



# POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT

*Wethersfield*



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

## AUGUST 2014

### SPECIAL PROJECTS / ACHIEVEMENTS / INNOVATIONS

The K-9 Unit completed the process to select a new Patrol K-9 Handler. Officer Nuno Martins has obtained his new partner, K-9 Thor, a 15 month old German Shepard. Officer Martins and K-9 Thor are tentatively scheduled to begin Patrol K-9 School with the CT State Police on September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2014. The K-9 Unit has also completed the process to select a new Narcotics/Tracking K-9 (Labrador.) Officer Shane Murphy will attend training with the CT State Police later this year.

During the month of August 2014, members of the Detective Bureau initiated or were assigned follow up to eighteen (18) new cases. The major case investigations involved; seven (7) burglaries, five (3) fraud / Identity thefts, three (3) sudden deaths, and one (1) sexual assault. Detectives also continue to perform town background investigations and backgrounds for pistol permits applicants.

Members of the Capitol Region Emergency Services Team earned 1<sup>st</sup> place and were named champions of the 2014 CT SWAT Challenge. This was the second year in a row as champions for the Wethersfield regional team. Teams from New England, New York, Pennsylvania as well as teams from the U.S. Military participated in this grueling 3 day competition

A Police Cadet rank test was given and promotions will be announced in September.

### MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

#### Patrol Division

##### Patrol Division (Case of Interest)

On Monday, August 4, 2014 at 4:07 PM several officers were dispatched to retail establishment on the Berlin Turnpike for a shoplifting complaint. Dispatch advised that the shoplifting had just occurred and store management was wrestling with the suspect. The first arriving officer observed three males restraining a male against a water display at the

front of the store. The officer placed the restrained male under arrest and placed him in the rear of his marked cruiser where he read him his Miranda Rights which he waived. The suspect told the officer that he did not plan on stealing the Monster energy drinks, that he was going to use his State of Connecticut food assistance card to pay for them, but wasn't sure if he had enough money on the card for them or even have his wallet. The officer learned that a second male was waiting for him in a blue Toyota possibly Corolla to drive him away from the scene. A second officer located this car leaving the parking lot heading east on Jordan Lane. This officer stopped the Toyota on Jordan Lane. The driver admitted to being with the first male, but claimed no involvement in robbery. The driver gave consent to search the vehicle for any contraband. The officer located a capped hypodermic needle filled with a brown colored liquid, suspected to be heroin. A store employee told the officers that she witnessed a young male, later identified as the arrested person, enter aisle "3" and put six (6) cases of Monster energy drink (\$49.14) into a beach bag. He proceeded to walk down the aisle to the back of the store and she followed him to aisle "16". The employee notified her supervisors who proceeded to stop the male after he exited aisle "16". The male suspect then got into a physical altercation with her managers. The employee showed the officers the bag containing the Monster energy drinks and provided a receipt showing the monetary value of the drinks. The suspect in the store said that the car's driver waiting in the lot was aware of his intentions to steal the Monster energy drinks and that he agreed to drive him to steal them. They were planning to sell the Monster energy drinks to get money to purchase heroin. The driver was charged with Larceny 6th Degree and Conspiracy to Commit (Larceny 6th Degree.) He was later released on a surety bond and was scheduled to appear in court on 8/18/2014. The male from inside the store was charged Robbery 3rd Degree, Possession of Narcotics, Larceny 6th Degree, Conspiracy to Commit (Larceny 6th Degree) and Criminal Mischief. He was held on bond and was presented in GA15 New Britain on 08/5/2014.

On Friday, August 15, 2014 at 7:36 PM several officers were dispatched to the parking lot of a retail establishment on the Silas Deane Hwy. for the report of two female shoplifters fighting with Loss Prevention staff. Officers detained the two females once they arrived. While being taken into custody, one female stated "I attempted to give back the dresses, but he wouldn't take them." Loss Prevention staff stated he observed the two females on surveillance camera remove multiple dresses from the clothing rack. The two females then moved into another section of the store. One female then began to remove the hangers from the clothing and hand the merchandise to the other female, who put it in her purse. Loss prevention then approached the females and attempted to bring them to the Loss Prevention office prior to their reaching the dressing rooms. Loss prevention stated he attempted to take the merchandise from one of the females, but was unsuccessful. One female left the store without any merchandise. The second female then exited the store past all points of purchase and threw the merchandise on the sidewalk in front of the building. One of the females pushed the loss prevention employee in the parking lot in an attempt to evade apprehension. All stolen merchandise was recovered and totaled \$462.91. The females were transported to WPD Headquarters. One female was processed/booked for Interfering with an Officer, Larceny 6th Degree and Conspiracy to Commit Larceny 6th Degree. The second female was processed/booked for violation of Larceny 6th Degree and Conspiracy to Commit Larceny 6th Degree. Both females were subsequently released on bond and were scheduled to appear in court on 9/2/14.

