Division

Patrol Division (Case of Interest)

On Wednesday, November 23, 2011 at about 10:00 AM an officer witnessed a motor vehicle being driven in a hazardous manner southbound on the Berlin Turnpike near Jordan Lane. The driver was constantly changing lanes causing other vehicles to slow or stop so as to avoid being struck. The officer attempted to stop the vehicle but the operator drove around cars that were stopped for the stop sign at the intersection of Russell Road and Wells Road. The operator made no attempt to stop and yield the right of way to oncoming traffic. The operator of the Cadillac then proceeded west on Cedar Street into Newington at a high rate of speed. At one point the officer saw that the car's left front tire was flat. Soon after this the same tire became

completely free of the rim. The pursuit proceeded into New Britain in the vicinity of the campus of Central Connecticut State University where it was terminated. A short time later the New Britain police were able to locate the male driver hiding behind an apartment building. The driver said he did not stop for police because he knew his driver's license was suspended and he believed he had a warrant for his arrest. The operator was arrested and transported to Police Headquarters where he was charged with Operating Under Suspension, Reckless Driving, Evading Responsibility, Engaging Officer in Pursuit and Stop Sign Violation. He was held on bond and was presented in court on November 25, 2011.

On Monday, November 28, 2011 at about 8:00 AM several officers were dispatched to the intersection of Maple Street and Silas Deane Highway on the report that an on-duty Hartford Police Department (HPD) officer had one individual detained following a road rage incident. The HPD officer reported that he was driving on Maple Street when he saw the road rage incident happen right in front of him. It was reported that two cars became involved in a road rage incident. Once at the red traffic signal on Maple Street at Silas Deane Highway, the female operator and male passenger of one car exited and approached the other operator. The female driver of the first car was holding a "police-type" baton and she "snapped" it open as she approached the car. The male passenger that had exited threw a knife at the other car causing damage to the car. Each of the drivers also spit at one another. The three persons were arrested for their actions. The single male operator was charged with Disorderly Conduct. He was later released and is scheduled to appear in court on a later date. The female driver was charged with Weapon in Vehicle, Threatening Second Degree and Disorderly Conduct. She was released on bond and is scheduled to appear in court on a later date. The male passenger was charged with Threatening Second Degree, Criminal Mischief Third Degree, Disorderly Conduct and Reckless Endangerment First Degree. He was released on bond and is scheduled to appear in court on a later date.

Detective Division

In November, 2011 members of the Detective Bureau initiated or were assigned follow-up to approximately eighteen new cases. Major case investigations included three burglaries, six larcenies and one fraud/ identity theft case. Detectives also continue to perform town background investigations and backgrounds for pistol permit applicants.

Juvenile Unit

In November, 2011 the Wethersfield Police Department Juvenile Unit handled sixteen incidents involving twenty-two juveniles. In these incidents, three juveniles were arrested and three juveniles were diverted to parental punishment.

In November, 2011 the Police Adventures Crossroads program concluded its Fall Session with a station's day event. This event was followed by a pizza party where parents had an opportunity to meet with the Wethersfield Police Officers who also participated in the program.

School Resource Officer

In November, 2011 the School Resource Officer (SRO) assigned to the Wethersfield High School (WHS) reported covering eighteen incidents which were entered into the School Cop Database. These incidents resulted in seven case numbers, four case reports and one supplemental report. Incident reports were completed for two vandalism complaints, one public accident and one larceny complaint. There was one arrest at WHS during the month for Larceny Sixth Degree.

In November, 2011 the SRO covered numerous incidents involving mentoring of students and mediations with students who were bullying/threatening, incidents involving the internet and texting, truancy issues and

defiance issues.

The SRO also attended STARS/SRBI meetings regarding at risk youths at the school

The SRO is also currently on the Juvenile Review Board (JRB) for the Town of Wethersfield.

Support Services Bureau

In November, 2011 the Wethersfield Volunteer Fire Department was dispatched to 128 calls for service.

In November, 2011 there were 116 calls involving animal control issues. Of those calls, ninety-two were handled by the part-time animal control officers and twenty-four were handled by police officers. Nine dogs were impounded with four being redeemed and three being adopted. Cases included two dog bites.

In November, 2011 the Wethersfield Volunteer Ambulance (WVAA) was dispatched to 109 medical emergencies and Aetna Ambulance to 267 medical emergencies for a total of 376 medical emergencies.

The Support Services Bureau Commander continues to receive requests for added or replacement road signs. Work orders completed in November, 2011 included the temporary installation of signage in support of Jamie's Run 5K Race (Sunday, November 20, 2011), Hartford Marathon Inter-Community Mental Health 5K and 10K (Sunday, November 13, 2011), Wethersfield High School Thanksgiving Day football game (Thursday, November 24, 2011), replacing the 25 MPH speed limit sign near 226 Longvue Drive, replacing the 30 MPH speed limit sign on Folly Brook Boulevard, northbound, north of Nott Street, installing a 30 MPH speed limit sign on Folly Brook Boulevard (southbound) south of Jordan Lane, replacing a 25 MPH speed limit sign on Folly Brook Boulevard, southbound, south of the Hartford city line, replacing the existing "No Parking Anytime" sign and "This Side of Sign" sign near 134 Folly Brook Boulevard and replacing the existing "No Parking Anytime" sign near 137 Folly Brook Boulevard.

