



POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT

Wethersfield



James Cetran
Chief of Police

OCTOBER 2020

SPECIAL PROJECTS / ACHIEVEMENTS / INNOVATIONS

There continues to be one vacancy in the detective division. Additionally one detective remains on a light-duty status.

During the month of October 2020, members of the Patrol Bureau made two (2) arrests for Driving Under the Influence. Please note that self-initiated motor vehicle enforcement was lower than normal due to COVID-19 concerns.

Effective October 23, 2020, Detective James Darby retired from the Wethersfield Police Department after 25 years of service.

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

Patrol Division

Patrol Division (Case of Interest)

Shoplifting thefts and Family Violence related incidents have continued to be common occurrences, as have incidents of vehicles being stolen or stolen from.

On 10/06/2020, officers responded to the Almar Motel for numerous 911 calls reporting a male waving a gun in the parking lot. A female was suffering a minor wound to her leg as the result of being shot with a BB Rifle. As of 11/02/2020, an arrest warrant was approved for the male suspect, who has yet to be arrested.

On 10/13/2020, items were stolen from the vehicle of an individual making a delivery to Walgreen's, 1100 Silas Deane Highway. Officers reviewed surveillance footage and spoke with the manager, who described what the male was wearing. A suspect male was located and arrested for Burglary and Larceny charges.

On 10/13/2020, at approximately 10:20 hours, Cromwell Police followed a stolen vehicle suspected of firing a gunshot at a Cromwell PD Officer on Route 3/ Maple Street through Wethersfield. The suspect vehicle which ended up being stolen, crashed in Hartford and two of the three individuals who ran from the vehicle were immediately apprehended. A firearm was also recovered and Wethersfield PD is pursuing an arrest warrant relating to the incident.

On 10/16/2020, officers were dispatched to a robbery that had just occurred in the Wethersfield Shopping Center, 1059 Silas Deane Highway. A male approached a female and asked her for money before forcefully grabbing her hand and the wallet she was holding before putting his hand in his own pocket and threatened that he had a gun. Other officers responded and the male was located and arrested for Robbery 1st Degree and Larceny charges.

On 10/22/2020, Officer Forrest and other officers responded to the Almar Motel on the third hand report of a complaint involving a juvenile. The juvenile was found to have a Take Into Custody (TIC) order and was additionally listed as a missing juvenile in NCIC/COLLECT. The male juvenile was brought to the Hartford Juvenile Detention Center.

On 10/23/2020 officers were dispatched to the area of Harvard and Wilmont Streets on the report from a citizen that there were youths checking car doors. Officers found several juveniles and one had a silver BB gun that resembled a Sig Sauer Pistol. The juvenile with the BB gun was arrested and the other juvenile were brought to police headquarters so they could be turned over to their parents.

Support Services Bureau

9 persons were taken into custody and held in lieu of bond; 7 males and 2 females were transported to court throughout the month.

There were 68 phone calls and 26 involving animal control issues. 35 dog licenses (new and renewals) during the month. There was 3 impound this month; 1 were redeemed by their owners or sold a pets. The incident synopsis for the month is: 7 wildlife complaint (Geese, raccoon, turtles, etc.) and 19 dog/cat cases (roaming, barking, left in cars, etc.).

Wethersfield Police Department Child Seat Technicians inspected / installed 1 child seats.

Wethersfield Public Safety Dispatchers received and handled 1063 NG911 emergency phone calls. Text-to-911 is now an active feature in Wethersfield's E911 center.

The Wethersfield Volunteer Fire Department (WVFD) was dispatched to, or initiated, 50 calls for service, fire prevention activities, or assists / standbys.

The Wethersfield Volunteer Ambulance (WVAA) and Aetna Ambulance were dispatched to a total of 185 medical / ambulance calls this month.

Administrative Services Bureau

Administrative Services continues to work on hiring due to vacancies. A recent hire, decided to leave and return to his old agency. Records Requests and Freedom of Information requests are a constant.

There were 72 alarm responses this month. The alarm database is being rebuilt in Nexgen CAD.

Detective Division

Criminal Investigations:

During the month of October, 2020, members of the Detective Bureau initiated or were assigned to six (6) new cases. These cases involved the following:

- 4 Frauds
- 1 Firearms Surrender
- 1 Commercial Burglary

In addition to the above cases, members of the Detective Bureau completed sixteen (16) supplemental reports on follow up investigations for sixteen (16) additional cases, including:

- 1 Theft from a Motor Vehicle
- 5 Sexual Assaults
- 3 Sudden Deaths
- 1 Embezzlement – arrest warrant submitted to court
- 2 Commercial Burglaries
- 1 Commercial Burglary – arrest warrant submitted to court
- 1 Fraud – arrest warrant submitted to court
- 1 Stolen Motor Vehicle
- 1 Juvenile Well Being Check

Ten (10) cases from the current and previous months/years were closed.

