# **West Warwick Police Department**

# Annual Report FY-2013



August 2013

Courage – Sacrifice – Devotion



# **West Warwick Police Department**

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#### Colonel Richard G. Silva Chief of Police

August 2, 2013

Mr. Frederick J. Presley Interim Town Manager Town of West Warwick 1170 Main Street

Dear Mr. Presley:

I am pleased to present to you the West Warwick Police Department's Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2013. The purpose of the report is to provide you, the Town Council, and the public with an overview of the Department and its accomplishments.

I am proud of the accomplishments of the Department and the progress we have made during the past two years which has prepared us for the goal of attaining accreditation through the Rhode Island Police Accreditation Commission. The accreditation process has afforded the Department an opportunity to conduct a comprehensive review of its policies and procedures and all aspects of the organization, its management and operations, ensuring that they align with national and state best practices for law enforcement agencies. The goal is to improve the quality of service to the community and as a result improve the quality of life within the community. I am hopeful that we will meet all of the RIPAC standards by year end.

The men and women of the West Warwick Police Department do an exemplary job and are committed to working with your office, the Town Council, other town departments, community agencies and our citizens to provide professional police service and make the community safe; while at the same time being transparent and accountable, and making efficient use of our valuable resources.

The Department handled 42,246 calls for service, investigated 737 motor vehicle crashes; processed 1,382 arrests; issued 3,185 traffic citations; and completed 1,990 incident/offense reports during FY2013. While most of the data in the report is based on the recently completed fiscal year, some of the data listed is for the calendar year. Since the Town is celebrating West Warwick's Centennial Anniversary, I thought it would be fitting to include a brief summary of the Department's history (p.6-7).

The annual report will be made available to the public and posted on the Department's website <a href="https://www.westwarwickpd.org">www.westwarwickpd.org</a>.

Respectfully,

Richard G. Silva

Colonel

Chief of Police

# Table of Contents

Colonel's Letter	2
Vision Statement	5
Mission Statement	5
Department History	<i>6</i>
Table of Organization	8
Achievements	9
Grants	9
Promotions	9
Department Citations	9
Annual Goals and Objectives	10
Multi Jurisdictional Agreements	10
Policy Revisions	10
State Accreditation Process	11
Crime Reports	11
Riverpoint Park Project	12
Arctic Business District	12
Patrol Division	12
Calls for Service	12
Driving While Impaired	13
Crime Statistics	13
Arrests	13
Crime Chart	14
Traffic Services	15
Crash Report Summary	16
Crash Cause	17
Teen Crashes	18
Community Policing	19
DARE	19
School Resource Officers (SRO)	19
Senior Advocacy	19
Explorer Program	19
Car Seat Clinic	20
Drug Take Back	20
Lojack® Safety Net	20

Alcohol/Cigarette Compliance	21
West Warwick Prevention Coalition	21
Community Partnership and Events	21
Detective Division	22
Training – Detectives	22
Notable Investigations by Detective Division	22
Achievements - Detectives	23
Special Investigations Unit	23
Prosecution Division	24
Probation Collaboration	24
Offender Re-Entry	24
Sex Offenders	24
Juvenile Prosecution Division	25
Juvenile Hearing Board	25
Training Report	25
In Service Training	25
Firearms Training	26
FATS	26
PoliceOne Academy	26
OTHER	26
Internal Affairs	27
FY 2013 Citizen and Internal Complaints	27
Use of Force	28
Animal Control	28
ACO Activity	28
Specialized Units	28
SWAT Team	28
Honor Guard	29
Website	20

# **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.

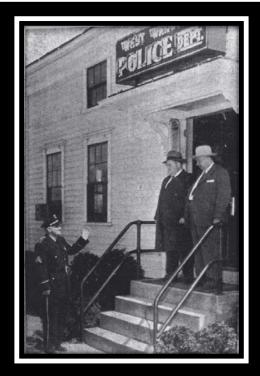
The goal of police service is to improve the quality of service and at the same time improve the quality of life in the community. Standards of the profession must be elevated to strengthen the public confidence in law enforcement, to encourage officers individually and collectively to appreciate the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

# HISTORY of Police Department

The West Warwick Police Department was formed in 1913, shortly after the division of the Town of Warwick into two separate municipalities. At the time, the Town of Warwick was mostly rural pasture land and the western part of the town, where West Warwick lies today, was a center of industry and commerce.

Theodore S. Andrews was named the first Chief of Police in the newly established Town of West Warwick on November 8, 1913 by the inaugural town council and served in that capacity until November 11, 1914. He served a second term as Police Chief from November 1915 until November of 1916. Andrews had also been the Chief of Police for the Town of Warwick for eleven years prior to this, but because his roots were in the western part of Kent County, he accepted this position when he was called upon to take charge of the new police department in West Warwick. Andrews was a well respected law enforcement official and held many positions in Kent County, including Prosecuting Agent for the Society to Prevent Cruelty to Animals, officer under the game law, constable to serve civil process, deputy sheriff, and liquor officer. His career culminated in his appointment to the prestigious position of Kent County High Sheriff in 1929, serving in that position until 1935.

The first Police Department in West Warwick was housed in the Pike Mansion, located at 10 Pike St. The Pike Mansion was built in1855 by David Pike and leased to the town by his widow, Jessie Pike, and it was there that Chief Andrews maintained an office as part of the municipal government. The building still remains today and is used as the office facility of Guill Tool & Engineering, Co. The Police Department was later moved to a house located at 1188 Main St., on the site of the old U.S. Post Office building. Prior to the construction of the post office, the Police Department building was moved one plot to the north to 1182 Main St., on the site of the current Fire Department Headquarters.



Police Station at 1182 Main Street in 1957

In the early years, prior to 1913, several buildings around town had been used as "lock ups" to hold prisoners that were arrested by constables in the various villages, including the present day Phenix Fire Station (located at 834 Main St.), referred to as the Lippett lock up. Other lockups were housed in Centreville and Riverpoint.

As a result of the 1946 town elections, a different majority took control of the West Warwick Town Council and voted to remove almost all of the existing members of the Police Department, replacing them largely with World War II veterans. Sgt. Edward "Pops" Jalbert and Capt. Harry Miller remained with the department largely because of their intimate knowledge of the internal workings of the organization. Gustaf Olson was appointed as the new Chief of Police. The new officers had to be trained, as they had little or no experience in law enforcement. This task was given to the Rhode Island State Police, who assigned one trooper to provide the necessary training for the new West Warwick officers. This trooper's salary was paid by the Town of West Warwick during the period of time he oversaw the training.

