



POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT

Wethersfield



James Cetran
Chief of Police

September 2013

SPECIAL PROJECTS / ACHIEVEMENTS / INNOVATIONS

The ASB sergeant performed a review and made recommendations to update the department's Taser Policy, G.O. 1-012, in accordance with the Connecticut P.O.S.T (& CALEA) standards.

The Wethersfield Police Cadets assisted with the Wethersfield Cornfest. The Cadets continued with their fundraising efforts, "Curbs for Cadets."

The Wethersfield Police Department, Training Unit, hosted a one day training class entitled Powerphone's Protecting Law Enforcement Responders on Tuesday September 10, 2013. This course was held in the WPD Community Room. Due to hosting this course, this Department saved \$460.00 in tuition costs.

On Wednesday September 11, 2013, Probationary Police Officer Justin Hilchuk graduated from the 341st session of basic training at the Connecticut Police Academy and has begun his first phase of the twelve week Field Training program.

In compliance with state law, the quarterly E-911 total call count report was provided to the State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Division of Statewide Emergency Telecommunications. For the quarter July 1, 2013 to September 30, 2013 Wethersfield Police dispatchers handled 2700 E-911 calls. Year-to-date E911 total call count is 7722 calls.

Throughout the past year the Wethersfield Police CVSA (Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance) certified officer conducted thirty-four (34) commercial motor vehicle inspections. Several of these inspections resulted in vehicles being taken 'out-of-service' due to safety violations.

The Wethersfield Public Schools received a grant from the State Office of Policy and Management for the creation of the Wethersfield Community Response Team. The Support Services Bureau Commander and the Director of Special Services for the Wethersfield Public Schools have been named team leaders for this project. Both have met to discuss the

formation of this team. Additional meetings and training will occur during the current school year.

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

Patrol Division

Patrol Division (Case of Interest)

On Monday September 3, 2013 at 10:37 AM an officer was dispatched to Super Stop & Shop, 1380 Berlin Turnpike on a past tense shoplifting complaint. The store manager stated that approximately 20 minutes earlier they stopped a female in the parking lot who left the store without paying for a full carriage of groceries. Employees noticed a black female pushing a full carriage of unbagged groceries out of the store and into the parking lot. Two employees approached this female in the parking lot. When they confronted her, she was now bagging the groceries next to her vehicle. An employee politely asked if she had a receipt for the groceries. The female stated that she did, however she then got into her vehicle, locked the doors and drove out of the parking lot. The groceries were left in the parking lot. Employees gave police the description of the car. The vehicle fled north on the Berlin Turnpike. Officers viewed the video surveillance and confirmed that this female bypassed the cash registers and exited the supermarket without paying for the groceries. A Wethersfield detective retrieved a mug shot of the female suspect. The mug shot photograph matched the suspect on video at Super Stop & Shop. The total value of the groceries was \$112. 88. A short time later, officers located the suspect at her home in Hartford and arrested her for shoplifting. She was charged with Larceny in the 6th Degree and Criminal Attempt to commit Larceny in the 6th Degree. She was released on a non-surety bond and was scheduled to appear in New Britain court on 09/17/13.

On Tuesday, September 24, 2013 at approximately 12:35 AM officers were dispatched to the Comfort Inn and Suites, 1330 Silas Deane Hwy. on the reported attempted robbery. The suspect was described as a former manager. The suspect was described as wearing a black leather jacket and grey sweatpants. He was seen entering and leaving the hotel lobby through the west entrance. The suspect did not use force or threaten weapons. He was also unsuccessful in obtaining any currency. The caller identified the suspect. An officer made initial contact with the caller who is also the front desk clerk. She told the officer that the former manager came in and stated, "I'm about to do something bad, I'm about to take money out of the drawer." The clerk told the suspect that she did not have the key for the drawer and could not access the money. He then stretched his body over the counter and attempted to open the drawer. The suspect then exited out the west lobby doors. Officers searched the area for the suspect; however they were not able to locate him. A warrant for his arrest is forthcoming.

Support Services Bureau

Wethersfield Public Safety Dispatchers received and handled 849 E-911 emergency phone calls.

