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## APPENDIX A

### 2021 ATTORNEY GENERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVERSITY REPORT

# INTRODUCTION

Each year, the department assesses its accomplishments and its shortcomings all as a means to provide better services to the community in a more efficient and effective way while, at the same time, always trying to maintain and hopefully increase our officers' morale. As you read through this report, I hope that you notice that the Fairfield Police Department truly goes above and beyond in all of its law enforcement and community policing initiatives, far surpassing other police departments of comparable size. Please take note that the pages of this report are nearly equally divided between our enforcement activities and our community policing and charitable activities. While it is the goal of most police departments to try and come close to striking such an even balance between the two, this department has actually achieved it.

In 2023, while the department saw many things remain the same, there were also many ventures and initiatives that were new and exciting. One of these projects included a collaboration with the Clifton Police Department and a British television production company in producing a television series for Paramount+ featuring motor vehicle enforcement here in the United States and by the Fairfield Police Department. Many of our officers participated and we are still anxiously awaiting the series premiere.

This year, there were a number of assignments made that have and will benefit the department from both a short and long term perspective. Most noteworthy was the transition of the Office of Emergency Management to now be located with the police department and in appointing Lt. Casendino as the emergency management coordinator. At the end of the year, his and the department's capabilities were put to the test when major flooding was predicted for the township in December. The department mobilized a full recall of its officers and went into an emergency operations mode. The overall effectiveness of the management of this emergency from those emergencies of the past was immeasurable, proving that this new arrangement was the best way to go.

In 2023, Officer Stacy Chiarolanza was assigned as the department's public information officer. Her selection to this position seemed a natural progression given that she was the officer providing the public with information over the department's various social media platforms. Now she is the face of the department in front of the cameras and is growing into this role exponentially and has done a great job.

In 2023, Detective Rick Alves was assigned to the New Jersey State Police Auto Theft Task Force from January until November. He was only removed when enforcement philosophies between the ATTF and the department differed greatly. But during his time there, he garnered valuable experience that already has aided some of our local stolen car and burglary investigations and was an integral part in recovering vehicles stolen from Fairfield this year in an unprecedented time.

As we take an overall look at the department's statistical activities, we do notice both favorable and unfavorable items for us. What is clear is that the department's calls for service, enforcement activities and investigative activities that reflect the daily actions of our officers were all higher in 2023 than they were in 2022. These include such things as computer-aided dispatch entries, case activity, call activity, background investigations, 9-1-1 emergency calls for service, arrests, DUI arrests, summonses, and motor vehicle stops.

An analysis of our major crime categories indicates burglaries, criminal mischief, simple assaults, and domestic violence cases are all down, while thefts, motor vehicle thefts, frauds, and aggravated assaults are all up.

An analysis of our budgetary items indicates that the department has reduced its operational spending over the last three years. Unfortunately, it did not have the same success in curbing overtime costs. This will be addressed later in this report and hopefully in 2024 because of the table of organization revisions being implemented in 2024.

In the area of professional standards, the analysis indicates that the numbers are all trending in the right direction. The number of internal affairs complaints handled, the number of uses of force incidents and the number of motor vehicle pursuits undertaken have all declined from the previous year.

As we approached the end of 2023, I felt there was a need to conduct a top to bottom assessment as it related to the efficient and effective operations of the police department and whether or not what I initiated when I first became chief over eight years ago, were still viable and working like I wanted them to. As such, I decided it was once again time for the department to go in a different direction. In 2024, a new table of organization will be implemented which has been designed to bolster the number of officers on a patrol squad and to put more officers on our Fairfield streets. In doing so, I am hoping to reduce crime through deterrence and hopefully improve our operating and overtime costs. Only time will tell if this strategy was effective when we do a similar analysis at the end of 2024.

In 2024, the State of New Jersey is implementing the legislated and long awaited police licensing program which now requires that police officers receive a license from the Police Training Commission in order to be permitted to work in law enforcement. These licenses are valid for a three year period and will be constantly evaluated by the state. This, coupled with the general public's view of law enforcement and their scrutiny of their activities, the softening of laws by legislators, low compensation and a number of other items is making recruitment and retention of qualified candidates and officers very challenging. In that same vein, our officers are truly a caring and professional group of individuals who always go way beyond what is expected of them and notably above what many others in our profession would even consider doing if asked.

I have worked for the Township of Fairfield as a law enforcement officer for over 39 years. That experience, coupled with what I stated above about the problems with recruitment and retention of officers and given how professional and dedicated our current officers remain to this community, is why it is of paramount importance that the township does everything possible to assure that the position of a law enforcement officer in Fairfield remains a viable and competitive one with proper compensation and opportunity. Much has been done over the last eight years to increase morale and professional opportunities for our workforce. But without providing necessary compensation that just meets those of our neighboring departments of comparable size and activity, it is my fear that anything less may bring about the possibility of not obtaining qualified people to carry on the long standing professional reputation that this department has enjoyed since its inception.

Respectfully submitted,

**Anthony G. Manna**

Anthony G. Manna,  
Chief of Police

# 2023

## FAIRFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT ROSTER

### COMMAND STAFF

- Chief Anthony Manna (*Chief of Police*)
- Captain Daniel Dias (*Operations Division Commander*)
- Captain Charles Zampino (*Special Services Division Commander*)
- Lt. John McNish (*Professional Standards Section Commander*)
- Lt. Frank Tracey (*Administrative Section Commander*)
- Lt. Michael Nyhuis (*Investigative Section Commander*)
- Lt. John McGrory (*Patrol Section Commander*)
- Lt. RJ Casendino (*Emergency Management Section Commander*)

### PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS SECTION

- Lt. John McNish (*Professional Standards Section Commander*)
- Sgt. Thomas Myers

### ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION

- Lt. Frank Tracey (*Administrative Section Commander*)
- Sgt. Christopher Niemiec
- PO Stacy Chiarolanza (*Public Information Officer*)
- Sharon McNamara
- Karen Trento
- Amy Pirone
- Orlando Soto (*Chaplain*)

### INVESTIGATIVE SECTION

- Lt. Michael Nyhuis (*Investigative Section Commander*)
- Sgt. Jeffrey Didyk
- Det Daniel Moran
- Det. Nicholas Cocchi
- Det. Michael Tilton
- Det. Louis Bisciotti (*DEA Task Force*)
- Det. Rick Alves (*NJSP Auto Theft Task Force*)

### PATROL SECTION

- Lt. John McGrory (*Patrol Section Commander*)
- Sgt. Ian Rasmussen
- Sgt. Christopher Hlubik
- Sgt. Steven Ptaszynski
- Sgt. Brian Sabatelli
- Cpl. David Lagan

- Cpl. James High Jr.
- Cpl. Jeffrey Dean

#### **PATROL SECTION (Continued)**

- Cpl. Steven D'Argenio
- PO Brian Holzmann (SEU)
- PO Raymond Puluse (SEU)
- PO Sean McCormack (SEU)
- PO Frank Patierno
- PO James Ciampi
- PO Jayson Sickles
- PO David DeCarlo
- PO Daniel Kalinowski
- PO Sean Wilk
- PO Jesse Schnackenberg
- PO Ryan Cleary
- PO Kevin Chen
- PO Vincent Purcell
- PO Patrick Reynolds
- PO John Seragusa
- PO Cory Perrette
- PO Luca Catania
- PO Katrina Guevara
- SLEO II Felipe Maldonado
- SLEO II Andrew VanderWal
- SLEO II Juan Barroso
- SLEO III Joseph Prinzo
- SLEO III Carmen Pelosi
- Disp Joseph Piccoli
- SLEO II Gia Gagliano
- SLEO II Ryan Vath
- SLEO II Derek Mickelman
- SLEO II Jacob Mangieri

Names in red indicate personnel no longer with the department

#### **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SECTION**

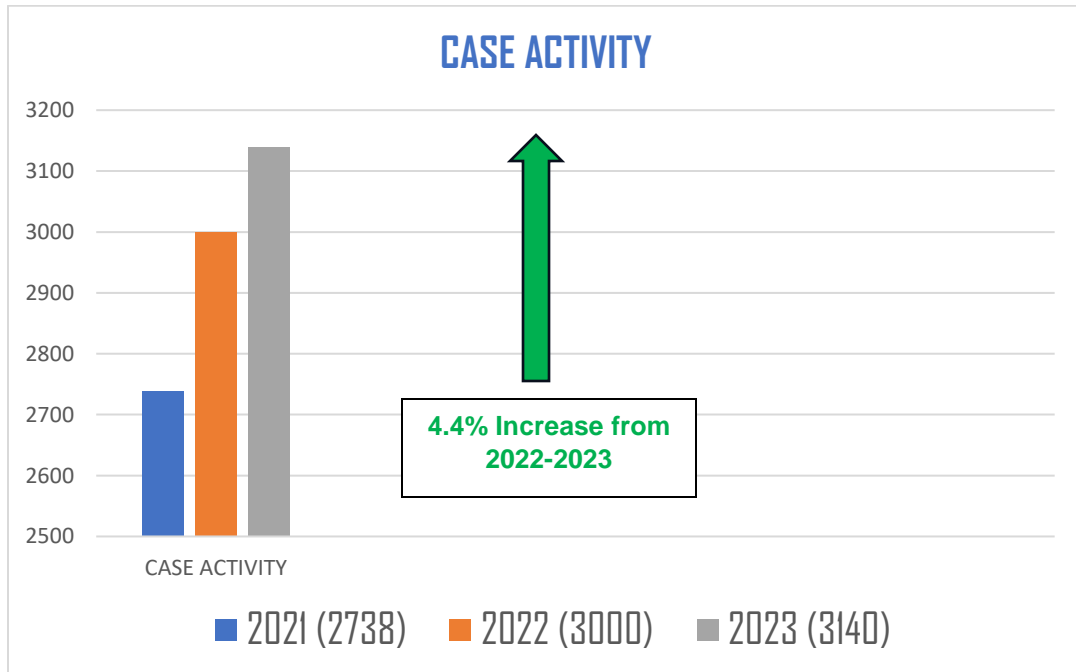
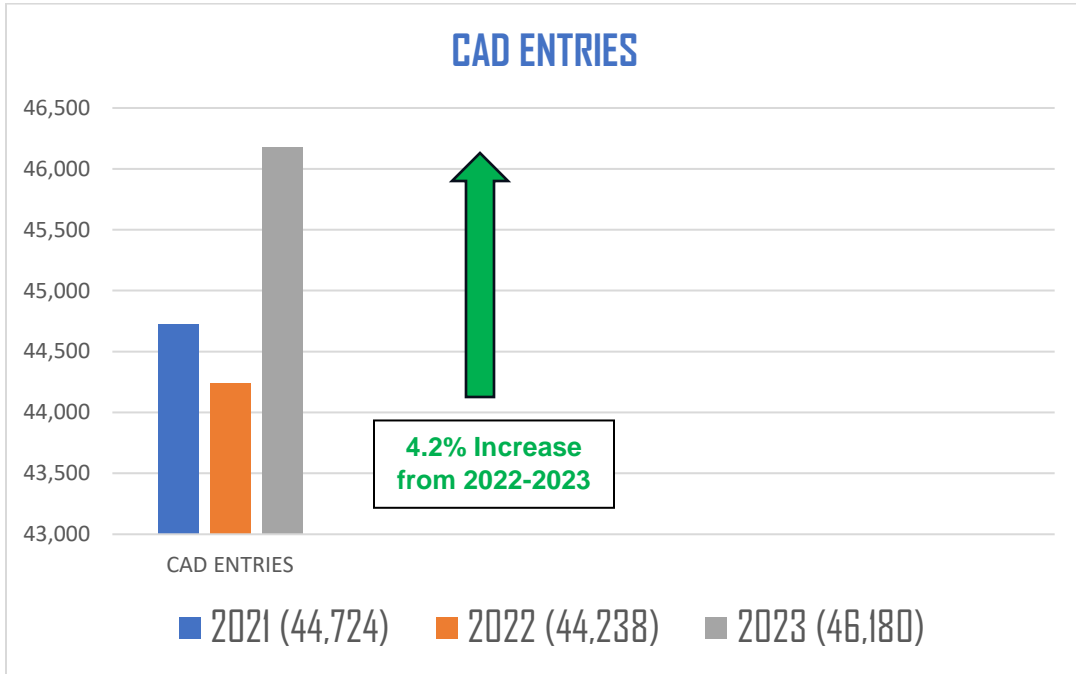
- Lt. RJ Casendino (*Emergency Management Section Commander*)

The seal of the Office of the Chief of Police is centered in the background. It features a circular design with the text "OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE" around the perimeter. Inside the circle is a shield with a central emblem, possibly a scale of justice, and a banner below it. The shield is surrounded by a decorative border.

# 1 GENERAL STATISTICAL DATA & BUDGET

# 1A-GENERAL STATISTICAL DATA

## GENERAL ACTIVITY

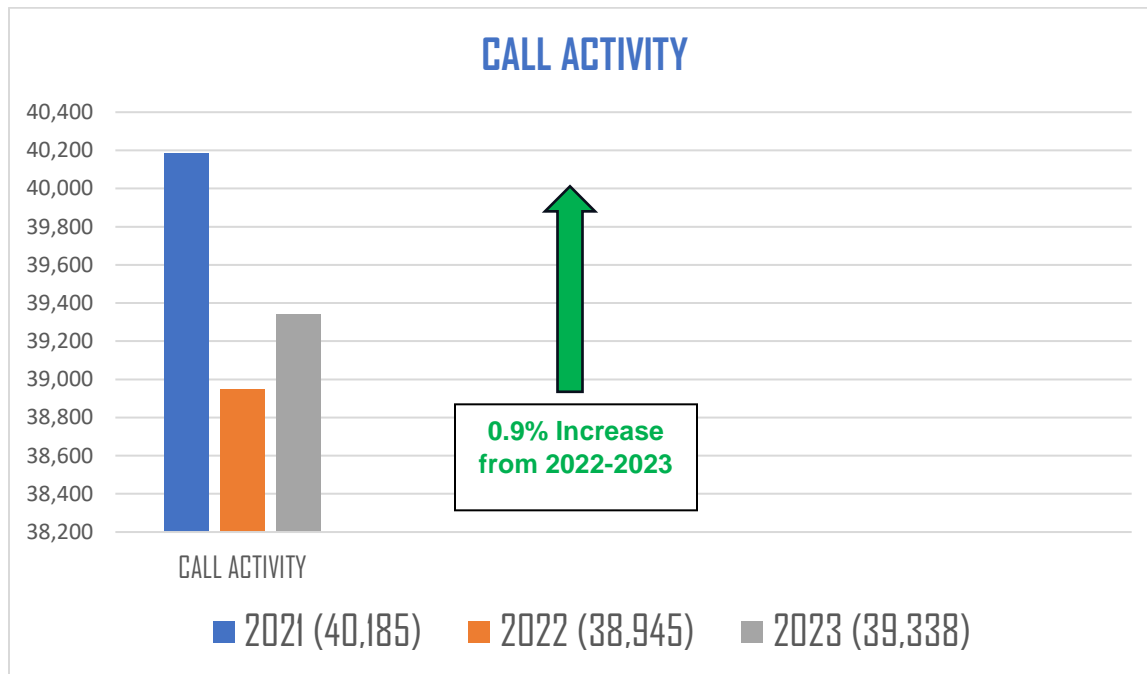


## CASE ACTIVITY BY OFFICER

OFFICER	2022/2023	OFFICER	2022/2023	OFFICER	2022/2023	OFFICER	2022/2023
PO Ciampi	89/198	PO Guevara	134/121	Lt Nyhuis	34/44	Sgt Sabatelli	16/3
PO Seragusa	145/174	PO Patierno	74/120	PO Holzmann	31/42	PO Chiarolanza	4/3
Det Cocchi	174/166	Sgt Didyk	44/111	Det Alves	87/34	Lt McNish	2/3
PO Chen	143/166	PO Wilk	96/108	Cpl Dean	21/17	Lt Casendino	1/1
PO Schnackenberg	164/153	PO Kalinowski	107/98	Sgt Rasmussen	6/15	Det Bisciotti	6/0
PO Perrette	138/152	PO Reynolds	89/85	SLEO VanderWal	35/13	Capt Zampino	3/1
PO Cleary	91/135	Det Tilton	97/83	Sgt Ptaszynski	25/13	Capt Dias	2/1
PO Purcell	142/133	PO Sickles	90/76	Sgt Hlubik	10/12	Chief Manna	0/0
Det Moran	108/131	PO Puluse	50/70	Lt McGrory	6/9	SLEO Maldonado	0/0
PO McCormack	91/128	Cpl High	54/64	Sgt Niemiec	10/9	SLEO Barroso	0
PO Catania	125/123	Sgt Myers	80/60	Lt Tracey	14/8		
PO DeCarlo	60/122	Cpl Lagan	32/48	Cpl D'Argenio	12/6		

**Green-** Indicates and increase from the previous year

**Red-** Indicates a decrease from the previous year

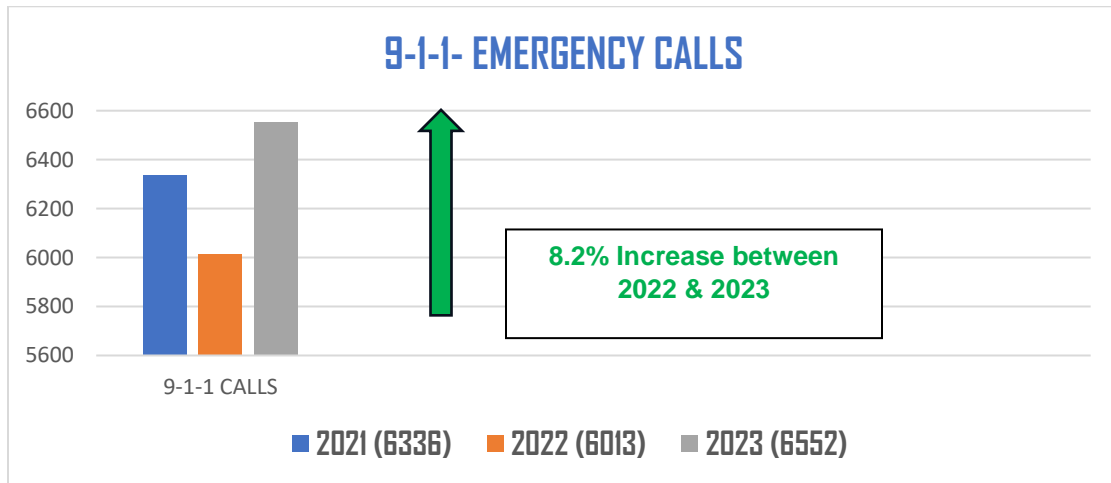


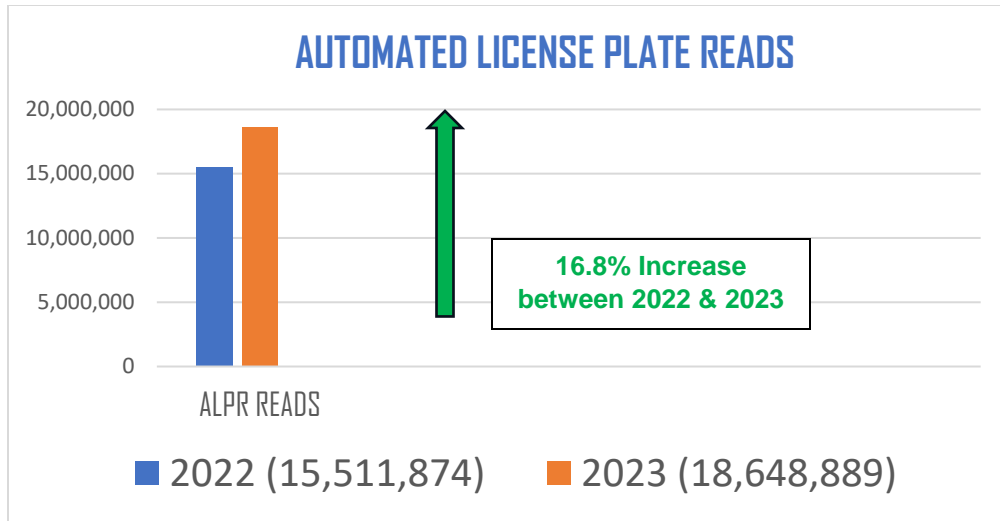


## CALL ACTIVITY BY OFFICER

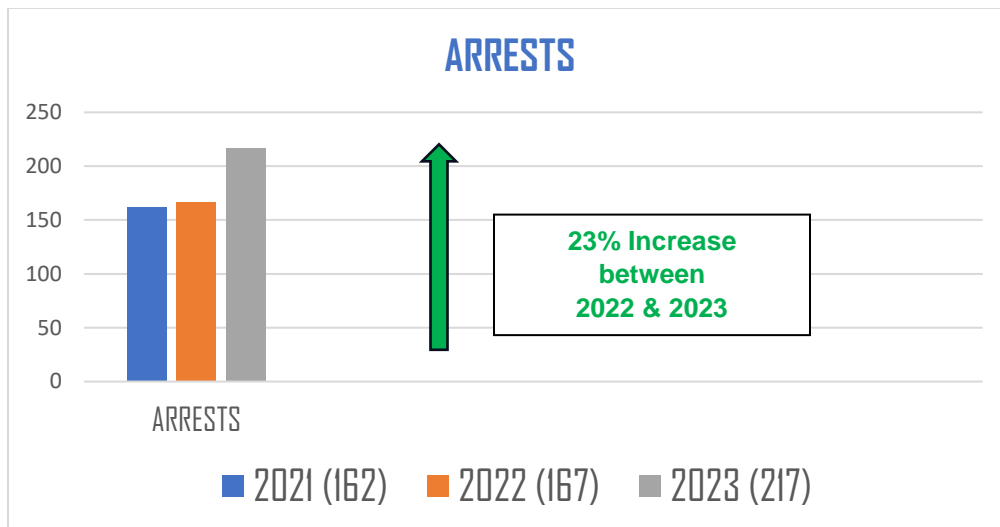
OFFICER	2022/2023	OFFICER	2022/2023	OFFICER	2022/2023	OFFICER	2022/2023
PO Chen	1664/2040	Cpl Lagan	1128/1357	Sgt Hlubik	638/740	Sgt Sabatelli	485/156
PO Schnackenberg	1793/2008	PO Guevara	1575/1337	Cpl D'Argenio	681/695	Chief Manna	65/109
PO Seragusa	1765/1830	PO Patierno	1169/1311	Sgt Ptaszynski	788/633	Lt Nyhuis	128/98
PO Ciampi	937/1796	PO DeCarlo	671/1288	Sgt Rasmussen	449/557	Sgt Didyk	82/93
PO Perrette	1521/1647	PO Cleary	1311/1271	Det Cocchi	263/429	Lt Casendino	133/80
PO Catania	1849/1557	PO Holzmann	987/1206	Det Alves	1089/358	Capt Dias	89/75
PO Reynolds	1469/1466	Cpl Dean	905/1197	Lt McGrory	313/344	Capt Zampino	71/53
PO Purcell	1589/1447	Sgt Myers	1120/1105	Lt Tracey	210/311	SLEO Maldonado	2/31
PO Sickles	1391/1388	Cpl High	1206/1027	Det Moran	238/289	Det Bisciotti	98/18
PO Kalinowski	1360/1375	PO Puluse	799/865	Det Tilton	163/230		
PO Wilk	1189/1367	Lt McNish	687/791	SLEO VanderWal	367/230		
PO McCormack	1288/1362	Sgt Niemiec	549/741	PO Chiarolanza	141/166		