In 1948, when the majority in the Town Council shifted again, the World War II veterans and Olson were removed from the police force and were replaced by the old veteran officers that had been removed two years prior. Arthur Groleau was appointed as the new chief and less than five months later, on March 29, 1949, the West Warwick Police Department was made permanent by act of the state legislature, providing protection to its officers from being removed or terminated without due cause. This marked the first of many policies that improved the working conditions for police officers in West Warwick.

The West Warwick Police Department has had nineteen Police Chiefs in its history:

1.	Theodore S. Andrews	November 8, 1913
2.	Josaphat Hebert	November 11, 1914
3.	Willard Eddy	November 18, 1916
4.	Thomas E. Harrop	May 31, 1923
5.	Louis Peltier	February 4, 1937
6.	William Mailloux	January 28, 1941
7.	Gustaf A. Olson	November 18, 1946
8.	Arthur Groleau	November 15, 1948
9.	Henry F. Miller Jr.	March 1, 1969
10.	William A Gallucci	June 8, 1971
11.	Joseph E. Broadmeadow	July 2, 1979
12.	Danny A. Petrarca	June 2, 1981
13.	Anthony J. Ventura	October 2, 1985
14.	Cyrille W. Cote	April 23, 1990
15.	Edmund J. Izzi	October 5, 1993
16.	Joseph F. Crowley, Jr.	September 5, 1995
17.	Peter T. Brousseau	June 1, 1999
18.	Paul A. Villa	June 3, 2008
19.	Richard G. Silva	August 16, 2011

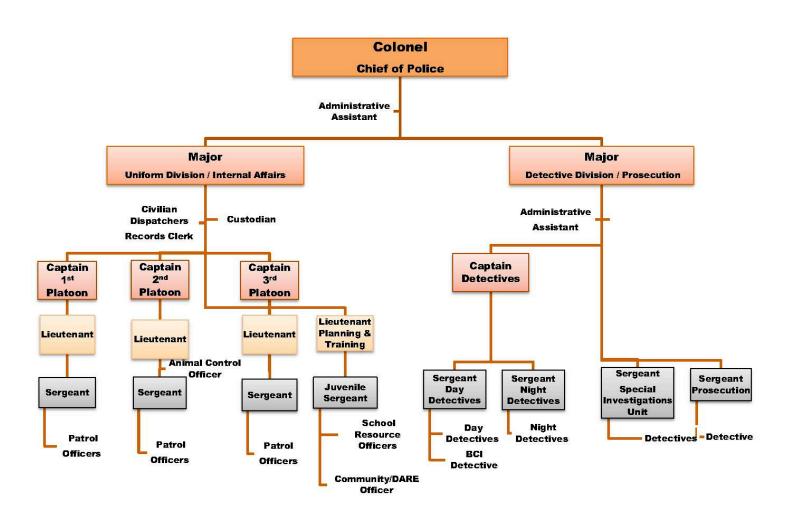
The first eight police officers of the West Warwick Police Department were sworn in on December 2, 1913. The number of sworn police officers rose over the years to a high of 60 in 2005, before declining to the current compliment of 50 officers (July 1, 2013), who average 12.2 years of service and 3.9 years of higher education. New police recruits must now complete the 22 week Municipal Police Academy which is followed by 9 weeks of field officer training.

(Researched and prepared by Captain Mark Bennett)

# **West Warwick Police Department**

# Organizational Chart





#### **Achievements**

#### Grants

2013 Bureau of Justice Assistance Byrne/JAG Grant

2012 Local \$13,602 VPT Award \$ 1,555

West Warwick Prevention Coalition

Explorers - \$500 DARE - \$3000 Youth Mentors - \$500

Guest Speakers for Prom - \$2500

Post Prom Party – \$500

Rhode Island Department of Transportation

Click It or Ticket \$4,550 Child Safety Seat \$2,145

Blue Riptide (DWI Enforcement) \$5000

Drug Recognition Expert \$ 700

**BHDDH** 

Alcohol Compliance \$500 Tobacco Compliance \$400

U.S. Marshal's Service Sex Offender Grant Solemn Task Force \$13,500

Department of Homeland Security Grant Active Shooter/Mobile Field Force \$5,410

#### **Promotions**

There were several promotions due to the retirement of Major Richard N. Ramsay. The following is a list of those who were promoted as of August 1, 2012 and participated in the formal promotional ceremony on February 12, 2013 at the West Warwick High School Auditorium:

Major Mark A. Knott Captain Donald Archibald Lieutenant Peter Appollonio, Jr. Sergeant Stephen Vannini (03-01-12) Sergeant John Gardiner Detective Anthony Rozzero Detective Matthew Beltrami

The following officers were sworn in as permanent patrol officers at the February 12, 2013 ceremony:

Randy DaSilva Trenna Hemond Christopher Maznicki

The following officers were appointed from probationary to permanent status in May 2013:

Raymond Lemoi, Jr. Joseph Souliere Brain Mauhs Robert Hazard

#### **Department Citations**

#### Echo Valley Fire:

On the morning of December 30, 2012 members of the patrol division along with personnel from the West Warwick Fire Department responded to the Echo Valley Apartments for a building fire. Upon arrival the officers observed large amounts of smoke and flames emanating from the north-eastern side of the multi-unit, occupied, apartment building. The fire and smoke had trapped several of the first floor tenants inside of the building and the officers assisted with the evacuation of the building and the management of the scene.

Officer Joseph Souliere, who was one of the first arriving officers, entered a first floor apartment, which was filling with smoke, through a broken window; and carried an elderly woman, who was non ambulatory, to the window and handed her off to Officer Joshua Kennedy. As a result of Officer Souliere's bravery and courage in a life saving and dangerous situation, he was awarded with the police department's second highest award, the meritorious service award.

Officer Kennedy, who was the most senior officer on scene during the initial response provided direction and guidance to the other officers in the evacuation of the burning building, in addition to providing direct assistance with the evacuation of the tenants, received a police department commendation for his actions.

Officers Raymond Lemoi, Brian Mauhs, and Robert Hazard responded in an exceptional manner by helping with the evacuation of the residents of the building and providing scene management and security and were awarded first class citations.

#### Pawtuxet River Rescue:

On the evening of June 9, 2013 officers responded to the area of the Pawtuxet River which runs behind the Riverpoint Park for a 12 year old boy who had fallen into the river, which was cresting towards flood stage. Upon arrival, Detectives Anthony Bettencourt and Jason Senerchia along with Patrol Officer Christopher Maznicki entered the water in attempt to rescue the boy, who was clinging to a branch hanging above the water. As the officers were attempting to reach the boy, they were being swept downstream in the strong current. Detective Sergeant Roland Coutu made his way to the river from the opposite side and was able to extend a branch to the boy and remove him from the water.