## **Support Services Bureau**

Fourteen persons were taken into custody and held requiring 217 hours of incarceration. Of the persons held, eight were arrested on warrants. Twelve males and two females were transported to court. The females incarcerated by the department required 20 hours of matron and/or officer coverage.

There were 126 phone calls and 67 calls for service involving animal control issues. Of the calls for service, fifty-two were handled by the part-time animal control officers and fifteen were handled by police officers. Eight animals were impounded with six being redeemed and two sold as pets. Wethersfield Animal Control Officers covered for twenty calls in Newington. Newington Animal Control Officers covered for six calls in Wethersfield. Cases included one dog bite and one summons issued for a habitual roaming dog. Calls for service included several calls for wildlife issues and several calls for dogs left in vehicles.

Wethersfield Public Safety dispatchers received and handled 929 E-911 emergency phone calls.

The Wethersfield Volunteer Fire Department (WVFD) was dispatched to 50 calls for service.

The Wethersfield Volunteer Ambulance (WVAA) was dispatched to 97 calls for service and Aetna Ambulance to 240 calls for service.

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

## **Administrative Services Bureau**

This department has responded to 50 alarms in month of September. Non-residential locations made up 21 (42%) of this total, residential alarms made up 27 (54%), and State and Town government made up 2 (4%). The alarms received were: 43 burglar, 3 holdup / panic, and 4 fire. There currently are 1,590 alarm registrations on file, 45 of which experienced alarm(s) this month; this represents a 97% compliance rate. Seven new alarm registrations were entered this month. During this month, \$4,500 in alarm billing has occurred. There have been 88 actions performed by this unit with the CryWolf system, and 70 items of correspondence sent out.

## **Detective Division**

In March of 2013, a house was being renovated on the Silas Deane Highway. Employees of the renovating team, who had recently been fired, returned late one night, broke into the home, and stole a variety of tools. Detectives were able to locate the stolen property and identified three suspects. One of the suspects fled to Massachusetts and was eventually picked up on a fugitive from justice warrant based on this crime. On August 27, 2014,

Wethersfield Detectives traveled to Massachusetts to pick up this prisoner and transport him back to Wethersfield to face a variety of charges including Burglary and larceny.

## **Juvenile Detective**

The Wethersfield Police Department handled approximately 30 incidents, involving approximately 40 juveniles during the month of July. In these incidents 3 juvenile were arrested, and 4 juveniles were diverted for parental discipline.

## **School Resource Officer**

N/A.

## **COMMUNITY RELATIONS**

Based on citizen concerns and traffic study results, officers performed selective enforcement at various locations throughout town. Officers performed selective enforcement 3 different times spending 1 hour 28 minutes doing selective enforcement on various roads in town. Locations given extra attention included the Nott Street and Middletown Avenue.

Based on a complaint from a citizen, a traffic study on Middletown Avenue in the area of #1 was initiated and completed utilizing a speed monitoring device over the course of thirteen (13) days. The posted speed limit in this area is 25 MPH. During the 220.75 survey hours, 14,941 cars were recorded, averaging 67.7 cars per hour. Results from the speed monitoring device showed an average speed of approximately 28.85 MPH, the 50th percentile speed of 29.25 MPH, the 85th percentile speed of approximately 35 MPH and a top speed of 57 MPH.

In preparation for the school year, the Speed Awareness Monitor Trailer was used for a traffic study on Willow Street in front of Webb Elementary School (southbound traffic only) over the course of three (3) days. The posted speed limit on this road is 25 MPH. During the 50.75 survey hours, 4,105 cars were recorded, averaging 80.9 cars per hour. Results from the device showed an average speed of 20.33 MPH, the 85th percentile speed of approximately 28 MPH and a top speed of 57 MPH.

