



# POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT

*Wethersfield*



---

---

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

## SEPTEMBER 2015

### SPECIAL PROJECTS / ACHIEVEMENTS / INNOVATIONS

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, 2015 to September 30, 2015 Wethersfield Police Dispatchers handled 2,928 E-911 calls. Year to date E-911 total call count is 8,626 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 CREC Discovery Academy at 176 Cumberland Avenue opened for classes on Wednesday, September 2, 2015. Members of this department assisted school personnel and parents with the traffic pattern and traffic control during the first week of school.

During the month of September 2015, members of the Detective Bureau initiated or were assigned follow up to nine (9) new cases. The major case investigations involved; one (1) robbery, two (2) burglaries and two (2) fraud / larcenies. Detectives also continue to perform town background investigations and backgrounds for pistol permits applicants.

The Wethersfield Police Cadets assisted with the Wethersfield Cornfest Event held on 09/19/2015. Wethersfield Police Cadets held an "Open House" for youths between the ages of 14 and 20 that were interested in joining the Cadet Program.

### MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

#### Patrol Division

#### Patrol Division (Case of Interest)

On Friday, 9/11/2015 at approximately 6:25 PM officers were dispatched to a retail establishment on the Silas Deane Highway for a shoplifter in custody who was being cooperative. The officer met with the store Loss Prevention (LP) Officer. The officer also met the suspect who was being detained by LP. LP stated that a white male entered the store at around 6:00 PM at a fast pace and walked over to the beauty department and select two beauty items and concealed them in his front pockets. The white male walked over to the men's clothing department where he tried on a few jackets. The white male selected a short sleeve flannel type shirt and put it on. He then ripped off the tags and placed them in the pockets of the shirt. He was seen exiting the store and passing all points of purchase. LP confronted the white male in the front parking lot of the store and informed him he was a Loss Prevention Officer and asked him to walk back to his office. The white male complied. The suspect was read his Miranda Rights. The suspect admitted that he took the items and stated that he has never done this before. He was arrested and handcuffed. The suspect was sweating profusely and his pupils were extremely constricted. The officer believed that the suspect was under the influence of an opiate based drug. A further search revealed two Suboxone sublingual film strips behind several bank cards inside the suspect's wallet. He was brought to Police Headquarters. The total value of the merchandise that was stolen but recovered was \$37.97. He was charged with Larceny 6<sup>th</sup>, Possession of Narcotics and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. He was released on a non-surety bond and was scheduled to appear in court on 9/28/2015.

On Wednesday, 9/16/2015, at 6:51 PM officers were dispatched to a retail establishment on the Berlin Turnpike on a report of an active shoplifting. It was reported that a suspect had taken a cart full of merchandise from the store without paying. It was reported that a manager was following the suspect and that the suspect was attempting to leave the area. Dispatch radioed that the suspect was a black male wearing black jeans and a black shirt. The suspect was said to be heading east on Jordan Lane on foot and that management had recovered the cart and stolen merchandise. A perimeter was established around the incident area and shortly thereafter an officer located a party matching the exact suspect description on Ridge Road north of Jordan. The suspect was detained and advised as to the reason for the stop. He was read his Miranda Rights during the encounter and insisted that he had not attempted to steal anything. The store manager and a witness were located. They told the officers that the suspect had loaded-up a shopping cart and walked past the registers without paying. The merchandise he attempted to steal consisted of fried chicken and shrimp totaling \$132.00. The suspect was arrested for Larceny in the Sixth Degree. He was handcuffed and searched. He was transported to Police Headquarters. He was released on a non-surety bond and his court date was set for 9/29/2015.

## **Support Services Bureau**

Thirteen persons were taken into custody and held requiring 159 hours of incarceration. Of the persons held, six were arrested on warrants. Twelve males and one female were transported to court. The female incarcerated by the department required 21 hours of matron and/or officer coverage.

There were 99 phone calls and 42 calls for service involving animal control issues. Of the calls for service, thirty-one were handled by the part-time animal control officers and eleven were handled by police officers. Six animals were impounded with two being redeemed, one sold as a pet, and three carrying over. Wethersfield Animal Control Officers covered for seven calls in Newington. Newington Animal Control Officers covered for seven calls in Wethersfield. 50 licenses were obtained due to the delinquent dog licensing efforts of the ACOs.

Wethersfield Public Safety Dispatchers received and handled 912 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 68 calls for service and Aetna Ambulance to 266 calls for service.