Sergeant Coutu, Officer Mazincki, and Detectives Bettencourt and Senerchia received the meritorious service award for their professionalism and bravery in rescuing the boy from the raging river.

#### Annual Goals and Objectives

The department worked on meeting the goals and objectives, covering broad areas such as training, equipment, operations, community partnerships, and administrative goals, which were set at the beginning of the fiscal year.

#### Goals which were met:

- Conducted in-service training for all officers
- Built an interview room with AV recording capabilities
- Replaced all SWAT Team ballistic vests
- Purchased subscription to crime analysis/mapping program
- Obtained funding for part time animal control officer.

Made significant progress with:

- Continuing to update and expand department policy manual
- Worked on remodeling cellblocks and prepared RFP for construction.
- Started phasing in upgrades to department radio system
- Pursuing RI State Accreditation
- Re-organized evidence room and seeking to implement a bar coding system
- Found location to store records which are piling up
- Working towards increasing professional development and specialized training
- Increasing community partnership

#### Multi Jurisdictional Agreements

The police department entered into mutual aid agreements with the police departments from the Towns of Coventry and East Greenwich to provide non-emergency police assistance when requested and/or needed. The purpose of these agreements is to enhance the capabilities of law enforcement and provide additional protection for the citizens and property in these communities.

#### Policy Revisions

After a lengthy process of reviewing and revising the rules, regulations, policies and procedures, the department issued a revised policy manual to each officer in electronic form on May 15, 2012. The manual which was produced included the most important policies dealing with areas of greatest concern to the department and the public at large.

The department has continued to review and revise the policy manual since that time with the goal of making sure the department is following law enforcement best practices and standards and to prepare it for the state accreditation process. During the past fiscal year, the department reviewed and revised twelve (12) policies, dealing with various topics such as domestic violence, work place harassment, fair

and impartial policing, access to public records and use of force. In addition, the department has adopted eleven (11) new policies, addressing issues like budgeting and purchasing, calls for service response, weapons, inspections and use of body armor.

While the department has been making headway in this area, the policy review process will require a continual effort in order for the department to maintain the required standards and practices and to keep pace with an ever changing society.

#### State Accreditation Process

During 2012, the West Warwick Police Department, with the support of the RI Interlocal Risk Management Trust, began the process of seeking in-state accreditation.

An accreditation program has long been recognized as a means of maintaining the highest standards of professionalism. The accreditation process is a progressive and time proven management tool. Accreditation provides a means for law enforcement agencies to systematically conduct an internal review and assessment of the agencies' policies and procedures and an in-depth review of every aspect of the agency's organization, management and operations.

To be awarded accreditation is the formal recognition that an agency has met specific requirements and prescribed industry best practices. To achieve accredited status assures both municipal leaders and citizens that their police department is operating in a manner that reflects current best practices for law enforcement.

The development of an accreditation program for police agencies in Rhode Island was seen as a way of providing the tools necessary for agencies to evaluate and improve their overall performance in a reasonable and cost effective manner. The Rhode Island Law Enforcement Accreditation Program was formally established in 2012 and is overseen by the **Rhode Island Police Accreditation Commission, RIPAC**. The Commission's membership includes law

enforcement executives, members of academia, police union representatives, a member from the police accreditation coalition and a member of the RI League of Cities and Towns. The accreditation program is comprised of 200 standards which address the most critical law enforcement issues.

The West Warwick Police Department is currently undertaking measures to meet the standards set forth by RIPAC. Our goal is to be accredited by the end of calendar year 2013.

#### Crime Reports

During the month of October, 2012, the department purchased a two year subscription to CrimeReports.com, a program which integrates with our records management systems, taking the crime report information and displaying it on a map which is available to the public through the company's website or by mobile application available for free. The software program maps crimes and produces statistical crime reports for the department and provides the public with the crime map and information from anywhere at any time. The program allows members of the public to set filters to check for crimes in town by location and crime type, and to view level II and III registered sex offender addresses. It also has a feature which allows citizens to sign up for crime alerts to be sent to them by email messaging.



#### www.Crimereports.com

## Riverpoint Park Project

Responding to numerous incidents at Riverpoint Park and concerns of the community and the Town Council, the police department with the assistance of the Department of Parks and Recreation, implemented a plan to address the issue of crime and other nuisance and mischievous activity in and around the Riverpoint Park. The plan called for an increased police presence, traditional investigative techniques, video surveillance and environmental improvements to the park.

The environmental improvements involved included the installation of signs, blockading the athletic courts, trimming of trees for better visibility, and the installation of security lighting.

The plan did seem to have a positive effect on the problems and issues that were occurring which were reduced.

#### Arctic Business District

The police department continues to work with the Arctic Village Association and other stakeholders to address problems and quality of life issues in the area which tend to have a negative impact on the district.

The department has increased its presence in the area and its enforcement of applicable state law and town ordinances. The department will work diligently with the stakeholders and address the concerns of the community.

#### **Patrol Division**

The Patrol Division is considered the backbone of the police department. Patrol personnel are the first responders to most calls for service and emergency situations. The nature of these incidents varies widely. The calls range from animal control problems, citizen disputes, business and residential alarms, traffic crashes,

and missing person complaints; to complaints of domestic violence, thefts, robberies and burglaries. Patrol Officers are assigned to different districts or beats throughout the Town from which the patrol and respond to calls on a 24 hour basis.

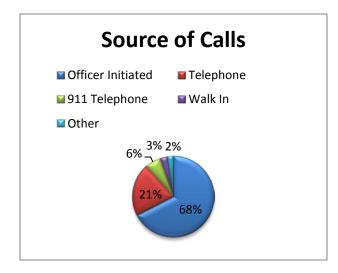
The Patrol Division provides continuous patrols, performs a variety of community services, and acts as a first response to all incidents and emergencies. Their officer conduct preliminary criminal investigations, investigate collisions, and enforce federal laws, state laws, and local ordinances. The Patrol Division also employs civilian employees for dispatching duties. Patrol Officers and civilian employees operate under the command of the Officer-in-Charge on the shift to which they are assigned. The Patrol Division operates under the command of the Patrol Major, who is responsible for the supervision of uniformed officers, and who reports to the Police Chief on all significant matters

## Calls for Service

In 2012, members of the West Warwick Police Department responded to or initiated 43,687 calls for service. This is an increase from 35,823 calls for service in 2011, 33,406 in 2010 and 32,264 in 2009.