The Wethersfield Volunteer Fire Department (WVFD) was dispatched to 36 calls for service.

The Wethersfield Volunteer Ambulance (WVAA) was dispatched to 92 calls for service and Aetna Ambulance to 239 calls for service.

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

There were 64 phone calls and 58 calls for service involving animal control issues in Wethersfield. Of the calls for service, thirty-seven were handled by the part-time animal control officers and twenty-one were handled by police officers. Two animals were impounded with one being redeemed, and one carried into October. Animal Control Officers dealt with a large number of wildlife including several calls about coyotes and skunks. Wethersfield Animal Control Officers covered for twelve calls in Newington. Newington Animal Control Officers covered for eleven calls in Wethersfield.

Sixteen persons were taken into custody and held requiring 299 hours of incarceration. Of the persons held, ten were arrested by warrant. Support Services personnel transported the prisoners to court, including twelve males and four females. The females incarcerated by the department required 26 hours of matron coverage.

Administrative Services Bureau

This department has responded to 52 alarms in month of September. Non-residential locations made up 25 (48%) of this total, residential alarms made up 25 (48%), and State and Town government made up 2 (3.8%). The alarms received were: 46 burglar, 1 holdup / panic, and 5 fire. There currently are 1,657 alarm registrations on file, 49 of which experienced alarm(s) this month; this represents a 97% compliance rate. Seven new alarm registrations were entered this month. During this month, \$1,475 in alarm billing has occurred. There have been 172 actions performed by this unit with the CryWolf system, and 159 items of correspondence sent out.

The department hired Peter Salvatore as a probationary police officer. Officer Salvatore will be attending the police academy starting on 10/4/13. This fills one of two police officer vacancies; a certified officer examination is scheduled for mid-October 2013.

Detective Division

During the month of September 2013, members of the Detective Bureau initiated or were assigned follow up to approximately twenty (20) new cases. The major case investigations involved; five (5) burglaries, four (4) fraud / Identity thefts, two (2) larcenies, and two (2) sudden deaths. Detectives also continue to perform town background investigations and backgrounds for pistol permits applicants.

A Wethersfield Detective began investigating two similar cases in which a male suspect befriends a victim and gives the victim fraudulent checks in exchange for cash. The victim deposits the checks believing that they checks are valid. The victim later finds out that there is a problem with the checks, but refuses to believe that the friend would harm the victim. The suspect then tells the victim that they proposed some idea the victim had to a patent company and the victim is in line to receive millions of dollars. The victim then continues to deposit the fraudulent checks with the hopes that they are valid and they will collect on the millions of dollars for their invention. At this time the checks are still fraudulent and the money from the inventions has still not arrived. Arrests are pending in this case.

Juvenile Unit

Wethersfield Police Department handled approximately 41 incidents, involving approximately 55 juveniles. In these incidents, 4 juveniles were arrested for criminal violations, 4 were diverted to parental discipline, 1 was diverted to school discipline, and 1 was diverted to the Town of Wethersfield Juvenile Review Board.

School Resource Officer

During the month of June the SRO covered a total of thirty four incidents including activities at the school, which were entered into the School Cop database.

Three incident reports and two motor vehicle accident reports were completed. One of the incident reports was for larceny, one was for an emergency committal and one was for threatening/breach of peace. There were two arrests at the school during the month of September.

The SRO participated in one session of the Town of Wethersfield Juvenile Review Board. This is for juveniles who reside in our town when they are deferred from the Juvenile Justice System to our board.

The SRO attended the State of Connecticut Judicial quarterly gang information meeting, the Connecticut Youth Safety training at Goodwin College, and a crisis intervention meeting regarding two students who are family members of a suicide victim.

The SRO spoke to the freshman class at the Freshman Orientation Assembly. The SRO assisted numerous issues within and outside the school.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Based on citizen concerns and traffic study results, officers performed selective enforcement at various locations throughout town. Officers performed selective enforcement thirteen

different times spending approximately 7 hours 5 minutes doing selective enforcement on various roads in town. Locations given extra attention included Collier Road and Dale Road.

