



# POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT

*Wethersfield*



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

## AUGUST 2020

### SPECIAL PROJECTS / ACHIEVEMENTS / INNOVATIONS

During the month of September 2020, members of the Patrol Bureau made six (6) arrests for Driving Under the Influence. Please note that self-initiated motor vehicle enforcement was lower than normal due to COVID-19 concerns.

### 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.

At about 2015 hours on 09/16/2020, a female was struck by a motor vehicle on the Silas Deane Highway. The female was transported to Hartford Hospital, but died of her injuries. The crash is under investigation by the Mid-State Accident Reconstruction team and the lead investigator is Wethersfield Police Officer Albert Whaples.

#### Support Services Bureau

8 persons were taken into custody and held in lieu of bond; 6 males and 2 females were transported to court throughout the month.

There were 69 phone calls and 25 involving animal control issues. 78 dog licenses (new and renewals) during the month. There was 1 impound this month; 1 were redeemed by their owners or sold a pets. The incident synopsis for the month is: 6 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 no child seats.

Wethersfield Public Safety Dispatchers received and handled 1252 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, 207 calls for service, fire prevention activities, or assists / standbys.

The Wethersfield Volunteer Ambulance (WVAA) and Aetna Ambulance were dispatched to a total of 315 medical / ambulance calls this month.

### **Administrative Services Bureau**

The ASB handled 153 information releases to court, criminal justice agencies, the legislature and citizens via the Freedom of Information Act. The ASB is currently working on three certified officer processes. The ASB is collecting applications for an ongoing certified police officer recruitment effort, preparing to complete the hiring package for two certified officers, and is in mid-process with a third group. There are currently three officer vacancies with two anticipated to be filled by the end of September, and a third approximately in mid-November.

### **Detective Division**

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

Both School Resource Officers were reassigned to their respective schools effective Monday, August 24, 2020, which coincided with personnel orientation.

During the month of August, 2020, members of the Detective Bureau initiated or were assigned to nine (9) new cases. These cases involved the following:

- 1 Theft from a Motor Vehicle
- 1 Sudden Death
- 1 Wanted Person
- 2 Assist Other Jurisdiction
- 1 Sexual Assault
- 2 Stolen Motor Vehicles
- 1 Suspicious Situation – gunshots

In addition to the above cases, members of the Detective Bureau completed eleven (11) supplemental reports on follow up investigations for nine (9) additional cases, including:

- 1 Stolen Motor Vehicle
- 1 Theft from a Motor Vehicle
- 1 Residential Burglary – arrest warrant submitted to court
- 1 Suspicious Situation
- 1 Sexual Assault
- 1 Forgery – two search warrants completed
- 1 Sudden Death
- 1 Theft – arrest warrant submitted to court
- 1 Robbery – Home Invasion – arrest warrant submitted to court

Six (6) cases from the current and previous months/years were closed.

Fifteen (15) new background investigations for pistol permits applicants were received. Year to date pistol permit applications have increased approximately 75% from 2019.

Year to date background investigations (all types) have increased approximately 56% from 2019.

## **Juvenile Detective**

The Wethersfield Police Department handled approximately 28 incidents, involving approximately 43 Juveniles during the month of August 2020. In these incidents 5 Juveniles were diverted for parental discipline and 3 Juveniles were arrested and issued Juvenile Summons.

## **School Resource Officers**

N/A

## **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 August, all measures established in recent months continued in an effort to meet the guidance from federal and state infectious control agencies. Travel guidance for WPD Employees was distributed detailing return to work procedures for personnel traveling to/from states that were identified as COVID-19 impacted areas. Dispatcher Karen Tomczyk participated in two regional PPE Distribution Events.

No COVID-19 significant exposures were reported in the month of August. There was only one report of an officer that responded to a location that was later identified as a resident/occupant testing positive for COVID-19. The officer wore a facemask which mitigated any significant exposures.

One course that was scheduled to be conducted at our facility was changed to a Virtual Training Format due to COVID-19 restrictions.

On Monday, August 3, 2020, Officer Mark Wildman participated in **Taser X26P CEW Initial User Training** at the Wethersfield Police Department. Officer Jessica Blank was the

primary instructor. At the conclusion of this training and upon passing a test (administered through PowerDMS), Officer Wildman was certified to carry his assigned Taser.

On Monday, August 3, 2020, and Tuesday, August 4, 2020, Officer Eric Knapp (WHS School Resource Officer) attended **WITHOUT MERCY: Hard Lessons Learned from the Worst School Attacks**. This professional development class designed for school staff and school resource officers/law enforcement, studies years of mass murders in schools and pulls from these horrific events 48 hard lessons learned that the participant can use to prevent an attack.

