

Town of Wethersfield

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Gary A. Evans
Town Manager
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Dear Residents, Business Owners and Visitors:

In response to inquiries, the Town of Wethersfield is looking to provide additional information about its police operations.

The Town is committed to being transparent and will share information publicly and/or as requested unless otherwise prohibited by law or on advice of legal counsel.

Please note the following:

1. The Wethersfield Police Department (WPD) Use of Force Policy is available on our website at <https://wethersfieldct.gov/content/398/428/972/default.aspx>.
2. The WPD Body Camera Policy is available on our website at <https://wethersfieldct.gov/content/398/428/972/default.aspx>
3. The Town is working on a collaborative effort to increase dialogue and understanding between community members and all employees. This includes partnering with the Board of Education, town departments and residents. We have engaged an organization called, the State Education Resource Center (SERC) to help ensure our focus is well directed. Please e-mail conversations@wethersfieldct.gov to be added to the distribution list.
4. The WPD Union contract remains available on the Town's website at <https://wethersfieldct.gov/content/398/420/19004.aspx>.
5. The Town is state and nationally accredited (<https://www.calea.org/>) and our policies meet those standards. As part of accreditation, The WPD provides its officers with continuous training that meets current best practices in law enforcement.

It is important to note that the Police Department's annual accreditation process uses a citizen review board that has members representing a blend of backgrounds and experiences. The accreditation process provides an analysis of the more than 20,000 calls for service every year. I am working with the Chief to create a transparent document that would be made available to the general public from our annual review.

At a minimum, the document will include information related to traffic warnings & citations given out, use of force engagements, grievances, citizen complaint reviews, and crime statistics by type.

This should provide a fair and well-rounded breakdown of Police Department activities and operations.

We look forward to continued dialogue and transparency with the community as we begin to learn from one another. We are committed to do our best in order to grow together.

Sincerely,

Gary A. Evans

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