## **Administrative Services Bureau**

This department has responded to 59 alarms in month of September. Non-residential locations made up 25 (42%) of this total, residential alarms made up 29 (49%), and State and Town government made up 4 (8%). The alarms received were: 53 burglar, 4 holdup / panic, and 2 fire. There currently are 1,678 alarm registrations on file, 50 of which experienced alarm(s) this month; this represents a 97% compliance rate. Three new alarm registrations were entered this month. During this month, \$2,550 in alarm billing has occurred. There have been 83 actions performed by this unit with the CryWolf system, and 69 items of correspondence sent out.

## **Detective Division**

For the past several months, Detective DeRoehn has been assigned to the Serial Killer Task Force which was formed in an effort to identify the person responsible for the deaths of several women from the greater Hartford area after some unidentified remains were found in New Britain. After several months of intense investigation, William Devin Howell was named as the suspect. Howell was in prison, after being arrested in 2005 for killing a woman who was last seen in Wethersfield. Howell was arrested on September 18<sup>th</sup>. The remains of the woman who Howell was convicted of killing were also found in the same New Britain location. Howell was charged with several murder and sexual assault offenses. His bail was set at \$10 million.

## **Juvenile Detective**

The Wethersfield Police Department handled approximately 44 incidents, involving approximately 54 juveniles during the month of September 2015. In these incidents there were 7 Juvenile arrests made, 5 Juveniles were diverted for parental discipline and 1 Juvenile was seen at the Wethersfield Juvenile Review Board "JRB".

## **School Resource Officer (High School)**

During the month of September the WHS SRO covered a total of thirty-two (32) incidents including activities at the school.

Two (2) incident reports were completed. The incident reports included the following:

- Larceny (Theft of a wallet)
- Emergency Committal

There were no (0) arrests at the school during the month of September.

The WHS SRO performed classroom teaching "Freshman Experience" as part of the Health curriculum. A total of eight classes completed. The SRO participated in the Town of Wethersfield Juvenile Review Board and attendance meeting. Attendance meeting topic centered on State of CT mandates for attendance & students with issues this academic school year.

The WHS SRO attended the monthly Wethersfield Youth Advisory Board meeting, assisted school administrator's with a fire drill and presented the Advisory classes along with a teacher.

The WHS SRO attended a STARS/SRBI (Support Team - Assistance & Response Early Intervention Program - Scientific Research-Based Intervention) meeting for at risk youths at WHS. The WHS SRO assisted administration during an evacuation due to a fire alarm. Construction crew spilled gas for a leaf blower on the ceiling. The odor got into the school through the ventilation system.

## **School Resource Officer (Middle School)**

During the month of September the SRO covered a total of thirty-six (36) incidents including activities at the school, which were entered into the School Cop database.

The SRO attended and presented at four Safety meetings with Director of Security and SDMS staff. The SRO met with Social and Youth Services to discuss opportunities for Silas Deane Middle School students pertaining to the Police Department. The SRO attended the Crisis Management team meetings with BOE, Administration, Guidance, Nurses, and Security.

The SRO participated in the sessions 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.

## **COMMUNITY RELATIONS**

Based on citizen concerns and traffic study results, officers performed selective enforcement at various locations throughout town 9 different times for a total of approximately 5 hours 59 minutes. Locations given extra attention included Maple Street, Silas Deane Hwy./Church St. intersection and Wells Road near Emerson Williams School.

A traffic study on Jordan Lane in the area of #292 was initiated and completed utilizing a speed monitoring device over the course of twelve (12) days. The posted speed limit in this area is 35 MPH. During the 250.5 survey hours, 75,435 cars were recorded, averaging 301 cars per hour. Results from the speed monitoring device showed an average speed of approximately 30.4 MPH, the 50th percentile speed of 30.5 MPH, the 85th percentile speed of approximately 35.5 MPH and a top speed of 66 MPH.

Due to the beginning of the school year, the Speed Awareness Monitor Trailer was used for a traffic study on Hartford Avenue north of crosswalk at Francis Avenue (display facing southbound traffic) over the course of five (5) days. The posted speed limit on this road is 25 MPH. During the 97.5 survey hours, 9,785 cars were recorded, averaging 100.4 cars per hour. Results from the device showed an average speed of 22.48 MPH, the 85th percentile speed of approximately 28 MPH and a top speed of 76 MPH.

