



# POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT

*Wethersfield*



---

---

**James Cetran**  
**Chief of Police**

## October 2012

### **SPECIAL PROJECTS / ACHIEVEMENTS / INNOVATIONS**

During the month of October 2012, members of the Detective Bureau initiated or were assigned follow up to approximately twenty-three (25) new cases. The major case investigations involved nine (9) burglaries, two (2) robberies, (3) fraud / identity theft, and one (1) sudden death. Detectives also continue to perform town background investigations and backgrounds for pistol permits applicants.

The Support Service Bureau Commander, Lieutenant Donald Crabtree, completed all required classes in the Connecticut Municipal Legal Traffic Authority program and thus received a certificate from this program, which is conducted through the University of Connecticut – Connecticut Transportation Institute Technology Transfer Center.

K-9 Owen and handler Officer Joe Baich are currently attending narcotics detection training. Once the training is completed, the K-9 team will be certified to detect a variety of illegal drugs. K-9s are able to detect the odor of narcotics from outside a closed vehicle, within an enclosed package, and through materials designed to mask odor.

The police explorers attended the Over The Hill Gang car show which was held to benefit the explorer program. The Juvenile Unit, in cooperation with the Division of Social & Youth Services began another session of the Police Adventures program, which is operated through the Crossroads program at the Silas Deane Middle School.

### **MONTHLY ACTIVITIES**

#### **Patrol Division**

#### **Patrol Division (Case of Interest)**

On Tuesday, October 9, 2012 at approximately 6:40 PM the Wethersfield Police Department received a 911 call reporting that a pedestrian was struck by a car on Wolcott Hill Road at the intersection with Beverly Road. Numerous police officers as well as ambulance personnel were dispatched to the scene. Arriving officers found the pedestrian lying

unconscious in the northbound lane of Wolcott Hill Road a short distance south of the intersection with Beverly Road. The pedestrian was identified as Josefa Mariposque, age 72, of Wethersfield, CT. A preliminary investigation by officers at the scene showed that Mariposque was crossing the road from Bliss Market area and was struck by a northbound car. Mariposque suffered serious injuries. She was treated at the scene and transported to the hospital by ambulance where she later died. The Mid-State Accident Reconstruction Team was called and is investigating this accident.

On Thursday, October 11, 2012 at 4:00 PM dispatch received a call from a commercial clothing store on the Silas Deane Highway reporting that a female stole clothing from the store and was last seen operating a green Toyota Camry on the Silas Deane Highway. The store security officer at the store reported to the officers that he witnessed the female suspect enter the store at 3:40 PM watched this female select several pieces of women's clothing off the rack and then began removing the security tags with some type of hand tool. She eventually concealed the merchandise in her purse and walked past all points of purchase and left the store. Security approached this female at this time; however she denied stealing anything and got into her vehicle. A short time later, two males were located outside of the store. They were associated with this female. One of these males was holding a large woman's purse. An officer asked him why he had a woman's purse and he claimed to have just found it on the ground. The purse contained four women's clothing garments with the store security tags on them. Security confirmed these garments as the same seen on video taken by the female suspect. The total value of the recovered stolen property was \$159.96. One of the males confirmed the identity of the female suspect. An officer was able to make telephone contact with the female suspect. She was convinced to return to the store. After she returned to the store, she was arrested and transported to Police Headquarters. She was charged with Larceny in the 6<sup>th</sup> Degree and Possession of a Shoplifting Device. (An officer discovered a screwdriver type pry tool in her right pants pocket. She admitted to using this tool to remove the security sensor tags). A records check showed she had twenty-five (25) prior arrests. After being fingerprinted and photographed, she was released on \$500.00 non-surety bond and was scheduled to appear in court on 10/25/12.

## **Detective Division**

On 10/16/2012, Wethersfield officers were dispatched to a reported armed robbery. The dispatcher relayed that a juvenile male was robbed by two males on bicycles in the area of Wolcott Hill Rd. The juvenile reported that the two suspects took his phone and iPod after one of the males pulled out a knife. The suspects then fled on bicycles. Two detectives had seen males matching the suspects' descriptions riding bicycles north towards Hartford. These two males were located shortly after this in the south end of Hartford. They were placed under arrest and the stolen property was recovered.

On 10/26/2012, Wethersfield Detectives assisted the Patrol Division with making an arrest of two individuals for attempted burglary. The two suspects were suspicious at a local residence and an investigation revealed that the two were planning on breaking into a vacant home, but stopped once they found out that someone was home. These same two individuals had stolen property inside their vehicle. An investigation revealed that the two

suspects had also recently burglarized a home in Windsor Locks and a home in Chicopee, MA. Wethersfield detectives worked with officers from those agencies and assisted in their arrests for those crimes as well.