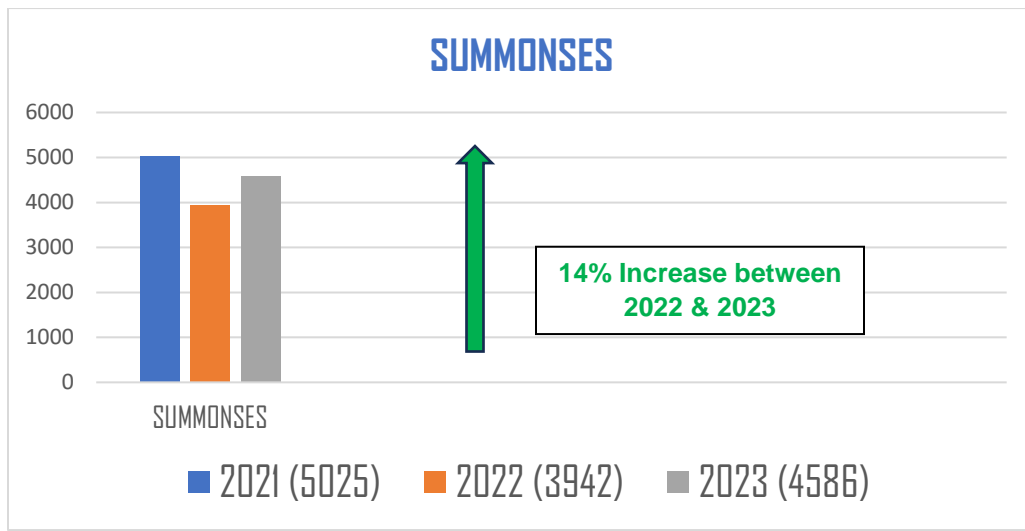
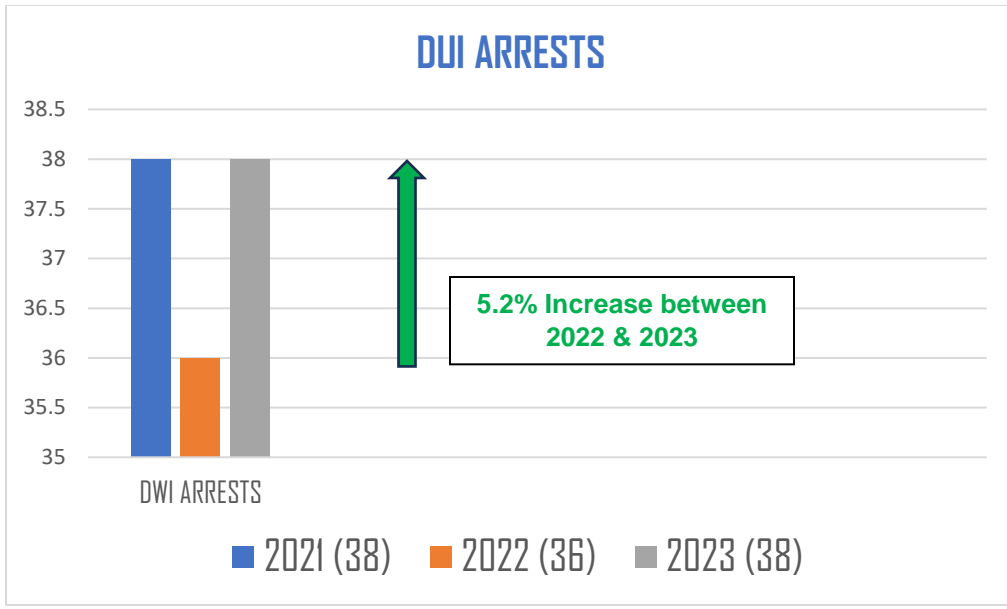
- **Green-** Indicates an increase from the previous year
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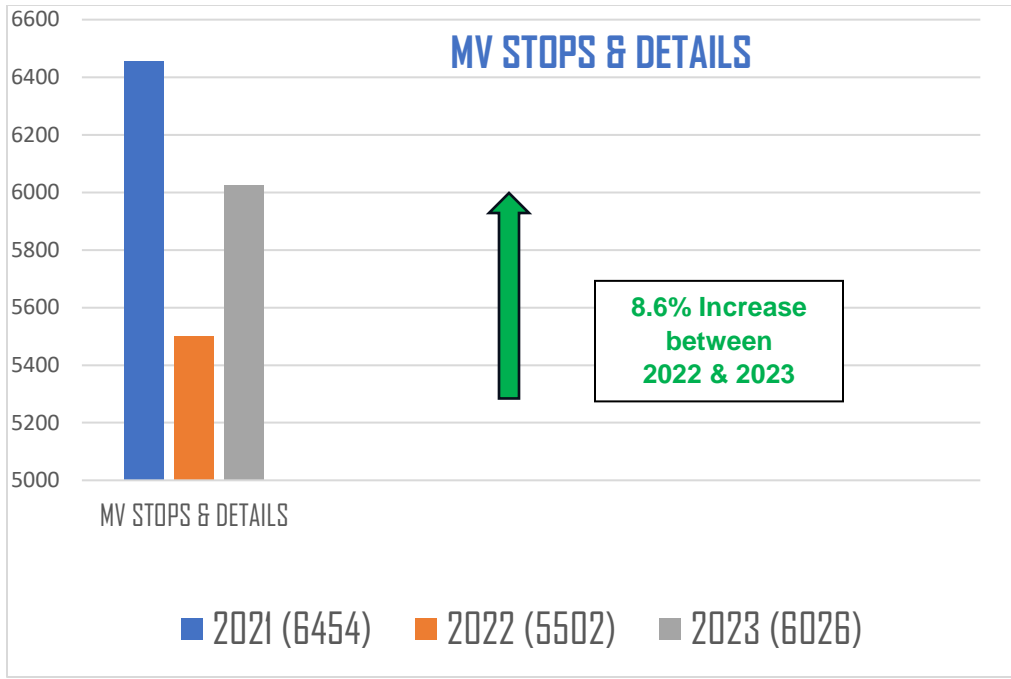




## ENFORCEMENT







### MV STOPS BY OFFICER

OFFICER	2022/2023	OFFICER	2022/2023	OFFICER	2022/2023	OFFICER	#
PO Schnackenberg	446/688	PO Ciampi	163/206	Det Alves	168/35	PO Chiarolanza	0/1
PO McCormack	513/534	PO Purcell	230/196	Chief Manna	5/16	Sgt Sabatelli	3/1
PO Chen	263/426	PO Wilk	145/190	SLEO VanderWal	46/14	SLEO Barroso	1
PO Holzmann	344/395	PO Perrette	157/189	Sgt. Rasmussen	2/12	Lt Casendino	2/1
Sgt Myers	455/347	PO Puluse	155/140	Det Moran	16/9	Det Cocchi	3/0
PO Reynolds	304/333	Cpl Dean	87/124	Sgt Hlubik	5/6	Det Bisciotti	2/0
PO Catania	316/317	PO Kalinowski	90/119	Sgt Niemiec	4/6	SLEO Maldonado	0/0
PO Sickles	276/287	PO Patierno	103/94	Cpl D'Argenio	7/5	Lt McNish	0/0
PO Seragusa	207/263	Cpl Guevara	141/73	Det Tilton	3/3	Lt Nyhuis	0/0
PO Cleary	269/250	Cpl High	66/66	Capt Dias	0/3	Sgt Didyk	0/0
PO DeCarlo	58/247	Sgt Ptaszynski	70/55	Lt McGrory	8/2		
Cpl Lagan	213/220	Lt Tracey	1/37	Capt Zampino	2/2		

- **Green-** Indicates an increase from the previous year
- **Red-** Indicates a decrease from the previous year

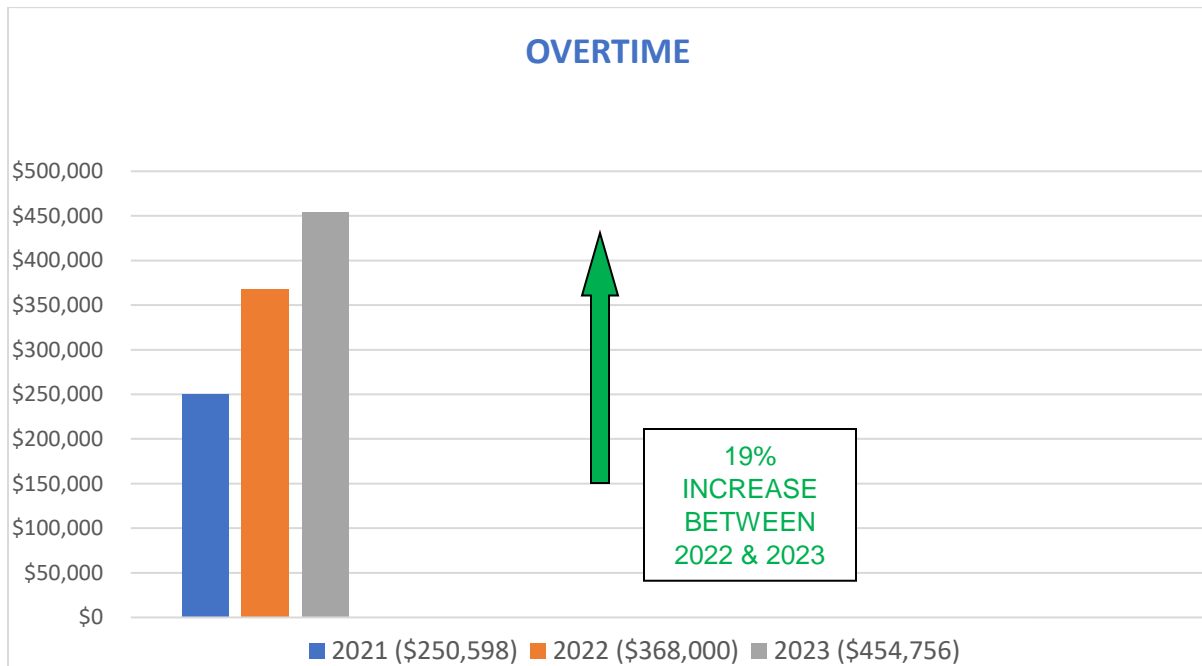
## MOTOR VEHICLE STOPS GENDER/ETHNICITY BREAKDOWN

DEMOGRAPHIC	PERCENTAGE
WHITE/HISPANIC	27.56%
WHITE/NON-HISPANIC	50.34%
BLACK/HISPANIC	0.79%
BLACK/NON-HISPANIC	14.42%
NATIVE AMERICAN/HISPANIC	0
NATIVE AMERICAN/NON-HISPANIC	0.14%
ASIAN/HISPANIC	0.26%
ASIAN/NON-HISPANIC	6.50%
MALES	72.99%
FEMALES	25.35%

## 1B- BUDGETARY & FINANCE CONSIDERATIONS

OPERATING BUDGET					
2021		2022		2023	
Budgeted	Spent	Budgeted	Spent	Budget	Spent
\$350,000	\$345,330	357,000	\$355,872	\$357,000	\$314,014

For the third straight year, the police department has spent under the amount budgeted to them. Prior to this timeframe, the township's CFO would need to shift money to our department as early as November. I credit this consistent reduction in better oversight of the budget by Lt. Casendino who I assigned to assure this occurred.



The seal of the Office of the Chief of Police is centered on the page. It features a circular design with a blue outer ring containing the text "OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE" and "NEW YORK CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT". Inside the ring is a shield with a gold border, containing a central emblem with a scale of justice and a sword. The shield is set against a background of a blue and white grid pattern.

# 2 TABLE OF ORGANIZATION

## 2-TABLE OF ORGANIZATION

In 2023, the Table of Organization was once again amended to include the newly created Emergency Management Section commanded by Lt. RJ Casendino. This section is found within the Operations Division. I believe that, by the township placing the emergency management function within the full-time staffed police department, it will make for better supervision of emergencies.

The chief continued to hold weekly meetings on Wednesdays with his executive staff. These meetings have proven to be vital to formulating strategic planning, addressing problems in a timely manner and for all of these officers to roundtable and exchange information from each of the disciplines that they oversee. In addition, this group has been painstakingly reviewing all department policy and procedure prior to it being reviewed by the general membership.

Included in this report is the table of organization that existed for 2023 and the new table of organization that has been implemented for 2024. After a full review of operations within the department, the Chief of Police felt it necessary to reassign personnel to better manage the department from both an operational and financial perspective. This re-evaluation of personnel assignments concluded that some of the items put in place approximately eight years ago were not as beneficial to the department and the township as they once were. The following changes should be specifically noticed:

- Elimination of Special Enforcement Unit (SEU)- When this unit was first implemented, it was done so for a variety of reasons. First and foremost, it provided for a specialized unit who could target specific problems in the area of motor vehicle enforcement occurring within the township between Monday-Friday, from 6:30 AM until 11:00 PM. Assignments to this unit were done by seniority which benefited these senior officers as they no longer had to work midnight shifts or weekends. The township also benefitted as there was an increase in the issuance of motor vehicle summonses which resulted in an increase in fines collected.

Due to shortages in the patrol squads, SEU officers very often were not free to conduct the traffic details they once did but instead counted towards mandatory minimum staffing. Additionally, because of additional bail reform legislation, the municipal court has a decreased collection rate of the fines generated by SEU officers. Therefore, in 2024, the SEU will be dissolved, and the officers will be assigned to patrol squads.

- Elimination of Task Force Officers- When the Chief of Police took command of the department approximately eight years ago, stagnation was rampant throughout the department. As a way to help motivate officers and to benefit the citizenry and the township, he chose for the department to participate in various task forces. The most recent included the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and the New Jersey State Police Auto Theft Task Force (NJSP ATTF). Insofar as the former is concerned, our officers greatly contributed to the united fight against illegal drugs that affect the entirety of the United States and our area as well. They have been a part of significant money seizures for which the department will continue to receive portions from into the future.

Our partnership with the NJSP ATTF was equally productive and even more visible to our community in helping to recover stolen vehicles from Fairfield and in making a dent in the auto theft epidemic that plagues our state. This partnership may have continued further had there not been differences in enforcement philosophies between the NJSP and Fairfield police command.

Either way, it seems like the right time for all Fairfield police personnel to be recalled so greater emphasis on enforcement and crime prevention can be maintained closer to home. Hopefully, in

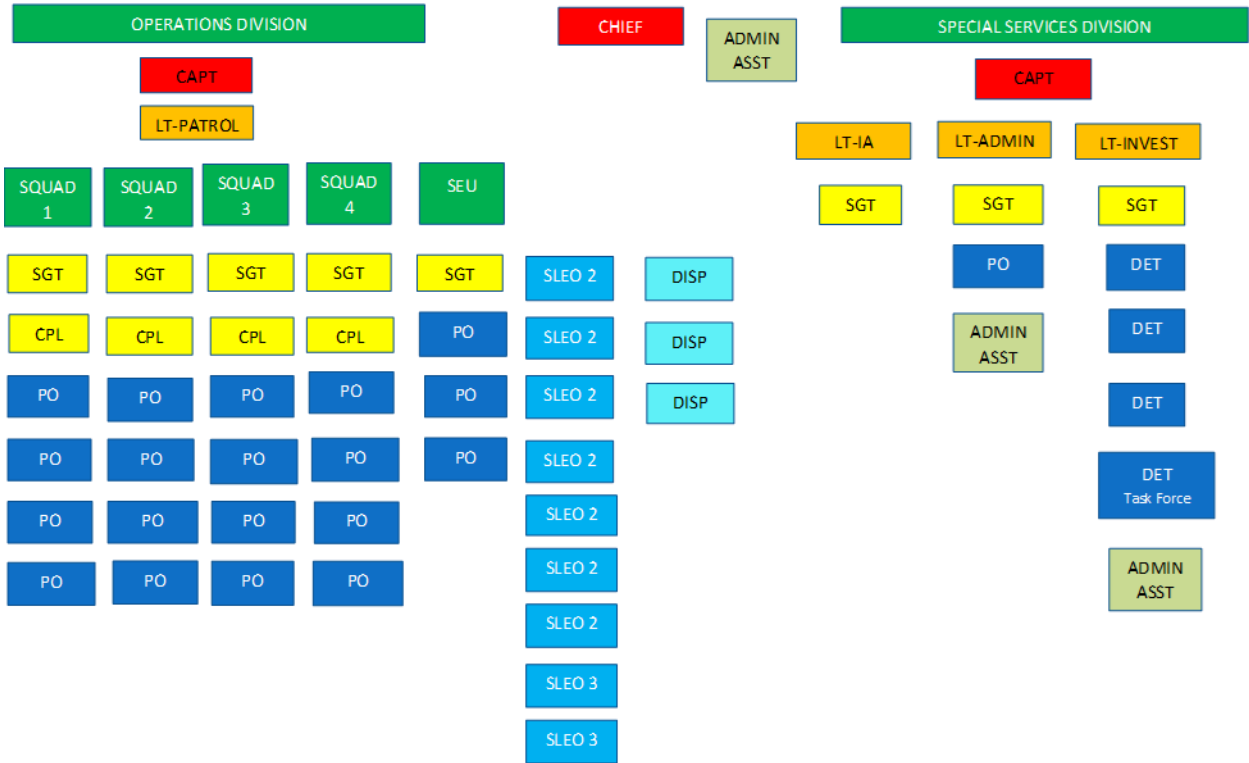
the future, we can re-establish these partnerships and participate in task force assignments as it provides our officers with invaluable experience and great opportunities.

- Increased Patrol Squad Sizes- With the reallocation of personnel from task forces and SEU and the proposed hiring of a total of four dispatchers to rotate within patrol squads, this should greatly help with decreasing overtime costs, assuring sufficient officers are present on shifts, help deter crime and give supervisors greater opportunity to supervise.
- Increased Staffing in Investigative Section- The staffing in the Investigative Section has in essence stayed flat for the last twenty-five years even though the number of cases that detectives investigate has increased dramatically along with the complexity of the types of cases they investigate. With the same reallocation of personnel from task forces and SEU, it provides for the opportunity to add an additional detective to help offset individual detective caseloads.



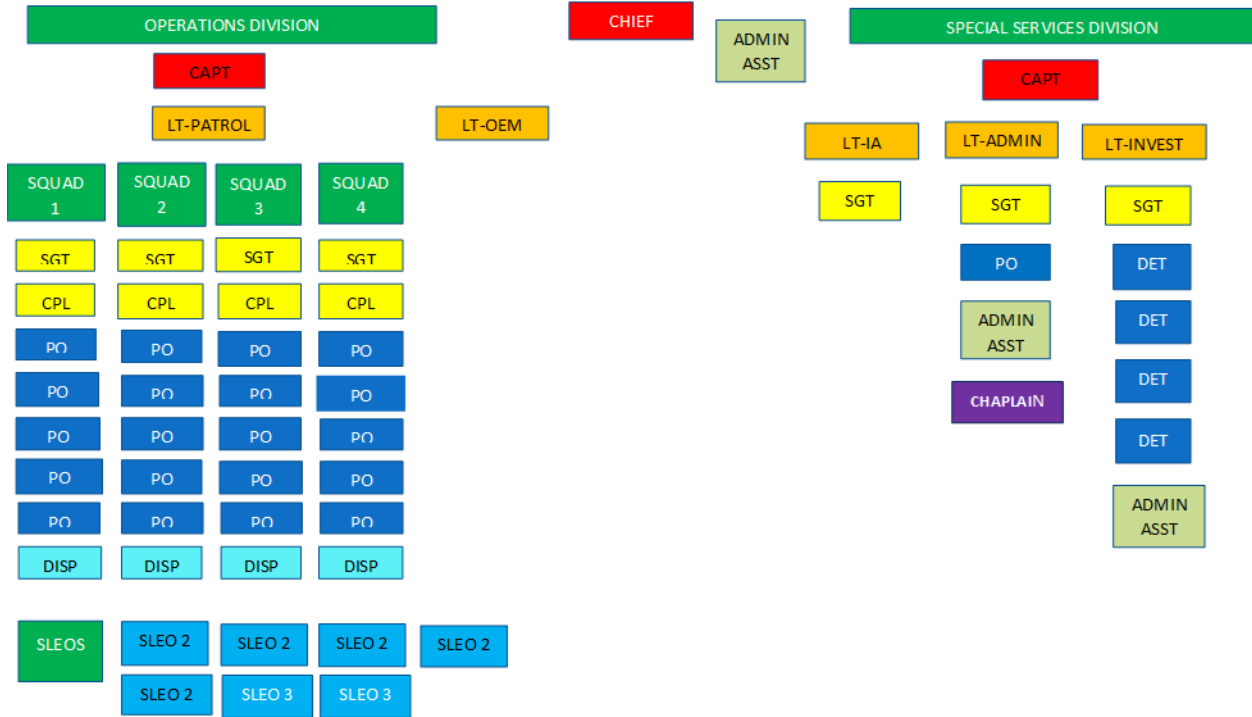
# FAIRFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT

## TABLE OF ORGANIZATION

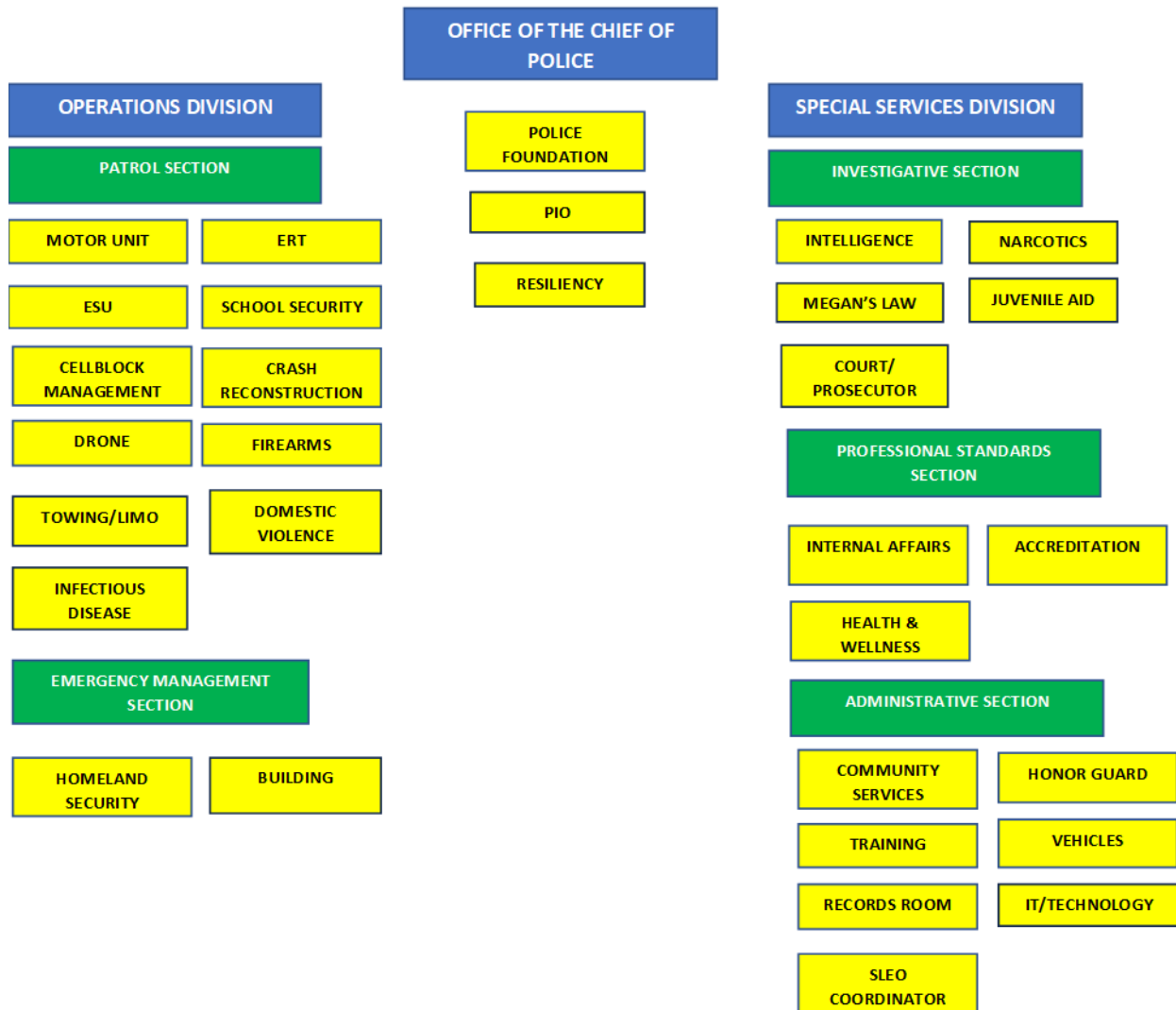


# FAIRFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT

## 2024 TABLE OF ORGANIZATION



**FAIRFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
 DIVISIONAL TABLE OF ORGANIZATION





## 3- PERSONNEL

### PROMOTIONS/ASSIGNMENTS

There was one promotion made in 2023. On June 26<sup>th</sup>, Sgt. RJ Casendino was promoted to the rank of lieutenant and was assigned as the section commander of the newly created Emergency Management Section. He was also named as the township's emergency management coordinator. On \*\*\*, Sgt. Thomas Myers was reassigned from his position in the department's Special Enforcement Unit to the Professional Standards Section. In January, Officer Rick Alves was assigned to the New Jersey State Police North Auto Theft Task Force. He remained on this assignment until November.