Due to the beginning of the school year, the Speed Awareness Monitor Trailer was used for a traffic study on Willow Street in front of Webb Elementary School (display facing northbound traffic) over the course of five (5) days. The posted speed limit on this road is 25 MPH, however approximately 1/8 mile south of this location the speed limit is 35 MPH. The radar was picking up vehicles still within the 35 MPH speed limit zone. During the 98.5 survey hours, 6,971 cars were recorded, averaging 70.8 cars per hour. Results from the device showed an average speed of 31 MPH, the 85th percentile speed of approximately 40 MPH and a top speed of 75 MPH.

The following work orders were completed during September, 2015:

- For the annual Cornfest on September 19, 2015 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 3, 2015 barricades and temporary "No Parking" signs were requested to be placed on and around State Street.

## **Training Division**

On Tuesday, September 1, 2015, Lieutenants Mark Poisson, Andrew Power 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 2, 2015, members of the **Capitol Region Emergency Services Team** (CREST), including Lieutenant Mark Poisson, MPO Luis Gonzalez, and Officers Jeffrey Poulin and Shane Murphy, began attending monthly two-day training.

On Tuesday, September 8, 2015, Officer Shane Murphy, along with his canine, Marley, attended a one day training class entitled "**Police Canine/ Police Canine Handler Training**". Officer Murphy and Marley participated in this monthly canine training with several other area law enforcement canine teams. Training included evidence recovery and tracking, and narcotics searches.

On Wednesday, September 9, 2015, Dispatcher 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 Monday, September 14, 2015, Officers Justin Hilchuk and Michael Forrest, and Dispatcher Lauren Hammond, began attending a five day training class entitled "**Crisis Intervention Team Training**". This training was held at the Veteran's Home and Hospital, Rocky Hill, CT. Training topics include mental illness, substance abuse, safe de-escalation techniques, suicide by cop, suicide assessment and prevention, excited delirium, child mental health and trauma and mental health and the law.

On Wednesday, September 16, 2015, members of the **Midstate Major Crime Squad (MSMC)**, including Lieutenant Mark Poisson and Detectives Michael Patkoske and Christopher Morris, began attending monthly training. MSMC is a team comprising of Detectives from the Midstate Towns, who work together to investigate major incidents.

On Monday, September 21, 2015, Officer 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 Tuesday, September 22, 2015, Sergeant Michael Connolly began attending a three day training class entitled "**Phase #1-Intermediate Precision Driving School**". This training, instructed the Connecticut State Police, is the first part of a series of courses. After completing all courses, the students will be an instructor in driver training. Phase #1 involved both classroom, and passing a timed course that involved driving, backing and braking through a maze of cones.

On Tuesday, September 22, 2015, Officer Shane Murphy, along with his canine, Marley, attended a one day training class entitled "**Police Canine/ Police Canine Handler Training**". Officer Murphy and Marley participated in this monthly canine training with several other area law enforcement canine teams. Training included evidence recovery and tracking, and narcotics searches.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

The annual Old Wethersfield Fall Craft Fair will be held at Cove Park on Saturday, October 3, 2015 from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

The Keane Foundation's Cove-Side Carnival will be held October 16, 2015 through October 18, 2015 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 18, 2015 at 11:00 AM.

The annual Jamie's Run 5K road race will be held on Sunday, November 8, 2015 at 11:00 AM.

Wethersfield Detectives are assisting with patrol personnel and the development of active narcotic cases. Detectives are also working closely with the Drug Enforcement Agency to investigate local individuals.

The Wethersfield Police Cadets will participate in practical skills training "Motor Vehicle Stops" and the Cadets will hold their annual fundraiser the Cadet Car Show at Cove Park on 10/11/2015.

**CONTINUED TO NEXT PAGE >>>>**

## PERFORMANCE MEASURES

	September 2014	September 2015	YTD 2014	YTD 2015
<b>Criminal Arrests</b>				
Criminal Arrests	64	75	626	654
<b>Burglaries and Robberies</b>				
Residential Burglaries	2	2	25	13
Commercial Burglaries	1	1	23	6
Armed Robberies	0	2	1	4
Strong-Arm Robberies	1	0	2	2
<b>Family Violence Arrests</b>				
Family Violence Arrests	5	4	62	65
<b>Traffic Related</b>				
Infractions/ MV Summons	322	157	1647	1583
DUI	6	5	73	54
MV Crashes	43	47	422	559
Parking Tags	149	19	776	512
<b>Miscellaneous Activities</b>				
911 Calls	868	912	7034	8626
Alarm Responses	48	59	508	516
Records Requests	198	209	1839	1962
Prisoners Transported	9	13	148	
Child Car Seat Installations	2	0	26	24