



POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT

Wethersfield



James Cetran
Chief of Police

August 2013

SPECIAL PROJECTS / ACHIEVEMENTS / INNOVATIONS

Wethersfield Police Department, with the assistance of other Mid-State Police Departments and New Britain Police Department held a DUI Checkpoint on Friday, August 30, 2013 on the Berlin Turnpike south of Nott Street. 2447 vehicles passed through the checkpoint, with 1512 being briefly stopped by officers. 35 motorists were flagged by the officers for DUI testing or other investigative interviews. Following are the arrests/ charges and activity:

- Ten (10) motorists detained for DUI assessment
- Three (3) motorists arrested for DUI
- Seven (7) motorists charged with Operating an Unregistered Motor Vehicle
- Four (4) motorists charged with Operating with a Suspended License/ Registration
- Five (5) motorists charged with Operating without Insurance
- Three (3) motorists charged with Driving without a License
- One (1) motorist charged with Failure to Secure a Child in a Child Seat
- One (1) motorist charged with Failure to Renew Operator's License
- Fourteen (14) vehicles towed from the scene.

During the first week of school, Support Services Bureau personnel responded to various schools throughout town giving attention to traffic control and pedestrian safety. Officers gave extra attention to the Wethersfield High School area in an effort to inform parents of proper and safe areas of drop-off and pick-up for their students. Extra attention was also given to the Charles Wright and Emerson Williams Elementary Schools.

Probationary Police Officers Justin Hilchuk has completed approximately twenty one weeks of basic training at the Connecticut Police Academy. Graduation is expected in September, 2013.

During the month of August 2013, members of the Detective Bureau initiated or were assigned follow up to approximately twenty (20) new cases. The major case investigations involved; six (6) burglaries, three (3) fraud / Identity thefts, and four (4) larcenies. Detectives also continue to perform town background investigations and backgrounds for pistol permits applicants.

Members of the Capitol Region Emergency Services Team earned 1st place and were champions of the 2013 CT SWAT Challenge. Teams from New England, New York, Pennsylvania as well as teams from the U.S. Military participated in this grueling 3 day competition.

The Wethersfield Police Cadets took a Rank Test during the month of August 2013. Promotions will be announced at the September meeting.

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

Patrol Division

Patrol Division (Case of Interest)

On Thursday, August 1, 2013 at 3:11 PM several officers were dispatched to Marshall's Home Goods, 1130 Silas Deane Highway, on report of two (2) shoplifters in custody with store Loss Prevention. Officers arrived and met with Loss Prevention personnel. A total of four people were being detained, however only two females were suspected of actually shoplifting. This was caught on video surveillance. He reported that the females in the group were ripping tags off of items and concealing them before attempting to leave the store, passing all points of purchase/not paying for the items. They admitted fault for having committed the shoplifting and did not deny any of the allegations made by Loss Prevention. Both suspects admitted to working in unison; however neither would say how they knew each other or why they were stealing together. The females were subsequently identified and arrested. Both females were handcuffed and transported to Police Headquarters. They were each charged with Larceny 6th Degree and Conspiracy to Larceny 6th Degree. Both were released on non-surety bonds and were scheduled to appear in New Britain court on 8/15/2013.

On Thursday, August 8 2013 an officer noticed a commotion in front of Sally Beauty Supply, 1412 Berlin Tnpk., and a female came running towards the police car. Dispatch simultaneously advised over the radio that a shoplifting had just occurred at that location. The female who was running towards the officer was a worker from Sally Beauty who confirmed that a shoplifting had just occurred. She said the suspects were in a Nissan Altima heading north through the parking lot. The officer saw a Nissan Altima heading north through the lot at a high rate of speed. The officer activated his emergency light and sirens and began to head towards the Altima. The officer was able to stop the car as it turned into a parking space that was blocked on all three sides by parked vehicles. Dispatch advised that the suspects were two black females. The officer saw that the operator and front seat passenger matched this description and that both were actively trying to open their car doors. The front seat passenger then threw an item under the Altima as the officer approached on foot. The females were extremely agitated and upset and continued to try to exit their vehicle. The operator was immediately very belligerent with the officer. She loudly questioned why she was stopped. The passenger was much more passive. She began to cry uncontrollably and was visibly shaking. The officer asked for identification from both females, however only the passenger would comply. The operator said her I.D. was in her handbag and then went into it. The officer believed she was trying to conceal something in the bag and believed there was further evidence of the crime in her bag. The officer told the