Support Services Bureau, Training Unit

On Tuesday November 1, 2011, a sergeant and two officers attended a one day training course entitled "Canine Legal Update and Opinions Seminar." This training was held at Maloney CTSD, Cheshire, CT. Topics included the legal issues of canine usage, canine tactics and the prevention of litigation.

During the week of November 14, 2011 the WPD Training Unit conducted Fall 2011 Low Light Firearms Training. Forty-one 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. Officers also completed two point-instinctive courses and a stress/ motor vehicle stop course. Both the point-instinctive courses required officers to quickly and accurately identify and shoot at multiple threats. The stress/ motor vehicle course required officers to properly approach a vehicle, use their flashlight and use good skills to quickly and accurately identify and decide to shoot or not shoot a possible threat. Prior to this training, officers received instruction and completed a written examination on the Department's Deadly Force policy. Nine officers also qualified with the Colt AR-15 patrol rifle and were required to complete a written examination.

On Thursday November 17, 2011, two detectives attended a one day training course entitled "FBI-LEEDA/ LifeLock Identity Theft Summit." LifeLock is a company that focuses on educating consumers and working with law enforcement and elected officials to better understand the increasing threats of identity theft. Through this course, officers become part of a nationwide network which is of great assistance when conducting investigations that lead to other jurisdictions.

On Thursday, November 17, 2011 a detective began attending a two day training seminar entitled "Arson Investigators' Seminar." This training was held at the Hartford Marriott, Rocky Hill, CT. Topics included arson investigation, gas explosions and scientific methods.

On Tuesday, November 22, 2011 an officer attended a one day training conference entitled "17th Annual Children, Youth and the Police Statewide Conference." This training was held in Cromwell, CT and is sponsored by the Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee. This annual police conference consisted of various topics including Juvenile Law Update, Raise the Age Legislation and Safe Schools collaboration.

Administrative Services Bureau

In November, 2011 police personnel responded to eighty-seven police related alarms. Fifty-five alarms were excused as they were related to the power outage and restoration problems experienced that month. Of the thirty-two chargeable alarms, there were twenty-seven burglar alarms and five hold-up/panic alarms. Locations included eighteen residential alarms and fourteen non-residential alarms. A total of 1,553 alarm permits are currently on file with the Police Department. During the month, twenty-eight locations experienced a false alarm resulting in a 98% compliance rate. This month there were seventy-eight items of correspondence sent in connection with billing, registration, and false alarm violations with \$ 4,025 in alarm billing.

As of November 30, 2011 the Wethersfield Police Department has expended \$ 238,185 on overtime. This is equivalent to 53 % of the Department's total budgeted overtime for this fiscal year. In November, 2011 ninety shifts were staffed with no shifts staffed below critical staffing levels.

As of November 30, 2011 the Department has no police officer vacancies and is at its authorized strength of forty-seven sworn officers. Three probationary police officers are currently in phase three of the FTO training program. Finally, as of November 30, 2011 the Department has two officers on workers compensation due to work-related injuries and two others 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 November, 2011 officers performed selective enforcement seventy different times and spent approximately 49.75 hours doing selective enforcement on these identified roads.

In October, 2011 a resident of Harris Hill Road complained to the Board of Education, who forwarded part of the complaint to the Police Department, stating that the bus stop at Harris Hill Road and Chauncey Road is too dangerous due to traffic incidents and speeding vehicles on Harris Hill Road. According to WPD records, there were no motor vehicle accidents reported during the past five (5) years on Harris Hill Road. Two speed detection devices placed on Harris Hill Road recorded the average speed of traffic at 22.5 MPH and the maximum speed (one car) of 43 MPH. Between 8:00 AM and 8:30 AM, which is the time frame when elementary students would be at the bus stop, showed the average number of cars was 11.3 with an average speed of 30.1 MPH. The maximum speed during this time frame was 40 MPH. Based upon the above information it is the opinion of the Wethersfield Police Department that the above bus stop location on Harris Hill Road near Chauncey Road is not unsafe for the students. This information was forwarded to the Wethersfield Public Schools.

In November, 2011 a resident of Folly Brook Boulevard approached the Town Manager's office about

installing additional speed limit signs and 'Slow- Children Playing' signs on Folly Brook Boulevard between Nott Street and Jordan Lane. The Support Services Commander investigated and recommended replacing one speed limit sign northbound north of Nott Street and adding one speed limit sign southbound south of Jordan Lane. Additionally it was recommended against adding the "Slow- Children Playing" signs. The Support Services Commander completed a work order and forwarded it to Town Physical Services.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

	November 2010	November 2011	YTD 2010	YTD 2011
Criminal Arrests				
Criminal Arrests	55	69	654	725
Burglaries and Robberies				
Residential Burglaries	5	3	38	31
Commercial Burglaries	2	1	4	11
Armed Robberies	0	0	0	1
Strong-Arm Robberies	0	0	4	2
Family Violence Arrests				
Family Violence Arrests	7	4	92	75
Traffic Related				
Infractions/ MV Summons	224	195	2477	2009
DUI	26	18	168	140
MV Accidents	66	63	578	667
Parking Tags	33	39	942	533
Miscellaneous Activities				
911 Calls	745	1069	8890	9963
Alarm Responses	74	87	693	688
Records Requests	235	179	n/a	2421
Prisoners Transported	12	9	150	126
Child Car Seat Installations	8	4	91	83