

# West Warwick Police Department Annual Report FY -2012



Courage-Sacrifice-Devotion

# **Table of Contents**

Table of Contents	2
Colonel's Letter	3
Vision and Mission Statements	4
Table of Organization	5
Achievements	6
Patrol Division	8
Crime Statistics	9
Traffic Services	10
Crash Reports Data	11
Community Policing	13
Detective Division	17
Prosecution Division	18
Juvenile Prosecution Division	19
Training Report	20
Internal Affairs	22
Use of Force	22
Specialized Units	23
Website	24



# **West Warwick Police Department**

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### Colonel Richard G. Silva Chief of Police

August 15, 2012

Mr. Michael L. Stampfler Town Manager Town of West Warwick 1170 Main Street West Warwick, RI 02893

Dear Mr. Stampfler:

It is with pleasure that I respectfully submit to you the West Warwick Police Department's first Annual Report covering Fiscal Year 2012. It provides an overview of the Department and contains a large amount of information for your review.

I am pleased with the accomplishments and progress that the Department has made during the past year. FY 2012 presented some challenges to the Department due to the staffing reduction and elimination of seven police officer positions, but the Department made adjustments to overcome them.

The men and women of the West Warwick Police Department are hard working, dedicated police officers and civilian employees who are committed to working with the Town Manager, elected officials, various town departments and the citizens of West Warwick to provide professional police services and to make the town a safe place to live, work and visit. The Department had a busy year, handling 38,542 calls for service; investigating 863 motor vehicle crashes; processing 2,025 arrests; issuing 4,650 traffic citations; and completing 2,572 incident/offense reports during FY 2011-2012. While most of the data in the report is based upon the past fiscal year, some of the information listed, such as the crime statistics on page 9, is for the 2011 calendar year.

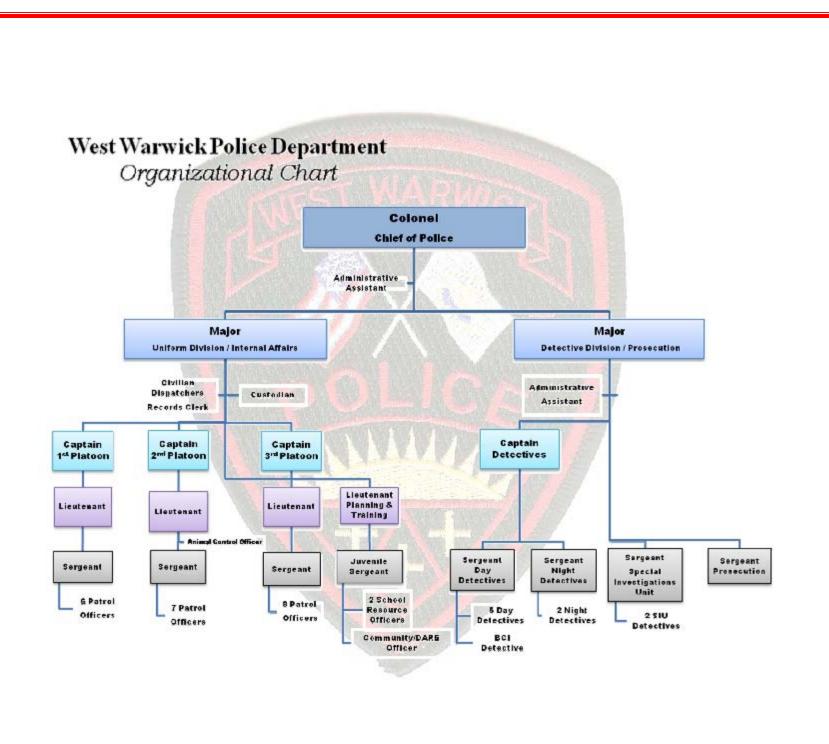
The annual report will be made available to the public and posted on the Department's website www.westwarwickpd.org.

Sincerely,

Richard G. Silva

Colonel

Chief of Police



# **Vision Statement**

To be recognized as the most professional, well respected, highly trained, proactive, community-oriented, municipal law enforcement agency in Rhode Island.

# **Mission Statement**

The primary mission of the West Warwick Police Department is crime prevention and the protection of life and property. The laws and police procedures related to them are promulgated by police agencies for the purpose of maintaining order and continuity. The basis for police actions is the law, and the credibility of the law enforcement profession will be measured by its contribution to the welfare of the whole community, its concern for excellence, and by the guidance it provides to its members toward a high level of ethical practices.

Police officers have a sworn obligation to respect and defend the rights guaranteed to the people in the Constitution. In the performance of those duties, they may command or prohibit behavior which tends to conflict with the expectations of free people in a free society. Particular attention must be given to ensure the just and impartial application of law.

Positive police interaction, while serving the department's peace keeping mission, must be administered without prejudice; always mindful that in the execution of their duties they act in the best interest of the public.

The goal of police service is to improve the quality of service and at the same time improve the quality of life in the community. Standards of the profession must be elevated to strengthen the public confidence in law enforcement, to encourage officers individually and collectively to appreciate the total responsibilities of their office; and to earn the support and cooperation of the general public.

# **Achievements**

### **Grants**

2012 Bureau of Justice Assistance Byrne / JAG Grant \$13,062.00

West Warwick Prevention Coalition:

- -Explorers \$1000
- -DARE \$3000
- -Youth Mentors \$500
- -Guest Speakers for Prom \$500
- -Post Prom Party \$500

Rhode Island Department of Transportation:

- -Speed Enforcement \$3000.00
- -Click It or Ticket \$4,550.00
- -Child Safety Seat \$2,145.00
- -Blue Riptide (DWI Enforcement) \$5000.00 BJA Bullet Proof Vest Partnership \$3,375 RIEMA Active Shooter - FFT \$5,400 BHDDH:
- -Alcohol Compliance \$500
- -Tobacco Compliance \$400

U.S. Marshal's Service SOLEMN Task Force Grant \$13,000.00 COPS Grant \$125,000

# Policy Revisions/New Manual

In January 2010, the Office of Planning and Training was tasked with reviewing and revising the rules, regulations, policies and procedures for the West Warwick Police Department. A draft document was produced in October 2010, and the Department's Command Staff began the process of reviewing and critiquing the documents in order to ensure that they reflected the practices and expectations of the Department.