School Resource Officer

Wethersfield High School

During the month of October, the WHS SRO covered a total of twelve (12) incidents including activities at the school, which were entered into a database.

- The WHS SRO spoke to a student regarding a dispute between two other students. One student had loaned a gaming device to another student who allegedly damaged it. Advised.
- The WHS SRO attended the weekly Safety & Security meeting with administration and school security officers.
- The WHS SRO took a report of found property and returned the belongings to their rightful (WHS student) owner. Assisted.
- The WHS SRO responded to the second-floor hallway after security reported a student concern. Student was thrown out of class and began swearing at the teacher. Assisted.
- The WHS SRO was approached by a student who claimed she was being harassed by another student. Evidence including her own admission showed she had some involvement in the ongoing issue. Both students were advised by SRO and administration.
- The WHS SRO attended the Safety & Security meeting with administration and school security officers.
- The WHS SRO assisted school administration with a planned lock down drill.
- The WHS SRO was interviewed by a student regarding on campus parking. Interview was for a class project for Mr. Martin's Journalism class.
- The WHS SRO was asked to check on a suspicious vehicle in the parking lot. Gone prior to officer's arrival.
- The WHS SRO attended the monthly Wethersfield Youth Advisory Board meeting virtually.

Wethersfield Middle School

- The SDMS SRO routinely attends all weekly STARS/SRBI (Support Team - Assistance & Response Early Intervention Program - Scientific Research-Based Intervention) meeting for at risk youths at SDMS.
- The SDMS SRO routinely attends the weekly security and safety meeting with administrators and security staff.
- The SDMS SRO routinely attends and monitors all lunch periods in the cafeteria.
- The SDMS SRO routinely attends and monitors student drop off and pick up.
- The SDMS SRO routinely attends all sessions of the Town of Wethersfield Juvenile Review Board. No cases scheduled in October 2020 due to COVID-19 restrictions.
- The SDMS SRO conducts regular wellbeing checks of students classified as high risk who are not actively attending school or engaging in classroom activity via the online remote learning option. In the month of October, the SDMS SRO has made approximately ten random home visits. In some instances, the SDMS SRO has convinced the student and parents that it would be in the best interest of the student's education that he or she attend school in person. The majority of those that have elected to do so have shown great improvement in their grades, tardiness and absenteeism.
- The SDMS SRO assisted school administrators with a two fire drills conducted in the Month of October 2020.

- The SDMS SRO investigated an act of vandalism to the school in which the glass portion of an entry door located on the southwest side of the school was smashed during the overnight. No suspects were identified, however the SDMS SRO worked with the head of school security to have additional lighting and surveillance cameras installed in this area to deter future criminal activity. To date there have been no additional acts of vandalism reported.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Selective enforcements requests continue to be sent to Lt. Demonte, who is requiring patrol officers to go to each location and report back activity. This seems to be working very well as it is very responsive.

Training Division

During the month of September, all measures established in recent months continued in an effort to meet the guidance from federal and state infectious control agencies. Many Connecticut communities, including Wethersfield, are seeing a rise in COVID-19 Infections/Positive Test Results.

No COVID-19 significant exposures were reported in the month of October. In the month of October, Chief Cetran and Lead Dispatcher Tomczyk attended five planning meetings (as Unified Command in an Emergency Operations Center capacity) lead by the Wethersfield Emergency Management and Central Connecticut Health District (CCHD) to discuss and plan for Coronavirus (COVID-19) mitigation, future preparations, response and recovery for the Town of Wethersfield. Lieutenant Connolly assisted CCHD and Wethersfield Emergency Management with traffic flow for two drive-thru Flu Vaccine Clinics that took place on October 15, 2020 and October 16, 2020 at the Wethersfield Community Center.

Unit News:

During the month of October, all measures established in recent months continued in an effort to meet the guidance from federal and state infectious control agencies. Many Connecticut communities, including Wethersfield, are seeing a rise in COVID-19 Infections/Positive Test Results. Due to this recent development, on October 30, 2020, Sergeant O. Rivera sent an email to all department personnel updating them on the current COVID-19 status for CT and reminding them of the importance of all personnel to strictly adhere to the rules as outlined in the Safe Workplace Rules for Essential Employers and Special Orders that can be found in PowerDMS.

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Emergency Management with traffic flow for two drive-thru Flu Vaccine Clinics that took place on October 15, 2020 and October 16, 2020 at the Wethersfield Community Center.

Training venues that were able to accommodate students, while adhering to Safe Workplace Guidance, continued hosting classes that several of our officers attended. Virtual training continued throughout the month of October.

Two newly hired Certified Officers, Patrick McCarthy and Karina Salcedo, started their department orientation training and FTO Programs during the first and second weeks of October. Officer Wildman completed his FTO Program and commenced Solo Patrol on October 19, 2020.

Monthly Activities:

From Monday, October 5, 2020 through Friday, October 9, 2020, Officers Richard Holton and Daniella Sanzo attended **Capital Region Chiefs of Police Review Training**. This training provides mandated and elective areas of training towards officer recertification with POSTC.