A citizen complaint of parking problems on Somerset Drive due to the CREC Magnet school bus stop was received. A Support Services Bureau Officer responded to that area on several occasions. He reported that, although the area is busy with traffic, he only noticed one car on one occasion parked illegally. This car was owned by a resident of Somerset Drive. The officer contacted the owner and advised them to move the car. During a meeting about high school traffic in September, the Superintendent of Schools stated he is working with the magnet schools to have this bus stop moved off the road and to another location in town.

A citizen complaint of vehicles passing a stopped school bus on Thornbush Road was received by the dispatch center on the second day of school. The same complaint was received last school year. During that time, Support Services Personnel conducted selective enforcement on several occasions and noted no violations. The Support Services Bureau Commander sent a request to the Wethersfield Public Schools Business Office and Durham School Services (school bus company) to use the school bus with the camera mounted to catch violators on this bus route. A representative from Durham School Services stated the camera mounted bus was unable to be used on this route, but the bus driver reported no violations in this area. The bus company and driver will continue to monitor this location.

Due to the beginning of the school year, a traffic study on Willow Street near Webb Elementary School was initiated and completed utilizing the Speed Awareness Monitor Trailer over the course of five (5) days. The speed limit in this area is posted at 35 MPH. The speed limit drops to 25 MPH near the school area. During the 96 survey hours, 5,409 cars were recorded (northbound traffic only). Results from the speed monitoring device showed an average speed of approximately 33 MPH, the 85th percentile speed of approximately 41 MPH.

The Superintendent of Schools forwarded a request from the Charles Wright School principal for an officer to assist with traffic problems on Nott Street at the end of the school day. On four separate occasions officers responded to Charles Wright School. During each occasion officers reported that, although the area is very congested at the end of the school day, there were no major traffic problems.

Based on a citizen complaint about speeding vehicles and the possible need for a crossing guard, a traffic study on Oxford Street was initiated and completed utilizing a speed monitoring device over the course of nine (9) days. The speed limit in this area is posted at 25 MPH. During the 172.25 survey hours, 5,243 cars were recorded, averaging 31 cars per hour. Results from the speed monitoring device showed an average speed of approximately 25.5 MPH, the 85th percentile speed of approximately 31.5 MPH and a top speed of 62 MPH. Times that students would be crossing Oxford Street both in the morning and afternoon were also checked. During the morning hours the average speed was 26.2 MPH with an average of 54 cars per hour. During the afternoon hours the average speed was 23.6 MPH with an average of 62 cars per hour. That based on the results of the data Oxford Street does not meet the warrants for a crossing guard. When checking the street it was found that there were two speed limit signs posted for eastbound traffic and no speed limit

sign posted for westbound traffic. A work order was completed for physical services to install a speed limit sign westbound just west of the Silas Deane Highway. This work order has been completed.

Based on a citizen complaint about speeding vehicles, a traffic study on McMullen Avenue was initiated and completed utilizing a speed monitoring device over the course of ten (10) days. The speed limit in this area is posted at 25 MPH. During the 202.5 survey hours, 6,777 cars were recorded, averaging 33 cars per hour. Results from the speed monitoring device showed an average speed of approximately 23 MPH, the 50th percentile speed of 23 MPH, the 85th percentile speed of approximately 32 MPH and a top speed of 65 MPH.

In preparation for the annual Cornfest, a traffic study on Broad Street was initiated and completed utilizing the Speed Awareness Monitor Trailer over the course of five (5) days. The speed limit in this area is posted at 30 MPH. During the 91 survey hours, 3,772 cars were recorded (northbound traffic only). Results from the speed monitoring device showed an average speed of approximately 29 MPH, the 85th percentile speed of approximately 37 MPH.