This review was accelerated in 2011, as the new Chief, Col. Silva, set a goal for policies to be issued in an orderly manner as they were approved. In May 2012, the Department issued a revised policy manual

to each officer in electronic form with all policies, procedures, rules and regulations approved as of that date. While some policies are still under review and will be issued in the near future, the manual produced and dated May 15, 2012 includes the most important policies dealing with areas of greatest concern to the Department and the public at large.

Set Annual and Multi-year Goals and Objectives – The police department set annual and multiple year goals and objectives

# FCC Narrow Banding

On January 1, 2013, all public safety and business industrial land mobile radio systems operating in the 150-174 and 421-470 MHz radio bands must cease operating using 25 kHz efficiency technology, and begin operating using at least 12.5 kHz efficiency technology. This deadline is the result of an FCC effort that began almost two decades ago to ensure more efficient use of the spectrum and greater spectrum access for public safety and non-public safety users. Migration to 12.5 kHz efficiency technology (once referred to as Refarming, but now referred to as Narrowbanding) will allow the creation of additional channel capacity within the same radio spectrum, and support more users.

After January 1, 2013, licensees not operating at 12.5 kHz efficiency will be in violation of the Commission's rules and could be subject to FCC enforcement action, which may include admonishment, monetary fines, or loss of license.

The West Warwick Police Department is subject to the FCC's narrow banding mandate. The department's communication equipment (dispatch console, mobile and

portable radios) was capable of being properly programmed and in cooperation with our radio service vendor, Cybercomm Inc., our systems were upgraded and programmed in April 2012. The department is now compliant with the FCC Narrow banding mandate.

### NCIC Audit

On September 27, 2011 the Federal Bureau of Investigation completed a Quality Assurance Review (QAR) on the West Warwick Police Department's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR). The review was completed by a Management and Program Analyst, CJIS Division-Audit Unit.

The QAR helps evaluate the crime reports as they relate to data submission to the national UCR Program via the state UCR Program. A review was scheduled through the RI State Police Operations Manager.

The West Warwick Police Department's QAR consisted of three (3) phases:

- Administrative Interview
- Data Quality Review
- Exit Briefing

The administrative interview portion of the QAR assesses the state concerning conformance to UCR policy, definitions and information requirements. This is completed to assure that UCR conforms to the national UCR's Program.

Prior to the scheduled QAR a predetermined number of incidents, arrest and property type crimes were requested by the FBI. These incidents are selected randomly and reviewed by the QAR agent to determine if the West Warwick Police Department is in conformance with the national UCR Program.

The West Warwick Police Department met UCR Guidelines in all areas and was in conformance with the national UCR Program.

### Recruitment

With the evolving economy and candidate pool, the West Warwick Police Department changed its standards for hiring practices. While the department previously accepted candidates that were at least 18 years of age with 30 college credits or 2 years of full time military service, or 4 years of National Guard/Reserve service, the Department now requires candidates to have 60 college credits, or 4 years of full time military service, or 5 years of National Guard/Reserve service.

With these requirements in place, the Department conducted a recruitment drive in September 2011, yielding 62 applicants. Whittling the pool down through physical written testing, department the interviewed the top 25 candidates, compiling a list of 10 candidates for background investigation. Of the ten on that list, four applicants were hired in the following months. As a testament to the process, the Department found that many of the candidates that it had place highly on its list were also high on other departments' lists, and several candidates notified Department that they were no longer eligible for employment as they had been hired by other departments.

Accordingly, the West Warwick Police Department planned a widespread recruitment process beginning in May 2012. The Office of Planning and Training contacted colleges, organizations, and the military to get the information to prospective candidates who would be qualified for employment. The application process

closed on July 31, 2012, and physical and written testing, followed by interviews, is scheduled to be completed by the end of August.

# **Patrol Division**

The patrol division is the backbone of the police department. They are the first responders to most calls and emergencies which the police department receives, and the nature of these calls varies widely. The calls range from animal control problems, citizen disputes, business and residential alarms, traffic crashes and missing person complaints to domestic violence, robbery and burglary calls. Patrol officers are assigned to different districts throughout the Town from which they patrol and respond to calls on a 24 hour basis.

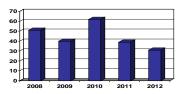
In 2011, members of the West Warwick Police Department responded to or initiated 35,823 calls for service. This is an increase from 33,406 calls for service in 2010, and 32,264 calls for service in 2009.

Sources of calls for service in 2011 are as follows:

19,920
,
10,024
3,016
1,462
1,398
35,820

# Driving While Impaired

# Arrests for Driving Impaired



The West Warwick Police Department has made the safety of vehicle operators, passengers and pedestrians a priority in our community. As part of our effort we have sought to identify and arrest impaired As part of their regular patrol drivers. function, officers target unsafe driving and enforce the traffic laws of the state of Rhode Island. In cooperation with the Rhode Island Department of Highway Safety and the State Police under Operation Blue RIPTIDE, we have worked to target those drivers who chose to operate a motor vehicle while impaired by alcohol or drugs through the use of special details.



# **Crime Statistics**

### Arrests

In 2011, the West Warwick Police Department effectuated two thousand twenty-five (2025) arrests for various felony and misdemeanor offenses, compared to one-thousand nine hundred thirty nine (1,939) arrests in 2010. This represents a 4.7% increase in arrests.

