



POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT

Wethersfield



James Cetran
Chief of Police

April 2014

SPECIAL PROJECTS / ACHIEVEMENTS / INNOVATIONS

During the month of April 2014, members of the Detective Bureau initiated or were assigned follow up to approximately twenty-one (21) new cases. The major case investigations involved: six (6) burglaries, one (1) arson, three (3) fraud / Identity thefts, and two (2) sudden deaths. Detectives also continue to perform town background investigations and backgrounds for pistol permits applicants.

The Wethersfield Police Cadets participated at the Stations Day Competition on 05/03/14. The Cadets had a very successful day placing first in numerous events.

The Wethersfield Police Citizens' Police Academy began on Monday, March 10, 2014 with thirty (30) citizens attending. Classes are held on Monday evenings from 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM at the Wethersfield Police Department and will continue for a total of ten (10) weeks.

The Wethersfield Police Department Training Unit hosted one day of the Capital Region Police Recertification – Supervisor Program on Thursday, April 24, 2014. This course was held in the WPD Community Room. By hosting this training, the police department ends up receiving one free training seat.

Probationary Police Officer Peter Salvatore completed six weeks of field training and is scheduled to go on solo patrol by the end of June 2014.

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

Patrol Division

Patrol Division (Case of Interest)

On Monday April 7, 2014 at 8:56 PM officers were dispatched to a discount store on the Silas Deane Highway for a shoplifting complaint. The first arriving officer met an employee of the store who stated that a short time earlier two males in their early 30's entered the store. She saw the males walk down the center aisle with large bulges in their pants around

their ankles. She tried to confront the men because they were wobbling and making clinking sounds as they walked. When confronted, the two men sprinted towards the front door of the store (passing all points of purchase). The two men struggled with the locked front door but eventually were able to open it and run north on the Silas Deane Highway and then into the wood line near Hartford Avenue. She said that the two males shoplifted cans of Red Bull. Her quick inventory check revealed that the entire shelf of Red Bull had been stolen, valued at approximately \$134. Support officers arrived and positioned themselves around the last sight of the two suspects (from the Hartford line at Wethersfield Avenue to the intersection of Jordan Lane and Hartford Avenue.) A police canine arrived to assist in locating the two suspects. A short time later, the sergeant heard sticks breaking deeper in the woods. The sergeant then saw two bodies matching the description of the suspects near a large tree. Officers instructed the two suspects not to move and to show their hands. The two male individuals were hiding behind a large tree with many vines and it became difficult to see their actions. The two males did not obey the officers' commands and refused to come out from behind the tree. The police canine secured the two suspects. Both suspects were subsequently taken into custody. The suspects both admitted to stealing Red Bull and had the merchandise on them. When searched, 23 cans of Red Bull and two packages of Café Bustelo (Expresso Ground Coffee) were found on their persons. They were arrested and charged with Larceny 6th, Conspiracy to Commit Larceny and Interfering with a Police Officer. One suspect was held on bond and one was released. Both were scheduled to appear in New Britain court on their charges.

On Thursday, April 24, 2014 at 11:47 AM officers were dispatched to a drug store on the Silas Deane Highway on a reported shoplifter that just left the store. Dispatch described the shoplifter as a black male wearing a black coat and jeans. The first arriving officer located the black male in the parking lot who was speaking with an employee of the store. The first officer spoke with the male suspect and a second officer met with the store employee. The employee said that she was working and was passing the toothpaste aisle and saw the black male stuffing merchandise into his coat. She said that she stood by and watched him for a few moments and continued to observe him secluding more items into his coat. She approached the male and identified herself as a store employee. She requested the merchandise back from him and she said that he handed her several toothbrushes from his coat. She said that she wanted all of the merchandise back and the male walked past her heading to the front of the store. It appeared that his coat was still full of merchandise based on how he was holding his coat. He walked out of the front door. He made no attempt to pay for the items so she called 911. She then went to the parking lot and attempted to confront the male to stop him until the police arrived. The male suspect readily admitted he was stealing from the store and began pulling out numerous boxes of toothpaste from his coat. He also said he had a serious heroin problem and was stealing in order to make money to buy more heroin. He was arrested and transported to police headquarters for processing. The list of items he was trying to steal included the following: 13 boxes of Crest 3D white toothpaste, 9 boxes of Colgate toothpaste, 4 Colgate electric tooth brushes, 5 Oral-B electric tooth brushes, a double pack of Rite Aid toothbrushes and 2 single Oral-B toothbrushes. This totaled \$250.10. He was charged with Larceny 6th Degree. His identity was verified by his fingerprints. His arrest record showed 28 previous arrests that included Larceny and other various charges. He was held on a \$1000.00 bond and was presented in court on 4/25/2014.

