



POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT

Wethersfield



James Cetran
Chief of Police

JANUARY 2021

SPECIAL PROJECTS / ACHIEVEMENTS / INNOVATIONS

Lieutenant Thomas Mitney retired from the Wethersfield Police Department on February 1, 2021 after 25 years of dedicated service. Officer James Buyak has been temporarily promoted to Acting Lieutenant of the Administrative Services Bureau. Bids for a promotional examination process are currently being reviewed.

Lieutenant Michael Connolly has been assigned as the Commander of the Patrol Bureau.

Lieutenant Donald Crabtree has been assigned as the Commander of the Support Services Bureau.

Lieutenant Anthony Demonte has been assigned as the Commander of the Detective Bureau.

During January 2021, Patrol Bureau officers made seven (7) arrests for Driving under the Influence. Self-initiated motor vehicle enforcement has decreased due to COVID-19 concerns.

Efforts to hire certified police officers continue with multiple background investigations underway by the Detective Division. There is one vacancy in the Detective Division which will be filled once staffing levels have increased.

Probationary Police Officer Abbie Zadrozny has successfully completed her 12-week Field Training program and has been assigned to the Patrol Division. Probationary Police Officer Cody Nichols has resigned from the Wethersfield Police Department and is no longer employed by the town.

During January 2021, all COVID-19 measures continued in an effort to meet federal and state infectious control guidelines. There were no significant COVID-19 work related exposures involving WPD officers. Several officers had to quarantine due to false positive COVID-19 Rapid tests or actual exposures to household members that tested positive for COVID-19 and displayed symptoms.

In January 2021, Chief Cetran and Lead Dispatcher Karen Tomczyk attended six planning meetings (as Unified Command in an Emergency Operations Center capacity) led by Wethersfield Emergency Management and the Central Connecticut Health District (CCHD) to discuss and plan for Coronavirus (COVID-19) mitigation, future preparations, response and recovery for the Town of Wethersfield. Lead Dispatcher Tomczyk also participated in two planning meetings with CCHD and other key personnel to discuss possible COVID-19 clinics and eligibility listing (with communication plans to alert those eligible).

Training venues that were able to accommodate students, while adhering to Safe Workplace Guidance, continued hosting classes that several of our officers attended. Virtual training continued throughout the month of January.

One training class was postponed due to COVID-19 concerns/restrictions.

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

Patrol Division

Patrol Division (Cases of Interest)

Thefts from unlocked vehicles, shoplifting, stolen vehicles and Family Violence incidents continue to account for most criminal activity in Wethersfield.

Auto Theft

On 01/20/2021, officers were dispatched to Corpus Christi School, 581 Silas Deane Highway, on a suspicious person complaint. Upon arrival, an officer located a male sitting in a red Honda CRV bearing a NY marker plate. The Honda was listed as stolen by the NYPD. The male was taken into custody without incident, was arrested and charged with Larceny 1st Degree, 53a-122.

On 01/21/2021 at approximately 0134 hours, an officer was conducting a patrol check at the closed Wethersfield Cove parking lot when he observed a blue Toyota Camry parked at the extreme north end of the lot. The Massachusetts marker plate on the vehicle was determined to be a misuse and upon approaching the vehicle, the officer observed a male and female lying across the rear seats of the vehicle, sleeping. The male claimed the vehicle belonged to his aunt, though he did not know his Aunt's full name. The officer checked the Toyota's VIN and determined the vehicle was listed as Stolen by East Hartford PD. The subject was arrested for Larceny 3rd Degree, 53a-124. The female was not charged and was transported to her relative's residence.

Unlawful Discharge of a Firearm Arrest

On 01/01/2021 at approximately 0040 hours, officers responded to the area of Cedar Street on the report of gun shots fired. The investigation determined the subject unlawfully discharged a firearm to celebrate the New Year. Multiple .45 cal shell casings were recovered as evidence. The subject was arrested and charged with Unlawful Discharge of a Firearm, 53-203, and Reckless Endangerment in the 1st Degree, 53a-63. Seven (7) registered firearms were surrendered to the Wethersfield PD for safekeeping pending review by the CT State Police Special Licensing and Firearms Unit regarding Pistol Permit status, which was valid at the time of arrest.