In 2023, Officer Stacy Chiarolanza was assigned as the department's Public Information Officer. Throughout the year, she has done an excellent job in establishing relationships with many news outlets. She has done on camera interviews with many of these agencies to include ABC News, Fox Weather, and News12 NJ to name just a few.

### RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS

The department had five resignations in 2022 involving one dispatcher and four SLEO II officers. They were as follows:

- [Dispatcher Felipe Maldonado](#)- resigned on March 28<sup>th</sup> to pursue dispatching career with North Caldwell Police Department.
- [SLEO II Gia Gagliano](#)- resigned on July 5<sup>th</sup> in order to pursue a full time police position with the North Caldwell Police Department.
- [SLEO II Derek Michelman](#)- resigned on September 1<sup>st</sup>, prior to completing the police academy, in order to pursue a full time position with the Hardyston Police Department.
- [SLEO II Ryan Vath](#)- resigned on September 1<sup>st</sup>, prior to completing the police academy, in order to pursue a full time position with the West Milford Police Department.
- [SLEO II Jacob Mangieri](#)- resigned on October 8<sup>th</sup> in order to pursue a full time police position with the New Jersey Park Police Department.

### HIRINGS/APPOINTMENTS

On August 23<sup>rd</sup>, the department hired SLEO II Juan Barasso and appointed retired Orange Police Lieutenant Orlando Soto to serve as its chaplain.

### COMMENDATIONS

#### [Water Rescue](#)

[Honorable Service Citation](#)  
Corporal Steven D'Argenio

*On September 29, 2023, the parking lot of 16-18 Passaic Avenue had flash flooding trapping a motorist in his vehicle in rising water. The police and fire departments were contacted and responded. Any water*

*rescue presents inherent risk in that there can be open manhole covers, chemicals in the water, and sink holes to name a few. Corporal Steven D'Argenio, a member of the department's Emergency Response Team and who has swift water training, had completed a busy night shift and was about to go home when this call came in. He waded through the waist high water and carried the motorist to safety. His actions brought national acclaim to the Fairfield Police Department and to the law enforcement profession. He was commended in a phone call by both Governor Phil Murphy and Congresswoman Mikie Sherrill.*

It should also be noted that Corporal D'Argenio also received the High Level Excellence Award at the United Nations 1000 Shades of Women Foundation Awards gala on December 9<sup>th</sup>.

#### Arrest of Armed Suspect

##### Meritorious Service Citation

Officer Patrick Reynolds, Officer Katrina Guevara

*On October 14, 2023, the police department received a call from the staff of the LaQuinta Inn and Suites of an unwanted guest in the lobby who refused to leave. Officers Patrick Reynolds and Katrina Guevara responded to the call and began speaking with the suspect. During their initial investigation, it was immediately determined that the suspect had active warrants issued by Haledon and the Passaic County Sheriff's Department. At this point, the suspect began to flee on foot, and he was pursued by the officers. After a short distance, the suspect stopped and complied with the officers' directions. He was found to be armed with a loaded 9mm handgun containing a prohibited extended magazine. This suspect was found to have had 12 prior arrests.*

##### Employee of the Year

Dispatcher Joseph Piccoli

In 2023, Chief Manna instituted an Employee of the Year Award. The winner of the award would be selected by the members of the department to an employee who exemplified a strong work ethic, instilled esprit de corps, was willing to pitch in and who just did their job extremely well. The overwhelming selection for this year's inaugural award was Dispatcher Joseph Piccoli. The award was presented to him at the Police Foundation's annual gala.

The seal of the Office of the Chief of Police is centered in the background. It features a circular design with a blue outer ring containing the text "OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE" and "NEW YORK CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT". Inside the ring is a shield with a central emblem, flanked by two figures, and topped with a crown. The shield is surrounded by a decorative border.

# 4 OPERATIONS DIVISION ACTIVITIES

## 4- OPERATIONS DIVISION ACTIVITIES

### OPERATIONS DIVISION COMMANDER

Captain Daniel Dias

In 2023 the ALPR's that have been strategically positioned throughout the township have continued to be an invaluable tool in quickly identifying and alerting our officers to the presence of a criminal element within our borders throughout the course of the year. This technology once again greatly assisted members of the Patrol Section in better locating this same criminal element. This has most definitely helped to deter further crime within our jurisdiction and lead to numerous criminal apprehensions that would not have otherwise occurred without the ALPR's.

Members of our ALICE training unit continued in 2023 to provide valuable active shooter response training to numerous businesses within our community exhibiting a continuation of our excellent relationship with members of our business community. This training will most definitely better prepare these members of our community in the event of an unforeseen emergency no matter the location of the occurrence.

As we do each and every year as an agency at the beginning of September our ALICE training unit provided active shooter response training to the entire staff from Stevenson and Churchill Schools at the annual professional development day hosted at Churchill School in the main gym. This training conducted by Detectives Daniel Moran and Rick Alves was both timely and informative and well received by the school staff.

As in the past, the security of the schools within our jurisdiction remains a high priority. As such, our agency conducted active shooter and lockdown drills in conjunction with the respective administration and staffs at Churchill Elementary School, Stevenson Elementary School, The Gramon School, New Beginnings School, Essex Campus Academy, and the Banyan School during the year. This continued coordination better ensures that all procedures and protocols related to potential threats at our schools are closely followed, thus resulting in an optimal level of preparedness in an unforeseen emergency.

Members of the Operations Division, to include patrol officers and most notably SLEO II's, continued to provide traffic control and security during township events during the course of the year. These events included National Night Out Event, the Winter Wonderland Event, the Columbus Day Event, the St. Thomas More Carnival and the 4<sup>th</sup> of July fireworks event to name a few. Security and traffic control was also provided at the Fairfield Recreation Complex for various sporting events to include the Fairfield Falcon level A, B and C football games and recreation soccer games.

Our excellent working relationship with the Livingston Police Department continued as we were able to utilize the Livingston Firearms Range for numerous days during the course of 2023 for various firearms drills to include rifle and MP5 qualifications and tactical drills for which we as an agency are truly grateful as range time is difficult to secure.

As stated in a number of the monthly reports for 2023, Reloaderz shooting range located in Wayne, NJ continued to show their support of our agency by providing us with training opportunities and range time in December ensuring that our officers are able to continue to perform at the highest level when it comes to firearms proficiency, as range time is more and more difficult to secure. This was again evident as they provided us with multiple days of range time to complete mandatory firearms qualifications during the course of 2023.



In order to expand and infuse younger members of the department into the Emergency Response Team tryouts for the unit occurred during 2023 consisting of physical fitness standards, as well as firearms proficiency standards being met for consideration for the team. A significant number of officers expressed interest in joining the team and upon completion of the demanding process the following officers were selected to become the new team members: Officer James Ciampi, Officer Jayson Sickles and Detective Michael Tilton. These individual officers should be commended for maintaining a high level of firearms proficiency and personal physical fitness which solidified their selection.

The Fairfield Township Summer Camp Program hosted at the Fairfield Recreation Complex began on June 26<sup>th</sup> and ran through the beginning of August, every Monday through Friday, with traffic control and periodic safety checks conducted by members of the Fairfield Police Patrol Section on a daily basis.

The summer school educational program was in session at the Stevenson School from July 5<sup>th</sup> through August 4<sup>th</sup> with security for the staff and students provided by SLEO III Joseph Prinzo. These sessions took place between 9:00am and 1:00pm daily.

As we do every year as an agency, members of the command staff attended the annual September 11<sup>th</sup> ceremony held at the Essex County Eagle Rock Reservation in class A uniforms to pay tribute to all those who perished as a result of the terrorist attacks that took place on that fateful day. This event was very well attended by the public and our presence there was definitely well received and appreciated by the attendees at the ceremony.

Members of the Operations Division, to include patrol officers, SLEO II's and SLEO III's, continued to provide school security at Churchill and Stevenson elementary schools, court security at the Fairfield Municipal Court and security at Township events to include the S'Mores Night hosted at the VFW on December 8<sup>th</sup> and the annual Winter Wonderland event at the Fairfield Recreation Complex on December 9<sup>th</sup>. Our current SLEO II's also continued to be a great asset by supplementing staffing for the patrol division during the month of December when needed.

During January, DUI enforcement details strategically planned during the month utilizing DDEF funds led to a significant increase in summons production.

As always, the Patrol Section continued to assist with numerous funeral details during the course of the year, which you are all aware is greatly appreciated by the families of the deceased and reflects well upon our agency.

## 4A- PATROL SECTION ACTIVITIES

### CELLBLOCK MANAGEMENT

#### MEMBERS

Sgt. Sabatelli (*Supervising Officer*)

In 2023, the Fairfield Police Department housed a total of 213 prisoners - 158 males and 55 females. This represents a 28% increase on the 2022 total of 166 prisoners. In addition, we housed a total of 9 juvenile prisoners – 7 males and 2 females. In 2022 we housed no juvenile prisoners.

The Department did an exemplary job at incident-free confinement. There were no incidents of attempted suicide nor were there any prisoners held for over 24 hours. On average a prisoner was held in our custody for

approximately 3 hours and 6 minutes. This represents a 20% decrease in the average confinement time from 2022.

Cell #1 was converted to a bunk cell from a bench cell in accordance with the request from the New Jersey Department of Corrections inspection of 2022.

## DRONE UNIT

### MEMBERS

Sgt. Hlubik (*Supervising Officer*), Cpl. Lagan, PO McCormack, PO Patierno, Det. Moran, Det Bisciotti, PO DeCarlo, PO Wilk, PO Schnackenberg, PO Cleary, PO Chen, PO Purcell, PO Seragusa

### ACTIVITIES

The Drone Unit had many accomplishments in 2023. It conducted 69 total flights. The purpose of these flights was wide ranging. Our drone was deployed, not only in our town, but in surrounding towns when they were in need. The following is a list of deployments:

#### Fairfield Deployments:

- Conducted a search for a missing individual with dementia
- Conducted a search for a missing autistic juvenile
- Conducted flights to search the Big Piece Meadows for a possible person in distress.
- Conducted flights to assess flooding conditions
- Conducted numerous flights at community events. Some of these flights were demonstrations to show the public what our capabilities are, and some are flights to monitor the event in a way we were never able to in the past.

#### Mutual Aid Deployments:

- DEA Assistance- The unit assisted the DEA and Task Force Officer Bisciotti with surveillance and obtaining license plates for an ongoing investigation.
- Wayne PD- Assisted Wayne police for the report of a body in the Passaic River
- West Caldwell PD- Assisted West Caldwell with the search of a missing person.
- Cedar Grove PD- Assisted Cedar Grove with suspicious noises coming from the reservoir.

## EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

### MEMBERS

Capt. Dias, Lt. Nyhuis (*Commanding Officer*), Lt. Tracey, Sgt. Didyk, Sgt. Rasmussen, Sgt. Hlubik, Cpl. D'Argenio, Cpl. Dean, PO Puluse, PO Ciampi, Det. Tilton, PO Sickles

## TRAINING

- January - The unit qualified with their firearms and participated in shooting drills at Reloaderz.
- February - The ERT ran its selection process for officers who were interested in the unit. The candidates were brought to the range to shoot a qualification course with their handguns. The candidates also attempted an ERT physical exam. The results were recorded and used for the selection process.
- March - The ERT selected new members Det. Tilton, PO Ciampi and PO Sickles. All members attended Close Quarters Battle training March 27<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> at Picatinny Arsenal hosted by Northern Red.
- April - Members of the Emergency Response Team attended the New York Tactical Officers Association conference April 24<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup>. The courses attended included tactical combat casualty care, dominating from bad positions on the ground, combat mindset lecture, chemical munitions instructor certification, instructor development workshop for firearms instructors, warrant planning & preparation and solo active shooter response. This conference allowed the members of the ERT to receive quality training from some of the best instructors around the country.
- May - Members of the Emergency Response Team qualified with their rifles at the Livingston range May 24<sup>th</sup> through the 26<sup>th</sup>. They all passed the minimum standards needed for the ERT.
- June - Members of the Emergency Response Team participated in an active shooter training at West Essex Middle School on June 20<sup>th</sup>. The training was hosted by the North Caldwell Police Department. The Livingston Range was used by members of the ERT to work on shooting precision.
- September – Capt. Dias and Lt. Nyhuis visited a shooting range in Byram, NJ that is owned by a Fairfield business. The owner graciously offered the range to our ERT for training in the future.
- October - Members of the Emergency Response Team attended a four-day CQB train the trainer course in Cedar Grove. This training included officers from West Essex towns and was instructed by the NJ State Police.
- November - Members of the Emergency Response Team qualified with their rifles at Gun for Hire range on November 22<sup>nd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>.
- December - ERT members worked on precision shooting with their handguns and rifles at Reloaderz on 12/4-12/6.

## EQUIPMENT

The Emergency Response Team acquired three new rifles for its new team members. The new lights and sights for the new ERT members' rifles arrived and were installed.

## DEPLOYMENTS

- Independence Day Celebration- On June 29<sup>th</sup>, ERT members provided security at this event at Hollywood Park.

- National Night Out- On August 1<sup>st</sup>, ERT members provided security at this event at Hollywood Park.
- Water Rescue- On September 29<sup>th</sup>, ERT member Cpl. D'Argenio was deployed for swift water rescue and assisted a motorist out of his vehicle during a flash flooding incident on Passaic Avenue.
- Columbus Day Celebration- On October 8<sup>th</sup>, ERT members provided security at this event at Hollywood Park.
- Winter Wonderland- On December 9<sup>th</sup>, ERT members provided security at this event at Hollywood Park.
- Flood Event-Between December 19<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>, ERT swift water rescue members were deployed to conduct rescue operations during a townwide flood.

## EMERGENCY SERVICES UNIT

### MEMBERS

Sgt. Ptaszynski (*Supervising Officer*), Capt. Zampino, Lt. Nyhuis, Lt. Tracey, Sgt. Niemiec, Sgt. Rasmussen, Cpl. High, Cpl. D'Argenio, PO Ciampi, PO Reynolds, PO Purcell

### ACTIVITIES

Members of the Fairfield Police Patrol Section responded to 839 calls for medical assistance throughout 2023, a 1% increase in call volume over 2022, where officers responded to 831 calls for medical aid. Overall, the Patrol Section has responded to an average of 841 calls for medical assistance per year over the past five years.

## FIREARMS TRAINING UNIT

### MEMBERS

Lt. Nyhuis, Sgt. Didyk (*Supervising Officer*), Sgt. Rasmussen, Sgt. Sabatelli, Cpl. D'Argenio, PO Wilk, PO Kalinowski, Det. Alves, Det. Tilton, Det. Moran, PO Purcell

### ACTIVITIES

This year, the Firearms Unit successfully qualified every member of the department and remained complainant with all Attorney General guidelines. Every member's service weapon was fully inspected and cleaned after all qualifications and the firearms unit found no weapon malfunctions or defects. Any equipment that failed during the calendar year was repaired or replaced.

Finding gun ranges that offer availability and the proper distance depending on the weapons being fired has proven to become even more difficult. The Firearms Unit has been actively researching options for 2024 as we anticipate this being an issue.

Armorer certifications were kept current with re-certification training taking place for Colt Rifle and H&K MP-5 armorers. The firearms unit added (4) new instructors to the unit and this has helped tremendously with qualifications, training, and weapon maintenance.

Three new rifles were purchased, assigned, and placed into service. Four more rifles were ordered late in the year and pending arrival. The departments old M16 rifle was upgraded with a new upper receiver

and made serviceable. With the addition of these new rifles, armory storage needed to be addressed, therefore, the company that did the armory during renovations, Modern Office Supply, came in and is preparing a quote for the updates we need. That quote is still pending.

Ammunition continues to be in short supply and during 2023, the entire surplus of ammunition was used again. We were able to place new orders which arrived and resupplied our stock which we plan to add to in 2024 to keep us ahead of the curve.

ALICE training has continued to be offered to our community's businesses and schools. Annual training took place with our township schools at the beginning of the year and one local business took advantage of our service and held a training session for all of their employees.

Lastly, a complete inventory of all department owned weapons was conducted and all weapons are accounted for.

## SCHOOL SECURITY UNIT

### MEMBERS

Cpl. D'Argenio (*Supervising Officer*), Cpl. Dean, Cpl. High, Det. Cocchi, PO Kalinowski, PO Guevara, PO Purcell, PO Wilk, PO Patierno

### ACTIVITIES

During the year 2023, our Fairfield Schools (public and private) conducted a total of 39 school security/safety drills:

- Evacuation Drills- 11
- Lockdown Drills- 9
- Shelter in Place Drills-7
- Fire Drills-10
- Bomb Threat Drills-6
- Active Shooter Drills- 5

## SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT UNIT

### MEMBERS

Sgt. Myers (*Supervising Officer*), PO Holzmann, PO McCormack, PO Puluse

### ACTIVITIES

The Special Enforcement Unit (SEU) continued its high levels of productivity during 2023.

Some of the statistical accomplishments include the issuance of (1,739) summonses, (202) vehicles impounded, and (99) escorts for funeral services. SEU conducted (229) directed enforcement details addressing speeding complaints on residential roadways, stop sign violations, and motorists passing stopped school buses. Throughout the year, Unit members constantly supplemented patrol-staffing coverage and alleviated overtime.

## TRAFFIC RE-CONSTRUCTION/PLAN REVIEW/GRANT UNIT

### MEMBERS

Sgt. Rasmussen (*Supervising Officer*), Sgt. Niemiec, Sgt. Myers, Det Bisciotti, Det Cocchi

### ACTIVITIES

During 2023 there were no serious crashes that required specialized investigation and the unit reviewed five traffic safety plans. We were awarded two out of four traffic grants our agency was eligible for.

#### Federal/State Grant Enforcement Activity was as follows:

- *Distracted Driving Crackdown April 1<sup>st</sup>- April 30<sup>th</sup>* – there were 211 motor vehicle stops with 200 motor vehicle summonses issued.
- *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over Statewide Labor Day Crackdown August 18<sup>th</sup>- September 4<sup>th</sup>* – There were 82 motor vehicle stops with 75 motor vehicle summonses issued.

#### Drunken Driving Enforcement Fund (DDEF) Activities were as follows:

The expenditure of DDEF money is extremely regulated by the State of New Jersey, more so since 2021. Exactly 50% of the funds must be used for enforcement. The other portions of the funds can be used to purchase a limited number of approved items. In any case, the State of New Jersey has made it clear that agencies will no longer be able to hoard its DDEF money as they will not receive additional funding if they choose to do so. Future fund amounts are based upon DUI convictions, not arrests. Our DDEF Account ending balance for 2023 is \$18,000. The following reflects the use of DDEF money in 2023:

- *Purchase of Retroreflective Uniform Shirts*- In the beginning of the year Sgt. Rasmussen was given approval by the state to use \$6,192 from our DDEF Account to purchase long sleeve retroreflective uniform shirts for the entire department. DUI Enforcement Details from our DDEF Account:
- *January DUI Details (5 shifts)*- there were 45 motor vehicle stops with 40 summonses issued.
- *February DUI Details (2 shifts)* – there were 28 motor vehicle stops with 16 summonses issued.
- *March DUI Details (10 shifts)* – there were 30 motor vehicle stops with 19 summonses issued.
- *June DUI Details (2 shifts)* – there were 21 motor vehicle stops with 21 summonses issued.

## 4B- EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SECTION ACTIVITIES

On June 26th, Lt. Casendino was appointed the OEM Coordinator for the township. Upon being appointed he began by evaluating the township's Emergency Operations Plans. With the assistance of the Chief, we were able to reformat and update most of the (19) emergency annexes. By the end of 2023, only (3) annexes remain.

### EMERGENCIES

- *Flash Flooding*- On September 29<sup>th</sup>, Fairfield experienced severe flash flooding on Passaic Avenue. Several vehicles became disabled in flood waters. Our swift water rescue team was

deployed, and multiple people were rescued from the high flood waters. The flash flooding lasted a few hours and ultimately receded without any further issues, damage, or injuries.

- Flash & Sustained Flooding- On December 18<sup>th</sup>, Fairfield experienced severe flash flooding from a coastal rainstorm. Once again, we experienced severe flash flooding in the area of Passaic Avenue. Several roads in town were impacted by the flooding and closed due to the 5" of rain that fell in a very short time. The police department conducted (3) vehicle rescues during the flash flooding event.

Once the flash flooding receded on December 18<sup>th</sup>, the Passaic River was forecast to reach major flood stage on December 20<sup>th</sup> (21.9'). On December 18<sup>th</sup>, a local state of emergency was declared for Fairfield due to the projected major flooding. The police department was put on a full recall for December 19<sup>th</sup> and entered into flood operations starting at 0700 hours.

During this flooding event, the river ultimately crested at 21.52" on December 20<sup>th</sup>. Fairfield experienced many road closures and street flooding. The Office of Emergency Management held daily briefings with members of the police department command staff, township department heads and county and state officials from December 18<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>. There were a total of (26) vehicle and house rescues during this emergency. Luckily the township only experienced minor damage to residences and businesses. On December 22<sup>nd</sup>, the emergency order was rescinded, and the township went back to operating normally.

#### TRAINING:

Since June Lt. Casendino has attended several OEM/emergency response training courses associated with this position. These trainings are detailed below:

- June 2023- Flood Mitigation Workshop- NJIT
- June 2023- Essex OEM Workshop
- September 2023- Dam Safety Workshop
- September 2023- Essex OEM Workshop
- November 2023- PSE&G Gas Safety
- December 2023- Essex OEM Workshop

#### FINANCIAL:

Once taking over as OEM Coordinator, Lt. Casendino was made aware of several FEMA claims that the township currently had open. He coordinated with our state representatives on completing these claims in order to get the township reimbursed from these past emergencies. They include:

- Hurricane Ida- September 2021- \$92,000
- COVID- March 2020-July 2022- \$310,045

As of December 31<sup>st</sup>, the COVID-19 claims are approved and pending payment. The Hurricane IDA claim is still held up with FEMA. Lt. Casendino has already completed our second appeal due to additional paperwork being needed from the time the initial claim was put in. We received our \$10,000 EMAA grant for 2023 by completing all of the requirements for this project.

## 2024 PLANS:

In 2024, the Office of Emergency Management will develop improved planning and training exercises to better equip the township for different types of emergencies. These are detailed below:

- Quarterly Meetings with OEM Team- These meetings will be used to plan and map out different types of emergencies the township may face. We will also use this time to talk about past events and how we can improve on them.
- Budgeting- Trying to better budget for potential emergencies since most are not reimbursable by aid money. Also creating a more strategic capital budget for OEM purchases.
- Expanding OEM into its True Purpose- OEM is and must be made into more than a flood response. The Office of Emergency Management umbrella is very broad and extends to many different areas such as active shooters, migrant refugees, large scale fires etc. We want to at least start working on planning and awareness for these types of events.