Support Services Bureau

Seventeen persons were taken into custody and held requiring 336 hours of incarceration. Of the persons held, ten were arrested by warrant. Police personnel transported the prisoners to court; eleven males and six females were transported. The females incarcerated by the department required 72 hours of matron coverage.

There were ninety phone calls and forty-five calls for service involving animal control issues. Of the calls for service, thirty-nine were handled by the part-time animal control officers and six were handled by police officers. Five animals were impounded; two were redeemed, two sold as pets and one placed on in-house quarantine. Wethersfield Animal Control Officers covered for fourteen calls in Newington. Newington Animal Control Officers covered for twelve calls in Wethersfield.

Wethersfield Police Department Child Seat Technicians inspected/installed 4 child seats.

Wethersfield Public Safety Dispatchers received and handled 813 E-911 emergency phone calls.

The Wethersfield Volunteer Fire Department (WVFD) was dispatched to 40 calls for service.

Administrative Services Bureau

This department has responded to 62 police-related alarms in month of April. Residential locations made up 43 (69%) of the total, non-residential locations made up 19 (31%), and State / Town government made up 0 (0%) of the total alarm incidents. The alarms received were: 59 burglar, 2 holdup / panic, and 1 fire. There are currently 1,561 alarm registrations on file, 53 of which experienced alarm(s) this month; this represents a 96% compliance rate. Fourteen new alarm registrations were entered this month. During this month, \$2,175 in alarm billing has occurred. There have been 126 actions performed by this unit with the CryWolf system, and 115 items of correspondence sent out.

The department is currently at full strength for sworn personnel and is in the hiring process for a Chief's Secretary/Records Unit Supervisor and part-time dispatcher.

Detective Division

During the months of December 2013 and January 2014, Wethersfield detectives investigated several cases of larcenies which occurred in various towns where the suspects took the stolen property to a pawn shop on the Silas Deane Highway in Wethersfield; the suspects fled to Massachusetts. Wethersfield PD was able to get warrants for the suspects and they were eventually arrested and transported back to Wethersfield for prosecution.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

The following are the burglary and robbery statistics for the month of April 2014, along with comparative statistics for the same period of last year. The figures in the parenthesis represent the number of cases cleared by arrest, or in which the perpetrators have been identified.

Criminal Activity	April 2013	April 2014
Residential Burglaries:	3(0)	1(0)
Commercial Burglaries:	0(0)	5(0)
Armed Robberies:	0(0)	0(0)
Strong-arm Robberies:	1(1)	0(0)

Juvenile Detective

Wethersfield Police Department handled approximately forty-one incidents, involving approximately fifty-six juveniles. In these incidents, one Juvenile was arrested, four juveniles were diverted for parental discipline, two Juveniles were diverted for school discipline and one Juvenile was diverted to the Wethersfield Juvenile Review Board.

School Resource Officer

During the month of April the SRO covered a total of twenty-three incidents including activities at the school; these incidents were documented in the School Cop database. There were no arrests at the school during the month of April.

The SRO attended the Junior Prom at Villa Louisa in Bolton. The SRO attended the weekly STARS/SRBI (Support Team - Assistance & Response Early Intervention Program - Scientific Research-Based Intervention) meeting for at risk youths at WHS.

The SRO assisted school administrator's with a lock down drill.