## **Juvenile Unit**

Wethersfield Police department handled approximately 29 incidents, involving approximately 44 juveniles. In these incidents, 5 juveniles were arrested for criminal violations, 5 were diverted to parental punishment, and 2 were referred to the Juvenile Review Board for diversion.

## **School Resource Officer**

During the month of October, the SRO covered a total of thirteen incidents and entered them into the School Cop Database. The SRO pulled nine case police numbers which resulted in three incident reports being completed. There were two arrests made at the school for Assault 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree, 53a-61 and Breach of Peace 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree, 53a-181.

The SRO investigated two Larceny 6<sup>th</sup> Degree complaints, assisted with a robbery complaint, and investigated a bullying / threatening complaint at the school.

The School Administration, assisted by the SRO, held several mediations with students in regards to dating relationship disputes, bullying/harassment issues and general disputes. The SRO assisted the School Administration with students that were being defiant and not following school policy. The SRO also assisted with truancy issues involving students at the school.

The SRO attended STARS/SRBI meetings on Fridays during the month of October. These meeting discuss topics pertaining to at-risk students.

The SRO participated in the Town of Wethersfield Juvenile Review Board. The Board is for juveniles residents of town who are deferred from the Juvenile Justice System.

## **Support Services Bureau**

Wethersfield Public Safety dispatchers received and handled 848 E-911 emergency phone calls.

The Wethersfield Volunteer Fire Department (WVFD) was dispatched to 72 calls for service.

The Wethersfield Volunteer Ambulance (WVAA) was dispatched to 79 calls for service and Aetna Ambulance to 215 calls for service.

Wethersfield Police Department Child Seat Technicians inspected/installed two (2) child seats.

There were 133 phone calls and 48 calls for service involving animal control issues. Of the calls for service, twenty-three (23) were handled by the part-time animal control officers and twenty-five (25) were handled by police officers. Seven animals were impounded with four being redeemed, two adopted and one still held. Cases included two dog bites. There has been an ongoing issue with injured swans on the Spring St. pond. One swan that was captured and transferred to rehabilitators has since been fully rehabilitated and returned to the pond, the other injured swan has been captured.

Fourteen persons were taken into custody and held requiring 195 hours of incarceration. Of the persons held, twelve were arrested by warrant. Support Services personnel transported the prisoners to court, including eleven males and three females. The females incarcerated by the department required forty-two hours of matron coverage.

### **Support Services Bureau, Training Unit**

On Wednesday, October 3, 2012 members of the **Capitol Region Emergency Services Team** (CREST), including Lieutenant Mark Poisson, Sergeant Michael Connolly, Master Police Officer Luis Gonzalez and Officer Jeffrey Poulin began attending monthly two-day training.

On Thursday October 11, 2012, Dispatchers Lauren Hammond and John Brymer attended a one day recertification class entitled "**NCIC/ COLLECT Recertification Training.**" Training was held at the Connecticut State Police Forensics Laboratory, 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 Tuesday, October 16, 2012 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 Tuesday, October 16, 2012 Chief James Cetran and Lieutenant Andrew Power attended the "**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. Topics include Leading and Influencing, Executive Liability, Legal Updates, Policy Development, Police Suicide, Sexual Harassment, Juvenile Law, Gang Update and Ethical Decision Making. This training is held once per month concluding in May 2013.

On October 22, 23, 24, 25, and 26, 2012 sworn personnel received annual training on "**Arrest & Control, Handcuffing, ASP, Taser, Oleoresin Capsicum (OC), Use of Force and Pursuit Policy.**" Each officer received an eight hour block of instruction. Officers received instruction on unarmed arrest and control techniques, ASP expandable baton techniques, oleoresin capsicum (OC), and annual pursuit policy training. Officers were recertified in the use of the Taser X26, which is required annually. Officers were given

written tests on Use of Force, ASP, Department motor vehicle pursuit policy, handcuffing, OC and Taser. Officers were put through a stressful workout then were required to show their proficiency in the training they received. Training was conducted by instructors Lieutenant Donald Crabtree, Sergeants Oscar Rivera and Michael Connolly, and Detective Anthony DeMonte.

On Tuesday, October 24, 2012 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 Thursday, October 25, 2012 Officer Albert Whaples attended a one day seminar entitled "**2012 STATEWIDE LAW ENFORCEMENT SUMMIT ON TRAFFIC SAFETY PRIORITIES.**" The training was held at the CCSU Central Connecticut State University campus New Britain, Connecticut. The agenda included updates/changes in the reporting forms of WAVE #43 of the "*Click it or Ticket*" Seatbelt program.