In preparation for the school year, the Speed Awareness Monitor Trailer was used for a traffic study on Highcrest Road in front of Highcrest Elementary School (southbound traffic only) over the course of four (4) days. The posted speed limit on this road is 25 MPH. During the 75.25 survey hours, 2,070 cars were recorded, averaging 27.5 cars per hour. Results from the device showed an average speed of 26.47 MPH, the 85th percentile speed of approximately 33 MPH and a top speed of 71 MPH.

The following work orders were completed during August, 2014:

- 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 Wednesday, August 6, 2014 members of the **Capitol Region Emergency Services Team** (CREST), including Lieutenant Mark Poisson, MPO Officers Luis Gonzalez, and Officers Jeff Poulin and Shane Murphy began attending monthly two-day training.

On Thursday, August 7, 2014, Dispatchers Barry Skipp and Lauren Hammond attended a one day recertification class entitled "**NCIC/ COLLECT Recertification Training.**" Training was held at the Connecticut State Police Forensics Laboratory, Meriden, CT. This class is a recertification class for persons presently certified on the NCIC/ COLLECT computer system. Recertification is for a period of two years.

On Thursday, August 7, 2014, Lieutenant Donald Crabtree and Officer Albert Whaples attended a course entitled "**Powers and Responsibilities of a Municipal Legal Traffic Authority (MLTA.)**" This training was held at the Wethersfield Police Department Community Room. Training topics included information on the planning, design, construction, maintenance, operation and management of roads, bridges and public transit.

On Tuesday, August 19, 2014, Officer Shane Murphy participated in the "**2014 Connecticut SWAT Challenge.**" Officer Murphy, a CREST member, was selected to be part of this year's challenge. The CREST Team subsequently came in first place.

On Tuesday, August 26, 2014, Officers Peter McGee, Gary Luiz, Shane Murphy and Jessica Ficara attended a one day recertification class entitled "**NCIC/ COLLECT Recertification Training.**" Training was held at the Southington Police Department, Southington, CT. This class is a recertification class for persons presently certified on the NCIC/ COLLECT computer system. Recertification is for a period of two years.

On Tuesday, August 26, 2014, 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.

On Wednesday, August 27, 2014, Officers Gary Luiz and John Blair attended a three hour training class entitled "**The Easy Street Draw Training.**" This training was held at the DOT Training Center, Newington CT. The course was introductory into the new Accident Reporting System which will be implemented in January 2015.

## **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.

A Police Cadet open house event is scheduled for 09/18/14. The purpose of the event is for recruitment for the Cadet Post.

The first day of school for the Wethersfield Public Schools and Corpus Christi School is Tuesday, September 2, 2014.

The National Multiple Sclerosis Society Bike Ride will come through various streets in Old Wethersfield on Saturday, September 13, 2014.

The 29<sup>th</sup> annual Wethersfield Chamber of Commerce Cornfest will be held on the Broad Street Green on Saturday, September 20, 2014 from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

The 33<sup>rd</sup> annual Old Wethersfield Fall Craft Fair will be held at Cove Park on Saturday, October 4, 2014 from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

The Keane Foundation's Cove-Side Carnival will be held October 17, 2014 through October 19, 2014 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 19, 2014 at 11:00 AM.

Annual Arrest & Control, ASP, Handcuffing, Taser, Use of Force and Pursuit Policy review training is scheduled for September 2014. This training will be held in the WPD Community Room.

A Powerphone Dispatch Class entitled "Suicide Intervention" will be held in the WPD Community Room on September 17, 2014.

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## PERFORMANCE MEASURES

	August 2013	August 2014	YTD 2013	YTD 2014
<b>Criminal Arrests</b>				
Criminal Arrests	103	90	626	562
<b>Burglaries and Robberies</b>				
Residential Burglaries	6	3	23	23
Commercial Burglaries	0	4	3	22
Armed Robberies	0	0	6	1
Strong-Arm Robberies	0	0	1	1
<b>Family Violence Arrests</b>				
Family Violence Arrests	7	3	30	57
<b>Traffic Related</b>				
Infractions/ MV Summons	184	162	1334	1325
DUI	17	10	82	67
MV Crashes	42	44	556	379
Parking Tags	26	88	245	627
<b>Miscellaneous Activities</b>				
911 Calls	918	929	6873	6166
Alarm Responses	76	50	518	460
Records Requests	209	206	1680	1641
Prisoners Transported	22	14	124	139
Child Car Seat Installations	10	2	64	24