	¥			dence	ence	town			75	wich
	West Warwick	Cranston	Warwick	North Providence	East Providence	North Kingstown	Coventry	Johnston	Cumberland	East Greenwich
Crime Statistics for 2011	×e	ပိ	×a	Ž	Eas	Ž	ဝိ၁	Jol	Cu	Ëä
Crimes Against Persons:										
Homicide: Murder / Nonnegligent Manslaughter	0	1 0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Homicide: Negligent Manslaughter Homicide: Justifiable	2 0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kidnapping / Abduction	1	1	0	4	5	0	0	0	0	1
Sex Offense, Force: Rape	14	18	24 4	8 2	24 6	6	8	6	9	0
Sex Offense, Force: Sodomy Sex Offense, Force: Object	_ 1 2	3 5	3	3	3	0	2	3	1	0
Sex Offense, Force: Fondling	14	12	10	9	14	3	6	5	5	1
Robbery	12	30	18	8	8	3	1	9	6	1
Assault: Aggravated Assault: Simple	47 368	58 383	42 367	35 251	34 249	12 228	13 171	23 174	19 121	4 40
Assault: Intimidation	19	45	19	6	34	16	20	16	8	3
Sub-Total	480	556	487	326	378	268	222	239	170	50
Unit Crimes per Capita		0.007	0.006	0.010	0.008	0.010	0.007	0.008	0.005	0.004
Crimes per Sworn Officer	8.6	4.0	3.1	5.3	3.9	6.0	3.9	3.5	3.7	1.6
Crimes Against Property:										
Arson	5	14	12	6	8	3	11	8	8	2
Extortion / Blackmail Burglary / Breaking and Entering	_ 1 189	0 466	0 365	0 176	0 172	0 88	0 131	3 117	0 141	33
Larceny: Pocket-Picking	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Larceny: Purse-Snatching	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	0
Larceny: Shoplifting Larceny: From Building	23 103	394 279	468 111	62 41	58 116	50 60	126 10	44 26	15 72	3 17
Larceny: From Coin Operated Machine	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Larceny: From Motor Vehicle	2	379	391	156	179	65	113	110	119	13
Larceny: Affixed Motor Vehicle Parts/Access.	95 202	103 285	91 687	5 162	6 265	16 161	152 161	38 177	2 189	1 63
Larceny: All Other  Motor Vehicle Theft	36	161	95	48	69	11	25	52	27	3
Counterfeiting / Forgery	10	50	42	12	22	3	21	7	6	8
Fraud: False Pretenses	65	116	135	33	37	24	47	22	16	7
Fraud: Credit Card / Automated Teller Machine Fraud: Impersonation	23 5	92 5	92 18	27 3	52 1	15 3	59 4	13 4	16 0	10 0
Fraud: Welfare	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fraud: Wire	2	7	28	2	0	5	4	0	0	0
Embezzlement Stolen Property Offenses	_ 3 25	24 73	36 37	8 18	7 20	4 6	3 11	6 14	1 11	0
Destruction / Damage / Vandalism	322	580	506	261	456	238	191	206	252	111
Sub-Total		3,029	3,120	1,020	1,469	752	1,069	848	876	272
Unit Crimes per Capita		0.038	0.038	0.032	0.031	0.028	0.031	0.029	0.026	0.021
Crimes per Sworn Officer	19.9	21.9	19.7	16.5	15.1	16.7	18.8	12.3	19.0	8.8
Crimes Against Society										
Crimes Against Society: Drug / Narcotic: Violation	113	170	268	106	165	77	78	62	61	22
Drug / Narcotic: Equipment	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
Sex Offense, Non Force: Incest	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sex Offense, Non Force: Statutory Pornography / Obsecene Material	_ 1 6	<u>3</u> 0	7	0	2	1	0	0	0	0
Gambling: Betting / Waggering	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gambling: Operate / Promote / Assist	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Gambling: Equipment Violations Gambling: Sports Tampering	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Prostitution: Engaging	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Prostitution: Assisting / Promoting	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bribery Weapon Law Violations	0 20	0 56	0 27	0 5	0 16	0 18	0 10	0 12	0 8	2
Sub-Total		230	306	111	184	98	88	76	70	24
Unit Crimes per Capita	0.005	0.003	0.004	0.003	0.004	0.004	0.003	0.003	0.002	0.002
Crimes per Sworn Officer	2.5	1.7	1.9	1.8	1.9	2.2	1.5	1.1	1.5	8.0
Total Law Enforcement Employees	66	166	207	83	115	57	73	84	57	38
Total Sworn Police Officers 2010	56	138	158	62	97	45	57	69	46	31
2010 Census Population	29,191	80,387	82,672	32,078	47,037	26,486	34,014	28,769	33,506	13,146
Total Crimes Reported		3,815	3,913	1,457	2,031	1,118	1,379	1,163	1,116	346
Total Crimes per Capita			0.0473		0.0432	0.0422	0.0405		0.0333	0.0263
Crimes per Sworn Officer	31.0	27.6	24.8	23.5	20.9	24.8	24.2	16.9	24.3	11.2
Residents to Officer Ratio	521.268	582.514	523.241	517.387	484.918	588.578	596.737	416.942	728.391	424.065
				'						
Data Source: http://www.risp.ri.gov/stats			9							

# **Traffic Services**

The West Warwick Traffic Safety Committee meets either on a monthly or as needed basis. The committee consists of a designee form the Police Department, Fire Department, School Department, Department of Public Works, Town Planner and the Town Manager. The committee complaints handles and suggestions concerning traffic control devices, parking regulations and deficiencies on the town roadways. The commission also makes referrals to the State Traffic Commission relating to State roadways within the Town of West Warwick.

In the continuing effort to reduce the amount of crashes in the Town of West Warwick, the patrol division, supplemented by the Accident Reduction Program, has targeted the most dangerous types of driving habits. Further, a goal of the Department, is reducing crash-related injuries through enforcement of seat belt laws. It is well accepted that the chance of being injured in a crash is greatly reduced if the occupant is wearing a safety belt, and the policy of the West Warwick Police Department is to increase the use of these life-saving devices.

The police department continues to work with the Municipal Court to promote the safe, orderly and expeditious flow of vehicular and pedestrian traffic and deliver traffic related services designed to reduce the number of traffic related collisions. The department also enjoys a close working relationship with Rhode the Island Department of Highway Safety, participating in regional and national campaigns designed to target speeding, drunk-driving, safety belt usage and texting while driving.