The seal of the Office of the Chief of Police is centered on the page. It features a circular design with a blue and gold color scheme. The outer ring contains the text "OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE" in white capital letters. Inside this ring is a shield with a gold border, containing a blue field with a white figure and a gold field with a white figure. The shield is set against a background of a blue and gold pattern.

**5**  
**SPECIAL SERVICES**  
**DIVISION**  
**ACTIVITIES**

## 5- SPECIAL SERVICES DIVISION ACTIVITIES

### SPECIAL SERVICES DIVISION COMMANDER

Captain Charles Zampino

In 2023, the Special Services Division started a project with the West Essex Police Departments to purchase and install ALPR cameras throughout the West Essex communities. During this time Congresswomen Mikie Sherrill proposed a bill for federal funding. We completed the application and provided the appropriate information to Congresswomen Sherrill's office. As of December 2023, the expected timeline for the grant is February 2024.

The partnership with the New Jersey State Police Auto Theft Task Force Motor Vehicle Crimes Unit North proved to be very successful. Det. Alves was part of numerous high-profile cases. The Task Force was responsible for over two hundred (200) arrests in 2023. They recovered and seized countless vehicles from all over the state. Det. Alves also investigated and shut down six (6) chop shops in Paterson and many more throughout the state. Their unit also recovered numerous guns as part of their investigations. The Township of Fairfield had numerous luxury vehicles stolen from residents throughout 2023 of which Det. Alves and his Task Force recovered five (5) of them. Most importantly the one connected to a residential burglary.

Det. Bisciotti has been assigned to the Drug Enforcement Administration as a Task Force Officer. He has been involved in many significant drug and currency seizures. He has conducted narcotics investigations that has direct contact to the Township of Fairfield. Det. Bisciotti was also involved in the investigation into a crew of burglars who have been breaking into pharmacies throughout the state of New Jersey.

We continued monthly interdiction details on Interstate Route 80. These details have always been productive. It gives officers an opportunity to take part in criminal drug interdiction. The details are supervised by Sgt. Didyk and Cpl. Dean. They have been involved in the Narcotics Unit of this agency for many years.

In 2023, the Professional Standards Section transitioned Sgt. Myers into the unit. Sgt. Myers already attended initial internal affairs training and will be attending advanced internal affairs training in 2024. The workload of the Professional Standards Section has dramatically increased. Starting in 2024 the internal affairs section will be conducting updated background checks on police officers whose licenses will be expiring.

We transitioned to our new body worn cameras (BWC) system, LensLock. There have been some issues with the new system, but they are currently being addressed by the Administrative Section and management of LensLock.

The following are the year-end reports and statistics from the three sections of the Special Services Division.

## 5A- PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS SECTION ACTIVITIES

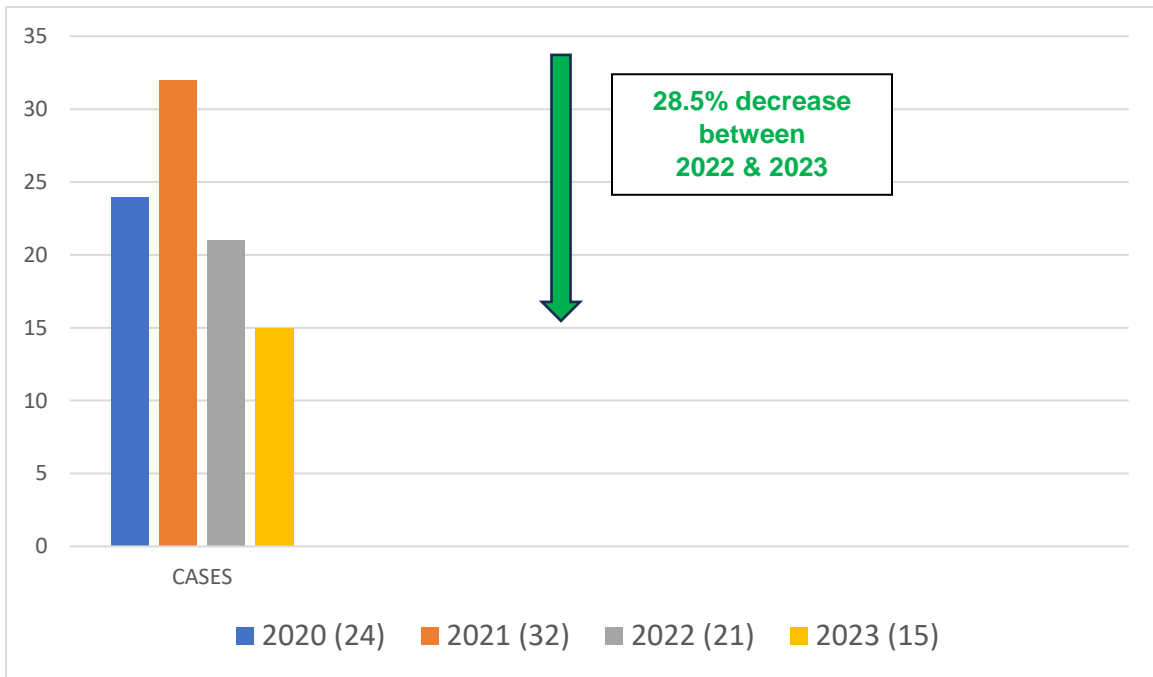
The Professional Standards Section continued to address the department's compliance with mandates imposed on local law enforcement agencies from the New Jersey Attorney General, along with the ever-evolving philosophy requiring police departments to be more transparent and accountable to the public.

Their duties include conducting internal affairs investigations, drug testing, body camera and audio recording audits, officer health and wellness and accreditation.

MEMBERS

Lt. McNish (Section Commanding Officer), Sgt. Myers

INTERNAL AFFAIRS INVESTIGATIONS



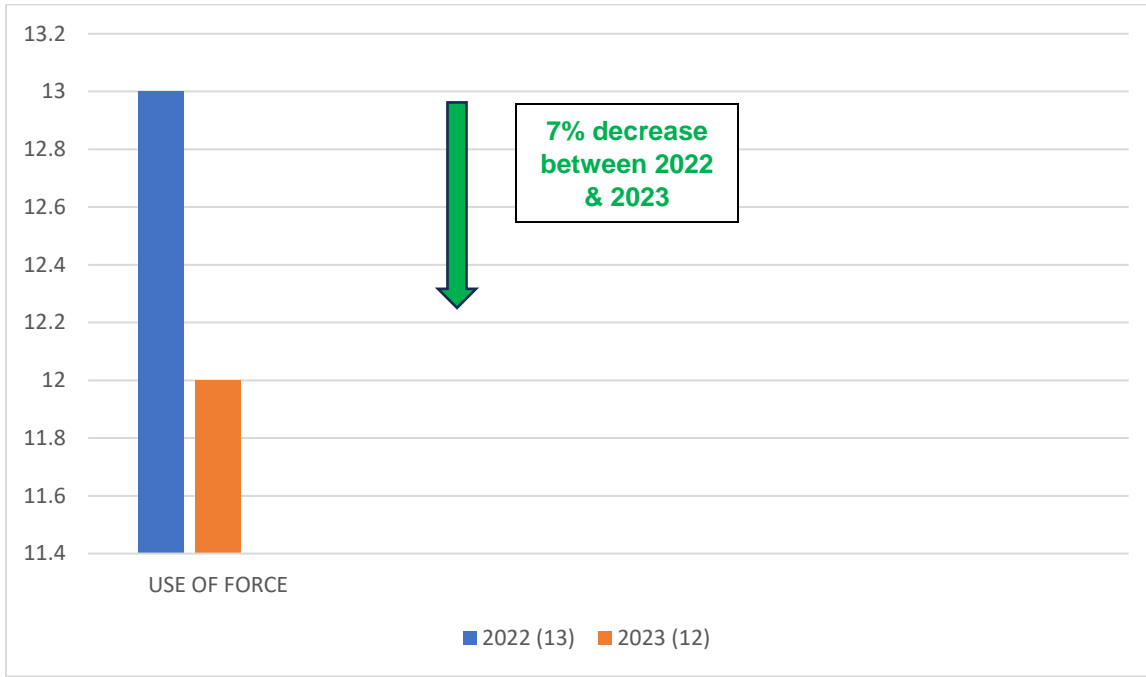
CASES HANDLED

CATEGORIES	#
Initiated by Agency	7
Initiated by Civilians	8
Anonymous	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15</b>

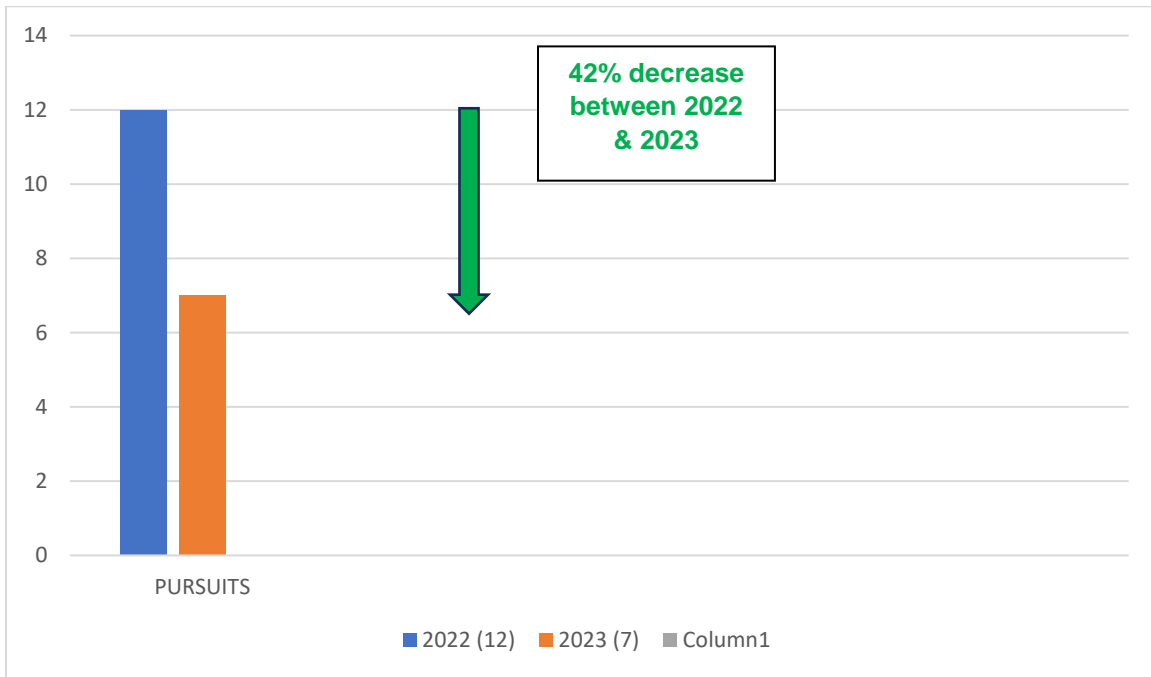
CASES RESOLVED

DISPOSITIONS	#
Exonerated	6
Not Sustained	1
Sustained	5
Unfounded	0
Remain Open	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15</b>

### USE OF FORCE REPORTING



### MOTOR VEHICLE PURSUITS



## DRUG TESTING

Pursuant to New Jersey Attorney General guidelines, in 2023, the Professional Standards Section conducted two random drug screenings of sworn personnel. In both cases, all the officers who were screened were found to be negative for illegal substances.

## EMPLOYEE COUNSELING

In 2023, the Professional Standards Section oversaw the counselling of (7) officers for minor training issues.

## EARLY WARNING SYSTEM MONITORING

In 2023, one officer reached the requisite number of incidents to trigger the department's early warning system. When this occurs, the Essex County Prosecutor's Office must be notified. In addition, a review of the employee's performance is conducted, and, in certain circumstances, intense supervision mandates are put in place for a specific period of time. It was determined that the officer that reached the requisite number of incidents needed intense supervision for a period of three months.

## DAILY AUDITS OF BODY WORN CAMERAS/TELEPHONE CALLS

In 2023, the Professional Standards Section randomly reviewed body worn camera (BWC) videos and incoming telephone calls to the communications desk. These reviews/audits were in addition to the ones already being done by shift supervisors. Professional Standards Section personnel reviewed (1,260) BWC videos and (1,152) telephone calls.

## HEALTH & WELLNESS UNIT

### MEMBERS

Sgt. Rasmussen (*Supervising Officer*), Cpl. D'Argenio, PO Puluse, PO Ciampi, PO Holzmann

As has been the case in the past, the chief required officers to attend the Captain Buscio Cardio Diagnostic Program or a similar screening with their own physician, in addition to their yearly eye screening. As of the end of the year, eight officers still needed to complete one or both of these screenings. The chief has extended the deadline for compliance until March 2024.

As far as defensive tactics training was concerned, everything is currently on hold until the Attorney General's Office releases their curriculum on approved defensive tactics training. There were (789) incidents of "physical fitness training" by officers during the year while on-duty.

## ACCREDITATION

In 2023 the department worked on policy and procedure review. This will continue into 2024.

## 5B- INVESTIGATIVE SECTION ACTIVITIES

The Investigative Section proved to run effectively and efficiently with the improved table of organization. Throughout 2022, numerous investigative cases were solved or assisted from the information obtained from our department's automated license plate readers (ALPRs). These ALPRs have also assisted other police agencies with their investigations. This technological tool has proven to be invaluable to our investigations.

In 2023 the Investigative Division saw an increase of 141 additional cases. *This is an increase of 24.19%*. A majority of the increase comes from an increase in case investigations and background investigations. Detectives continued to hold drug interdiction details during the year that resulted in some narcotic and warrant arrests. In addition, with the rise in crime at some of the hotels in the Township, detectives ran special details to deter crime at these locations.

While Detective Alves was assigned to the New Jersey State Police Auto Theft Task Force, one of his cases resulted in the seizure of two stolen jeeps. The process of forfeiting these two vehicles is still ongoing but may result in the Fairfield Police Department obtaining these trucks.

The entire Investigative Section has been working multiple check fraud cases with the U.S. Postal Inspection Service. The nexus to these thefts is out of the West Caldwell Post Office which is the postal hub for the West Essex area. It is believed there is a postal employee involved in these thefts. Checks that have been mailed are intercepted and altered. The checks are then cashed throughout the country. To date the Fairfield Police have investigated over 25 cases, 21 suspects have been identified and 9 have been charged accordingly. The Fairfield cases alone have resulted in over \$400,000.00 in losses not to mention the rest of the cases outside of our jurisdiction. This case is still active with the U.S. Postal Inspection Service and the Fairfield police in an attempt to locate the suspect(s) involved in intercepting the mail with the checks inside.

Lastly, with the United States Supreme Court's decision in regard to a citizen's right to carry a handgun under the Second Amendment, it has increased the amount of handgun carry permits that have been and will be applied for in the future and the background investigations that must be conducted in association with their approval exponentially.

#### SIGNIFICANT INVESTIGATIONS

- School Threat- On January 3<sup>rd</sup> detectives assisted Florida's Monroe County Sheriff's Office by helping to investigate a school threat in Key Largo. The threat originated from a juvenile that resided on Beverly Road. Detectives took custody of the juvenile on a full extraditable warrant out of Florida and brought him to the Essex County Youth House.
- Suicide- On January 16<sup>th</sup>, detectives responded and investigated a suicide at 35 Harding Drive. The wife of the decedent was on the phone with the police when he apparently shot himself.
- Criminal Sexual Contact- On February 9<sup>th</sup>, detectives investigated an alleged case of criminal sexual contact involving multiple juveniles. The detectives worked with the ECPO Juvenile Unit and many interviews were conducted. Ultimately the case was resolved and the ECPO did not recommend charges.
- Terroristic Threats- On March 29<sup>th</sup>, detectives investigated a mass social media threat involving a former Fairfield resident. The threat included a hit list with hundreds of names on it from the surrounding area. The suspect was located, and it was determined the threat was not viable. Numerous search warrants on vehicles, locations and cell phones were obtained along with multiple interviews being conducted in order to determine there was no danger to the individuals on the list.
- Theft- On March 31<sup>st</sup>, detectives investigated the theft of packages from FedEx drop boxes throughout the Township. One of the thefts was of two Glock handguns that were being mailed by a DEA agent. This same crew hit drop boxes in other jurisdictions in New Jersey and New York. An arrest was made of a suspect in New York where his phone was taken as evidence.

Detectives wrote a communications data warrant on the phone to try and place the suspect at our FedEx drop box thefts. This case is pending along with charges.

- Narcotics- On May 17<sup>th</sup>, during a drug interdiction detail on Route 80, detectives stopped a vehicle resulting in the seizure of a large amount of heroin. The driver was arrested and charged accordingly for the possession of this dangerous narcotic.
- Burglary-On June 28<sup>th</sup>, detectives investigated a burglary of a residence at 8 Craig Place that resulted in the theft of a motor vehicle. With the assistance of Detective Alves assigned to the ATTF, the vehicle was located, and the juvenile suspect was charged. Detectives are still investigating this case as there was also a burglary at 299 Hollywood Avenue and attempted motor vehicle burglary at 25 Crescent Drive by the same crew that night. Charges are pending for these two cases from that night.
- Burglary- On August 6<sup>th</sup> detectives investigated an overnight burglary at the Speedway gas station located at 90 Route 46. Detectives did not have much to work with other than the possible description of an involved vehicle. They developed a suspect vehicle with the help of license plate reader searches. An area search through a geofence warrant was submitted and a suspect was developed through their cell phone being in the area at the time of the burglary and being tied to the suspect vehicle. The case is still active, and charges are pending.

#### GENERAL ASSIGNMENTS

ASSIGNMENT DESCRIPTION	2022	2023	% CHANGE
Case Investigations	122	<b>159</b>	Up 23%
Essex County Family Court Juvenile Complaint Processing	4	<b>14</b>	Up 71%
Essex County Prosecutor's Office Central Judicial Processing	95	<b>142</b>	Up 33%
Arrest Warrant Service Transportation	39	<b>44</b>	Up 11%
Administrative Background Investigations	281	<b>304</b>	Up 7.5%
Alcohol Beverage Control Inspections	17	<b>19</b>	Up 10.5%
Fingerprint Cards for Out of State Licensing	2	<b>27</b>	Up 92.5%
Forfeiture Applications	5	<b>0</b>	Down 100%
Sex Offender Tracking/Registration	18	<b>15</b>	Down 20%

#### WARRANT & SUMMONS ACTIVITY

TYPE	WARRANTS		SUMMONSES	
	2022	2023	2022	2023
Warrants & Summonses Received from Other Agencies for Service	0	<b>1</b>	0	<b>0</b>
Warrants & summonses Served in Person	36	<b>37</b>	79	<b>113</b>
Fairfield Municipal Court Bench Warrants	0	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>

Warrants & Summonses Mailed for Service	0	0	0	0
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### FIREARMS APPLICATION ACTIVITY

TYPE	ISSUED		DENIED		TOTAL % CHANGE
	2022	2023	2022	2023	
Permit to Purchase Handguns	195	203	4	6	Up 5%
Carry Permits	11	30	0	2	Up 66%
Firearms Identification Cards	63	36	4	6	Down 59.5%
FID Cards Re-issued	0	0	0	3	Up 100%

### NARCOTICS ACTIVITY

In 2022, there were 16 narcotic related cases resulting in 18 individuals receiving 30 charges

DRUG	POSSESSION	USE	DISTRIBUTION	SCHOOL ZONE	FOUND PROPERTY
Ecstasy/GHB	1				
Morphine					
Codeine					
Heroin	3				
Methadone/Suboxone	1				
Barbiturates					
Oxycodone	2				
Cocaine	6	2			
Methamphetamines					
LSD					
Xanax					2
Mescaline					
PCP					
Hallucinogens					
Marijuana					
Hash/Hash Oil					
Ketamine					
Prescription Legend	4				
Other CDS	2				
Drug Paraphernalia	14				
Hypodermic Syringe					
Conspiracy					
Forged Prescriptions					
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>2</b>			<b>2</b>

### HOMELAND SECURITY UNIT

#### MEMBERS

Cpl. Dean (*Supervising Officer*)

Corporal Dean oversaw all of the units 2023 activities and completed all monthly reports. The following was completed:



- Monitored the continued increase in motor vehicle burglaries and residential burglaries including South American Theft Groups which were specifically targeting the Asian population.
- Maintained contact with hotel representatives regarding occupancy levels and any larger organized gatherings.
- Applied additional patrols and crime preventions methods when applicable.
- Conducted ballistic shield training and active shooter training with the Patrol Section.
- Monitored activity occurring in Israel which led to various protests/rallies/demonstrations on US soil (October)
- Attended homeland security training regarding Domestic Violent Extremists & Associated Symbolism to be cognizant of extremists. (November)
- Monitored various police involved incidents locally and across the country which incited controversy and public response:
  - Brutal apprehension of suspect in Memphis, TN (January)
  - OIS in Deptford, NJ involving member of a motorcycle club (January)
  - Civil unrest in Atlanta, GA regarding construction of a new public safety academy (March)
  - Swatting incidents involving numerous members of law enforcement residences (June)
  - OIS in Elizabeth, NJ (July)
- Reviewed and disseminated credible threat information to the department received from various federal and state agencies:
  - Active shooter incident at Michigan University (February)
  - Active shooter incident at a school in Nashville, TN (March)

## 5C- ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION ACTIVITIES

### HONOR GUARD

#### MEMBERS

Lt. Tracey, Sgt. Hlubik (*Supervising Officer*), Sgt. Niemiec, Cpl. Dean, Cpl. D'Argenio, PO Cleary, PO Alves, PO DeCarlo, Det. Cocchi

#### ACTIVITIES

The Honor Guard was active in 2023 and participated in 13 events. During the year they presented the colors at two NJ Devils games, one NY Jets game, two 9/11 ceremonies, three Memorial Day ceremonies, two funerals, two Blue Mass ceremonies and marched in one parade. In addition, they assisted in presenting the colors at the Essex County 200 Club valor award ceremony.

### SPECIAL POLICE OFFICERS

In 2023, we basically employed three Class II Special Police Officers. We currently have three Class II officers. Below is a list of all Class II officers and their current status with our department:

- SLEO Felipe Maldonado #630 -active
- SLEO Andrew VanderWal #648 – active, also employed as a full-time dispatcher
- SLEO Juan Barroso #652- active
- SLEO Gia Gagliano #645 – resigned for full time position in North Caldwell PD
- SLEO Ryan Vath #649 – resigned for a full-time position in West Milford PD
- SLEO Derek Michelman #650– resigned for a full-time position in Hardyston PD
- SLEO Jacob Mangieri #651 – resigned for a full-time job with the New Jersey Park PD

From the beginning of the year until her resignation in July, SLEO Gagliano was assigned to a squad to replace Det. Alves while he was assigned to the NJSP Auto Theft Task Force. This greatly assisted in ensuring necessary staff coverage.

Throughout the year, the Class II officers did an excellent job assisting in patrol as well as doing a plethora of other tasks. They include the following events:

- Court Security
- Recycle Center Security
- St. Thomas More Carnival
- DMV Inspection Detail
- Child Safety Seat Event
- Football and Soccer Games
- VFW S'Mores Night
- Sip N Swirl Grand Opening
- Library Fall Festival
- Winter Wonderland
- Trunk or Treat
- Caldwell Street Fair
- Independence Day Celebration
- VFW Food Truck Event
- UNICO Coumbus Day Event

The SLEOs accounted for the following activity this year:

- Dispatched Calls: 863
- Reports: 64
- MV Stops: 112
- Traffic Details: 6
- Summonses: 76
- Arrests: 0

## TRAINING UNIT

### MEMBERS

Lt. Tracey (*Commanding-Supervisory Officer*), Sgt. Niemiec, Sgt. Rasmussen, Sgt. Hlubik, Sgt. Ptaszynski, Cpl. High, Cpl. Lagan, PO Holzmann, PO Puluse, Det. Bisciotti, PO Wilk, PO Ciampi, Det. Moran, PO Reynolds

## ACTIVITIES

Training in 2023 was busy yet incredibly productive. A total of 154 officers attended 77 different courses of instruction. By way of comparison, in 2022 116 officers attended 64 training classes. These courses were extra enriching and did not include mandatory training like use of force policy review, etc. Many of our officers were extremely active as instructors in various police academies including Essex, Passaic, and Morris Counties. Our instructors taught a total of 17 classes (up one from last year) to police recruits around northern New Jersey to help promote positivity and professionalism in law enforcement.