The sources of the 2012 calls for service:

29,477
9,170
2,681
1,338
1.021
43,687



#### Crime Statistics

#### **Arrests**

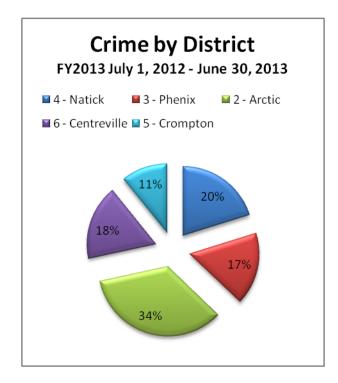
In 2012, the West Warwick Police Department effectuated one thousand five hundred and five (1,555) arrests for various felony and misdemeanor offenses, compared to two thousand and twenty five (2,025) arrests in 2011. This represents a 23% decrease in arrests.

- 2012 1,555 arrests
- 2011 2,025 arrests
- 2010 1,939 arrests

## Driving While 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 efforts, we have sought to identify and arrest impaired drivers. As part of their regular patrol functions, officers target unsafe driving and enforce the traffic laws of the State of Rhode Island and municipal ordinances. 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 additional enforcement assignments and directed patrol.





# Crime Statistics

Crimes Against Persons: Homicide: Murder / Nonnegligent Manslaughter	West Warwick	Warwick	Cranston	East Providence	North Kingstown	North Providence	Coventry	Johnston	Cumberland	East Greenwhich
Homicide: Negligent Manslaughter Homicide: Justifiable	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0
Kidnapping / Abduction	1	0	5	6	0	5	3		0	0
Sex Offense, Force: Rape	12	17	16	13	3	8	5	3	3	0
Sex Offense, Force: Sodomy	5 2	5 1	4	3 1	1	1	3		0	0
Sex Offense, Force: Object Sex Offense, Force: Fondling	13	11	13	11	7	7	3	6 3	5	3
Robbery	6	29	34	14	Ì	11	1	8	5	ī
Assault: Aggravated	48	57	82	46	5	36	18	29	10	0
Assault: Simple Assault: Intimidation	307 14	395 26	386 18	216 40	205 13	195 12	175 11	138 9	163 11	42 0
Sub-Total	409	542	564	352	237	276	220	200	197	46
Unit Crimes per Capita	0.014	0.007	0.007	0.007	0.009	0.009	0.006	0.007	0.006	0.003
Crimes per Sworn Officer	8.2	3.4	4.1	3.6	5.3	4.5	3.9	2.9	4.3	1.5
•									110000	-N. 100 H.
Crimes Against Property:										
Arson	8	8	17	9	1	1	12	7	3	1
Extortion / Blackmail Burglary / Breaking and Entering	1 159	0 337	1 397	2 145	90	0 150	0 150	0 100	112	0 30
Larceny: Pocket-Picking	159	337	0	145	90		150	0	0	0
Larceny: Purse-Snatching	0	1	1	0	Ō	1	0		0	0
Larceny: Shoplifting	22	503	339	81	49	33	68	21	29	2
Larceny: From Building Larceny: From Coin Operated Machine	83 0	96 0	268 0	112 0	52 0	46 0	21 0	38 0	37 0	29 0
Larceny: From Motor Vehicle	1	389	377	181	101	120	99	78	133	31
Larceny: Affixed Motor Vehicle Parts/Access.	112	89	94	3	10	6	115	45	13	4
Larceny: All Other	173	628	307	274	126	114	196	191	199	63
Motor Vehicle Theft	40 17	99 33	158 43	61 45	14 11	73 16	38 22	62 13	26 3	4
Counterfeiting / Forgery Fraud: False Pretenses	56	136	95	72	34	34	39	35	25	12
Fraud: Credit Card / Automated Teller Machine	24	84	76	44	17	19	25	20	20	9
Fraud: Impersonation	5	27	8	4	0	2	5	3	1	0
Fraud: Welfare Fraud: Wire	3	0 33	0	1	0 12	0 2	0	0	0	0
Embezzlement	2	30	28	3	9	5	2	7	8	1
Stolen Property Offenses	28	34	78	27	11	10	19	30	10	2
Destruction / Damage / Vandalism	313			442	and the same of th		188	and the same of th		83
Sub-Total			2,840	1,506	772	839	1,001	840	895	276
Unit Crimes per Capita		0.037	0.035	0.032	0.029	0.026	0.029	0.029	0.027	0.021
Crimes per Sworn Officer	20.9	19.6	20.6	15.5	17.2	13.5	17.6	12.2	19.5	8.9
Crimes Against Society:	fi i									-
Crimes Against Society: Drug / Narcotic: Violation	82	273	184	165	68	118	83	42	64	26
Drug / Narcotic: Equipment	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	5,500,50	0	0
Sex Offense, Non Force: Incest	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5000	0	0
Sex Offense, Non Force: Statutory Pornography / Obsecene Material	1	0	4	1	0	0	0	0	2	0
Gambling: Betting / Waggering	0	0	0	0	0	7,20,000	0		0	0
Gambling: Operate / Promote / Assist	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gambling: Equipment Violations	0	0	0	0	0		0		0	0
Gambling: Sports Tampering Prostitution: Engaging	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0
Prostitution: Assisting / Promoting	0	0	0	0	1	0	0		0	0
Bribery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Weapon Law Violations	12	23	**************************************	12		100000000	13	di samuel i	6	3
Sub-Total	98	298	246	181	0.002	131	98	57	72	30
Unit Crimes per Capita Crimes per Sworn Officer	0.003	0.004	0.003 1.8	0.004 1.9	0.003	0.004 2.1	0.003	0.002	0.002 1.6	0.002 1.0
Cililies per Sworn Officer	2.0	1.9	1.0	1.9	1.9	Z. I	lef.	0.0	1.0	1.0
Total Law Enforcement Employees Total Sworn Police Officers	61 50	207 158	166 138	115 97	57 45	83 62	73 57	84 69	57 46	38 31
2010 Census Population	29,191	82,672	80,387	47,037	26,486	32,078	34,014	28,769	33,506	13,146
Total Crimes Reported	1,554	3,938	3,650	2,039	1,093	1,246	1,319	1,097	1,164	352
Total Crimes per Capita	0.0532	0.0476	0.0454	0.0433	0.0413	0.0388	0.0388	0.0381	0.0347	0.026776
Crimes per Sworn Officer	31.1	24.9	26.4	21.0	24.3	20.1	23.1	15.9	25.3	11.4
4										
Data Source:										-
http://www.risp.ri.gov/stats		(L. ).			() ()			A		4
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# Traffic Services

The West Warwick Traffic Safety Committee meets on a regular 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 handles complaints and suggestions concerning traffic control devices, parking regulations and deficiencies on the town roadways. The committee also makes referrals to the State Traffic Commission relating to State roadways within the Town of West Warwick.