females the reason for the stop and told them that he saw an item being thrown under the car. The operator denied any wrongdoing and continued to be uncooperative with the officer. The officer looked under the car, where he saw a flat iron in plain view. After being given her Miranda rights, the passenger told the officer that the operator of the Altima had taken a flat iron from the store. The passenger was unaware of the shoplifting until the incident began to unfold. The passenger said that after they were stopped by the police, the operator quickly handed her the flat iron from inside her hand bag and told the passenger to throw it under the Altima. Another officer located several Ontario, CANADA drivers' licenses that had the operator's photo on them. All of them had different identifying information however, including name, date of birth, address, and license number. It was clear that the driver's licenses were fraudulent. The driver was read her rights as well, however she was uncooperative. The beauty supply store workers confirmed that the driver was the one that stole the flat iron. The driver had an extensive criminal record. Based on incident details, the driver was arrested for Larceny 6th Degree and Interfering with Police. The passenger was not charged with any crime. The flat iron was valued at \$74.99. The driver was then additionally charged with 5 counts of Forgery 2nd Degree. She was released having posted a surety bond and court date was set for 8/22/2013.

Support Services Bureau

Wethersfield Public Safety Dispatchers received and handled 918 E-911 emergency phone calls. The Wethersfield Volunteer Fire Department (WVFD) was dispatched to 33 calls for service. The Wethersfield Volunteer Ambulance (WVAA) was dispatched to 79 calls for service and Aetna Ambulance to 257 calls for service. Wethersfield Police Department Child Seat Technicians inspected/installed 10 child seats.

There were 146 phone calls and 61 calls for service involving animal control issues in Wethersfield. Of the calls for service, forty-one were handled by the part-time animal control officers and twenty were handled by police officers. Three animals were impounded with one being redeemed, and two adopted. Animal Control Officers dealt with a large number of wildlife including several calls about coyotes, raccoon and geese. Cases include two dog bites. Wethersfield Animal Control Officers covered for eight calls in Newington. Newington Animal Control Officers covered for ten calls in Wethersfield.

Twenty-two persons were taken into custody and held requiring 328 hours of incarceration. Of the persons held, fourteen were arrested by warrant. Support Services personnel transported the prisoners to court, including twelve males and ten females. The females incarcerated by the department required 116 hours of matron coverage.

Administrative Services Bureau

This department has responded to 76 alarm calls in month of August. Residential locations made up 43 (57%) of the total, non-residential locations made up 30 (39%), and State / Town government made up 3 (4%) of the total alarm incidents. The alarms received were:

67 burglar, 4 holdup / panic, and 5 fire. There currently are 1,650 alarm registrations on file, 67 of which experienced alarm(s) this month; this represents a 95% compliance rate. Ten new alarm registrations were entered this month. During this month, \$4,475 in alarm billing has occurred. There have been 268 actions performed by this unit with the CryWolf system, and 240 items of correspondence sent out.

Efforts to recruit certified police officers continue, as does the step to prepare the entry level candidate for the October academy class. The department currently has two police officer vacancies.

Detective Division

In August of 2013, a Detective was assigned to investigate an embezzlement form a local business. A complaint was received that the owner of the business had found that the bookkeeper of the business had been keeping false business records making it appear as though the business was paying invoices properly. A closer look showed that the employee was writing checks to himself and to fake businesses, pocketing the money for himself. The employee kept separate records for the business accountant and owner to make his transactions appear proper. The total amount of theft is still accumulating and believed to be in the 10's of thousands of dollars. The accused employee was later arrested without incident.

The following are the burglary and robbery statistics for the month of August 2013, 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.

<i>Criminal Activity</i>	<i>August 2012</i>	<i>August 2013</i>
Residential Burglaries:	11(0)	6(0)
Commercial Burglaries:	0(0)	0 (0)
Armed Robberies:	0(0)	0(0)
Strong-arm Robberies:	1(0)	0(0)

Juvenile Detective

Wethersfield Police Department handled approximately 52 incidents, involving approximately 66 juveniles. In these incidents, 2 juveniles were arrested for criminal

violations, 9 were diverted to parental punishment and 1 was diverted to the Wethersfield Juvenile Review Board.

School Resource Officer

N/A

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Support Services Bureau officers continue to address citizen complaints involving traffic, parking violations and other motor vehicle violations. Citizens regularly complain of a variety of different violations on various town streets and at several town schools.

Based on citizen concerns and traffic study results, officers performed selective enforcement at various locations throughout town. Officers performed selective enforcement 5 different times spending approximately 3 hours 52 minutes doing selective enforcement on various roads in town. Locations given extra attention included Silas Deane Highway, Thornbush Road and Maple Street.