Disorderly Conduct/Armed Subject

On 01/16/2021 at approximately 2050 hours, officers were dispatched to the area of Harmund Place on a vandalism complaint. Officers were advised a female suspect, who was armed with a baseball bat, had damaged a parked car. The female was located and taken into custody after approximately 35 minutes. The supervisor and officers did an excellent job deescalating and resolving the situation without utilizing force. The suspect was arrested and charged with Criminal Mischief 2nd Degree, Criminal Trespass 3rd Degree, Interfering with an Officer, Breach of Peace, and Carrying a Dangerous Weapon. The incident stemmed from a larceny in Hartford earlier in the day.

Support Services Bureau

5 persons were taken into custody and held in lieu of bond; 3 males and 2 females were transported to court throughout the month.

There were 44 phone calls and 16 cases involving animal control issues. 19 dog licenses (new and renewals) during the month. There was 1 impound this month; 1 was redeemed by their owners or sold as pets.

The incident synopsis for the month is: 4 wildlife complaints (Geese, raccoon, turtles, etc.) and 12 dog/cat cases (roaming, barking, left in cars, etc.).

Wethersfield Public Safety Dispatchers received and handled 841 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, 43 calls for service, fire prevention activities or assists / standbys.

The Wethersfield Volunteer Ambulance (WVAA) and Aetna Ambulance were dispatched to a total of 133 medical / ambulance calls this month.

Administrative Services Bureau

Administrative Services continues to work on hiring sworn officers due to vacancies. Records requests and Freedom of Information requests are a constant.

There were 37 alarm responses this month. The alarm database is being rebuilt in Nexgen CAD.

Detective Division

Criminal Investigations:

During the month of January, 2021 members of the Detective Bureau initiated, assisted with, or were assigned to eleven (11) new cases. These cases involved the following:

- 1 Commercial Burglary
- 1 Robbery
- 1 Death Investigation
- 1 Family Assist
- 2 Frauds
- 1 Overdose death
- 2 Firearms/ Pistol Permit Surrenders
- 2 Pistol Permit Cases

In addition to the above cases, members of the Detective Bureau completed thirty-nine (39) supplemental reports on follow up investigations which includes thirty-two (32) additional cases, including:

- 2 Residential Burglaries
- 4 Robberies
- 1 Fraud – arrest made
- 6 Mail Theft
- 1 Sexual Assault – arrest warrant issued
- 9 Commercial Burglaries
- 1 Assist Other Jurisdiction
- 1 Carjacking Robbery
- 1 Identity Theft
- 1 Death Investigation
- 1 Attempting Theft of a Motor Vehicle/ Shooting
- 1 Stolen Motor Vehicle
- 1 Fatal Motor Vehicle Accident
- 1 Bad Check
- 1 Risk of Injury to a Minor

Twenty-four (24) cases from the current and previous months/years were closed.

Pistol Permit/Background Investigations:

Eight (8) new background investigations for pistol permit applicants were received.

One (1) background investigation for a certified police applicant was started.

Two (2) background checks were completed for employment in various departments within the Town of Wethersfield.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

The following are the burglary and robbery statistics for the month of January, 2021 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	January 2020	January 2021
Residential Burglaries:	2 (0)	1 (1)
Commercial Burglaries:	1 (1)	4 (0)
Armed Robberies:	0 (0)	0 (0)
Strong-arm Robberies:	1 (0)	1 (0)

School Resource Officer

Wethersfield High School SRO

During January, the WHS SRO covered several incidents including school activities, which were entered into a database.

There were no arrests at the school during January.

The following were entered into a database during January:

The WHS SRO and a staff member located a student who left school grounds without permission. The student was transported back to WHS at the request of school officials.

The WHS SRO investigated a suspicious person on school grounds and determined it was a current student who had skipped school.

The WHS SRO assisted a patrol officer with a found property case.

The WHS SRO assisted the school social worker with a student/family member related to alleged behavior issues.

The WHS SRO participated in a mediation with the school psychologist, special education teacher and two students.

The WHS SRO and a Vice Principal met to discuss a strategy related to a student vaping during remote classes.

The WHS SRO met with a special education student at the request of the school psychologist to discuss home issues.

The WHS SRO responded to multiple student residences at the request of school staff to discuss attendance/behavior issues.

The WHS SRO attended the SRBI/Attendance meeting with school staff to discuss potential students with service needs.