The following work orders were completed during September, 2013:

- Install 'Speed Limit 25 MPH' sign on Oxford Street at the property line of 15 Oxford Street.
- Due to the upcoming traffic and parking changes at the Wethersfield High School, the following work order was completed to aide traffic on Jay Street:
 1. Replace the 'No Parking Anytime' signs on the west side of the road with new 'No Parking Anytime This Side of Street' signs.
 2. Replace the current 'Beyond This Sign' placard under the No Parking Sign in front of 53 Jay St. with a 'This Side of Street' placard.
 3. Install new 'No Parking School Days 7:00 AM to 3:00 PM' with 'This Side of Street' placards under all signs on the east side of the road.
 4. Replace current pole on the east side of street near #16 Jay St. that currently contains pedestrian and speed limit signs. Add 'No Parking School Days 7:00 AM to 3:00 PM' sign with 'This Side of Street' placard under the two other signs.
 5. Replace 'No Parking Anytime This Side of Sign' on east side just north of Wells Rd. with new signs (same signs) on a new breakaway pole
- For the annual Cornfest on September 21st, cones, barricades, one-way signs and temporary "No Parking" signs were requested to be placed on numerous streets around the Broad Street Green in old Wethersfield.
- For the annual Fall Craft Fair on October 5th, barricades and temporary "No Parking" signs were requested to be placed on and around State Street.
- For the Wethersfield High School home football games, barricades and temporary "No Parking" signs were requested to be placed on the high school property and temporary "No Parking" signs were placed on streets around the high school.

Training Division

On September 3, 2013 Officers Kenneth Newton and John Blair attended a training class entitled "**DRAEGER Instructor Recertification.**" This training was held at the Connecticut

State Police Laboratory, Meriden, CT. This class is required to remain a certified training instructor for the Intoxilyzer (DWI) machine.

On Wednesday, September 4, 2013 members of the **Capitol Region Emergency Services Team** (CREST,) including Lieutenant Mark Poisson, Sergeant Michael Connolly, MPO Luis Gonzalez and Officer Ronald Floyd began attending monthly two-day training.

On Friday September 6, 2013 Lieutenant Donald Crabtree and Sergeants Michael Connolly and Oscar Rivera assisted the Connecticut Police Academy with "**Practical Skills Day (ROCC)**" for the 341th Training Session. Lieutenant Crabtree and Sergeants Connolly and Rivera served as assistant instructors by monitoring and encouraging the recruits to complete very strenuous drills which encompass a variety of techniques they have learned during their entire time at the academy.

On Monday, September 9, 2013, Detectives Michael Patkoske, Christopher Morris, and Norberto Mendez, and Officer Ronald Floyd began attending a five day training class entitled "**Advanced Interview and Interrogation.**" This training was held at the Rocky Hill Police Department, Rocky Hill, CT. Course objectives included ability to analyze verbal and written statements, identifying the most common interviewing pitfalls, identifying evasive verbal responses and non-verbal body language.

On Monday September 9, 2013, Dispatcher Karen Tomczyk attended a "**Regional Incident Dispatch (RID) Meeting**". This meeting was held at the East Hartford Police Department, East 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.

On Monday September 9, 2013, Dispatcher Karen Tomczyk attended a "**CRCOPA (Capitol Region Chiefs of Police Association) Communication Operator.**" This training was held at the Rocky Hill Police Department, Rocky Hill, CT, CT. CRCOPA Communication Operators are part of the RID Team and are specifically trained to dispatch during events such as a large crisis, man-made/ natural disaster etc.

On Tuesday September 10, 2013, Dispatcher Karen Tomczyk and Frank Liberatore attended a one day training class entitled "**Protecting Law Enforcement Responders.**" This training, instructed by Powerphone, Inc., was hosted by the Wethersfield Police Department Training Unit and held in the WPD Community Room. Course topics included felonious line of duty deaths, high-risk crimes and incidents in progress, dispatcher tactics to protect officers, radio dispatch procedures and etiquette and critical incident stress debriefing.

On Tuesday, September 10, 2013, Lieutenants Mark Poisson, Andrew Power and Donald Crabtree and Sergeant Michael Connolly attended a three hour training class entitled "**New Legal Developments Concerning Police Policies and Practices.**" Training was held at the Connecticut Police Academy, Meriden, CT. This training class briefs attendees on the new Public Acts adopted by the State of Connecticut and other recent case law developments affecting law enforcement. On Wednesday, September 24, 2013 Lieutenant Thomas Mitney attended the second session of this training class.