Mandatory training was conducted this year in June and July and then again in November and December. Topics included the following:

- Use of Force and Vehicular Pursuit policy review
- Domestic Violence policy review
- Handling Internal Affairs Complaints
- Fire Extinguisher Operations
- Right to Know
- Legal Update: Miranda

Listed below are the most noteworthy training events that occurred in 2023:

- Officer Ciampi – attended Methods of Instruction at the Essex County Police Academy in January. After successfully passing this class, Officer Ciampi is now a certified NJ Police Training Commission police academy instructor.
- Officer Ciampi – attended Physical Training Instructor certification class at the Essex County Police Academy in January. After successfully passing this class, Officer Ciampi became a certified police academy PT instructor.
- Sergeant Didyk – attended Basic Arson Investigator course at the Passaic County Fire Academy in January.
- Officer Reynolds – instructed Bias and Diversity for Police Recruits at the New Jersey State Police Academy in Sea Girt in January. This was a particularly noteworthy event for both Officer Reynolds and the Fairfield Police Department because outside instructors (non-State Police) are very rarely invited to instruct at the NJSP Academy.
- Detective Sergeant Didyk & Detective Tilton – attended *H&K Armorer Certification* course in Virginia in February.
- Lieutenant Tracey and Mrs. Karen Trento – attended an *OPRA for Practitioners* class in Wayne in February.
- Police Officer Resiliency- In March, the Fairfield Police Department hosted a regional law enforcement training seminar entitled *Police Officer Resiliency*. The two-day course was held at the Fairfield Recreation Center and was well attended by over 80 police officers from around the county and state. In 2019, Attorney General Gurbir Grewal mandated that every officer in New Jersey attend this two-day course to enhance officer wellness, mental health, and resiliency.

- [Lieutenant Tracey](#) – attended the FBI LEEDA Command Leadership Institute in East Brunswick in March.
- [Corporal Dean](#) – attended a narcotics interdiction course called Smugglers, Inc. in Paramus in March.
- [Corporal Dean](#) – helped run a Gang Investigations seminar in Hanover in March through his affiliation with the New Jersey chapter of the National Narcotics Officers' Association.
- [Officers Patierno and Guevara](#) – attended the NJ State LEAD Conference in Atlantic City in March.
- [The Entire ERT](#) – attended advanced tactical training in North Caldwell with Northern Red in March.
- [Captain Dias](#) – attended NJ State Police SORA training in Hamilton in April.
- [Sergeant Niemiec](#) – instructed the AG mandated course Police Officer Resiliency to officers from around Essex County in April in Livingston.
- [Detective Moran](#) – attended Methods of Instruction at the Passaic County Police Academy in April. He is now a certified police academy instructor.
- [Sergeant Niemiec](#) – instructed a Child Passenger Safety Seat Technician Certification program in April at the Plymouth Street Firehouse. Police officers from around northern New Jersey (and one international student) attended. The event culminated with a community child seat installation event on Saturday.
- [Lieutenant Casendino](#) – attended Hazard Mitigation training at NJIT in June.
- [Corporal Dean](#) – attended the Narcotics Training Conference in Atlantic City in June free of charge due to his involvement in the New Jersey Chapter of the National Narcotics Officers' Association.
- [Officers Wilk, Cleary and Alves](#) – attended the National Association of Field Training Officer National Conference in Arizona in June 13<sup>th</sup> funded by the Fairfield Police Foundation.
- [Numerous Officers](#) – attended Active Shooter Training hosted by the North Caldwell Police Department at the West Essex High School in June.
- [Sergeant Ptaszynski](#) – attended DRE Training at the Middlesex County Fire Academy entitled "Cops in Court" in June.
- [Lieutenant Tracey](#) – instructed Motor Vehicle Accident Investigations and Traffic Direction to recruits at the Passaic County Police Academy in August.
- [Officer Purcell](#) – attended Methods of Instruction taught at the Passaic County Police Academy in September. He is now a Police Training Commission certified police academy instructor.

- [Captain Dias, Lieutenant Nyhuis, Detective Moran and Detective Cocchi](#) – attended a lecture on managing investigations involving special victims in September. The guest speaker was the lead detective in the famous Charles Cullen case.
- [Officer Puluse](#) – attended the Maryland State Police Motor Officer Instructor School taught at the Bergen County Police Academy in September. After an extremely intense two weeks, Officer Puluse officially graduated and is now a certified motor officer instructor.
- [Officer Chen, Officer Cleary and SLEO VanderWal](#) – attended Patrol Interview Tactics at the Holmdel Police Department in September.
- [Officer Chiarolanza](#) – attended the Master Public Information Officer course taught by the FBI LEEDA organization at the Passaic County Police Academy in September.
- [Detectives Tilton & Cocchi](#) – attended a Cybercrime Investigations class taught at the NJIT Police Department in September.
- [The Entire Command Staff](#) – attended a JIF training session for Police Command Staff hosted by the Fairfield Police Department at the Recreation Center in September. The event was well attended by over 100 ranking police officers from around the state.
- [Lieutenant McNish, Lieutenant Tracey and Detective Cocchi](#) – attended a Police Licensing seminar taught by the New Jersey State Police Training Commission at the Morris County Police Academy in September.
- [Detective Tilton & Officer Sickles](#) – attended a New Jersey State Police Room Entry and Close Quarters Battle class in Cedar Grove in October.
- [Detective Sergeant Didyk & Detective Cocchi](#) – attended Firearms Laws & Applicant Investigations training at the Morris County Police Academy in October.
- [Lieutenant Tracey](#) – instructed the ABLE program to recruits at the Essex County Police Academy in October.
- [Dispatcher Piccoli](#) – attended BLS Instructor Certification in October. He is now a certified CPR Instructor.
- [Detective Moran](#) – attended Crime Scene Processing and Forensic Investigation training at the Livingston Police Department in October.
- [Lieutenant Nyhuis & Detective Sergeant Didyk](#) – attended ABC Law Enforcement Techniques training at the Middlesex County Police Academy in October.
- [Lieutenant Tracey and Sergeant Rasmussen](#) – attended Use of Force Instructor Development training at the Maplewood Police Department in October.
- [Sergeant Rasmussen & Officer Wilk](#) – attended Patrol Rifle Instructor certification course at the Mount Olive Police Department in November.
- [The Command Staff & Investigative Section](#) – attended a seminar on NJ Police Licensing in 2024 in November.

- Sergeant Hlubik & Corporal High – attended a JIF MEL sponsored seminar entitled Career Survival for Front Line Supervisors hosted by the Essex County Sheriff’s Department in November.
- Detective Tilton – attended DEA HIDTA training at the NYPD training facility in New York City in December.
- Corporal High and Officers Cleary, Schnackenberg, Guevara, DeCarlo and VanderWal – attended a Title 39 & DWI Case Law class presented by the J. Harris Police Training Company in Wayne in December.
- Lieutenant Tracey and Sergeant Niemiec – instructed ICAT and ABLE to Essex County police officers at the Essex County Police Academy in December.
- Sergeant Niemiec – instructed Police Officer Resiliency to Essex County police officers at the Essex County Police Academy in December.
- Officers Ciampi, Chen and VanderWal – attended a Title 2C class presented by the J. Harris Police Training Company in Wayne in December.

## VEHICLES UNIT

### MEMBERS

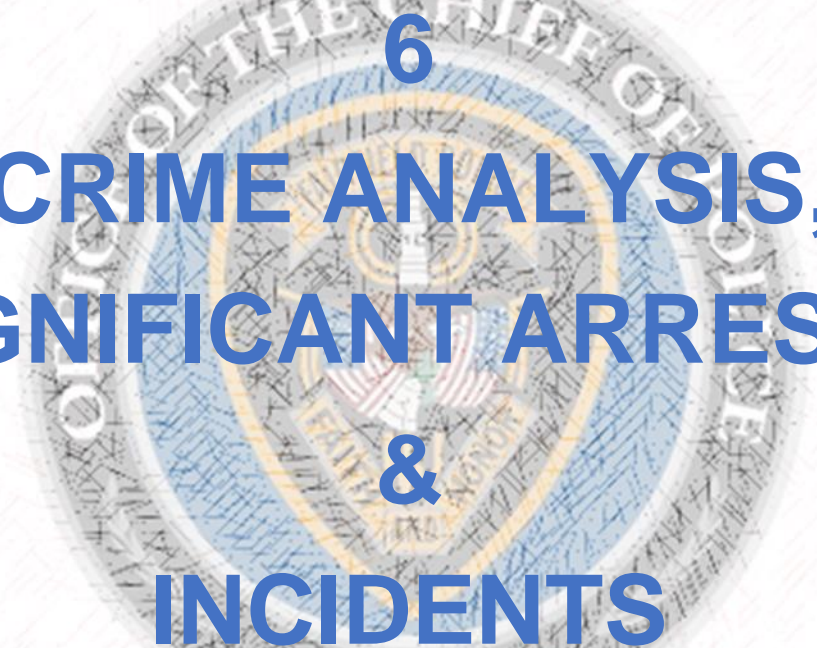
Sgt. Niemiec (*Supervising Officer*), Sgt. Casendino, PO Chiarolanza

### ACTIVITIES

The police department acquired four new police cars this year, all Ford Explorers. One vehicle was an administrative build and was assigned to Captain Dias as 402. The second vehicle became unit 411, an unmarked patrol Explorer assigned to SEU. The third vehicle became unit 413, an unmarked patrol Explorer assigned to Officer Puluse in the SEU. The final vehicle, 421, was assigned to the patrol division and became the Corporals’ unmarked patrol car. Unit 422 – a marked patrol Explorer – was out of service most of the year due to a faulty engine. Thankfully, repairs were covered under warranty and 422 now has a brand-new engine and very low miles.

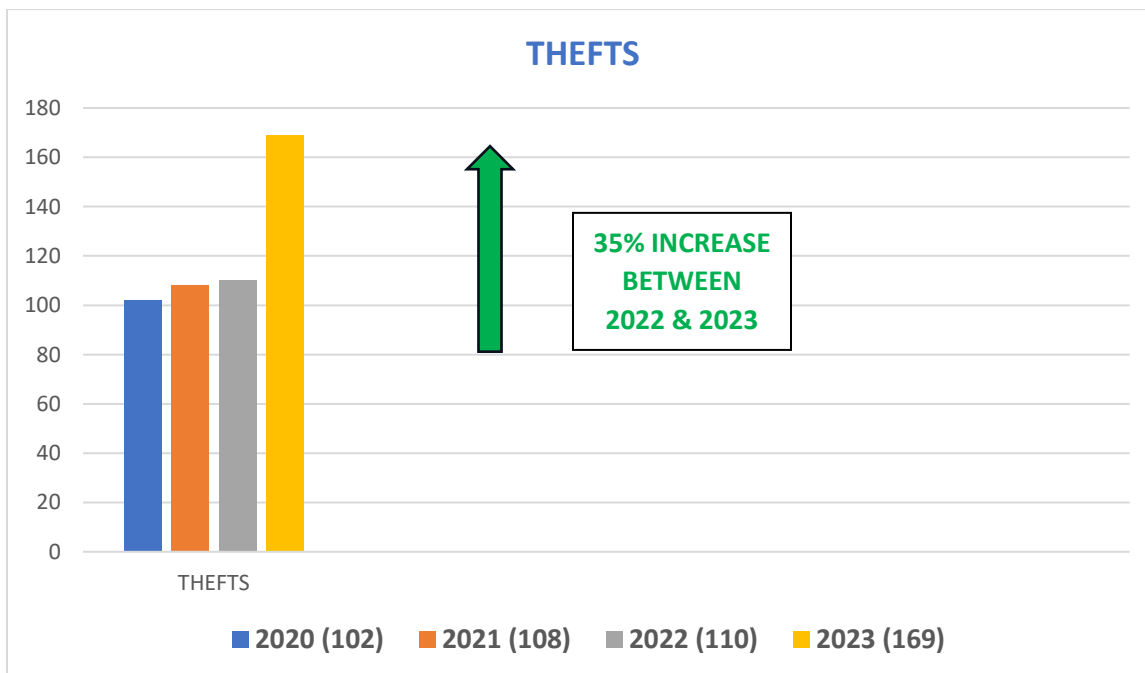
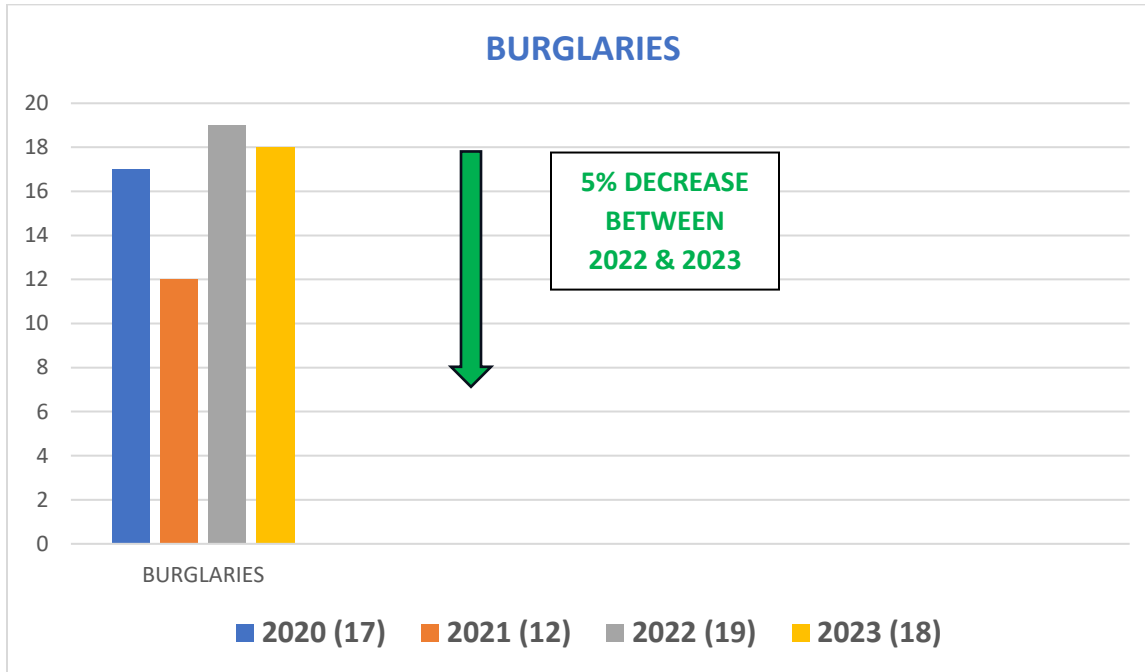
## RECORDS ROOM ACTIVITY

Item	Requested	Completed	Monthly Revenue
Carfax	1372	1372	\$2855.00
OPRA	85	49	
Discoveries	327	271	
Lexis Nexis			
Backgrounds	96	96	
ECPO Requests	58	58	

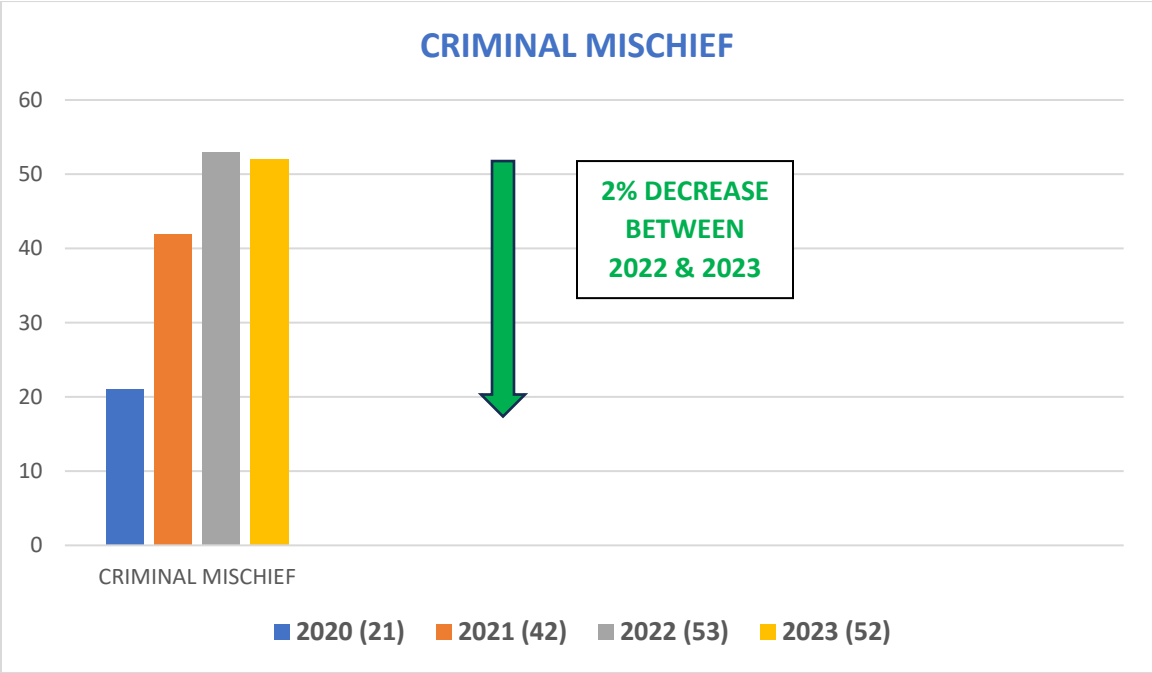
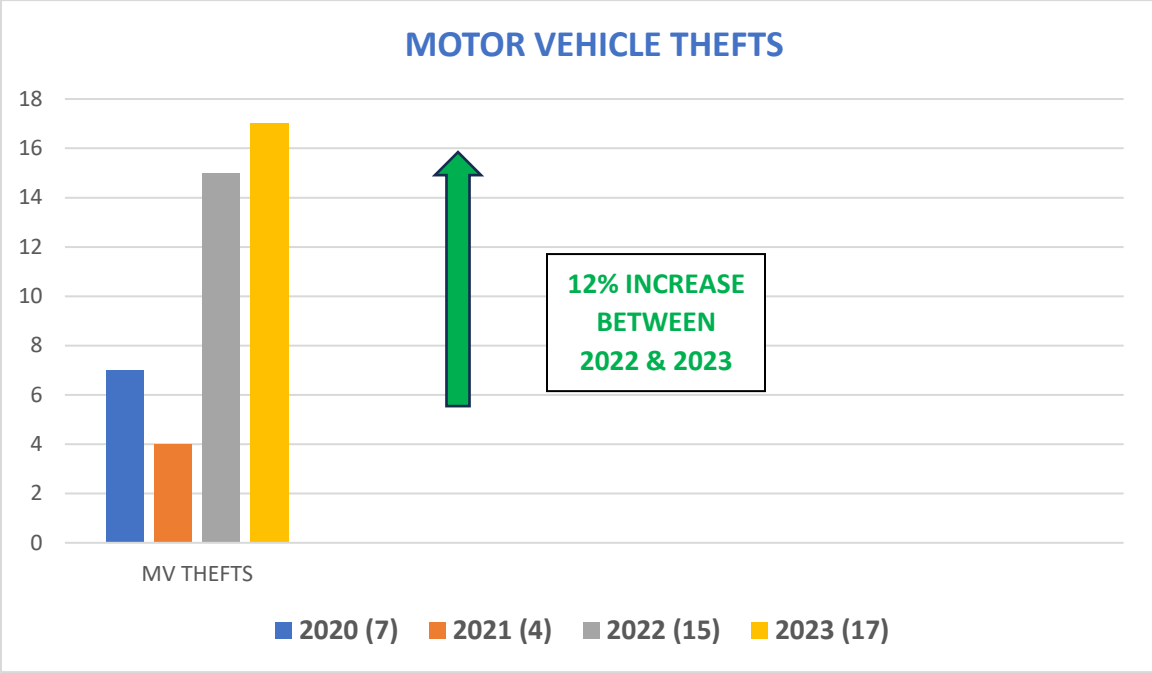
The seal of the Office of the Chief of Police is centered in the background. It features a circular design with a central shield containing a scale of justice and a sword. The shield is surrounded by a wreath and a banner. The outer ring of the seal contains the text "OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE" and "FIDELITY BRAVERY INTEGRITY".