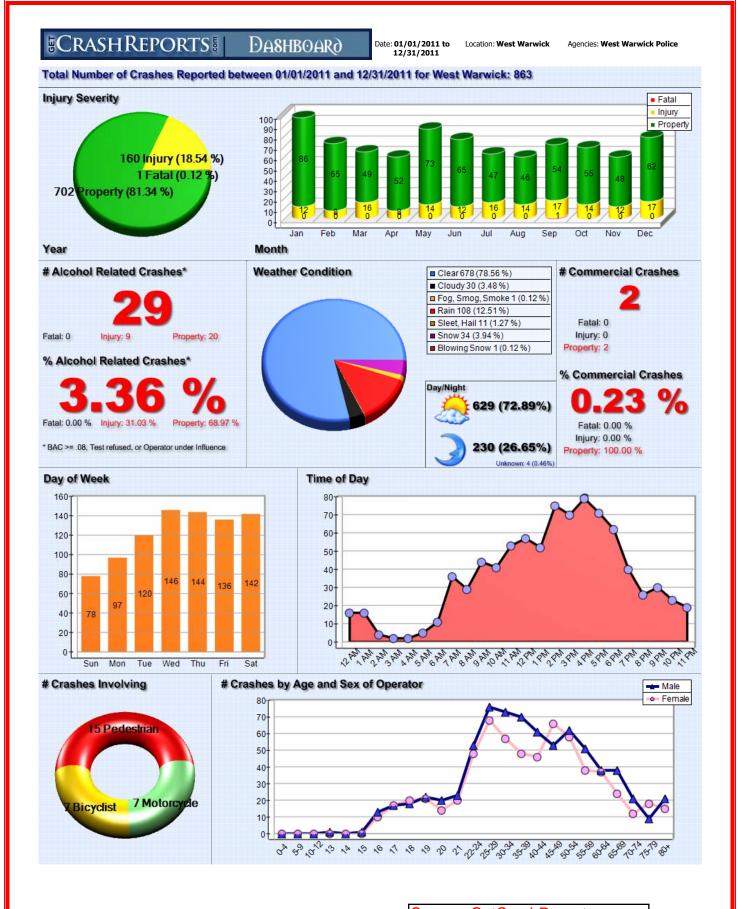
During the fiscal 2012 year officers issued 4.650 citations.

A break down of the violations is as follows; Speeding -1,294, Seat belt - 1,089, No Insurance – 156, Obedience to Devices (stop sign, red lights) – 582, Inspection Violations-565, Registration Violations-68, All Other-896

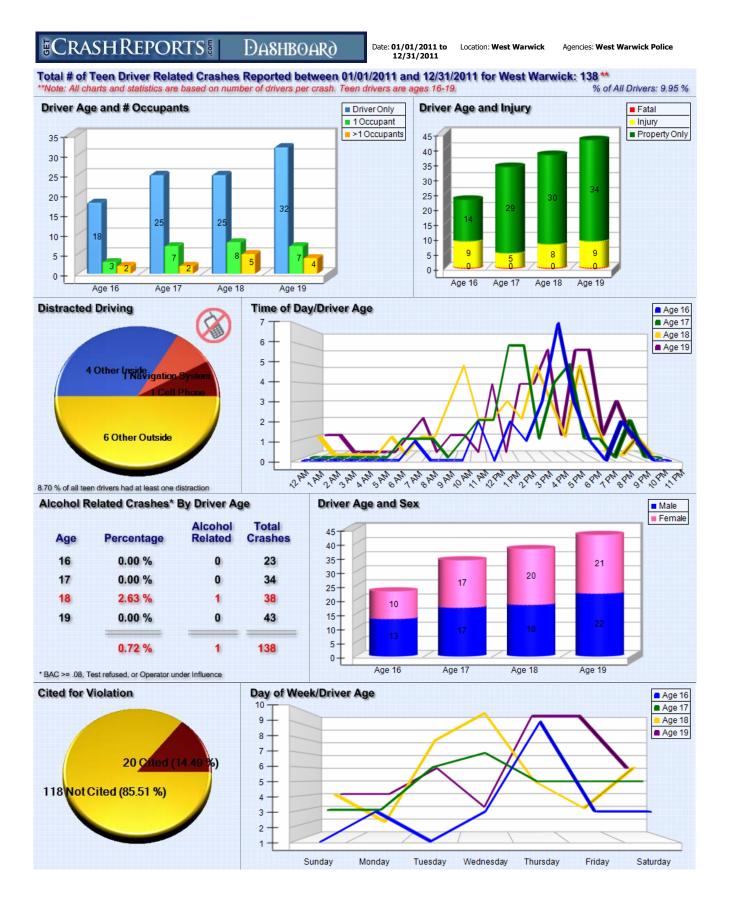
The Office of Planning and Training conducted surveys prior to and after targeted enforcement under the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) "Click It or Ticket" campaign. The surveys showed that, as with past surveys, seat belt usage within the Town is slightly lower than the statewide average. However, postenforcement surveys showed an average of five to seven percent (5%-7%) seat belt usage increase in targeted areas

NHTSA has shifted its efforts to improve seat belt usage from public safety announcements (i.e. crash test dummies "Vince and Larry") to an enforcement based model. As noted, this model has improved seat belt usage in the Town, and the Department will continue to enforce these laws to reduce the rate of crash related injuries.





Source: GetCrashReports.com



Source: GetCrashReports.com

# **Community Policing Programs**

The Community Policing Unit was responsible for the following programs:

#### DARE

The Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) is a ten week program that is taught to fifth grade classes. It teaches students about the harmful effects of alcohol, drug abuse, bullying and increases their self esteem by showing positive alternative ways to say no to alcohol, drugs and violence. This past year DARE was taught to about 360 students in fourteen 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes at three different schools.

#### SRO

The West Warwick Police Department maintains two (2) School Resource Officers to work full time in the middle and high schools.

These officers operate under the "TRIAD" model, in which the police partner with school staff and parents to curb issues before they become a major problem. In addition to being a law enforcement presence in the schools, the officers act as mentors to the children, and often mediate disputes.

The SRO's also lead a youth mentors program, a group of young men and women who take on leadership roles in schools, mentoring middle school students and planning and executing monthly dances for students.

# Senior Advocacy

The Senior Advocate works with the West Warwick Senior Center, Rhode Island Department of Elderly Affairs and other social service agencies to ensure the needs of the seniors are met. She assists in investigations and follow-ups of cases where there may be elderly abuse and or self neglect. The advocate also tries to ensure that the services are met by providing information to the senior or their care taker.

The Advocate completes yearly safety meetings at all seven high rises in the Town, and is a member of the Alzheimer's Association, The RI Elder Mental Health and Addiction Coalition and the West Warwick Senior Center.

# Explorer Program

The West Warwick Police Department Explorer Program - Post #2054 is a program set up to introduce teenagers to all phases of law enforcement. It is sponsored by the West Warwick Police Department and chartered annually through the Exploring Division of the Boys Scouts of America.