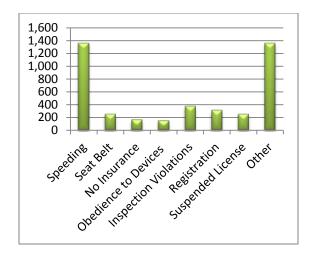
In the continuing effort to reduce the amount of crashes in the Town of West Warwick, the patrol division, supplemented by the Accident Reduction Program, has targeted the most dangerous types of driving habits. Further, a goal of the Department, is reducing crash-related injuries through enforcement 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 department enjoys a close working relationship with the Rhode 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 2013 year officers issued **4,217** citations.

A breakdown of the violations is as follows;

Speeding	1,358
Seat Belt	254
No Insurance	162
Obedience to Devices	151
Inspection Violations	375
Registration	311
Suspended License	249
Other	1357





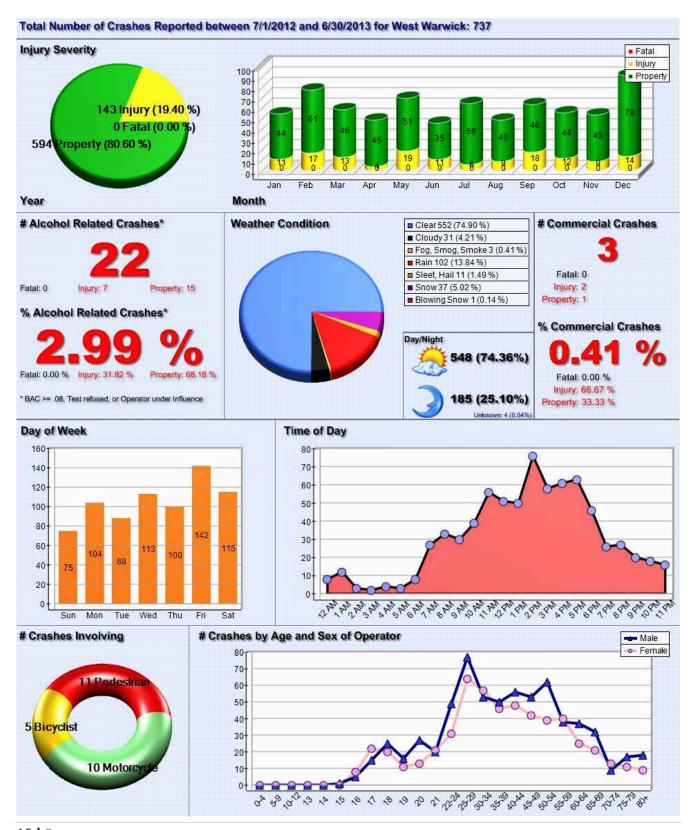
Commercial Enforcement -- The police department had one officer participate in the annual Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety Alliance (CVSA) "Roadcheck." In Rhode Island the detail ran from June 4 - 6, 2013. It was performed in two separate locations, involving the following agencies: Rhode Island State Police, the RI Office of Federal Motor Safety Carriers, and the police departments from the Towns of Burriville, Hopkinton, Johnston, North Kingstown and West Warwick.

The objective was: to remove unsafe commercial vehicle drivers and vehicles from the roadways; to educate commercial motor vehicle drivers, government, industry and the public as to the importance of safe driving and maintaining safe vehicles; and to inform the public of the important role that roadside enforcement plays in saving lives on the highways.

<u>Traffic Crash Reconstruction Team</u> – The department has four (4) certified crash reconstruction investigators, who are responsible for investigating crashes involving a fatality or serious injury where death is probable. The Crash Reconstruction Team utilizes accepted accident/crash reconstruction principles and techniques to conduct cause analysis of the crashes.

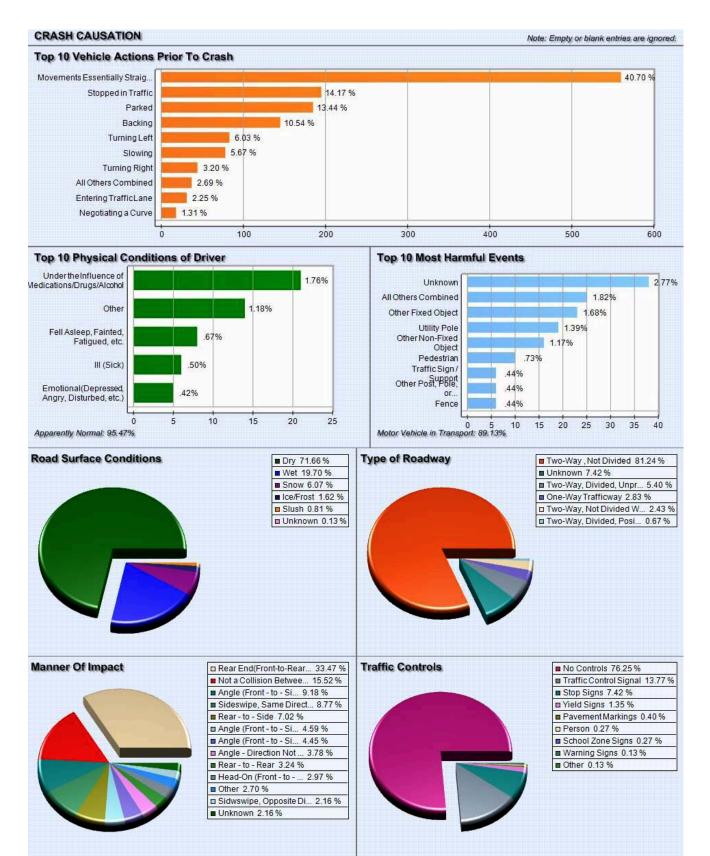
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Date: 7/1/2012 to 6/30/2013
Location: West Warwick
Agencies: West Warwick Police