On Monday, October 5, 2020 through Wednesday, October 7, 2020, Officer Robert Malinowski attended **Basic Crime Scene Processing for Patrol Officers and Detectives**. The purpose of this 3-day course was to teach the proper methods and techniques to investigators in the securing and collection of evidentiary material at any crime scene.

On Monday, October 5, 2020 through Thursday, October 8, 2020, Officer David Gove attended **Forensic Explorer Certified Examiner (FEXCE) – Virtual Training**. Forensic Explorer (FEX) is a specialized software tool engineered for the preservation, analysis and presentation of electronic evidence. This course certified OFC Gove in the use of this software for a three-year period.

On Tuesday, October 6, 2020, Officer Joel DiLoreto attended **Explosive Breacher Training**. This training is conducted monthly for area SWAT Breachers and took place at the Bloomfield Police Department.

On Wednesday, October 7, 2020 through Friday, October 9, 2020, Lieutenant Connolly, Sergeant Gonzalez and Officers Murphy, DiLoreto, Hilchuk and Mendes attended **Capital Region Emergency Services Team (C.R.E.S.T.) Training**. WPD is an agency member of C.R.E.S.T. (a regional SWAT team). Friday was added to their normal two-day training to make up for missed training due to COVID-19 Restrictions.

On Friday, October 9, 2020, Officers Patrick McCarthy and Karina Salcedo participated in **Taser/Handcuffing/Baton/OC Training** at the Wethersfield Police Department. Officer Jessica Blank was the primary instructor. At the conclusion of this training and upon passing a test, Officers McCarthy and Salcedo were certified to carry their assigned Taser.

On Friday, October 9, 2020, Sergeant Joseph Baich and Detective Kevin Foster attended **Alcohol & Drug Facilitated Sexual Assault Investigations Training**. This one-day seminar is geared for the first responding officer, supervisor or detective who finds himself in

the position of first contact with an individual who has been the victim of an attempted or completed sexual assault.

On Tuesday, October 13, 2020, Officer Shane Murphy, along with his canine, Marly, attended a one-day training class titled **Police Canine/Police Canine Handler Training**. Officer Murphy and Marly participated in this monthly canine training with several other area law enforcement canine teams.

On Thursday, October 15, 2020, and Friday, October 16, 2020, Detective Kevin Foster attended an online course titled: **Cognitive Interviewing, Communication & Influence**. This two-day class taught the art of cognitive interviewing using Neuro Linguistic Programming Techniques.

On October 15 and 29, 2020, Lieutenant Anthony DeMonte and Sergeants Michael Wren and Gustavo Rodriguez attended **Capitol Region Review Training (Recertification Training)**. This supervisory level training, which took place at the Southington Police Department, covers mandated and elective in-service training required to maintain certification as a police officer.

On Friday, October 16, 2020, this agency held **Open Range Day** for officers. This open range is an opportunity for officers to practice with their department handgun and receive instruction.

On Monday, October 19, 2020, through Friday, October 23, 2020, this agency held **Fall Firearms Training**. All available sworn officers (and one supernumerary officer) attended one day of training (6-8 hours) during the week. This training included, policy review of General Order 1-041, Use of Force and Deadly Force, Use of Force updates (case law and recent legislation), shooting drills and qualifications. Additionally, all officers took part in scenario-based training involving shooting decisions.

On Wednesday, October 28, 2020, Master Patrol Officer Michael Forrest and Officer Jakub Owczarski participated in **Practical Skills Day 3**. This exercise was a culminating event for the recruits of the New Britain Police Basic Recruit Academy – Session 16. The recruits performed scenario based training using the skills they learned throughout their time at the academy.

UPCOMING EVENTS

With the Corona Virus continuing to be a factor, all road races and public events have been cancelled.

Detectives continue to work on a regional basis with several different task forces in an effort to solve criminal cases throughout the area.

The Wethersfield Police Cadets have resumed their monthly meeting and training on 11/05/2020.

Fall Firearms Training 2020 – Make-Up Day – Handgun, Shotgun, Less Lethal/Special Impact Munitions and Rifle Training/Qualifications on November 17, 2020.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES October 2020

	October 2019	October 2020	YTD 2019	YTD 2020
Criminal Arrests	64	78	581	342
Residential Burglaries	3	3	17	11
Commercial Burglaries	2	3	8	22
Armed Robberies	2	1	2	4
Strong-Arm Robberies	1	0	4	6
Traffic Related				
Infractions/ MV Summons	43	32	926	411
DUI	14	2	105	56
MV Crashes	72	69	549	550
Parking Tags	38	18	461	235
Miscellaneous Activities				
911 Calls	941	1063	8454	8878
Alarm Responses	60	72	581	574
Records Requests	130	96	1086	1292
Child Car Seat Installations	3	1	55	12