The program goals are designed to develop character in young adults by exposing them to six areas that include: Career, Service, Citizenship, Personal Fitness, Outdoor and Social. The goals and objectives are:

- To serve as a recruitment tool for future men and women in Law Enforcement.
- To serve as a community relations conduit between police and youth and between youth and the community.
- To be utilized as a service group within the community.
- To build the indivisuals self esteem.
- To teach responsibility and leadership

To be eligible to participate a candidate must:

- Be at least 14 years old and not have reached their 21<sup>st</sup> birthday.
- Have and maintain a minimum grade "C" average in school.
- Be a responsible citizen with a good reputation and good character.

The West Warwick Police Department Law Enforcement Explorers meet each week on Tuesdays at 5:00pm at the West Warwick Police Department Youth Drop-In Center, 40 Factory Street.

participate The Explorers in many community events to include: tree lightening ceremony, bike path clean-up, fundraising events, sex offender mailings, Royal Mills Stroll, St. Patrick's Day and Labor Day Parades. The Explorers are eligible to attend a one-week mini police academy sponsored by the Boy Scouts of America and local participating Explorer police departments. It is a full week of training and personal development that incorporates leadership, team building, drill, discipline and a ceremony.

The Explorers' training during the year Day," a culminates with "Stations competition with members of Explorers from posts throughout the state. Post 2054 participated in competitions this year in felony car stops, building clearing, handcuffing, service of arrest warrants, traffic crash investigation, and domestic violence investigation.

During the early summer, all Explorers are offered the opportunity to attend the RI Explorers Academy, a seven day overnight camp which includes physical training every morning, classroom and hands-on training in police related subjects. For West Warwick Police Explorers, the cost of the academy is

covered by donations, with no cost to the participating Explorer.

### Car Seat Clinic

The West Warwick Police Department currently has two (2) officers certified in the installation of Child Restraint Seats. In May 2012, these two officers, in cooperation with the Coventry Police Department, performed a six hour child safety seat installation clinic on Tiogue Ave. near the town line.

Additionally, members of the public had their safety seats installed on an appointment basis at the West Warwick Youth Center. Information on Child Safety Seat installation was posted to the Department website, and the demand has grown throughout the year.

# Drug Take back

The Drug Enforcement Administration scheduled a National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day on April 28, 2012 which gave the public an opportunity to drop off accumulated unwanted, unused prescription or over the counter drugs for safe disposal. The West Warwick Police Department participates in this program and had set up drop offs at two locations in Town. In Rhode Island alone 2,000 pounds of medication was collected in April.

Since September, 2010, when this program first started, the DEA and its state, local, and tribal law-enforcement and community partners have removed over 1.5 million pounds (774 tons) of medication from circulation in the United States.



# LOJACK® - SAFETY NET

Safety Net is a program designed to assist law enforcement in locating people with certain medical conditions or other reasons which make them prone to wander and/or get lost. People enrolled in the program are given a LoJack® Safety Net Bracelet which transmits a signal which can be tracked with a receiving device.

According to Project Lifesaver, an average search for a missing person wearing such a devce is 12 minutes with 2 officers. The West Warwick Police Department currently has eight Lojack/SafetyNet trained officers.

The West Warwick Police Department currently has five clients enrolled in the Lojack/SafetyNet program. The clients range from children with autism to senior citizens with Alzheimer's disease. The cost to the caregiver is an initial enrollment fee of 99.00 and a monthly fee of 30.00. The West Warwick Police Department and/or Lojack/SafetyNet and Project Lifesaver can help find financing options to caregivers with a documented need. It is the policy of the West Warwick Police Department to not interested caregiver/client any enrollment in the program because of inability to pay.



# Alcohol/Cigarette Compliance

During the year, officers in the Community Policing Unit collaborated with the Rhode Island Department of Behavioral Health, Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals (BHDDH) to perform undercover "sting" operations of selected distributors of alcohol and tobacco.

During the year, twelve tobacco locations and fifteen businesses that sell and/or serve alcoholic beverages were surveyed. The locations were chosen at random by BHDDH personnel. For tobacco, a fifteen year-old was tasked with entering the stores and asking to purchase select brands of cigarettes. Of the twelve locations, only one sold cigarettes to the minor. A report was sent to BHDDH notifying them of the purchase

Similarly, an eighteen year old was sent into the alcohol establishments and instructed to purchase a certain brand of beer. Of the fifteen businesses surveyed, three sold alcohol to the underaged person. A report was sent to BHDDH, and because the business maintains a license to sell alcohol from the Town of West Warwick, all three businesses were called before the Town Council, acting as the licensing board, for a show cause hearing. The three businesses received various sanctions, including fines and closing the business for a period of time.

For future years, BHDDH has collaborated with the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to conduct standardized tobacco compliance checks throughout the state. Accordingly, two police officers were commissioned as officers of the FDA to conduct compliance checks in the coming three years, all through federal funding as outline in the previous "Grants" section.

### West Warwick Prevention Coalition

The West Warwick Police Department has long served as both the recipient and participant in the West Warwick Substance Abuse Prevention Task Force, with members of its Community Policing Unit being *ex officio* members of its board.

During FY 2012, the West Warwick Substance Abuse Prevention Task Force underwent a change in leadership. Janice Rousselle, the long-time coordinator of the Task Force, decided to retire after numerous years of dedicated service. The Task Force organized a board, including two West Warwick Police Officers, to interview perspective candidates for the position. The Board decided that Judy Chick was right for the job. Judy has a background in substance abuse prevention, working with at-risk students to help them make good decisions and guiding those who already have a substance abuse problem.

In keeping with the new leadership, the Task Force examined its role in the community,

and decided that its name was cumbersome and limited outreach in other areas. Accordingly, the Task Force adopted the name "West Warwick Prevention Coalition," and sought means to bring its message to the community in a more effective way. The Coalition Board decided to hire a Public Relations Firm on a short term basis to develop a web site and symbol of the Coalition. In the end, the Coalition adopted an artistic rendering of the main tower of Royal Mill with a star burst surrounding it, symbolizing the Town of West Warwick and a bright future.