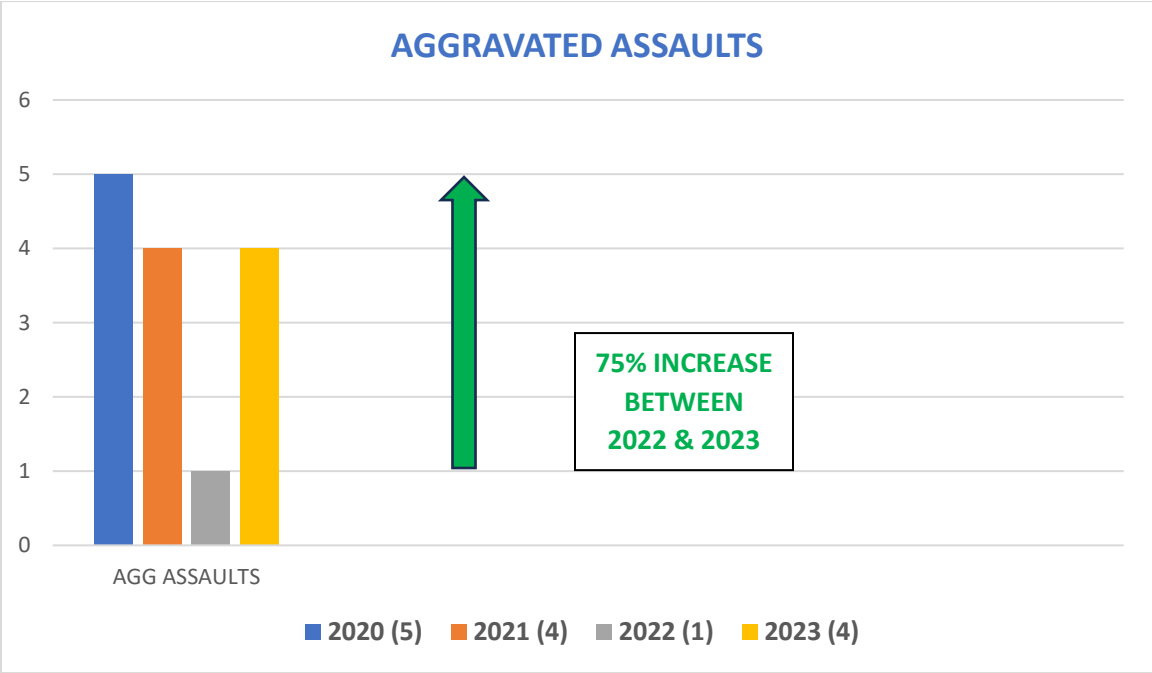
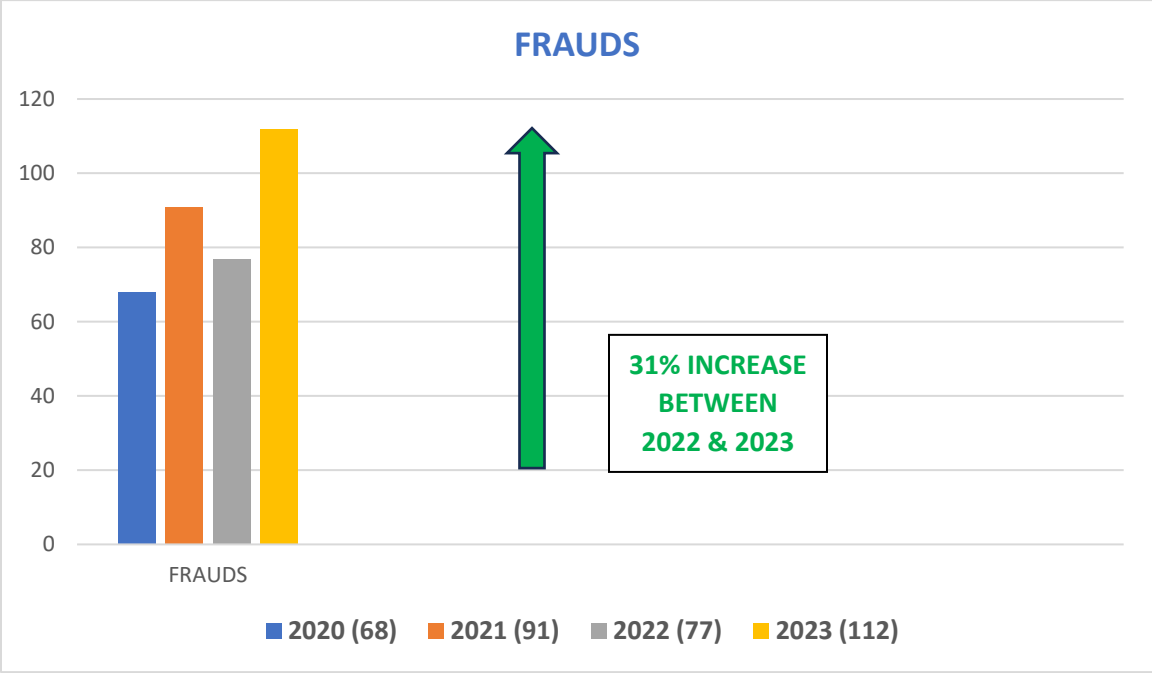
**6**  
**CRIME ANALYSIS,  
SIGNIFICANT ARRESTS  
&  
INCIDENTS**

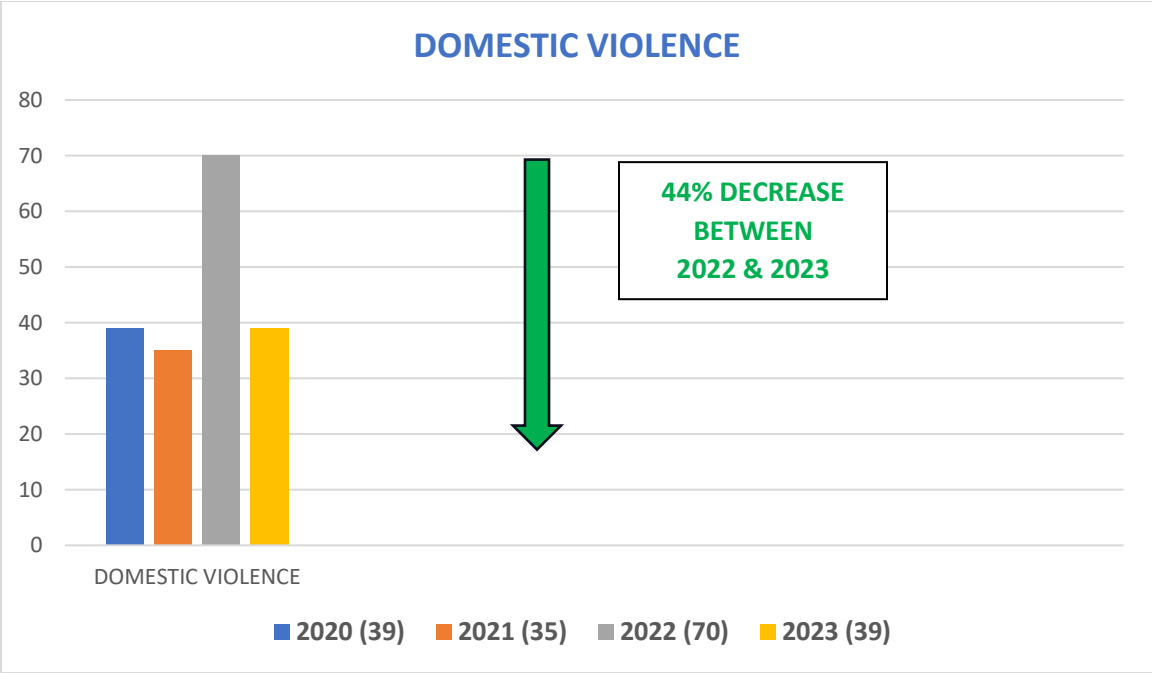
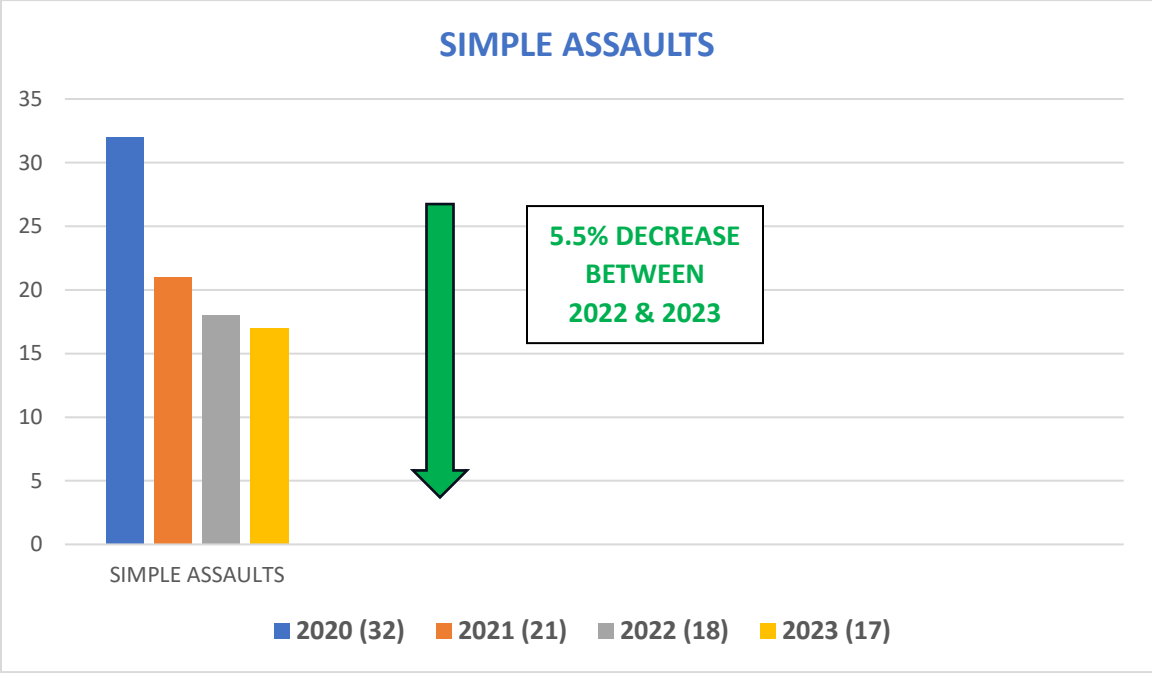
## 6A- CRIME ANALYSIS











## 6B- SIGNIFICANT ARRESTS & INCIDENTS

Perhaps one of the best ways to gain the proper perspective about a law enforcement agency is to examine the types of calls they are summoned to handle. Every day, our officers deal with a wide range of incidents. Some are minor and are often resolved very quickly with little need to mention them. However, on occasion, they deal with more significant cases that result in the arrest of offenders or are worth mentioning. Unfortunately, many of these calls will leave an enduring memory in the minds of our officers well beyond the time they handled it. Here are some significant arrests and incidents that they handled.

- Suicide - On January 16<sup>th</sup>, officers were dispatched to a residence on Harding Drive for a report of a suicidal male in the bathroom armed with a handgun. The male and homeowner shot himself in the head while officers were responding and while his wife was still on 9-1-1. Once officers arrived, the scene was secured, and the male was pronounced deceased on scene by Dr. Espinoza of Morristown Memorial Hospital. The Medical Examiners Officer responded and took custody of the body.
- Aggravated Assault/Weapons Offenses - On February 1<sup>st</sup>, officers were dispatched to a residence on Ray Place for a dispute between two males involving a knife. After an investigation, a 31-year-old male from Fairfield, was arrested and charged with terroristic threats, aggravated assault, and several weapons offenses. The other male involved in the altercation was unharmed. The male who was arrested was later transported to the Essex County Jail.
- MV Violation/Mental Health Emergency - On February 2<sup>nd</sup>, Corporal Lagan attempted to stop a vehicle on Route 46 East just prior to Two Bridges Road after observing motor vehicle violations. The vehicle failed to stop, exited the highway, and travelled east on Little Falls Road before stopping on Grandview Avenue in North Caldwell. It was determined the driver, a 31-year-old female from Linden, was suffering from a mental health emergency and was transported to Clara Maas Hospital for evaluation. The female was issued numerous motor vehicle summonses but was not charged criminally.
- Criminal Sexual Contact - On February 10<sup>th</sup>, a juvenile male and his parents came to headquarters to report inappropriate sexual contact between the juvenile and a 19-year-old male that occurred in the locker room of Planet Fitness.
- Residential Burglaries - On February 16<sup>th</sup>, headquarters received a phone call reporting a suspicious vehicle seen in the area of Jill Terrace. A check of the area yielded negative results for the vehicle. A short time later, burglaries were discovered on Jill Terrace, Henning Drive, and Old Sand Road. All of the residences had a rear glass door smashed and their master bedrooms ransacked. Proceeds included a safe, large amounts of cash, and jewelry.
- Felony Vehicle - On February 18<sup>th</sup>, the automated license plate reader (ALPR) on Route 46 East alerted to a Honda that was reportedly involved in a shooting in Englewood, N.J. A short time later, Officer Reynolds located the Honda in the parking lot of Wawa. A felony stop was conducted and the female driver and registered owner, a 42-year-old female from Woodland Park, and her juvenile son were detained. The occupants of the Honda were determined to not have been involved in the shooting, but Englewood P.D. stated the suspect was the female's boyfriend. As a result, the Honda was turned over to the Englewood Police Department for processing.
- Commercial Burglary - On February 20<sup>th</sup>, officers were dispatched to a business on Passaic Avenue for a report of a glass door that was smashed. Surveillance video showed a dark colored SUV pull into the parking lot on 2/19 just before 10 p.m. A passenger exited the vehicle, smashed the door with an unknown item, and re-entered the vehicle. The vehicle left the scene and returned later in the evening. The suspects exited the vehicle and peered through the door but never entered the building.

- Sexual Assault - On February 21<sup>st</sup>, a female responded to headquarters to report she was sexually assaulted by an ex-boyfriend while staying at the La Quinta Inn & Suites. The female claimed she was assaulted by her ex-boyfriend while she was asleep.
- Eluding - On February 28<sup>th</sup>, Officer Seragusa attempted to stop a pickup truck for a motor vehicle violation on Passaic Avenue. The truck failed to stop, fled at a high rate of speed, and shut off its lights. In accordance with the Attorney General vehicle pursuit policy, Officer Seragusa did not pursue the truck. The truck was later located on Bloomfield Avenue by Officer Kalinowski. The driver, a 19-year-old from West Caldwell, was arrested for eluding and issued numerous motor vehicle violations. The driver was later released on a summons.
- Felony Motor Vehicle Stop - On March 1<sup>st</sup>, officers were notified of a felony vehicle entered by the Newark Police Department after it was read by the automated license plate reader located at Passaic Avenue and Beverly Road. The vehicle was wanted for an eluding incident a few days prior. Shortly after, Officer Purcell located the vehicle, a white Infiniti SUV, turning into the parking lot of 29 Greenbrook Road. The driver and owner of the vehicle, a 31-year-old female from Newark, was detained. The Infiniti was impounded back to our headquarters so Newark PD could later take possession of the vehicle for fingerprinting. It was determined the female was not involved in the eluding incident and was allowed to leave.
- Attempt to Stop/Eluding - On March 4<sup>th</sup>, Officer Chen located a black Infiniti sedan on Route 46 East that was reportedly just involved in a shoplifting in Parsippany. Once Officer Chen attempted to conduct a motor vehicle stop, the Infiniti fled at a high rate of speed, entered onto Route 80 East, and eluded Officer Chen. To be in accordance with the N.J. Attorney General's Guidelines, no pursuit was initiated by Officer Chen.
- Aggravated Assault/Weapons Offenses - On March 5<sup>th</sup>, officers were dispatched to the area of Target and the BP gas station for a report of male who just threatened another male with a handgun. Upon arrival, the victim stated the male suspect entered Target with two females. The male, a 15-year-old from Washington D.C., was stopped and detained. The juvenile male was not in possession of a handgun, but after obtaining the victim's statement and consultation with the Essex County Prosecutor's Office, the juvenile was placed under arrest. An Essex K-9 responded to the scene and did not locate the handgun. The juvenile was later charged with aggravated assault, unlawful possession of a weapon, and possession of a weapon for an unlawful purpose. The juvenile was transported to the Essex County Youth House.
- Attempt to Stop/Eluding - On March 8<sup>th</sup>, Officer Purcell observed a white BMW SUV exit the Caldwell Mercedes dealership in West Caldwell at a high rate of speed after a male ran from the property into the BMW. Officer Purcell attempted to stop the BMW, but it fled east on Bloomfield Avenue at a high rate of speed towards Passaic Avenue. To be in accordance with the N.J. Attorney General's Guidelines, no pursuit was initiated by Officer Purcell.
- Wanted Person - On March 8<sup>th</sup>, Officer Cleary located a silver Jeep Cherokee on Route 46 East after it hit the automated license plate reader (ALPR) on Route 46. The hit showed the registered owner, a 54-year-old male from Hoboken, was wanted out of Belleville for domestic violence - assault. Officer Cleary and other officers conducted a motor vehicle stop and took the male into custody without incident. The male was later turned over to Belleville P.D.
- Lewdness - On March 9<sup>th</sup>, officers were dispatched to McDonald's for a report of male who just exposed himself to a female employee as she brought his order to the curbside pickup area. The male fled in an orange Jeep prior to police arrival. The male was identified as the same male, a 25-year-old male from Garfield, from a lewdness incident at our Target in February. The male was located, arrested, charged, and transported to the Essex County Jail.

- Motor Vehicle Burglary - On March 15<sup>th</sup>, the resident of 17 Club Road came to headquarters to report their unlocked Dodge Durango had been entered in the early morning hours. A male suspect entered the vehicle and stole a pocketbook, cash, credit cards, and Apple Watch. The suspect vehicle, a black Audi sedan, hit an ALPR in town prior to it being reported stolen out of Chatham.
- Attempt to Stop/Eluding - On March 16<sup>th</sup>, Officer McCormack was alerted by one of our ALPR's of a white BMW sedan on Route 46 East which was wanted for eluding out of Union Twp. Officer McCormack located the BMW and attempted to conduct a motor vehicle stop. However, the BMW fled at a high rate of speed into Wayne. To be in accordance with the N.J. Attorney General's Guidelines, no pursuit was initiated by Officer McCormack. It is believed this BMW was involved in the FedEx drop box thefts.
- Assist Another Agency - On March 19<sup>th</sup>, officers responded to a Maple Place residence in Pine Brook after Montville PD requested our Lucas device. Montville PD was on scene of a male who had hung himself in his bedroom and were now performing CPR. Our officers assisted with compressions by using the Lucas device. Unfortunately, the male was pronounced dead on the scene by responding paramedics.
- Residential Burglary - On March 20<sup>th</sup>, officers responded to a Voelker Road residence for a report of a burglary. The homeowner's son was checking on the house and found the rear sliding glass door smashed. The bedrooms inside the home were ransacked. Due to the residents being out of the country, it was undetermined what was stolen from the home.
- Suspicious Person/Theft Arrest - On March 20<sup>th</sup>, officers were dispatched to 321 Fairfield Road for a report of a suspicious male and female. The male, a 57-year-old male from Paterson, and the female, a 33-year-old from Paterson, were father and daughter. The male was found to be in possession of two cut catalytic converters in a suitcase that were taken for further investigation. An investigation by patrol and detective bureau led to an eventual arrest of the male for theft. He was later charged and released on a summons.
- Assist Another Agency - On March 28<sup>th</sup>, officers were notified of a felony vehicle entered by the Byram Police Department after it was read by the automated license plate reader located at Two Bridges Road and Sand Road. The vehicle was wanted for theft. Shortly after, Sgt. Myers located the vehicle, a silver Toyota sedan, in the parking lot of Target. The driver, a 53-year-old male from Paterson, was detained. Byram PD responded to the scene and assumed custody of the Toyota and placed the male under arrest for their charges. It was later discovered the male had a nationwide warrant out of California.
- CDS Arrest - On March 31<sup>st</sup>, while conducting a stationary traffic detail on Lane Road, Officer Reynolds stopped a vehicle for a motor vehicle violation. After receiving conflicting stories from the driver and the passenger, consent to search the vehicle was granted by the driver. Located inside the vehicle were 50 bags of heroin, several bags of cocaine, and drug paraphernalia. The driver, a 43-year-old male from Caldwell, and the passenger, a 30-year-old female from Caldwell were placed under arrest. Both suspects were charged with numerous drug offenses. The male was released on a summons and the female was later transported to the Essex County Jail.
- Driving While Intoxicated - On April 1<sup>st</sup>, officers responded to a motor vehicle crash in the area of 420 Route 46. Upon arrival, Corporal High detected a strong odor of alcohol emanating from one of the drivers, a 68-year-old male from Wayne. Both drivers complained of minor injuries. The male from Wayne was placed under arrest for DWI and was then transported to St. Joseph's Hospital in Paterson, N.J. for his injuries. After being cleared from the hospital, the male was transported back to headquarters and processed. The male was discovered to have a B.A.C. of 0.16%. The male was issued numerous motor vehicle summonses and criminally charged with assault by auto.

- MV Burglary/Attempted MV Theft - On April 9<sup>th</sup>, officers were dispatched to 38 Glen Avenue for the report of a MV burglary and attempted motor vehicle theft. Upon arrival, a grey Acura sedan was parked in front of the home next to the victim's Land Rover. A male exited the Acura and entered the unlocked Land Rover. When family members observed this and began to intervene, the Acura fled Glen Avenue towards Forest Place. A check of the area by FPD was negative for the Acura. However, a check of a township automated license plate reader (ALPR) revealed the Acura was out of Newark, N.J.
- Receiving Stolen Property - On April 13<sup>th</sup>, an ALPR on Route 46 east alerted a stolen N.Y. registration on a Dodge Caravan. Officer Sickles located the Dodge and committed a motor vehicle stop in the parking lot of 430 Route 46. The driver, a 59-year-old male from Windsor, N.Y. was taken into custody and arrested for receiving stolen property. The Dodge was impounded, and the male was processed, issued motor vehicle summonses, and released on a summons.
- Burglary/Theft - On April 17<sup>th</sup>, officers were dispatched to 88 Clinton Road for a report of several landscaping trailers belonging to two different companies that were forcibly entered and had numerous pieces of equipment stolen. A check of surveillance cameras showed the thefts occurred on April 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Obstruction/Resisting Arrest - On April 17<sup>th</sup>, Officer McCormack conducted a motor vehicle stop of a Chevrolet Impala with a fictitious registration. The driver, a 26-year-old male from Hillside, refused to present his identification and paperwork that eventually led to his arrest. The male resisted arrest but eventually was secured in handcuffs. The male was issued numerous motor vehicle summonses and was charged with obstruction, resisting arrest, and hindering apprehension. The male was released on a summons.
- Wanted Person - On April 18<sup>th</sup>, an ALPR alerted a felony vehicle, that was believed to be involved in burglaries, that entered town on Route 46. Officers located the vehicle and conducted a motor vehicle stop on Route 46. Two of the occupants were identified, but one, a 26-year-old female, initially was not. The female was brought into headquarters and identified. The female was discovered to have a criminal warrant out of Camp Hill, PA. The female was arrested and transported down to the Essex County Jail to await extradition.
- Driving While Intoxicated - On April 23<sup>rd</sup>, Corporal Lagan observed a Ford Escape traveling west on Route 46 towards Montville Twp. at a high rate of speed. The Ford crashed into another vehicle just over the border into Montville. The driver, a 33-year-old female from Farmingville, N.Y., was found to be under the influence and refused to any request exit her vehicle and conduct field sobriety tests. While the female was being placed under arrest, she kicked Officer Sickles in the leg. While being processed, the female refused to submit samples of her breath. The female was charged with numerous criminal charges, DWI, and refusal to submit to a breath test.
- Motor Vehicle Theft - On April 25<sup>th</sup>, officers were dispatched to 88 Clinton Road for a report of a motor vehicle theft that just occurred. The victim, an employee showing up for work, left his Toyota Highlander running when he arrived for work. The Toyota was entered by an unknown male and driven from the property on Clinton Road towards West Caldwell. The Toyota was hitting on ALPRs a short time later in the city of Newark. A white BMW was observed on the property by the victim and is believed to be involved.
- Domestic Violence - On April 27<sup>th</sup>, officers were dispatched to a residence on Plog Road for a report of an estranged husband who broke through a rear window and chased his wife out of the house. The male proceeded to break all of the windows of his wife's Dodge Durango. The male fled the scene on foot before police were notified. While officers were on scene and investigating, the male, who was highly intoxicated, returned and refused to listen to commands. Officers had to use force to place the male under arrest. Thankfully, nobody was injured during the incident. The male was arrested and charged with numerous domestic violence related and other crimes. The female was given a

temporary restraining order (TRO) for her protection. After being processed and served with the TRO, the male was transported to the Essex County Jail.

- Motor Vehicle Theft - On April 30<sup>th</sup>, officers responded to a Colt Street residence for a report of a motor vehicle theft. The homeowner woke up and discovered their 2019 BMW was not in their driveway. The BMW was hitting on license plate readers throughout the City of Newark later on in the day.
- Motor Vehicle Theft - On April 30<sup>th</sup>, officers responded to a Glendale Lane residence for a report of a motor vehicle theft. The victim reported their white 2021 Mercedes was stolen while it was parked in the street. The Mercedes recovered later in the day in the city of Newark.
- MV Theft - On May 1<sup>st</sup>, officers responded to a Sand Road residence for a reported motor vehicle theft. Upon arrival, the resident reported their 2022 black Ford Explorer was stolen from their driveway in the early hours of the morning. The Explorer was later recovered in Newark, N.J.
- Motor Vehicle Burglaries - On May 1<sup>st</sup>, officers responded to a residence on Ramkay Drive and Ralph Drive for a reported motor vehicle burglary and attempted motor vehicle burglary. The Ramkay Drive residence had their unlocked 2020 Acura entered and tools were stolen. The tools were later recovered on Hillside Drive. The Ralph Drive residence had their 2020 Land Rover and 2021 Cadillac Escalade attempted to be entered, but the vehicles were locked.
- MV Theft - On May 5<sup>th</sup>, officers responded to a Henrietta Drive residence for a reported motor vehicle theft. Upon arrival, the resident reported their 2019 BMW was stolen from their driveway. The BMW was tracked to Paterson, N.J. A short time later, the BMW fled Paterson police, crashed, and was totaled. Several of the occupants were arrested by Paterson police.
- Dog Bite - On May 5<sup>th</sup>, officers responded to Fox Hill Road for a male and the male's small dog who was attacked by a German Shepard who belonged to another resident on Fox Hill Road. The male and his dog suffered very serious injuries. The male was transported to Morristown Medical Center for further treatment. The German Shepard was quarantined, and the West Caldwell Health Department was notified of the incident.
- Attempt to Stop/Eluding - On May 5<sup>th</sup>, Officer Catania was driving south on Passaic Avenue and in the area of O'Connor Drive and observed a Kia sedan conduct an illegal U-turn in front of him. Officer Catania attempted to stop the Kia, but it fled north on Passaic Avenue to Route 46 East at a high rate of speed. Due to N.J. Attorney General guidelines, Corporal D'Argenio did not authorize Officer Catania to pursue the Kia. The Kia was last seen entering Route 46 East.
- Suspicious Incident - On May 8<sup>th</sup>, officers were dispatched to Wawa for a report of two males possibly passing each other a handgun while seated inside a red Volkswagen Golf before leaving the parking lot. The caller provided the vehicle's registration, and it was located shortly thereafter by Fairfield officers unoccupied in the parking lot, of the West Essex High School. Both the high school and junior high school were immediately placed on lockdown and officers from North Caldwell, Roseland, Essex Fells, Little Falls, and West Caldwell arrived on scene. The two males who arrived in the Volkswagen were identified as an 18 year-old from Fairfield and a 17-year-old from North Caldwell and were students of WEHS. The males were located in their classrooms and immediately secured. A consent to search the Volkswagen was granted and officers located a Glock style handgun water pistol. After further investigation, the males were not criminally charged, and it was discovered these types of water guns were being used during senior prank week.
- Structure Fire - On May 20<sup>th</sup>, officers, and the Fairfield Fire Department (FFD) responded to a Glenroy Road South residence for a reported structure fire. Upon arrival, officers found the home to be fully engulfed. The mother, two young daughters, and family dog were able to escape the



home uninjured. The FFD and many other surrounding fire departments battled the blaze and eventually extinguished it. Unfortunately, the home was a total loss.