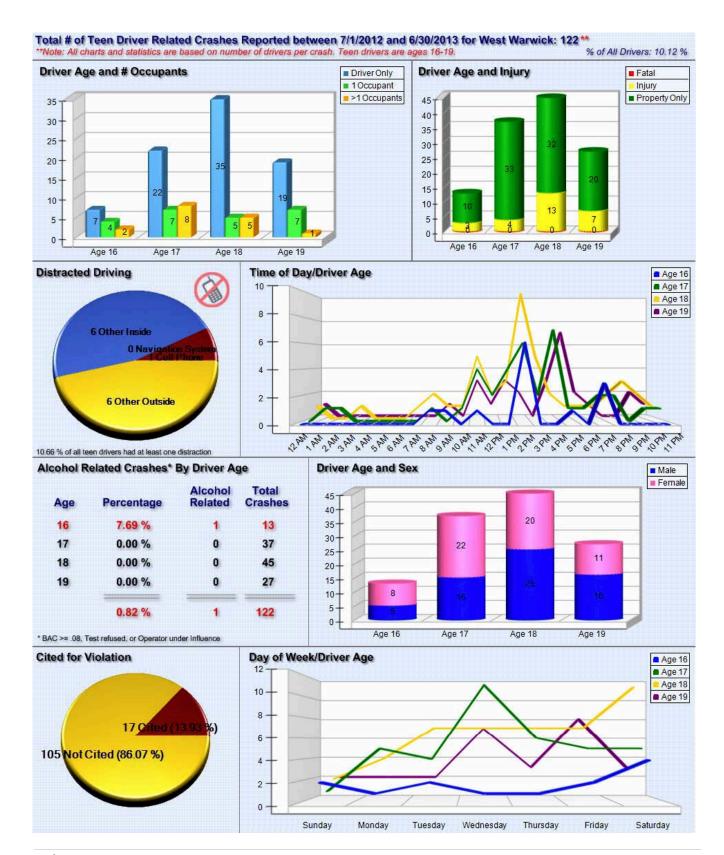
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Date: 7/1/2012 to 6/30/2013
Location: West Warwick
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# **Community Policing**

#### **DARE**

The Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) is a ten week program that is taught to the fifth grade class. 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.

The DARE program was taught in 16 different classes, in three different schools this school year, with about 350 students participating in the classes.



## School Resource Officers (SRO)

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

These officers operate under the "TRIAD" model, in which the police partner with school and parents to curb issues before they become a major problem. In addition to providing 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. They assist 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 senior's social services are met by providing information to the senior or their care taker.

The Senior Advocate handled **45 cases** this year, including 4 people who wandered off and two which were referred to the Division of Motor Vehicles for license revocation. This was slightly down from the previous year when there were 62 cases.

The Advocate conducts yearly safety meetings at all seven high rises in the Town.

The Advocate is members 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 set up as an introduction 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 individual's self-esteem.
- To teach responsibility and leadership

To be eligible to participate a candidate must:

- Be at least 14 years old and under 21.
- Have and maintain a minimum "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 Tuesday at 5:00 pm at the West Warwick Police Department Youth Drop-In Center, 40 Factory Street.

The Explorers participate 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 Parade.

The Explorers' training during the year culminates with "Stations Day," a competition with members of Explorers from posts through the state. Explorers participated in competitions this year in felony car stops, building clearing, handcuffing, and 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. It is a full week of training and personal development that incorporates leadership, team building, drill, discipline and a ceremony. For West Warwick Police Explorers, the cost of the academy is covered by donations, with no cost to the participating Explorer.

#### Car Seat Clinic

Officers certified in the proper techniques for installing child safety restraints, installed 193 car seat installations during the fiscal year and conducted four (4) car seat clinics over the Labor Day Weekend.

#### Drug Take Back

The Drug Enforcement Administration scheduled a National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day on April 27, 2013 which gave the public an opportunity to drop off accumulated unwanted, unused prescription drugs or over the counter medications for safe disposal. Nationwide there was 742,497 pounds (371)

tons) of prescription medications collected from members of the public at more than 5,829 locations manned by 4,312 state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies that partnered with DEA on the event.

The West Warwick Police Department participates in this program and had set up drop offs at two locations in Town. During the Take Back, the West Warwick Police Department led the state with 303 pounds of medication turned in

Since September, 2010, when this program first started, the DEA and its state, local, and tribal law-enforcement, and community partners have removed more than 2.8 million pounds (1,409 tons) of prescription medications circulation.



## Lojack® Safety Net

SafetyNet is a program that uses proven Lojack radio frequency technology to assist law enforcement in locating people with medical conditions which makes them prone to wander and get lost. The West Warwick Police Department has joined the thousands of police and public safety first responder agencies nationwide and in Canada by participating in the Lojack Safetynet program. When a caregiver enrolls a loved one in the program, a waterproof tracking bracelet similar to wristwatch is given to the client. This device emits a specific radio frequency which can be tracked by trained officers using a radio receiver and a directional indicator. According to Lojack/SafetyNet, the average search time for a missing person wearing this device is 12 minutes with 2 officers. The West Warwick Police Department currently has eight Lojack/SafetyNet trained officers.

The cost of the program begins with a 99.00 initial enrollment fee and a montly fee of 30.00 thereafter. The West Warwick Police

Department along with Lojack/SafetyNet and its partner Project Lifesaver can assist caregivers with financing options if necessary. It is the policy of the West Warwick Police Department to not deny enrollment in the program to any interested caregiver/client based solely on their inability to pay.

The police department currently has four clients enrolled in this program.



#### Alcohol/Cigarette Compliance

During the year, officers in the Community Policing Unit collaborated with the Rhode Island Department of Behavioral Healthcare, 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 sixteen year-old male was tasked with entering the stores and asking to purchase select brands of cigarettes. Of the twelve locations, **one** store sold cigarettes to the minor.

Similarly, an eighteen year old male was sent into the alcohol establishment and instructed to purchase a certain brand of beer. Of the fifteen businesses surveyed, two sold alcohol to the under-aged male.

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 two years, all through federal funds as outline in the "Grants" section above.

#### 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, renamed the West Warwick Prevention Coalition in 2012, with member of its Community Policing Unit being *ex officio* members of its board.

During FY 2013, the Coalition continued with its prevention activities, including the "Above the Influence" Campaign, and funding various youth groups focused on drug prevention and good decision making. In May 2013, the Coalition sponsored a speech at the High School by Chris Herren, a former player with the Boston Celtics, who detailed his struggles with addiction and fame.

www.westwarwickprevention.org.



#### Community Partnership and Events

The police department is committed to working alongside our community partners to make the Town a more friendly and safe place to live and visit. The department has a member, whether the Colonel or a designee, attend the Arctic Village Association's meetings, so we receive regular updates on current public safety concerns and issues in the area and to provide the business association with updated information on how the department is addressing their needs and concerns.