Finally, in addition to funding local youth programs, the coalition became a member organization of "Above the Influence," which is a teen based program geared not only at substance abuse, but also in helping youth make the right choices. collaboration affords the Coalition with vast resources for distribution to area youth. The new symbol and Above the Influence logo are pictured in left column. Further information can be found at www.westwarwickprevention.org.





# **Detective Division**

The Detective Division is the investigative unit of the police department. Detectives are responsible for investigating all types of criminal activity that involve alleged violations of federal laws, state statutes, and municipal ordinances. Violations of drug laws and vice-type activities are further investigated by the department's Special Investigations Unit.

The Detective Division is commanded by a Captain and supervised by two Sergeants. It is currently staffed by eight detectives. One of those detectives is assigned as the department's Bureau of Criminal Identification officer and is primarily responsible for crime scene processing and evidence control and works Monday – Friday. The remaining detectives work a rotating schedule of four shifts on and two shifts off, covering both day and evening shifts.

# Training Attended by various members of the Detective Division:

- \*University of Rhode Island's Criminal Investigation and Scientific Evidence Course
- \*Arson Investigation
- \*Crash Reconstruction / Edge FX and Total Station
- \*Financial Crimes Investigations
- \*Internet Security
- \*Child Pornography Investigations
- \*Property and Evidence Control and Storage
- \*Digital Evidence and Preservation
- \*Gang Recognition and Enforcement
- \*Search Warrant Preparation and Presentation

- \*Domestic Extremism and Domestic Terrorism
- \*Eyewitness Identification Policy
- \*Pawn Shop Investigation
- \*Interview and Interrogation Skills

# Notable Investigations by the Detective Division:

- \*Arrest of J'Kiah Thomas for the homicide of Brandon Anderson and possession of stolen firearms.
- \*Numerous child pornography arrests by the detective assigned to the Rhode Island State Police's Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) task force.
- \*Arrests of Kathleen McKinnon-Conneally and Andrew Jordan for 1<sup>st</sup> degree robbery of a disabled woman.
- \*Arrest of David Barber for 1st degree robbery of a man in Arctic.
- \*Arrests of Ronald Grasso and Alyssa Colaluca for breaking and entering a home on East Greenwich Avenue. Follow up investigation linked them to numerous house breaks in other communities.
- \*Crash Reconstruction of fatal crashes on Main and Crossen Streets, Hartman Court, and Wakefield at Wilson Streets.



# Special Investigations Unit

The West Warwick Police Department's Special Investigations Unit (SIU) is responsible for investigations that require a more discreet law enforcement presence. Typically, the unit spends a considerable amount of time in the investigations of illegal narcotic activities. However, the unit also investigates other vice operations such as prostitution, illegal purchase and sale or theft of firearms, etc. SIU also assists the Detective Division with high profile crimes as needed.

The unit works collectively with outside agencies, including Federal, State and local law enforcement agencies. The unit is staffed by two detectives and one Sergeant who report directly to the Prosecution Major and the Colonel. Future plans include the possibility of assigning a detective to a federal task force.

During the fiscal year July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012, members of SIU assisted on seventeen (17) occasions, with the execution of arrest warrants, search warrants, undercover narcotic transactions, and overall investigations. SIU, through the arrest of individuals within the Town of West Warwick, have seized \$13,077.90\* dollars in U.S. Currency, one vehicle and numerous amounts of illegal contraband. (\* Some of those funds and the vehicle have yet to clear forfeiture.)

During 2012 the unit underwent a transformation as new personnel were assigned to the unit, replacing those officers who moved on to assume other duties and assignments. The three new members assigned to the unit have attended extensive formal training over the past twelve months to include the DEA Basic Narcotics Officers two week training course, Domestic Drug

Interdiction, Bureau of Justice Assistance Methamphetamine Investigative Workshop, Roger Williams University's Forum Series on Contemporary & Leading Edge Issues in Policing: High Intensity Drug Trafficking, U.S. Attorney's Equitable Sharing Funds, and MOLE or Microsoft Office for Law Enforcement.

# **Prosecution Division**

### Probation Collaboration

In 2006 the Prosecution Sergeant was tasked with becoming the liaison with Probation and Parole which is a communitybased component of the Department of Corrections. This assignment consisted of with probation officers working conducting home visits of probationers living in the community. This is a very effective tool in deterring people on probation from re-offending and helping to promote safety in the community and rehabilitation of the offender. As of the end of 2011, there were 803 offenders living in the community under the supervision of the Department of Corrections.

During the home visits, the police and probation officers verify that the offender is in compliance with their conditions of release, monitor how they are living and make referrals to other community based services that the person or their family may need. The probationers are informed about these home visits during the Monthly Re-Entry Forum hosted by probation and generally held at Thundermist. The Prosecution Sergeant attends the monthly forum for all offenders placed on probation within the last month or who have moved into town while on probation. forums, probationers are told about their responsibilities, conditions of release and availability of community based services.

The Colonel sits on the Kent County Re-Entry Policy Board which is comprised of many stakeholders, such as the representatives from probation and parole, Police Chiefs, faith based leaders, mental health advocates, and other community leaders. The board meets quarterly to discuss the progress of the program, any concerns among the members and their agencies, and to consider ways to make the program better.

# Sex Offenders

Prosecution Detective Sergeant has overall responsibility for sex offender registration. During FY 2012 the average number of registered sex offenders living within West Warwick was 85 offenders. The prosecution sergeant with the help of the BCI detective registers sex offenders and updates their information in the West Warwick Police and State Sex Offender Data Bases. All registered sex offenders have to register when moving into town, and must update their registration on a quarterly or yearly basis.

2007 West Warwick Police In the Department joined the Sex Offender Law Enforcement Multi-disciplinary Network (SOLEMN) which is a working group made up of law enforcement officers, United States Marshals Service. prosecutors. probation and parole officers and the Department of Children, Youth Families, whose purpose is to ensure that sex offenders are in compliance with the terms and conditions of their release.

In an effort to conduct address verifications and combat non-compliance of sex offenders, members of the SOLEMN task force go out to verify addresses of all registered sex offenders within the State of RI. This includes operations within the Town of West Warwick.

The US Marshals Service has organized a Task Force of local law enforcement officers to combat the issue of non-Compliance. Det. Sgt. Scott Amaral was sworn as a Special Deputy with the US Marshals' Task Force. The Town has received a grant from the US Marshal's to conduct compliance checks which are conducted monthly with Probation Officers. Compliance checks of all sex offenders on probation are conducted several times per year. This includes registered and non-registered sex offenders on probation.