On Monday September 16, 2013, Officer Shane Murphy began attending a course entitled **“Basic Police Firearms Instructor.”** This training was held at the Manchester Police Department Range, Manchester CT. Topics included handgun and shotgun qualifications, low-light shooting, use of force and use of deadly force, liability issues, tactical qualification and correcting problem shooters. Once Officer Murphy attends “Methods of Instruction” he will be able to train and give credit hours to other police officers in mandated firearms training for handgun training.

On Monday September 16, 2013, Detective James Darby and Officers Kenneth Newton began attending the five day **“Capitol Region Chiefs of Police Review Training.”** This training was held at the Manchester Police Department, Manchester, 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 topics including ICS training, PRAWN training, legal updates, bias crimes, patrol procedures, juvenile law and domestic violence laws.

On Tuesday September 17, 2013, Sergeant Jennie Rivera attended a one day training class entitled **“Domestic Violence Liaison Training.”** Training was held at the Connecticut Police Academy, Meriden, CT. Course objectives include how to perform the Domestic Violence Liaison function to include safety planning for victims of domestic violence.

On Tuesday, September 24, 2013, 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 September 25, 2013, Dispatcher Frank Liberatore attended a one day training class entitled **“How to Save Life a Life; Yours.”** This training, instructed by The Public Safety Group, was hosted by the Farmington Police Department, Unionville, CT. Course topics included learning to watch out for job related hazards such as nutrition and stress factors, and how to alleviate these factors as they arise.

On Wednesday September 25, 2013, Detective Michael Patkoske began attending a three day training course entitled **“The 13th Annual Vehicle Fire Investigation School.”** This training was held at the CT Fire Academy, Windsor Locks, CT. Topics included arson investigation, gas explosions and scientific methods.

On Friday September 27, 2013, Detective Norberto Mendez and Officer Eric Knapp attended a one day training conference entitled **“CT Youth Safety Conference.”** This training was held at Goodwin College, East Hartford, CT. The conference consisted of strategizing and sharing ways to prevent harmful behaviors and reduce risk factors in youth and improving student safety and preventing underage drinking, substance abuse and youth violence.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Cadets will be having their Annual Car Show (fundraising event) sponsored by “The Over the Hill Gang” on October 13, 2013 from 10:00 am- 3:00 pm at Cove Park in Wethersfield.

The Cadets will participate in practical skills training on Motor Vehicle Stops at the PD during the month of October.

Fall Firearms training for all Department personnel is scheduled for the week of November 11, 2013.

- The 32nd annual Old Wethersfield Fall Craft Fair will be held at Cove Park on Saturday, October 5, 2013 from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM.
- The Keane Foundation’s Cove-Side Carnival will be held October 18, 2013 through October 20, 2013 at Cove Park. The hours are Friday 5:00 PM-10:00 PM, Saturday 12:00 PM-10:00 PM and Sunday 12:00 PM-6:00 PM.
- The annual Mikey’s Place 5K road race will be held on Sunday, October 20, 2013 at 11:00 AM.
- The annual Jamie’s Run 5K road race will be held on Sunday, November 3, 2013 at 11:00 AM.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

	September 2012	September 2013	YTD 2012	YTD 2013
Criminal Arrests				
Criminal Arrests	69	81	662	707
Burglaries and Robberies				
Residential Burglaries	5	5	41	28
Commercial Burglaries	0	0	12	3
Armed Robberies	0	0	0	0
Strong-Arm Robberies	1	0	6	1
Family Violence Arrests				
Family Violence Arrests	10	7	65	21
Traffic Related				
Infractions/ MV Summons	137	156	1600	1490
DUI	5	10	93	92
MV Crashes	40	44	442	600

Parking Tags	152	21	405	266
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Miscellaneous Activities

911 Calls	834	849	7501	7722
Alarm Responses	60	52	616	570
Records Requests	232	191	2269	1871
Prisoners Transported	20	16	144	140
Child Car Seat Installations	3	2	47	66