Officer Marinucci and Colonel Silva are members of the Thundermist West Warwick Advisory Committee, a collaborative sponsored by the nonprofit community health center with representatives from many community based stakeholders, that works together to improve assistance and services to the community.

Members of the department participated in the following community events:

- ➤ Impossible Dream Touch Truck September 28, 2012
- ➤ Back to School Backpack Stuffing Celebration July 28, 2012
- ➤ Back to School Backpack Distribution 1196 backpack were handed out on August 18, 2012.
- ➤ Special Olympics Rhode Island (SORI)
  Plunge 6 over \$50,000 dollars was raised for the Special Olympics on March 10, 2013
- ➤ Tori Lynn Andreozzi Foundation Walk A Thon – April 6, 2013
- West Warwick Bike Path Clean Up
- ➤ SORI Torch Run May 31, 2013
- ➤ SORI Games at URI June 1, 2013

#### **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 – Detectives

The following is a list of some of the trainings attended by members of the division:

- University of Rhode Island's Criminal Investigation and Scientific Evidence Course
- ❖ Advanced Arson Investigation
- Behavior Recognition Training
- RISSAFE Officer Safety Event Deconfliction Training
- Interview and Interrogation Training
- Pawn Shop / Precious Metals Investigation
- Gang Recognition and Enforcement Training
- Accident Reconstruction / Pedestrian and Bicycle Training
- Cyber Investigations Basic and Advanced Training

# Notable Investigations by Detective Division

- Arrests of Kiplagatt Stewart and Allen Prout for the armed home invasion of a residence on Providence Street.
- Arrest of Lorenzo Evans for the armed home invasion of a residence on Prospect Hill Avenue.
- Arrest of Matthew Loranger for felony assault with a dangerous weapon.
- Arrest of Jason Mather for the breaking and entering of the Natick Ball Field concession stand.

- Arrest of Robert Atwell for passing fraudulent prescriptions.
- Arrest of Carlos Garcia for receiving stolen goods related to a breaking and entering on Prospect Hill Avenue.
- Numerous precious metals/pawn shop investigations uncovering in excess of \$45,000 in stolen precious metals throughout the state of Rhode Island. Several arrests have been made by various law enforcement agencies based on tips generated by the West Warwick Police Department's Detective Division.

#### Achievements - Detectives

Members of the Detective Division completed an intensive inventory and internal audit of the evidence property room, which complies with national property and evidence room management standards.

A new interview and interrogation room was designed and constructed in early 2013. This room is equipped with audio and visual recording capabilities as well as remote viewing access. The room along with the new general order ensures that the department is in compliance with the legislative mandated "Task Force to Investigate & Develop Policies & Procedures for Electronically Recording Custodial Interrogations" recommendations concerning the interview and interrogation of suspects accused of capital crimes.

A new mugshot camera and software system was purchased and installed. The new Hunter SmartShot system allows for high-resolution photos of arrestees and is compatible with most other law-enforcement agencies in Rhode Island. This system standardizes mugshots and allows for the sharing of mugshot photographs with other law-enforcement agencies in an efficient and cost-effective manner.

#### Special Investigations Unit

The Special Investigations Unit (S.I.U.) of the West Warwick Police Department has the primary responsibility for the investigation of vice and narcotic laws and the investigation of organized criminal activity, which could include gambling, prostitution, and liquor law violations. SIU also assists the Detective Division with high profile crimes as needed.

Typically, the unit spends a considerable amount of time on the investigations of illegal narcotic activities, however, the unit also investigates other vice and organized crime related operations

The unit works collectively with outside agencies, including Federal, State and Local law enforcement agencies. The detectives who staff the unit are supervised by the sergeant who reports directly to the Detective/Prosecution Major. Future plans include the possibility of assigning a detective to a federal task force.

During the fiscal year of July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013 members of SIU assisted on fifty (50) occasions, with the execution of arrest warrants. search warrants. undercover narcotic transactions, and overall investigations. SIU, through the arrest of individuals within the Town West Warwick of have seized \$58,000.26\* dollars in U.S. currency and numerous amounts of illegal contraband. (\* These funds have yet to clear the forfeiture process).

#### **Prosecution Division**



The Prosecution Division consists of the Detective/Prosecution Major, a Detective Sergeant, a Prosecution Detective and a Prosecution Clerk who are responsible for preparing cases for the adult criminal court and Traffic Tribunal systems. The Prosecution Division also provides assistance to the Town Solicitor's Office and the Rhode Island Department of Attorney General in the prosecution of adult cases.

#### **Probation Collaboration**

The Prosecution Sergeant is the liaison with Probation and Parole which is a community-based component of the Rhode Island Department of Corrections (RIDOC). This assignment consists of working with probation officers and conducting home visits of probationers living in the community. This was 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.

The Prosecution Sergeant also provides reports and information and other assistance to probation officers for their investigations

#### Offender Re-Entry

According to RIDOC, 3,306 people were released from sentence status during FY2012 (Population Report 2012) and approximately 14 % of all prison releases report returning to the Kent County area. As of June 1, 2013, there were 750 offenders living in the community under the supervision of the Department of Corrections.

The Kent County Reentry Council is a collaborative which was formed to help people adjust and overcome the challenges of

transitioning back into the community after being incarcerated. Police Department members attend the monthly reentry forums held at Thundermist in West Warwick for all offenders from West Warwick and Coventry placed on probation or who have moved into town while on probation. At the forums, probationers are told about their responsibilities, conditions of release and are provided with information on availability of community based services and assistance. The goals of the reentry council are to reduce recidivism, create a safer community and provide resource information and contact with services and support in the community.

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 2013 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 databases. Most sex offenders are required to register when moving into town, and must update their registration on a quarterly or yearly basis.

The West Warwick Police Department is a member of the Sex Offender Law Enforcement Multi-disciplinary Network (SOLEMN) which is a working group made up of law enforcement officers, the United States Marshals Service, prosecutors, probation and parole officers and the Department of Children, Youth and 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 through the US Marshals Service 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. The Task Force has assisted the following police departments with Non-compliant sex offenders: Burrillville, Cranston, Coventry, East Providence, Newport, Pawtucket, Providence, Warwick, Westerly, West Warwick, Woonsocket, RI Department of Corrections and Fall River Police.

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

During the past year the Department sent out 21 different mailings for sex offender notifications to the community as required by law.