- Motor Vehicle Burglaries - On May 21<sup>st</sup>, officers were dispatched to a Glenroy Road South and Stag Trail residence for a report of motor vehicle burglaries. Upon arrival, the residents reported an unknown male entered their unlocked vehicles during the early morning hours. A wallet, credit cards, and cash were stolen from the vehicles.
- Motor Vehicle Pursuit - On June 4<sup>th</sup>, officers responded to the area of Big Piece Road for a report of subjects checking door handles of vehicles. A short time later, Corporal D'Argenio located a stolen Kia Forte on Esposito Drive near Hollywood Avenue. Once Corporal D'Argenio attempted a motor vehicle stop on Hollywood Avenue, it fled at a high rate of speed, and a motor vehicle pursuit was initiated. The Kia later crashed on Passaic Avenue in West Caldwell and all six occupants were located and arrested by Fairfield PD and surrounding police agencies. The six subjects arrested were juveniles from Newark and Irvington, ranging from 12 to 14-years-old. All of the juveniles were charged with numerous criminal offenses. Five were released to parents or guardians and one juvenile was transported to the Essex County Youth House.
- Burglary - On June 4<sup>th</sup>, officers were dispatched to a residence on Vine Street for a burglary being reported by the homeowner's children. Upon arrival, officers discovered forced entry to the home and the home to be ransacked. The detective bureau responded and processed the scene.
- MV Burglary - On June 7<sup>th</sup>, a resident from Big Piece Road reported two of their vehicles were entered overnight. The theft occurred on June 4<sup>th</sup> and the suspects were the individuals located in the red Kia Corporal D'Argenio pursued. Stolen from the victim's vehicle were sunglasses and electronics.
- MV Burglary - On June 9<sup>th</sup>, a resident from a residence on Knoll Road reported a suspect inside her Land Rover around 0200 hrs. The suspect grabbed a bag from the vehicle that contained approximately \$2,000.00 worth of hair equipment and fled to a waiting vehicle that left the area.
- Motor Vehicle Pursuit - On June 9<sup>th</sup>, while officers responded to the Knoll Road area, Officer Ciampi observed a stolen Jeep Grand Cherokee driving at a high rate of speed on Hollywood Avenue. Officer Perrette observed the Jeep enter Route 46 E from Hollywood Avenue and initiated a motor vehicle pursuit. The pursuit was terminated by Sgt. Ptaszynski as it travelled through the construction zone near the Route 46/Route 3 split.
- MV Burglary - On June 9<sup>th</sup>, a resident from Big Piece Road reported one of their vehicles was entered overnight. The theft occurred early in the morning. Stolen from the victim's vehicle were a pair of sunglasses.
- Lewdness - On June 18<sup>th</sup>, Corporal D'Argenio arrested a 40-year-old male from Nutley in the parking lot of Wawa after the male was observed masturbating inside his parked vehicle. The male was charged and released on a summons.
- Overdose - On June 19<sup>th</sup>, officers were dispatched to the La Quinta Inn & Suites for two individuals in the rear parking lot who may have overdosed. The caller reported the victims were unresponsive and one victim had Narcan administered to them by a witness. Officers arrived and had to provide the same individual with a second dosage of Narcan. Both individuals became responsive after being treated by officers and were transported to the hospital for further treatment.
- MV Theft - On June 20<sup>th</sup>, an officer responded to Fisher Auto Transmission for a report of a stolen Ford Econoline van. The van was stolen during the early morning hours.
- TERPO Service - On June 26<sup>th</sup>, officers responded to a residence for an intoxicated suicidal male. The male was transported to the hospital for further assistance. Judge Failla signed a TERPO order which

allows the police to seize weapons. Officers secured all firearms from the residence pending a hearing in July with the Essex County Superior Court.

- Burglary/Stolen MV - On June 28<sup>th</sup>, officers responded to a residence on Hollywood Avenue. The homeowner reported during the early morning hours someone entered an unlocked vehicle in the driveway, opened the garage, entered the home, and stole the fob for his Land Rover. The Land Rover was subsequently stolen from the driveway. Inside the Land Rover was the victim's wallet, credit cards, and cash. The vehicle eventually crashed in Roseland and the suspects evaded police.
- Burglary - On June 28<sup>th</sup>, officers responded to a residence on Craig Place for a reported burglary that just occurred with a suspect entering his home. The suspect then fled without proceeds to an unknown vehicle parked outside.
- Attempt to Stop/Eluding - As the above burglary was being reported, Cranford P.D. notified Fairfield P.D. they were tracking a stolen 2023 Mercedes in the area of Craig Place and Alan Drive. Officer Puluse and Officer Cleary located the stolen Mercedes traveling the opposite way from them on Hollywood Avenue. As the officers turned around, the Mercedes fled on Hollywood Avenue at a high rate of speed. The Mercedes was last seen entering Wayne on Route 46 E and no pursuit was initiated. This vehicle was later determined to be involved in the burglaries on Hollywood Avenue and Craig Place. The NJSP Auto Theft Task Force was contacted and continued to track the vehicle. Three suspects were eventually apprehended in East Orange with one being the burglary suspect. He was charged by Fairfield PD.
- Attempted Motor Vehicle Burglary - On June 28<sup>th</sup>, an officer responded to a residence on Crescent Drive for an attempted motor vehicle burglary. The resident stated in the early morning hours an individual attempted to enter their 2021 Cadillac parked in the driveway, but it was locked. The suspect vehicle involved was later determined to be a 2003 GMC Yukon. The Yukon was a felony vehicle for numerous burglaries in Roselle Park. Fairfield detectives eventually tracked down this Yukon and developed a suspect in this and other cases.
- Burglary/Theft - On July 3<sup>rd</sup>, officers were dispatched to 4 Commerce Road for a report of a burglary and theft. Sometime overnight, suspect(s) cut through a fence and forcibly entered the victim's landscaping trailer. The stolen proceeds included numerous pieces of landscaping equipment valued at approximately, \$8,700.00.
- Domestic Violence/Assault - On July 4<sup>th</sup>, officers responded to a residence on Big Piece Road for a report of domestic violence incident in progress between husband and wife. After further investigation, the wife was found to have visible signs of injuries after being struck with a kitchen utensil. As a result, the husband was placed under arrest, charged, and was later transported to the Essex County Jail.
- Burglary/Theft - On July 11<sup>th</sup>, an officer responded to Dunkin Donuts, located at 294 Route 46, for a reported burglary. Upon arrival, the owner reported an unknown male suspect entered the establishment, around 0400 hrs., by forcibly opening a rear door. The suspect then stole approximately \$7,000.00 in cash from an office.
- Motor Vehicle Burglaries - On July 13<sup>th</sup>, officers took a motor vehicle and attempted motor vehicle burglaries on Campbell Road, Ralph Drive, and Barbara Drive. Several suspects arrived in a dark colored sedan and stole proceeds from inside unlocked vehicles during the early morning hours.
- DWI Arrest - On July 18<sup>th</sup>, officers were dispatched to 55 Lane Road for a report of a motor vehicle crash. Upon arrival by officers, they located a Honda CRV that was halfway into the building and operated by a 48-year-old male. The male was later placed under arrest for driving while intoxicated and was discovered to have a B.A.C. 0.20%. The male was charged with DWI, issued numerous motor vehicle summonses, and released to a friend.

- Burglary/Criminal Trespass - On July 19<sup>th</sup>, officers responded to closed Fairfield Municipal Pool, located on Big Piece Road, for a report of juveniles inside the property. Upon arrival, the juveniles had already fled the area when scared off by the reporting person. The juveniles had dragged and thrown a refrigerator into the pool.
- Motor Vehicle Theft - On July 19<sup>th</sup>, an officer was dispatched to Skyline Auto Auction, located at 100 Route 46, for a reported motor vehicle theft. A Chevrolet Malibu was dropped inside the property when an unknown male entered the vehicle and stole it a short time later. The vehicle was last seen entering Route 46E.
- Motor Vehicle Theft - On July 20<sup>th</sup>, a resident from Carlos Drive reported their Jeep Grand Cherokee was stolen overnight. The Jeep's key fob was left inside the vehicle by the victim. The Jeep was later recovered in the city of Newark on 7/23.
- Attempt to Stop/Eluding No Pursuit - On August 3<sup>rd</sup>, the automated license plate reader (ALPR) located at Passaic Avenue and Beverly Road alerted to a Porsche Cayenne associated with a missing juvenile female out of Union City, N.J. Officer McCormack and Corporal Lagan located the Porsche and stopped it on Passaic Avenue. As the officers walked up to the Porsche, it fled at a high rate of speed. The Porsche was last seen travelling east on Little Falls Road towards North Caldwell and Little Falls. Union City reported the female is a habitual runaway and was most likely with her adult boyfriend.
- Motor Vehicle Burglary - On August 4<sup>th</sup>, an officer responded to a residence on Horseneck Road for a reported motor vehicle burglary that occurred overnight. The resident reported over \$4,000.00 in cash, jewelry, and a Louis Vuitton purse was stolen from their unlocked vehicle.
- Stolen MV - On August 4<sup>th</sup>, an officer responded to the Pio Costa Industrial Complex for a reported stolen motor vehicle. Upon arrival, the officer discovered a 2010 Ford Econoline van was stolen from a business between 7/28 and 8/4. The van was entered into NCIC as a stolen vehicle.
- Aggravated Assault/Unlawful Possession of a Weapon - On August 4<sup>th</sup>, officers responded to the La Quinta Inn & Suites for a verbal argument between two men. Investigation revealed one of the men, a 55-year-old male from Woodland Park, pulled a knife and threatened to use it against the other man involved. The male was placed under arrest, processed, and charged with aggravated assault and unlawful possession of a weapon. The male was later transported to the Essex County Jail.
- Disorderly Conduct/Resisting Arrest - On August 5<sup>th</sup>, officers were dispatched to the La Quinta Inn & Suites for a fight in the lobby. Upon arrival, officers located one of the men involved, a 26-year-old male from the Bronx, N.Y. During the investigation, the male continued to cause a disturbance outside the hotel and would not adhere to officer's commands. When the male was told he was under arrest, he resisted and had to be taken down to the ground by officers on scene. The male and officers were uninjured. The male was arrested, processed, and charged with disorderly conduct and resisting arrest. The male was later released on a summons.
- Burglary - On August 5<sup>th</sup>, officers responded to a Charles Drive residence for a burglary report. Upon arrival, officers discovered damage to the home's garage door and several items were missing. No other part of the home was entered.
- Burglary - On August 6<sup>th</sup> in the early morning hours, officers responded to Speedway, located at 90 Route 46, for a burglary in progress called in by the alarm company. Upon arrival, officers discovered forced entry to the glass front door of the premise, but the suspects had already fled the scene. \$400 in cash and approximately \$15,000 in cigarettes were stolen. Surveillance video showed two suspects fleeing in a vehicle west in the eastbound lanes of Route 46.
- Attempt to Stop/Eluding No Pursuit - On August 8<sup>th</sup>, Officer Ciampi observed a Ford Mustang travelling west on Horseneck Road at an extremely high rate of speed. Officer Ciampi attempted to stop the

Mustang, but it accelerated away from him as it entered Montville Twp. To be in accordance with the N.J. Attorney General's guidelines, Officer Ciampi did not pursue the vehicle. Montville PD was notified of the incident, but the Mustang was not located.

- Burglary/MV Theft - On August 16<sup>th</sup>, officers were dispatched to Euro Auto Works, located at 223 Horseneck Road. During the early morning hours, a BMW arrived and (5) suspects exited. Forced entry was made into the business and keys belonging to a Porsche Panorama were taken and the suspects stole the Porsche. Keys to a Mercedes were also stolen, but the suspects did not steal the Mercedes. The Porsche was recovered in the Bronx, N.Y. later that day.
- Motor Vehicle Burglary - On August 21<sup>st</sup>, officers were dispatched to a business on Eldridge Road for a vehicle with a broken rear window. Upon arrival, video surveillance showed three suspects breaking the window and stealing the victim's wallet. The suspect vehicle was a Hyundai Sonata that was stolen out of New York City but had yet to be reported stolen.
- Burglary/Arrest - On August 25<sup>th</sup>, officers were dispatched to Michael Angelo's restaurant, located in the Red Roof Inn, for a report of a burglary. Upon arrival, it was discovered a suspect forced entry into the restaurant and its offices. Cash and checks were stolen. An investigation led to the arrest of a hotel guest, a 32-year-old male from Dover, N.J. The male was arrested, processed, and charged with burglary and theft. The male was later transported to the Essex County Jail.
- Attempted MV Burglaries - On August 29<sup>th</sup>, it was discovered two residences on Bel Air Drive had attempts by an actor to enter their vehicles during the early morning hours of 8/28. The vehicles were locked and never entered.
- Attempted Motor Vehicle Burglary - On September 3<sup>rd</sup>, officers were dispatched to a Ramkay Drive residence for an attempted motor vehicle burglary in progress. Officer Puluse located a BMW SUV near Esposito Drive and Big Piece Road that immediately fled at a high rate of speed. Officer Cleary tried to block the BMW in Big Piece Road and Hollywood Avenue, but it drove around his vehicle. The BMW entered Route 46 E and Sgt. Hlubik and Officer Puluse attempted to close the distance but were unsuccessful and no pursuit was initiated to comply with Attorney General guidelines.
- Motor Vehicle Burglary - On September 4<sup>th</sup>, an officer was dispatched to a business located in the Pio Costa Industrial Complex for a reported motor vehicle burglary. The owner of the company reported sometime overnight one of his vans had been burglarized and numerous tools were stolen.
- Motor Vehicle Burglary/Theft - On September 9<sup>th</sup>, an officer was dispatched to a business on Clinton Road. The owner reported one of his trailers was broken into within the last week and had approximately 156 cases of Coca-Cola stolen.
- Receiving Stolen Property Arrest - On September 11<sup>th</sup>, Officer McCormack conducted a motor vehicle stop on Route 46 of a Chevrolet Suburban after observing a motor vehicle violation. A check of the vehicle's identification number revealed the Chevrolet was reported stolen out of Linden. The driver, a 34-year-old-male from Fairfield, was placed under arrest for receiving stolen property. The male was charged, processed, and released on a summons.
- Attempt to Stop/Eluding - On September 12<sup>th</sup>, the Route 46 E automated license plate reader (ALPR) alerted patrol units to a gray Acura with a stolen NY license plate. Officer McCormack located the Acura on Route 46 E near the Speedway gas station. Before Officer McCormack could get behind the vehicle and attempt a motor vehicle stop, the Acura fled at a high rate of speed. Officers lost visual contact with the Acura in the area of the Fairfield Executive Inn on Route 46. A pursuit was not initiated to comply with Attorney General guidelines.

- Burglary/Theft - On September 14<sup>th</sup>, an officer was dispatched to a business in the Pio Costa Industrial Complex for a report of a burglary. The owner reported sometime over the last month the business was burglarized and had several pieces of equipment stolen.
- Attempted MV Burglary - On September 16<sup>th</sup>, an officer was dispatched to a residence on Ramkay Drive. The resident reported he discovered damage to one of his work vans consistent with someone trying to force entry. Surveillance video from a neighbor showed two suspicious persons walking in the area the previous night around midnight. The suspect(s) did not make entry to the vehicle.
- Structure Fire - On September 20<sup>th</sup>, officers, and the Fairfield Fire Department (FFD) responded to residence on Lane Road a report of a detached garage on fire. Upon arrival, the garage was fully engulfed and the FFD extinguished the fire. No injuries were reported during the incident.
- Motor Vehicle Theft - On September 21<sup>st</sup>, an officer was dispatched to the Double Tree Hotel for a reported motor vehicle theft. Upon arrival, the victim stated his 2022 Dodge Ram was stolen from its parking spot sometime overnight. The victim had both sets of keys for the truck and glass was discovered on the ground where the Dodge was parked. The Dodge has yet to be recovered.
- Motor Vehicle Theft - On September 24<sup>th</sup>, officers were dispatched to a Scott Drive residence for a reported of a stolen vehicle that just occurred. The victim stated after she pulled her Range Rover into her friend's driveway to drop off her children and exited the vehicle, a male exited a Mercedes and stole the Land Rover from the driveway. The Mercedes and Land Rover fled down Sand Road towards Two Bridges Road. The Mercedes was discovered to have been stolen out of Chatham earlier in the day. It appeared the Mercedes was following the victim. The Range Rover was later recovered in the Bronx and two males were placed under arrest for being in possession of the stolen vehicle.
- Motor Vehicle Theft - On September 26<sup>th</sup>, an officer was dispatched to a residence on Schindler Way for a reported stolen motor vehicle. Upon arrival, the victim stated his 2024 Hyundai Genesis was stolen sometime overnight. The owner was in possession of both key fobs for the vehicle. The Hyundai was recovered several hours later in the City of Newark.
- Domestic Violence - On September 29<sup>th</sup>, officers were dispatched to the Hampton Inn & Suites for a domestic dispute in progress. Upon arrival, officers discovered the male, a 45-year-old-male from Glen Burnie, MD, had strangled his wife in their hotel room. The wife stated as result of the strangulation, she had pain and was having difficulty swallowing. As a result, the husband was placed under arrest. The male was charged with aggravated assault/strangulation. The male was later transported to the Essex County Jail.
- Motor Vehicle Pursuit - On October 1<sup>st</sup>, the automated license plate reader (ALPR), located on Route 46 East near the Montville border, alerted officers to a reported stolen BMW X7. Officer DeCarlo located the BMW, now travelling west on Route 46. An attempt to conduct a motor vehicle stop was made by Officer DeCarlo and other FPD officers, but the BMW fled at a high rate of speed into Montville. Officer DeCarlo pursued the BMW into Parsippany and onto Route 280 East before he was instructed to break off the pursuit by Sgt. Hlubik on Route 280 in the area of Livingston.
- Burglary/MV Theft - On October 10<sup>th</sup>, officers were dispatched to an Old Country Road residence for a reported burglary and motor vehicle theft that just occurred. The homeowner stated while he and his family were sleeping, he woke up to his home's alarm system going off and called 9-1-1. A short time later, the homeowner discovered the suspect(s) forced entry into his home through a kitchen window, stole his key fob, wallet, and BMW M3. The BMW has yet to be recovered.
- Wanted Person Arrest - On October 10<sup>th</sup>, the automated license plate reader (ALPR), located on Route 46 East near the Montville border, alerted officers to a Toyota Tacoma reportedly operated by a wanted person. Officer Patierno was on a detail at Target and located the Toyota in the parking lot of the BP Gas station, located at 650 Route 46. The driver, a 41-year-old-male from Wharton, N.J., and

passenger, a 41-year-old-male from Feura Bush, N.Y., were discovered to just have attempted a shoplifting at the Home Depot in Pine Brook, N.J. During a consent search, Lt. McGrory and Sgt. Hlubik located a crack pipe on the passenger and he was placed under arrest. The driver was found to have an active criminal warrant out of Emerson, N.J. and was placed under arrest. An Essex County K-9 detected narcotics after conducting a sweep of the vehicle. Located inside the vehicle was more drug paraphernalia. During the roadside investigation, it was discovered both men had committed a robbery at a Home Depot in Mahwah, N.J. earlier in the day. After being criminally charged in Fairfield, the men were turned over to the custody of Mahwah P.D.

- Weapons Possession - On October 14<sup>th</sup>, Officer Reynolds and Officer Guevara were dispatched to the La Quinta Inn & Suites for an unwanted party in the lobby of the hotel. The front desk reported a male was causing a disturbance. The male, a 24-year-old male from Paterson, was later discovered to be wanted by the Passaic County Sheriff's Department for drug offenses and also have a criminal warrant out of Haledon, N.J. As the officers were speaking with the male in the parking lot he suddenly fled on foot. After a brief foot pursuit, the male complied and laid down on his stomach. While placing the male under arrest, he was discovered to have a loaded handgun, with an extended magazine (21 rounds), in his waistband. The male was processed and charged with numerous weapons offenses and obstruction. The male was later transported to the Essex County Jail.
- Attempted MV Burglary/MV Pursuit - On October 14<sup>th</sup>, officers were dispatched to a Martin Place residence for a report of male who had just attempted to enter the homeowner's Mercedes. The suspects fled in a Hyundai, later discovered to be reported stolen out of Newark, N.J., and were located by Corporal Dean and Officer Reynolds on Hollywood Avenue near Horseneck Road. The Hyundai sideswiped Officer Reynolds' patrol vehicle and fled at a high rate of speed down Plymouth Street. A motor vehicle pursuit was initiated by Corporal Dean and Officer Reynolds before being terminated by Corporal Dean on Passaic Avenue in West Caldwell, N.J.
- Recovered Stolen Motor Vehicle - On October 27<sup>th</sup>, Corporal Lagan observed a reported stolen Hyundai out of New Hampshire. The Hyundai was stopped on Route 46 West and the driver, a 30-year-old-male from Union City, N.J., was arrested without incident. The male was charged with receiving a stolen motor vehicle and released on a summons.
- Simple Assault - On October 27<sup>th</sup>, officers were notified of an assault that just took place at a residence on Big Piece Road with a white Jeep leaving the scene. Officer Guevara located the Jeep on Big Piece Road near Hollywood Avenue and conducted a motor vehicle stop. The occupants allegedly had just assaulted two males in the driveway of the Big Piece Road residence. The occupants of the Jeep were identified, and the victims were advised how to sign complaints with the Fairfield Municipal Court.
- Recovered Stolen MV/CDS Arrest - On October 30<sup>th</sup>, Officer Wilk and Officer Perrette were dispatched to area of 175 Route 46 for a report of a U-Haul truck stuck in the grass median. The U-Haul was discovered to be reported stolen out of New York City and, as a result, the driver, a 57-year-old-male was placed under arrest. The male was then found to be in possession of a crack pipe, a BB gun, and numerous stolen credit cards/identifications. The male was charged with numerous criminal offenses and later transported to the Essex County Jail.
- Overdose - On November 3<sup>rd</sup>, officers were dispatched to the La Quinta Inn & Suites for two females that overdosed on narcotics. Upon arrival, one of the females was unconscious and not breathing, so CPR was initiated and Narcan was administered to her. The other female was conscious but displayed signs of being under the influence. Both females were later transported to St. Joseph's hospital in Paterson, N.J.
- Aggravated Assault/Lewdness - On November 6<sup>th</sup>, officers were dispatched to the La Quinta Inn & Suites for a report of naked male working out in the gym area. Upon arrival by officers, the male was no longer in the gym, but they located him in the courtyard of the hotel. The male, a 44-year-old-male from Lincoln Park, showed signs of being under the influence of CDS. The

male did not listen to commands and charged the officers in an aggressive/threatening manner. As a result, the officers had to use force and tackle the male to the ground and place him under arrest. It was later determined the male was a military veteran and, in addition to being under the influence, was experiencing a mental health crisis. The male was charged with four counts of aggravated assault on a police officer, resisting arrest, lewdness, and disorderly conduct. The charges were placed on a summons with a court date with the Essex County Superior Court. A screener from the Clara Maas Psychiatric Emergency Screening Services later admitted the male to the VA Hospital in East Orange.