A list of registered sex offenders who are classified as level 2 or 3 are displayed on West Warwick Police web site and the State Parole Board web site, www.paroleboard.ri.gov.

During the past year the Department sent out 18 different mailings for sex offender notifications to the community.

# Juvenile Prosecution Division

The Juvenile Prosecution Division is responsible for the preparation of cases for criminal prosecution in the Family Court System. This includes reviewing the arrest reports submitted from the Patrol Division and preparing the Family Court petitions for prosecution. This division ensures that arrest packets are complete and accurate prior to forwarding to the Family Court. The division also handles the issuance of juvenile subpoenas as well as maintains the juvenile criminal arrest packets/dispositions.

In addition, the Juvenile Sergeant is responsible for compiling, maintaining and submitting the Juvenile Detention Data to the State of Rhode Island. The sergeant is also designated as the Missing Person Coordinator.

It is staffed by (1) one Detective Sergeant and overseen by the Planning and Training Lieutenant. For FY2012, the Juvenile Prosecution Division has prepared and presented 176 misdemeanor cases and 28 felony cases for prosecution.

# Juvenile Hearing Board

The Juvenile Hearing Board is a diversionary program for youths who commit offenses that in the reasonable opinion of the police would be better served outside the traditional Family Court System.

Cases are reviewed by the Juvenile Sergeant in order to ensure that the Juvenile Hearing Board is the appropriate venue. Once the case is reviewed by the Juvenile Sergeant and deemed appropriate to be adjudicated at the Juvenile Hearing Board, an interview is scheduled with the offender and the parents. If the offender and the parents agree with the facts of the case, the case is heard before the Juvenile Hearing Board. In the event that the facts are contested, the matter is referred to the Family Court.

The board consists of (6) six members and (1) one alternate appointed by the Town Council for a (4) four year term. The board also consists of the Juvenile Sergeant as the police department designee.

The board is empowered to administer sanctions including but not limited to; community service, essays and other measures deemed appropriate. In the year of 2012, from January 1, 2012 to July 1, 2012 the JHB has handled 13 cases.

# **Training Report**

### In-Service

In the spring of 2012, members of the West Warwick Police Department attended a three day in-service training held at the West Warwick Youth Drop-In Center. training agenda was set after reviewing areas in which training was needed, areas of new concern, and available resources. The three day training included review of high liability policies, stress management, juvenile justice, death notification, seat belt usage, open records, cyber harassment, liability review (by the Trust), criminal law issues (by the Department of Attorney General), roles of Probation and Parole (by the respective departments), Simunition FX®, use of force, baton, OC spray, and handgun retention.

All members were relieved of their usual duties during the three days of their appointed sessions, so that they could concentrate on the training rather than worry about attending work before or after.

### Firearms

The West Warwick Police Department completed four separate training cycles with firearms, two in the fall, one in the winter and one in the spring. The fall trainings covered day and night shooting in two 4 hour blocks of training in both daylight and darkness. The training included a block on policy review and the use of force.

The winter shoot was a first for the members, as the Department engaged the services of the Blue Line Corporation, a Massachusetts company specializing in training police officers in high stress shooting scenarios. Utilizing a 53 foot trailer, the company sets up live-fire

exercises with a projected image simulating dangerous situations. Similar to FATS below, the training differs in that officers are using live weapons in a bullet proof environment. Additionally, the trailer is set up with numerous flashing lights, sirens, and other distraction devices to add to the stress level of the trainee officer.

Finally, the spring shoot merged both day and night qualifications, adding a moving course of fire to test and improve officers' proficiency with on-the-go shooting. Further, the Department added a "steel challenge" which was a competition type shooting in which officers competed against one another to improve both speed and accuracy.

### **FATS**

In January, 2012, the Rhode Island Interlocal Risk Management Trust again lent the Firearms Training Simulator (FATS) to the Department for two weeks. This device is a shooting simulator utilizing a projector and speakers to produce a visual and audio stimulation of the trainee, and modified weapons that, instead of bullets, shoot a laser while cycling through simulated firing using compressed air to activate the firearm mechanism.

Members of the Department were trained while working. Five scenarios were chosen to simulate various situations officers will face, including edged weapons, firearms, school shootings, and non-shoot scenarios. All officers completed the same scenarios to effectuate a consistent training session.

The FATS system has been in use by the Department for several years, and continues to be a no-cost training solution.

# Field training

In keeping with its field training program, four officers were sent to Field Training Officer school. This one-week school trains seasoned officers to mentor and rate new officers coming out of the police academy.

After academy graduation, officers are assigned to at least two Field Training Officers for a nine week period. During this time, the trainees learn to take the information that they learned in the academy and put it to use on the street.

# OTHER

Various Department members attended the following courses of instruction in addition to the courses listed in previous sections:

- Sig Armorer Course
- Taser Instructor Course
- Internal Affairs Course
- First Line Supervisor Course
- Work Zone Safety Training
- FBI Firearms Instructor Course
- Fair and Impartial Policing Seminar
- Certified Crisis Response Trainer Course
- PowerPhone Law Enforcement Dispatch
- Intermediate Incident Command ICS300 and ICS400
- Debris Management Planning L202
- Response to HazMat/WMD Incidents
- Standard Awareness Training AWR-160-SAT
- Police Senior Citizens Advocate Training
- FBI Crisis Negotiators Seminar
- Eyewitness ID Procedures Seminar

# **Internal Investigations**

This function is vital for maintaining the professional standards of the West Warwick Police Department. This is accomplished by recording and investigating complaints against police officers. This also allows us to track employee misconduct, determine policy implications and identify training needs.

In FY 2012 (July 1, 2011- June 30, 2012) the West Warwick Police department recorded 1823 arrests while handling 36,221 calls for service. Of that amount, there were only ten (10) internal complaints against officers and employees of this department.