A traffic study on Collier Road was initiated and completed utilizing a speed monitoring device over the course of sixteen (16) days. The speed limit in this area is posted at 35 MPH. During the 289 survey hours, 28,217 cars were recorded, averaging 97.6 cars per hour. Results from the speed monitoring device showed an average speed of approximately 37.4 MPH, the 50th percentile speed of 37.75 MPH, the 85th percentile speed of approximately 43.5 MPH and a top speed of 84 MPH.

A traffic study on Griswold Road 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 35 MPH. During the 136.75 survey hours, 46,126 cars were recorded, averaging 364 cars per hour. Results from the speed monitoring device showed an average speed of approximately 38.5 MPH, the 50th percentile speed of 39 MPH, the 85th percentile speed of approximately 44 MPH and a top speed of 73 MPH.

A traffic study on Crest Street was initiated and completed utilizing the Speed Awareness Monitor Trailer over the course of three (3) days. The speed limit in this area is posted at 25 MPH. During the 25.5 survey hours (all daytime hours), 1,751 cars were recorded, averaging 68.7 cars per hour. Results from the speed monitoring device showed an average speed of approximately 24.8 MPH, the 85th percentile speed of approximately 32 MPH.

Due to the beginning of the school year, a traffic study on Wells Road in front of Emerson Williams School was initiated and completed utilizing the Speed Awareness Monitor Trailer over the course of three (3) days. The speed limit in this area is posted at 40 MPH. During the days that school is in session, the speed limit for one hour in the morning and one hour in the afternoon is 25 MPH. During the 52 survey hours, 23,257 cars were recorded, averaging 445 cars per hour. Results from the speed monitoring device showed an average speed of approximately 36.2 MPH, the 85th percentile speed of approximately 43 MPH.

The following work orders were completed during August, 2013:

- Place temporary NO PARKING signs, barricades and cones at various locations throughout Old Wethersfield for the Inter-community Mental Health 5K & 10K road races.

Training Division

On Thursday August 1, 2013, Officer Eric Knapp began attending a course entitled "**CT School Resource Officer Training Program**". Topics include the roles and responsibilities of a school resource officer, juvenile law, juvenile crisis intervention, coaching, internet safety, bullying, and substance abuse issues.

On Wednesday, August 7, 2013 members of the **Capitol Region Emergency Services Team** (CREST), including Lieutenant Mark Poisson, Sergeant Michael Connolly and MPO Officers Luis Gonzalez and Ronald Floyd began attending monthly two-day training.

On Thursday August 22, 2013, Officers Kenneth Newton and Justin Lord assisted the Connecticut Police Academy with "**Practical Skills Day**" for the 341st Training Session. Officers Newton and Lord served as role players in exercises that put into practice the knowledge recruits have gained in the classroom under controlled conditions.

On Tuesday, August 13, 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 canine training with several other area law enforcement canine teams. Training included evidence recovery and tracking.

On Tuesday, August 27, 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 canine training with several other area law enforcement canine teams. Training included evidence recovery and tracking.

On Wednesday, August 28, 2013 Chief James Cetran attended a three hour training class entitled "**Police Chief's Legal Update.**" This training was held at the Connecticut Police Academy, Meriden CT. The CT Division of Criminal Justice and POSTC briefed local Police Chiefs on changes, additions, deletions and modifications to Connecticut laws.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Annual Arrest & Control, ASP, Handcuffing, Taser, Use of Force and Pursuit Policy review training is scheduled for September 2013. This training will be held in the WPD Community Room.

A Powerphone Dispatch Class entitled "Protecting Law Enforcement Responders" will be held in the WPD Community Room on September 10, 2013.

The Cadets will be having their open house (recruitment) during the month of September 2013. The Wethersfield Police Cadets will continue with their fundraising efforts, "Curbs for Cadets."

The National Multiple Sclerosis Society Bike Ride will come through various streets in Old Wethersfield on Sunday, September 8, 2013.

The 29th annual Wethersfield Chamber of Commerce Cornfest will be held on the Broad Street Green on Saturday, September 21, 2013 from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

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.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

	August 2012	August 2013	YTD 2012	YTD 2013
Criminal Arrests				
Criminal Arrests	73	103	593	626
Burglaries and Robberies				
Residential Burglaries	11	6	36	23
Commercial Burglaries	0	0	12	3
Armed Robberies	0	0	1	0
Strong-Arm Robberies	1	0	5	1
Family Violence Arrests				
Family Violence Arrests	5	7	55	14
Traffic Related				
Infractions/ MV Summons	152	184	1463	1334
DUI	14	17	88	82
MV Crashes	49	42	402	556
Parking Tags	65	26	253	245
Miscellaneous Activities				
911 Calls	814	918	6667	6873
Alarm Responses	82	76	556	518
Records Requests	225	209	2037	1680
Prisoners Transported	20	22	124	124
Child Car Seat Installations	2	10	44	64