On Tuesday, October 30, 2012 Sergeant Jennie Keyes and Narcotic Canine Elaine began attending a three day training class entitled "**Narcotics Detection Canine In-Service Training.**" Sergeant Keyes and Canine Elaine attended training at the Connecticut State Police Training Unit, Meriden, CT. This in-service training is conducted quarterly in order to maintain certification through the Connecticut State Police.

## **Administrative Services Bureau**

In October 2012 police personnel responded to 72 police related alarms to include fifty-three burglar alarms, ten fire alarms, one hold-up/ panic alarms, and eight on chargeable alarms. Locations included thirty-two residential alarms, twenty-seven non-residential alarms and one state/ town government alarm. A total of 1,552 alarm permits are currently on file with the Police Department. During the month, fifty-eight locations experienced a false alarm resulting in a 96% compliance rate. This month there were 126 items of correspondence sent in connection with billing, registration, and false alarm violations with \$ 3,675 in alarm billing.

As of October 31, 2012 the Wethersfield Police Department has expended \$182,398 on overtime. This is equivalent to 40% of the Department's total budgeted overtime for this fiscal year.

As of October 31, 2012 the department has two police officer vacancies in its authorized strength of forty-seven sworn officers. A hiring process is being conducted and is in the background stage with ten finalists. Finally, as of October 31, 2012 the Department has two officers assigned to light duty due to a work-related injury.

## **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.

Based on citizen concerns and traffic study results, officers performed selective enforcement at various locations throughout town. Officers performed selective enforcement twenty (20) different times spending approximately 15 hours 40 minutes doing selective enforcement on various roads in town. Locations given extra attention include the Silas Deane Middle School, Two Rod Highway and the Berlin Turnpike.

A traffic study on Greenfield Street in the area of #30 was initiated and completed utilizing a speed monitoring device for nineteen (19) days. There is no posted speed limit on this road. During the 457.5 survey hours, 11,816 cars were recorded, averaging 26 cars per hour and 625 cars per day. Results from the speed monitoring device showed an average speed of approximately 23.3 MPH, the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile speed of 23.8 MPH, the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed of approximately 31.8 MPH.

A traffic study on Wolcott Hill Road in the area of #328 was initiated and completed utilizing a speed monitoring device for eight (8) days. The posted speed limit on this road is 35 MPH. During the 189 survey hours, 57,733 cars were recorded, averaging 305 cars per hour and 7331 cars per day. Results from the speed monitoring device showed an average speed of approximately 29.9 MPH, the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile speed of 30.5 MPH and the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed of approximately 35.5 MPH.

The following work orders were completed during October, 2012:

- Replace 30" x 30" stop signs on Highland Street at Hang Dog Lane with 36" x 36" stop signs. Install "All Way" plaques under all stop signs at that intersection. Install retroreflective strips on all stop sign support poles at that intersection.
- For the annual Keane Foundation Carnival on October 12-14, 2012, install temporary "No Parking" signs on and around the Cove Park area.
- For the annual Mikey's Place 5K on October 14, 2012 cones, barricades, one-way signs and temporary "No Parking" signs were placed on numerous streets around Garden Street and the Broad Street Green in Old Wethersfield.
- For the Highcrest School Fall Fair on October 19, 2012 install temporary "No Parking" signs on Highcrest Road.
- For the CREC Soundbridge School Fall Fair on October 27, 2012 install temporary "No Parking" signs on Progress Drive and position barricades at cul-de-sac.

## **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 annual Jamie's Run 5K road race will be held on Sunday, November 4, 2012 at 11:00 AM.
- The Chamber of Commerce Holidays on Main event will be held on Thursday, December 6, 2012 at 5:00 PM.

Fall Firearms (low-light) training for all Department personnel is scheduled for the week of November 12, 2012.

## PERFORMANCE MEASURES

	October 2011	October 2012	YTD 2011	YTD 2012
<b>Criminal Arrests</b>				
Criminal Arrests	51	74	656	736
<b>Burglaries and Robberies</b>				
Residential Burglaries	1	8	28	49
Commercial Burglaries	2	1	10	13
Armed Robberies	1	1	1	1
Strong-Arm Robberies	0	1	2	7
<b>Family Violence Arrests</b>				
Family Violence Arrests	5	10	71	75
<b>Traffic Related</b>				
Infractions/ MV Summons	192	110	1814	1710
DUI	13	4	122	97
MV Accidents	75	56	604	498
Parking Tags	20	15	494	420
<b>Miscellaneous Activities</b>				
911 Calls	1233	848	8894	8349
Alarm Responses	60	72	601	688
Records Requests	182	210	2242	2479
Prisoners Transported	8	14	117	158
Child Car Seat Installations	5	2	79	49