The SRO conducted selective enforcement on Wolcott Hill Road and surrounding streets for parking and hazardous operations violations. The SRO has received several complaints from the administration, faculty, students, and citizens.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Based on citizen concerns and traffic study results, officers performed selective enforcement at various locations throughout town. Officers performed selective enforcement on 27 separate occasions, spending approximately 18 hours 11 minutes conducting selective enforcement on various roads in town. Locations given extra attention included the Cumberland Avenue and Jordan Lane areas.

Based on a citizen complaint about speeding vehicles, a traffic study on Clearfield Road was completed over the course of fifteen (15) days utilizing a speed monitoring device. The posted speed limit on this road is 30 MPH. During the 294 survey hours, 7,508 cars were recorded, averaging 25.5 cars per hour. Results from the speed monitoring device showed an average speed of approximately 23.5 MPH, the 50th percentile speed of 24.7 MPH, the 85th percentile speed of approximately 30.7 MPH and a top speed of 54 MPH.

Based on a citizen complaint about speeding vehicles, a traffic study on Cumberland Avenue (westbound traffic only) was conducted over the course of ten (10) days utilizing a speed monitoring device. The posted speed limit on this road is 25 MPH. During the 198 survey hours, 4,939 cars were recorded, averaging 25 cars per hour. Results from the speed monitoring device showed an average speed of approximately 29.65 MPH, the 85th percentile speed of approximately 36.5 MPH and a top speed of 65 MPH.

The following work orders were completed during April, 2014:

- On Hartford Avenue in the area of Sacred Heart Church:
 - Install new “No Parking Anytime” sign and “Beyond This Sign” placard below it northbound in front of #56 Hartford Ave.
 - Remove existing “No Parking Anytime” sign in front of #56 Hartford Ave. Install “No Parking Anytime” with double arrow below writing.
 - Install new “No Parking Anytime” sign and “This Side of Sign” placard below it northbound approximately 60’ south of the intersection with Willard St.
- On Butler Road by Kimball Road install “End One Way” signs on the two poles currently with the “Do Not Enter” signs.
- On Hartford Avenue, in the area of #99, replace current “No Parking School Days 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM Beyond This Sign” that is southbound between #99 and #109 Hartford Avenue with sign that reads “No Parking School Days 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM This Side of Sign.”

Training Division

On Wednesday, April 2, 2014, members of the **Capitol Region Emergency Services Team (CREST)**, including Lieutenant Mark Poisson, Sergeant Michael Connolly, MPO Luis Gonzalez, and Officers Jeffry Poulin and Shane Murphy began attending monthly two-day training.

On Friday, April 4, Lieutenant Thomas Mitney and Records Clerk Ms. Tanisha Murray attended a class entitled “**FOI Commission Annual Conference and Training.**” This training was held at the Riverhouse at Goodspeed Station, East Haddam, CT. The

conference was an overview of the Freedom of Information Act and discussion on the changes in electronic record keeping.

On Monday, April 7, 2014, Officer Shane Murphy began attending a two week course entitled "**CREST (Capitol Region Emergency Services Team) Basic SWAT Training.**" This training was held at various venues throughout The Capitol Region. Officer Murphy recently was added to the CREST team and this is a basic introduction to the team and SWAT tactics.

On Tuesday, April 8 and 22, 2014, 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, April 8, 2014, Detectives Michael Patkoske and Christopher Morris and Officers Kenneth Newton and Albert Whaples began attending a training class entitled "**LTI Mapping Course.**" This training was held at the Newington Police Department, Newington, CT. LTI is a way of using lasers to measure and recreate a crime/accident scene.

On Tuesday, March 25, 2014, 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, April 9, 2014, Detective Norberto Mendez attended a training class entitled "**Speaking about Child Maltreatment with Culturally Diverse Children.**" This training was held at the Manchester Country Club, Manchester, CT. This training was part of the MDT program consists of a group of officers that meet to speak about the challenges of Investigating Crimes against Children. This training will help investigators assess for child sexual abuse more accurately with culturally diverse individuals, and be able to work more effectively with people who have Limited English Proficiency.