# FY 2012 Citizen and Internal Complaints

**Total complaints:** 10

### Breakdown:

Criminal Act	1
Excessive Force	2
Improper Demeanor	7

# **Complaint Dispositions:**

Sustained	.2
Not Sustained	.7
Pending	.1

# **Use of Force**

During the 2011 calendar year, the Office of Planning and Training received Twenty-Four (24) use of force reports. The following is a breakdown of the reports. Please note that the total listed uses of force are greater than 24, as different types of

force were reported in some of the same reports:

Physical Force	9
OC Spray	6
Taser	9
Baton	1
Firearm (no discharge)	6
Firearm (discharged)	1

Upon review of these reports and the accompanying paperwork, the office of Planning and Training has concluded that all of the reported incidents were within department policy.

# **Animal Control**

The West Warwick Police Department is committed to the humane treatment of animals in its control, to public safety from animal threats and to ensure the peace of neighborhoods free from animal nuisances. The Animal Control Division accomplishes these goals through enforcement of state laws and town ordinances that pertain to animals. This Division is supervised by the day shift patrol Lieutenant, who reports directly to the Patrol Division Major.

The Animal Control Officer (ACO) is designated as the Lead Animal Control Officer for the Town of West Warwick and is responsible for the general day-to-day operation of the Animal Shelter on Hay Street, submitting monies collected from animal registrations and fines to the WWPD Records Division and/or the Chief's Administrative Assistant, and related management duties to assure efficient operation. The ACO answers complaints from the public, locates and captures loose animals, removes and disposes of dead animals. The ACO can also arrange for a vicious dog hearing, if warranted, in accordance with RIGL 4-13.1. The ACO educates the public in animal-related matters and is responsible for the rescue and treatment of sick and/or injured animals. The ACO also arranges for pet adoption as well as spaying, neutering and vaccination assistance and oversees a small staff of volunteers.

In 2011 and early 2012 the Animal Shelter on Hay Street underwent numerous repairs and improvements. Repairs included replacement of the announcement display case at the shelter's entrance, painting of the shelter's front façade, repair of the front door, repair of the chain-link fencing that surrounds the shelter, installation of new guillotine-style kennel doors and several window replacements. In addition, a motion-sensitive light was installed above the shelter's entrance for after-hours security.

Animal nuisance calls are by far the biggest issue regarding the quality of life complaints reported to the West Warwick Animal Control Division. Since 2009 the ACO and WWPD Patrol Division responded to 1904 animal-related calls for service. Last year alone, there were 688 citizen animal-related calls that resulted in 44 police reports. Since 2009 the ACO has issued 153 citations for various registration/ordinance violations. The average number of citations issued per year is 51.

# ACO Activity

2007	2010	2011
652	562	688
000		000
46	39	44
55	114	25
2	0	3
71	29	51
122	75	41
1	0	0
	653 46 55 2 71	46 39 55 114 2 0 71 29

2009 2010 2011

# **Specialized Units**

### SWAT Team

The West Warwick Police Department SWAT Team was formed in 1980 and the founding members were originally trained by the Warwick Police Department's SWAT Team. In the late 1980s and 1990s, the West Warwick Police Department would host its own basic SWAT Operator Courses for new candidates from West Warwick as well as accepting officers from other departments.

In 2003, the West Warwick and Coventry Police Departments entered into partnership to provide tactical police services to both towns and formed the West Warwick/Coventry Regional SWAT Team. The purpose of the merger was to more efficiently utilize police services and resources, to more timely and effectively respond to calls for specialized police assistance, and ensure adequate manpower levels in order to respond to and resolve critical incidents. The transition went smoothly and has enhanced the degree of cooperation between the two agencies and has benefited both communities.

Since the inception of this venture, the team has been called upon to serve high risk warrants and has been utilized to resolve incidents involving barricaded and hostage situations in both communities. The outcomes of these operations have been successful, with no serious injury as a result.

Most recently, on May 26, 2012, the team successfully executed a narcotics related search warrant for the Special Investigations Unit which yielded several arrests for narcotics violations as well as the seizure of marijuana, cocaine and currency.

The team trained regularly during the past year which included such areas as: policy review, use of force, firearms and scenario based training exercises. The practical training segments incorporated the use of Simmunition FX® marking cartridges and equipment.

In 2008, the Rhode Island Commission on Police Officers Standards and Training (POST) established a certification program and set minimum standards for all Rhode Island tactical teams and their members to meet.

The West Warwick/Coventry team was certified by the POST in 2008. It is currently in the process of re-certification and was assess by a team comprised of members of Rhode Island Tactical Officers Association under the direction of the POST. This process should be completed shortly.

The team plans to train consistently during the coming year to ensure that all members and the team maintain the training standards for certification by the POST and utilize best tactical team practices.

The team uses various firearms and tactical equipment and is in the process of replacing their tactical vests. A substantial part of this project was made possible through the generous support and donation from the Tori Lynn Andreozzi Foundation.

#### Honor Guard

The honor guard has proudly represented the Police Department and Town in times of celebration and sorrow on many occasions throughout the years and this year was no different. While the total number of events may have been down from previous years, the honor guard still participated in 9 events during the fiscal year, including 5 funerals

and 2 parades. The honor guard led both the Holy Ghost Labor Day and the Friendly Sons of St Patrick parades.

The West Warwick Police Department Honor Guard is certainly recognizable by their distinct red dress blouse or traffic shirt which dates back to the 1970s when Chief William Gallucci designated them as the Department's Class A uniforms.

# Website

The West Warwick Police Department's website was created in 2010. It contains valuable information about the police department. Viewers can peruse the site which includes detailed pages for the Detective Division, Community Policing Unit and School Resource Officers, and Animal Control Officer, among other pages.

The website serves the community by allowing the Department to disseminate information though the Police Bulletin page, announce hiring opportunities on the Employment Opportunities page, and provide general information about such topics as Domestic Violence. It also provides viewers with contact numbers and information for all divisions of the police department.

But perhaps one of the most crucial features of the website is a comprehensive listing of Sex Offenders living within the Town of West Warwick as well as those individuals wanted by the West Warwick Police Department. The website is updated on a regular basis as time permits.

Lastly, the website provides valuable links to other informative websites. On the final page of the website, there are links to West Warwick Police Department's forms, such the Alarm Permit, Civilian Complaint Form, Fraud Check Form and more. Most forms can be completed on the website, then printed out and mailed or delivered to the police department.

In the near future, a pictorial history of the West Warwick Police Department will be assembled and put on line.



West Warwick Police Department