The WHS SRO attended the weekly Safety & Security meeting with administration and school security officers.

The WHS SRO attended the Wethersfield Youth Advisory Board Meeting.

Silas Deane Middle School SRO

There were no arrests at the school in January.

The SDMS SRO attended the weekly STARS/SRBI (Support Team-Assistance & Response Early Intervention Program-Scientific Research-Based Intervention) meeting for at-risk youths at SDMS.

The SDMS SRO attended the weekly Security & Safety meeting with administrators and security staff.

The SDMS SRO attends and monitors all lunch periods in the cafeteria.

The SDMS SRO attends and monitors student drop off and pick up.

The SDMS SRO attends all sessions of the Town of Wethersfield Juvenile Review Board. There is a new case being scheduled for review in February 2021.

The SDMS SRO conducts regular wellbeing checks of students classified as high risk who are not actively attending school or engaging in classroom activity via the online remote learning option. In the month of January, one new visit and three follow-ups were conducted.

The SDMS SRO participated in a virtual JRB meeting for 1st student involved in a fight at the High School back in November 2020. Virtual JRB meeting for 2nd student involved to be held in February. Time and date TBD.

The SDMS SRO assisted an 8th grade student's mother who was requesting intervention relating to inappropriate and violent behavior at home. The student's engagement via remote learning had significantly dropped as well. Spoke with student regarding the importance of staying engaged in class in order to avoid being retained so that she could move onto High School next year. Also spoke about following house rules and controlling verbal outbursts. Student is already classified as a "student of concern" and her progress is monitored weekly during staff engagement meetings. A plan to bring student back to school for in-person learning is being discussed.

The SDMS SRO assisted the Vice Principal with an investigation of an 8th grade student who was using a school issued Chromebook to access pornographic web sites and chat rooms. Behavior is being monitored and student is required to meet with school counselor and SRO weekly.

Training Division

On January 5 & 19, 2021 Officer Nuno Martins & canine Jax attended one-day training classes titled **Police Canine/Police Canine Handler Training**. Officer Martins/Jax participated in this monthly canine training with several other law enforcement canine teams.

On January 6, 2021 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 January 12 & 28, 2021 Officer Shane Murphy & canine Marly attended one-day training classes titled **Police Canine/Police Canine Handler Training**. Officer Murphy/Marly participated in this monthly canine training with several other law enforcement canine teams.

On January 12, 2021 Officer Joel DiLoreto attended **Explosive Breacher Training**. This training is conducted monthly and took place at the Bloomfield Police Department.

On January 19, 2021 Sergeant Oscar Rivera attended a **Capital Region Training Officers Meeting** to discuss recent changes for police officer recertification as mandated by the Police Accountability Act. Topics included the Comparative Certification Process for agencies seeking to hire police officers from other states or the military and collaborate on current/future Police Recertification Training sites/venues.

On January 21, 2021 Lieutenant Anthony DeMonte, Sergeants Oscar Rivera and Michael Wren and Officers Shane Murphy and Jessica Blank attended **Use of Force Liability – Virtual Training**. The Spector Criminal Justice Training Network facilitated this online training, which highlighted all aspects of Use of Force.

On January 21, 2021 Lieutenant Michael Connolly began attending **Virtual Training: Conducting Proper and Effective Investigations (Internal Affairs)**. The focus of this program, provided by the Daigle Law Group/Daigle Learning Center, is to identify proper legal and operational standards for Internal Affairs Investigations. This online/virtual course is conducted weekly and will conclude on February 12, 2021.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Selective enforcements requests continue to be sent to the Patrol Commander, 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.

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.

The Wethersfield Police Cadets have resumed their monthly meetings and training.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES January 2021

	January 2020	January 2021	YTD 2020	YTD 2021
Criminal Arrests	49	33	49	33
Residential Burglaries	2	1	2	1
Commercial Burglaries	1	4	1	4
Armed Robberies	0	1	0	1
Strong-Arm Robberies	1	0	1	0
Traffic Related				
Infractions/ MV Summons	74	48	74	48
DUI	6	7	6	7
MV Crashes	71	55	71	55
Parking Tags	58	4	58	4
Miscellaneous Activities				
911 Calls	1039	841	1039	841
Alarm Responses	61	31	61	31
Records Requests	143	115	143	115
Child Car Seat Installations	4	0	4	0