On Tuesday, April 12, 2014, Dispatcher Karen Tomczyk attended a "**Regional Incident Dispatch (RID) Team Training.**" This training was held at the New England Disaster Training Center, Windsor Locks, 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, April 14, 2014, Officers Eric Knapp and Gary Luiz began attending the five day "**Capitol Region Police Recertification Program.**" This training was held at the Middletown Police Department, Middletown, 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 training including legal updates, bias crimes, patrol procedures, juvenile law and domestic violence laws. This particular training class was designed specifically for police supervisors.

On Tuesday, April 15, 2014 Dispatchers Frank Liberatore, Barry Skipp and Welles Hale attended the one day **"2014 Telecommunicator Conference."** This conference was held at the Crowne Plaza in Cromwell, CT. Training objectives included risk management, problems in the 911 Center, 10 things that get 911 Dispatchers in trouble.

On Tuesday April 15, 2014, Officer Kevin Lawless began attending a three day training class entitled **"Advanced Crime Prevention Training."** Training was held at the Connecticut Police Academy in Meriden, CT. Training topics included ways to develop programs to curb crime in your community.

On Tuesday, April 15, 2014 Lieutenant Donald Crabtree attended the **"Capital Region Chiefs 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.

On Wednesday, April 23, 2014, Detective Norberto Mendez began attending a three day training class entitled **"Basic Crime Scene Processing."** Training was held at the Connecticut Police Academy in Meriden, CT. Training topics included evaluation of the crime scene, protection of the crime scene, recording the crime scene via notes, sketches and photography and techniques for latent fingerprint location and collection.

On Tuesday, March 25, 2014, 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, April 23, 2014, Records Clerks Ms. Tanisha Murray and Heather Joly attended a class entitled **"FOIA-What Police and Fire Departments Must Know."** This training was held at the Cromwell Firehouse, 105 Coles Road, Cromwell, CT. The training consisted of an overview of the Freedom of Information Act, employment issues under FOIA, and Law Enforcement records under FOIA.

On Thursday, March 27, 2014 Sergeants Kevin O'Leary, Michael Fisher and Michael Connolly attended **"Capital Region Police Recertification – Supervisor Program."** This training was held in the Wethersfield Police Department Community Room. This training is mandatory every three years and is open only to supervisory personnel. The training this month was on supervisor liability and domestic violence issues. This training is held once per month concluding in May, 2014.

On Monday April 28, 2014, Officer Jessica Ficara began attending a five day course entitled the **"High Visibility Traffic Enforcement."** The training provided all facets of Connecticut's Operating Under the Influence Statute, Occupant Protection Statute, as well as Speeding Statutes, including the use of Laser as a speed detection.

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 Wethersfield Police Cadets will be focusing on fund raising efforts for the Cadet Post.

The annual Memorial Day Parade will be held on Saturday, May 24, 2014 beginning at 9:00 AM.

The Wethersfield Police Department, Training Unit, will be hosting one day of the Capital Region Police Recertification – Supervisor Program. This five day course, which began in January, will be held in the WPD Community Room on May 29, 2014.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

	APRIL 2013	APRIL 2014	YTD 2013	YTD 2014
Criminal Arrests				
Criminal Arrests	106	82	302	228
Burglaries and Robberies				
Residential Burglaries	3	1	10	6
Commercial Burglaries	0	5	0	7
Armed Robberies	0	0	0	0
Strong-Arm Robberies	1	0	1	1
Family Violence Arrests				
Family Violence Arrests	4	7	10	20
Traffic Related				
Infractions/ MV Summons	180	210	593	507
DUI	10	15	29	26
MV Crashes	33	44	176	142
Parking Tags	30	115	148	177
Miscellaneous Activities				
911 Calls	829	813	3196	2356
Alarm Responses	46	62	223	218
Records Requests	291	247	896	659
Prisoners Transported	18	17	52	51
Child Car Seat Installations	2	4	29	19