On Tuesday, August 4, 2020, Officer Nuno Martins, along with his canine, Jax, took part in a one-day training class titled **Police Canine/Police Canine Handler Training**. Officer Martins and Jax participated in this monthly canine training with several other area law enforcement canine teams.

On Tuesday, August 4, 2020, MPO Joel DiLoreto attended **Explosive Breacher Training**. This training is conducted monthly for area SWAT Breachers and took place at the Bloomfield Police Department.

On Tuesday, August 4, 2020, Sergeant Oscar Rivera assisted the New Britain Police Department's Basic Recruit Academy – Session 16 with **Building Searches/Room Entries**. This training was conducted in conjunction with instructors from P.O.S.T.C. and the New Britain Police Department's Training Unit. There are two WPD Police Recruits attending Session 16.

On Wednesday, August 5, 2020, and Thursday, August 6, 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).

On Thursday, August 6, 2020, and Friday, August 7, 2020, Officer Robert Malinowski attended **Background Investigations for Police Applicants – Virtual Training**. This online class was originally scheduled to take place at the Wethersfield Police Community Room in March 2020, but the dates and format were changed due to COVID-19 restrictions.

On Tuesday, August 11, 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 Tuesday, August 18, 2020, Officer Nuno Martins, along with his canine, Jax, took part in a one-day training class titled **Police Canine/Police Canine Handler Training**. Officer Martins and Jax participated in this monthly canine training with several other area law enforcement canine teams.

On Wednesday, August 19, 2020, Lieutenant Michael Connolly attended an online training titled: **Complete Streets Policy Training** sponsored by the Central CT Health District.

On Wednesday, August 19, 2020, through Monday, August 31, 2020, MPO Joel DiLoreto assisted the New Britain Police Department's Basic Recruit Academy – Session 16 with their **First Responder Course**. This training was conducted in conjunction with instructors from the emergency medical field and the New Britain Police Department's Training Unit. There are two WPD Police Recruits attending Session 16.

On Friday, August 21, 2020, this agency held **Retiree Firearms Qualification / Law Enforcement Offices Safety Act Training**. This training, which took place at the Berlin Police Department Range, was attended by 9 retired officers.

**On-line COLLECT/NCIC Recertification** training began on August 21, 2020 for one WPD Dispatcher. WPD Dispatchers and Officers are mandated to complete this training on a bi-annual cycle.

On Thursday, August 27, 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.

From Monday, August 31, 2020 through Friday, September 4, 2020, Officers Kevin Lawless and Manuel Silva attended the training titled, **“Capital Region Chiefs of Police Review Training.”** This was the first recertification training that was conducted in-person since the restrictions for COVID-19 were implemented. This training provides mandated and elective areas of training towards officer recertification with POSTC.

## **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.

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## PERFORMANCE MEASURES

|                                 | AUGUST<br>2019 | AUGUST<br>2020 | YTD 2019 | YTD 2020 |
|---------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------|----------|
| <b>Criminal Arrests</b>         |                |                |          |          |
| Criminal Arrests                | 48             | 38             | 455      | 218      |
| <b>Burglaries and Robberies</b> |                |                |          |          |
| Residential Burglaries          | 2              | 1              | 12       | 5        |
| Commercial Burglaries           | 1              | 0              | 4        | 17       |
| Armed Robberies                 | 0              | 3              | 0        | 3        |
| Strong-Arm Robberies            | 0              | 2              | 3        | 6        |
| <b>Family Violence Arrests</b>  |                |                |          |          |
| Family Violence Arrests         | -              | 10             | -        | 56       |
| <b>Traffic Related</b>          |                |                |          |          |
| Infractions/ MV Summons         | 71             | 38             | 807      | 329      |
| DUI                             | 14             | 1              | 77       | 48       |
| MV Crashes                      | 52             | 47             | 427      | 445      |
| Parking Tags                    | 10             | 1              | 419      | 208      |
| <b>Miscellaneous Activities</b> |                |                |          |          |
| 911 Calls                       | 992            | 1252           | 6930     | 6835     |
| Alarm Responses                 | 81             | 81             | 418      | 464      |
| Records Requests                | 91             | 153            | 1364     | 1069     |
| Prisoners Transported           | -              | 8              | -        | 55       |
| Child Car Seat Installations    | 8              | 0              | 36       | 9        |