- Prohibited Weapons/Medical Assist - On November 6<sup>th</sup>, officers were dispatched to Garda, located at 210 Route 46, for a report of an accidental discharge from a firearm. Upon arrival, officers located a Garda employee, a 45-year-old male from Clifton, that was showing another employee his handgun when he experienced an accidental discharge. A different employee was in an adjacent room and suffered a minor injury from cement after the round struck the wall. The employee was transported to the hospital for further evaluation. After giving consent to search his vehicle, the male was discovered to be in possession of hollow point bullets. As a result, he was arrested and charged accordingly. The male was later released on a summons.
- Assist Another Agency - On November 8<sup>th</sup>, officers were dispatched to Hilltop Drive in North Caldwell to assist the North Caldwell Police Department with a reported barricaded suicidal male who had threatened to harm law enforcement with a gun. Upon arrival, FPD units organized a perimeter around the residence and began a dialogue with the male while awaiting additional police resources. Ultimately, the male peacefully exited the residence and was transported to Morristown Memorial Hospital.
- Attempt to Stop/Eluding - On November 22<sup>nd</sup>, the Montville Police Department broadcasted a vehicle involved in shoplifting from their Home Depot. Officer Purcell located the vehicle, a silver Dodge Charger with a fictitious South Carolina registration, on Route 46 near Hollywood Avenue. Once the Dodge observed Officer Purcell activate his emergency lights in an attempt to conduct a motor vehicle stop, it fled a high rate of speed. Officer Purcell did not pursue the Dodge to be in accordance with the Attorney General's motor vehicle pursuit guidelines and it was last seen entering Wayne Twp. Surrounding towns were notified of the incident.
- Cargo Theft - On November 28<sup>th</sup>, an officer responded to the trucking depot located at the end of Evans Street. It was determined a tractor and two trailers had been stolen overnight. One of the trailers had approximately \$60,000 worth of beef inside it and the trailer was later found abandoned in Staten Island. Notification to the New Jersey State Police Cargo Theft Unit was made.
- Motor Vehicle Burglary/Motor Vehicle Pursuit - On December 7<sup>th</sup>, officers were dispatched to a residence on Green Meadows Road for a male who attempted to enter a vehicle parked in the driveway. The male was unsuccessful and entered a waiting BMW that quickly left the area. Officer Ciampi located the BMW, which was discovered to be stolen out of East Brunswick, on Craig Place. When Officer Ciampi attempted to conduct a motor vehicle stop on Hollywood Avenue, the BMW fled at a high rate of speed. Officer Ciampi initiated a motor vehicle pursuit which was terminated shortly after in the area of Target once officers no longer had the BMW in sight. During this incident, officers located a purse with its contents strewn all over Hollywood Avenue that belonged to a Ramkay Drive resident. The purse was in an unlocked vehicle and most likely taken by the actors inside the BMW.

The seal of the Office of the Chief of Police is centered on the page. It features a circular design with a blue outer ring containing the text "OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE" and "1854". Inside this ring is a shield with a gold border, containing a central emblem with a scale of justice and a sword. The shield is set against a background of a blue and gold pattern.

# 8 COMMUNITY POLICING ACTIVITIES



## 8- COMMUNITY POLICING ACTIVITIES

The Community Policing Unit is found within the Administrative Section. Once again, 2023 proved to be an extremely busy year for the Community Services Unit. The unit's mantra – *Committed to the Community* – was overwhelmingly evident as all department members were constantly engaged in community events throughout the year. This year, the department put its electric Ford Mustang into service as the Community Policing Unit's primary vehicle. It was designed to attract attention, to which it does, at every event that it appears at. The Fairfield Police Department also participated in nearly 100 events this year.

We continued our partnership with the Essex County Division of Community Health Services by hosting the Reach for Recovery mobile recovery center in the Target parking lot this year. The mobile clinic offers health and wellness screenings and a host of referral services for those battling addiction.

Officer Chiarolanza did an amazing job of keeping the Fairfield police visible and present on all social media platforms. In 2022, we reached approximately 300,000 people with our posts on Facebook. In 2023, we almost tripled that amount, reaching 810,000 and gained 1,400 new followers. In 2022, we reached approximately 16,400 people on our Instagram platform. In 2023, that number more than doubled to 36,000. Additionally, we gained 725 new followers bringing us to almost 4,100 on Instagram. We posted 268 times on social media this year.

### MEMBERS

Lt. Tracey (*Commanding Officer*), Sgt. Niemiec (*Supervisory Officer*), PO Chiarolanza

### EVENTS

- Child Seat Station – Each month throughout the year, the department hosted a child seat station at the Plymouth Street Firehouse from 9am-12pm. This was in conjunction with the Fairfield Fire Department and with technicians from SafeKids of New Jersey. A total of 177 seats were either inspected or installed at this station or other events sponsored by the department. In addition, another 41 were installed at police headquarters.
- Community Meeting- On March 14<sup>th</sup>, the department hosted two community meetings at the Fairfield Recreation Complex that were well attended. Topics included car thefts, home burglaries, frauds, scams, catalytic converter thefts, and home defense. We have received a lot of positive feedback from this community initiative.
- Cops in Classrooms- On February 8<sup>th</sup>, Officer Seragusa spent time at the Early Learning Center. He talked about being a police officer and showed the children a police car. On March 29<sup>th</sup>, Officer McCormack read a book to students at the Stevenson School. On October 19<sup>th</sup>, Sergeant Niemiec visited the Goddard School and spoke with the children about being a police officer. On May 18<sup>th</sup>, Lieutenant McGrory was a “secret reader” at Stevenson School for Mrs. Dillon’s second grade class.
- Senior Luncheon- On April 19<sup>th</sup>, Lieutenant Tracey and Officer Chiarolanza attended the Senior Luncheon at the Double Tree Hotel.
- Ribbon Cutting Ceremony- On April 19<sup>th</sup>, Chief Manna attended the ribbon cutting for First Bank at 330 Passaic Ave.
- Career Day- On April 21<sup>st</sup>, Lieutenant McNish and Officer Chiarolanza attended Career Day at the Churchill School where they spoke to students about police work.

- Tours of Headquarters- On May 1<sup>st</sup>, Lieutenants Tracey and McGrory gave a tour of headquarters to Fairfield Girl Scout troops. On May 16<sup>th</sup>, Lieutenant Tracey and Officer Chiarolanza gave the 6<sup>th</sup> grade Churchill School Safety Patrol a tour of headquarters.
- National Peace Officers Day- On May 15<sup>th</sup>, the department hosted a ceremony at police headquarters for this day. In attendance were township officials and employees, members of the public and the sixth grade from Churchill School.
- L.E.A.D. Elementary School Education Program- The 2023 L.E.A.D. program was another success. The program was approximately 12 weeks long, starting in early January and ending in early May. The class of 2023 included (90) 6<sup>th</sup> grade students at the Winston Churchill School and culminating in our annual L.E.A.D. Day. A special thanks to Corporals Dean and High, Det. Cocchi and Officers Patierno and Guevara for administering the program. needed.
- Ride to School with the Fairfield Police- On June 6<sup>th</sup>, officers participated in bringing several students to school. The students were winners of this “Ride to School with the Fairfield Police” opportunity through a tricky tray event sponsored by the Fairfield schools. It was wildly successful as the entire student body from each school watched these selected students arrive at school in a police procession.
- Chief for the Day/Mayor for the Day- On June 14<sup>th</sup>, Chief Manna and Mayor Galese participated in “Chief for a Day” and “Mayor for a Day.” Two lucky Stevenson School students won a chance to hold these positions. They were picked up from school and driven to town hall where they met up with the chief and mayor for a full day of fun.
- Trading Card Program- On June 16<sup>th</sup>, the department began our trading card program in town where kids collect the trading cards of participating Fairfield officers. 44 officers participated this year. The first 20 to collect an entire set will be presented with a \$100 gift card courtesy of the Fairfield Police Foundation.
- Reach for Recovery – Each month throughout the year, the department and Target hosted the Essex County Reach for Recovery van on the second Tuesday of every month. Some of the services offered through the mobile services are health and wellness screenings, care coordination, NARCAN distribution, and community resource sharing.
- Independence Day Celebration- On June 29<sup>th</sup>, officers attended the fireworks event at the park.
- Helmet Safety Program- On June 30<sup>th</sup>, the department, in conjunction with FMAC, began our helmet safety program where children caught by police riding bikes/scooters with a helmet are rewarded with a coupon for free ice cream or pizza. Those not wearing helmets are stopped and warned. The campaign was responsible for issuing 355 coupons for helmet compliance and 22 warnings.
- Junior Police Academy- Between July 17<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>, the department hosted our Junior Police Academy for the week. Twenty-four recruits attended the academy and were treated to a trip to Met Life Stadium, American Dream Mall, and the Morris County Communications Center.
- Birthday Party Event- On July 24<sup>th</sup> Ariya Panwala, a town resident who is suffering from a terminal disease, turned 9 years old. All members of the police department who were on duty stopped at her house to wish her a happy birthday. They even sang Happy Birthday.
- First Responders Day- On July 25<sup>th</sup>, officers participated in First Responders’ Day at the Fairfield Summer Camp.
- National Night Out- On August 2<sup>nd</sup>, the department hosted this event at the Recreation Complex. It was extremely well attended.

- Fairfield September 11<sup>th</sup> Ceremony- On September 11<sup>th</sup>, the township honored those lost on September 11, 2001. A ceremony was held at the town hall and students from Churchill School attended as well.
- Essex County September 11<sup>th</sup> Ceremony- On September 11<sup>th</sup>, members of the police executive staff attended a 9/11 ceremony in West Orange.
- First Responder Appreciation- On September 11<sup>th</sup>, members of the police and fire departments attended a breakfast at the Churchill School organized by the sixth-grade class to recognize and thank first responders for their service.
- CPR Instruction- On October 1<sup>st</sup>, Lieutenant Tracey, Sergeant Niemiec and Corporal High instructed CPR at the Inner Spiritual Center located at 333 Route 46 West for members of their congregation.
- Coffee with a Cop- On October 4<sup>th</sup>, we hosted our annual Coffee with a Cop event at Manhattan Bagel.
- Cones with Cops- On October 9<sup>th</sup>, Sergeant Niemiec, Officer Chiarolanza and on duty officers participated in the “Cones with the Cops” ice cream social event at The Creamatory.
- Charity Basketball Game- On October 14<sup>th</sup>, Chief Manna, Lieutenants Tracey and McGrory, and Officers Chiarolanza, Patierno and Guevara all participated along with teachers from both Stevenson and Churchill Schools in a charity basketball game against the Harlem Wizards. This event took place at West Essex High School and benefited the Fairfield Education Foundation.
- Cookies with a Cop- On October 19<sup>th</sup>, Officer Patierno stopped by the West Essex Middle School where the 7<sup>th</sup> graders hosted a “Cookies with a Cop” social event for all the West Essex area police departments.
- CPR Instruction- On October 19<sup>th</sup>, Sergeant Niemiec instructed CPR to our CERT members at their monthly meeting.
- Child Passenger Seat Safety- On October 20<sup>th</sup>, Sergeant Niemiec along with SafeKids of NJ gave a presentation at the Rec Center on child passenger seat safety.
- Bullying Presentation- On October 24<sup>th</sup>, Lieutenant Tracey gave a presentation on bullying to students at the Intervale School in Parsippany.
- Touch-a-Truck- On October 25<sup>th</sup>, Sergeant Niemiec participated in a Touch-A-Truck community policing event at the New Beginnings School.
- Halloween Safety Program- On October 27<sup>th</sup>, Sergeant Niemiec and Officer Chiarolanza spoke to the students at Churchill School about Halloween Safety. On October 30<sup>th</sup>, Lieutenant Tracey spoke to the students at the Stevenson School about Halloween Safety.
- DEA Operation Take Back- On October 28<sup>th</sup>, officers participated in this national program from 10am-2pm
- Essex County Opioid Awareness Walk- On October 28<sup>th</sup>, Officer Patierno participated in the Essex County Opioid Awareness Walk from Newark to Caldwell.
- Trunk or Treat- On October 29<sup>th</sup>, we assisted FMAC with their Trunk-Or-Treat event at the library.

- Fall Festival- On November 11<sup>th</sup>, SLEO Barroso and Chief Manna attended the Fall Festival held at the library.
- Day Care Visit- On November 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>, Lieutenant Tracey, Sergeant Niemiec, and Officer Chiarolanza stopped by the Busy Hands class at the recreation center on both days to talk to the children about what it's like to be a police officer.
- Veterans Day Event- On November 15<sup>th</sup>, Officer McCormack attended a Veteran's Day service in Glen Ridge at the Ridgewood Avenue School in Glen Ridge, NJ.
- Reading Initiative Meeting- On November 17<sup>th</sup>, Lieutenant Tracey and Officer Chiarolanza met with sixth grade Churchill School teacher Lisa Macintosh to brainstorm a reading initiative with the students that will begin in December.
- School Fundraising Event- On November 21<sup>st</sup>, Officers Chiarolanza and Guevara and SLEO Pelosi all participated in an event at Churchill School which helped raise money for the school.
- College Project Interview- On November 27<sup>th</sup>, Officer Chiarolanza spoke with a Fairfield resident who is a college student at FDU in Madison who needed to interview a female in law enforcement for a paper.
- Fox First Responder Weather Show – On November 29<sup>th</sup>, Officer Chiarolanza was invited to the Fox Weather Studios in NYC to be interviewed as part of a first responders special. It will air on Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup>.
- VFW S'mores Event- On December 8<sup>th</sup>, SLEO Barroso attended this event.
- Winter Wonderland- On December 9<sup>th</sup>, officers assisted at this event.
- Sip N Swirl Grand Opening- On December 15<sup>th</sup>, Sgt. Niemiec, PO Chiarolanza and SLEO Barroso assisted at this event.
- Holiday Visit to Fairfield Schools- On December 22<sup>nd</sup>, the Grinch (Chief Manna) and Santa (Lt. Casendino) visited Stevenson School on their half day before the winter break.

## CHARITABLE EVENTS

- Joey's House Gala- On February 25<sup>th</sup>, officers and Police Foundation members attended this event to benefit this charity.
- Snow Bowl- On March 3<sup>rd</sup>, (14) officers participated in the New Jersey Special Olympics Snow Bowl at Met Life Stadium and raised \$2600 for this charity. Fifteen members of the department participated and although our record for the day was 0-3, everyone enjoyed playing some football and raising money for a good cause.
- Dinner Honoring Nick Sierchio- On March 11<sup>th</sup>, Chief Manna, Lt. Tracey, Sgt. Casendino and PO Chiarolanza represented the department at this event. The department presented a \$500 check.
- Police Unity Tour- In May, Sgt. Rasmussen, Sgt. Niemiec, PO Cleary, PO Puluse, and PO DeCarlo all participated in the annual Police Unity Tour to support the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial. Sgt. Rasmussen, PO Cleary, and PO DeCarlo rode their bicycles over the

three day, 300 mile trip from New Jersey to Washington, D.C. Prior to this event, this team of officers, in conjunction with Danahers, hosted a fund raising event for this charity. As a result of their efforts, they raised approximately \$9000.

- Operation Christmas Child- In November, Operation Christmas Child was again organized by Sharon McNamara, the administrative assistant to the chief. Each year we collect shoeboxes which we ask the public to fill with small gifts and necessities for children that get delivered throughout the world. These boxes are sometimes the only gift that children in some countries will receive for the holiday season. In 2023, we collected 188 boxes. Since we started collecting for Operation Christmas Child in 2017, we have collected 1068 shoeboxes.
- Food Pantry Donations- On December 7<sup>th</sup>, with the assistance of Churchill School students, we completed our food pantry donations to St. Thomas More Church.
- No Shave Movember/Double Down December- In November and December, the chief relaxes the rules of the department to participate in No Shave Movember and Double Down December. During these months, officers are permitted to grow facial hair that would normally not be permitted provided officers make a \$35 donation per month to benefit charities the department supports. This year the department raised \$2170.
- Toys for Tots- Once again, the police department spearheaded the township's participation in the USMC Toys for Tots toy drive. This drive is organized by Corporal Steven D'Argenio. The toys collected were once again distributed to underprivileged children in Orange, N.J.



9  
**FAIRFIELD POLICE  
FOUNDATION**

## 9- FAIRFIELD POLICE FOUNDATION

Since its formation in 2017, the Fairfield Police Foundation has played an instrumental role in helping the police department obtain invaluable equipment that we would not have been able to obtain for years or maybe in fact, not at all. In 2023, the Foundation had another successful fundraising year by raising \$133,936 bringing the grand total of money raised, since its inception, to \$750,277. I want to acknowledge our tremendous board of directors who, without their dedicated efforts and their own philanthropy, this foundation initiative would not be nearly as successful as it is.

- Fred Castrovinci (President) (*Valley Bank*)
- John Seragusa (Vice President) (*Windmill Vitamins*)
- Jack Taylor (Treasurer) (*Taylor Accounting & Financial*)
- Gina Cichetti (Secretary) (*Il Panino*)
- Aatif Alhout (*The Medicine Shoppe*)
- Majd Abboud (*Hampton Inn & Suites*)
- Anthony Calandra (*Calandra's Bakery*)
- Edward Day (*Collision Restoration*)
- Anthony DeVincenzo (*Artistic Signs*)
- Paul Lebo (*Eye to Eye*)
- Carmine Marabello (*Saddleback Realty*)
- Enrique Miseses (*Prime 94*)
- Frank Messineo (*Solutions Architecture*)
- Frank Oliver (*Franklin Steakhouse*)
- Dr. Michael Sapienza (*Mecca Integrated Medical*)
- Brian Trematore (*Trematore Plumbing*)

### GENERAL BOARD BUSINESS

During 2023, the board of directors met four times.

### PURCHASES

The total purchases made by the Foundation this year totaled \$75,751. The following is a list of purchases approved and made by the Fairfield Police Foundation in 2023:

- New York Tactical Convention- The FPF agreed to send (5) officers to the New York Tactical Officers Convention. The FPF assumed all costs including the convention, hotel, travel, and meals.

Officers: Nyhuis, Didyk, Hlubik, Rasmussen, D'Argenio  
Cost: \$6,200

- [Northern Red Active Shooter](#)- The FPF agreed to send the current ERT team (10) Officers to a nationally recognized, specialized active shooter response training course that some of the most prestigious agencies in the country have attended.

Officers: ERT Team

Cost: \$14,000

- [Atlas One Mobile App](#)- The FPF approved the purchase of a (2) year agreement with Atlas One Mobile to create a Mobile App for the Fairfield Police Department. This App will be the first of its kind in all of NJ.

Cost: \$16,000

- [PMC Dispatch Chairs](#)- The FPF funded the purchase of (2) high quality dispatch chairs.

Officers: ALL

Cost: \$3,200

- [Joey's House Gala](#)- The FPF agreed to donate \$2,500 to the Joeys House Foundation. The Tavares family has been very supportive of the Fairfield Police Department over the years.

Cost \$2,500

- [Atlantic Tactical](#)- The FPF purchased (3) fully equipped M-4 assault rifles that will be deployed in the patrol section.

Officers: Det Tilton, PO Ciampi, PO Sickles

Cost: \$13,851

- [Training Budget](#)- The FPF agreed to fund the police department with a yearly \$10,000 grant for optional training for officers throughout the year.

Officers: All

Cost: \$10,000

- [Community Policing Budget](#)- The FPF agreed to fund the police department with a yearly \$5,000 grant for various community policing efforts. This year most of this money went to funding National Night Out in August.

Cost: \$5,000

- [Special Olympics NJ](#)- The FPF agreed to sponsor the 2023 Fairfield Police Snow Bowl Team complete with a donation and uniforms.

Cost: \$2,500

- [Community Policing Trading Card Program](#)- The FPF approved the purchases of a reward system for the first (25) kids in town to collect all officers baseball cards.

Cost \$2,500



## FUNDRAISING EVENTS

In 2023, the Foundation hosted the following fundraising events:

- Cigar Night- The annual cigar night was held at Nanina's in the Park on May 5<sup>th</sup>. The Foundation raised \$11,428 after expenses and had close to 100 people at the event.
- Golf Outing- Our annual golf outing was held on 6/12 at the Knoll Country Club. We raised \$4,967 after expenses and had 112 golfers at the event.
- Gala- Our annual gala took place at Il Tulipano on October 21<sup>st</sup> with an Oktoberfest theme and raised \$77,541
- 2023 Fundraising Mailer- raised approximately \$30,000
- Large Donation(s)- \$10,000

## FINANCES

As of December 31<sup>st</sup>, the Fairfield Police Foundation's finances included the following:

- Morgan Stanley Investment Account- \$151,931.93
- Operating Account-\$107,546

The seal of the Office of the Chief of Police is centered on the page. It features a circular design with a blue outer ring containing the text "OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE" and "1863". Inside the ring is a shield with a yellow border, containing a blue field with a white American flag and a central figure. The shield is set against a background of a blue and white grid pattern.

# 10 ACCOMPLISHMENTS & GOALS

## 10A- 2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS & SHORTFALLS

Leadership and management protocols require that, in order for any entity to succeed, each year a series of obtainable goals must be set. Equally as important is reviewing what goals were able to be reached and which ones were not and why.

The following goals were obtained:

- Institute Officer of the Year Award
- Transition New Personnel into the Emergency Response Team
- Transition of the Emergency Management Function into the Police Department and the Promotion of a Lieutenant to handle it.
- Obtain 3 new patrol rifles.
- Complete Radio Encryption
- Implement Fairfield PD Mobile App
- Community Meeting
- Baseball Card Program with FMAC
- Helmet Enforcement Campaign
- Revise National Night Out

The following goals are currently in progress:

- Complete Security Camera Initiative at Recreation Complex
- Continue ALPR Purchases
- New Internet Connection for Police Headquarters
- Purchase of (3) New Patrol Rifles
- Complete Policy Review by Command Staff and then All Officers
- Begin the Exploration for Funding of an OEM Command Vehicle

The following goals were not obtained:

- One on One Interviews with All
- Conduct Physical Fitness Testing
- Obtain Undercover Vehicle for Patrol Section
- Chief/Division Commanders/Patrol Section Commander Weekly Meetings with Shift Commanders
- Tabletop Exercises
- Plain Clothes Details for Patrol
- Review of Patrolling Activities using GPS
- Conduct Fitness Testing
- Work Towards Making Community Policing Trailer Operational
- ASR Alert Initiative
- Obtain Stand-Alone Phone System

## 10B- 2024 GOALS

In 2024, the goals that the department will set will be limited to what was not yet accomplished in 2023 to include:

- Complete Security Camera Initiative at Recreation Complex
- Continue ALPR Purchases

- New Internet Connection for Police Headquarters
- Purchase of (3) New Patrol Rifles
- Complete Policy Review by Command Staff and then All Officers
- Begin the Exploration for Funding of an OEM Command Vehicle
- One on One Interviews with All
- Conduct Physical Fitness Testing
- Obtain Undercover Vehicle for Patrol Section
- Chief/Division Commanders/Patrol Section Commander Weekly Meetings with Shift Commanders
- Tabletop Exercises
- Plain Clothes Details for Patrol
- Review of Patrolling Activities using GPS
- Conduct Fitness Testing
- Obtain Stand-Alone Phone System