## **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 and Detective Divisions 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 files and 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 Juvenile Sergeant and overseen by the Planning and Training Lieutenant. From July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013, the Juvenile Prosecution Division prepared and presented 143 misdemeanor cases and 22 felony cases for prosecution.

#### Juvenile Hearing Board

The Juvenile Hearing Board is a diversionary program for youths who commit offenses that in the opinion of the police would be better served being adjudicated 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 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.

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 FY 2013, from July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013 the JHB reviewed and disposed of **22 cases**.

# **Training Report**

## *In Service Training*

In the spring of 2013, members of the West Warwick Police Department attended a two day in-service training held at the West Warwick Youth Drop-In Center. The training agenda was

set after reviewing areas in which training was needed, areas of new concern, and available resources. The two day training included CPR and First Aid recertification for all officers and civilian employees, unlawful workplace harassment training, dealing with the mentally ill, workplace violence, domestic violence, changes in the marijuana laws, implementation of the PoliceOne.com Academy training system, Rhode Island Police Accreditation Commission implementation, fair and impartial policing, and new technology and the law.

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

## Firearms Training

The West Warwick Police Department completed four separate training cycles with firearms, two in the fall, and two in the spring. Over the course of these four (4) hour sessions, the training covered areas such as: decision shooting, reduced light shooting, shooting at moving targets, the proper use of cover, the use of non dominate hand, shooting from various positions, and reloading and malfunction drills. Officers also reviewed the use of force policy during classroom time.

The spring shoot consisted of both day and night qualifications, adding a moving course to test and improve officers' proficiency with on-the-go shooting. Further, the Department added a course on patrol rifle, certifying and recertifying officers in using the AR-15 patrol rifle deployed in several specially equipped patrol cars.

#### **FATS**

In January, 2013, 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 have 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 to provide realistic, scenario based training.

#### PoliceOne Academy

The department has subscribed to and is utilizing PoliceOne Academy, an innovative and user friendly on line video training program, specific to law enforcement. The system provides online access to more than 500 short format and one-hour long training videos on a large variety of pertinent topics, and features many law enforcement training experts. PoliceOne Academy has lesson plans and curriculum guides which assist with the learning experience as well as a tracking mechanism to assist with documentation. The program is convenient to use since access can be gained at any time.

#### **OTHER**

During FY 2013, the West Warwick Police Department sought training through our partners in law enforcement, government, and academia.

Several members of the Detective Division attended the RI BCI school, a criminalistics course given by the State Crime Lab at URI and the Department of Health. This course is an indepth study of crime scene analysis, processing, and evidence collection.

New supervisors attended the First Line Supervisors' training at the RI Municipal Police Academy. This one week course of study in management introduces officers to the many aspects involved in the supervision of officers,

handling and investigating civilian complaints, personal interaction.

Members also attended several courses, offered free to the Department, at the Municipal Police Academy. Several officers from the Department's Peer Support Team taught courses at the Academy's Basic Recruit Training.

Finally, the West Warwick Police Department continued its relationship with Roger Williams University Justice System Training and Research Institute. Members of the Department continued to teach at the Field Training and Evaluation Program, conducted four times per year at the Institute. Further, during May of this year, the Department, in conjunction with the Department of Attorney General, conducted a seminar at the Institute on Prosecution in Rhode Island.

#### MUNICIPAL POLICE ACADEMY

The department had a couple of officers who taught courses of instruction at the Rhode Island Municipal Police Academy in the area of Auto Theft, Domestic Violence, and Standard Field Sobriety Test. Members of the peer support team attend the "Family Night" at the police academy, which is an awareness night where the officer discuss the nature and pressures associated with police work, how to identify the symptoms, deal with them and if needed, get help.

#### **COURSES OF TRAINING**

- o IPTM Traffic Crash Investigations
- o IPTM Advance Crash Investigations
- o IPTM Traffic Crash Reconstruction
- o Testifying as Crash Reconstruction
- o Traffic Incident Management Instructor
- o FBI Pistol Instructor
- o Patrol Rifle Instructor
- o EMA Land Navigation Course
- o EMA Advance Night Land Navigation
- o FEMA Field Force Operations
- o Crisis Negotiator Training
- o Colt M16/AR15 Armorer
- o Tactical Shield Instructor Program
- o Internal Affairs Training
- o LE Bill of Rights Seminar

- o ICS 300 and ISC 400
- Emergency Response to Domestic Biological Incidents
- o IED Incident Response
- o First Line Supervisor Training
- o Communications Response to Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Calls
- o Power Phone Active Shooter Response for Dispatchers
- o Workplace Harassment Prevention Training
- o Taser® Recertification
- o Hate Crimes & Civil Rights Workshop
- o Outlaw Motorcycle Gang Workshop
- o Training for Police Senior Citizen Advocate
- o Cyber Investigations 101
- o Criminal Investigation: Scientific Evidence I & II
- o Interview & Interrogation Seminar
- o Fire Investigations Seminar
- Behavior Recognition Seminar
- o RIS Safe Deconfliction Training

# **Internal Affairs**

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

#### FY 2013 Citizen and Internal Complaints

<b>Total Complaints:</b>	6
Criminal Conduct	1
Excessive Force	1
Improper Demeanor	4
Dispositions:	
Sustained	3
Not Sustained	2
Pending	1

# **Use of Force**

During FY 2013, the Office of Planning and Training received seventeen (17) Use of Force reports. The following is a breakdown of the reports. Please note that the total listed is greater than 17, as different types of force were reported in some of the same reports:

Physical Force:	6
OC Spray:	4
TASER:	6
Baton:	1
Firearm (no discharge):	3
Firearm (discharged)	0

Upon review of these reports and the accompanying paperwork, the Office of Planning and Training 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 responsible for the general day-to-day operation of the Animal Shelter on Hay Street, and is responsible for related management duties to ensure efficient operation. The ACO answers complaints from the public, locates and captures loose animals, investigates dog bites, 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.

The animal control division received donations for heating fuel and a surveillance/security system and the West Warwick Angels donated almost \$14,000 towards veterinarian bills incurred for the treatment of injured animals.

The department will be seeking a part time animal control officer in FY2014 to assist the current ACO with her duties.

#### ACO Activity

	2009	<u>2010</u>	2011	<u> 2012</u>
Total calls for service	653	563	688	786
Total reports taken	46	39	44	36
Violations issued	55	114	25	49
Animal cruelty cases	2	0	3	3
Pet adoptions (dogs)	71	29	51	53
(cats)	122	75	41	46
Vicious dog hearings	1	0	0	0

# **Specialized Units**

SWAT Team



It has been ten years since the West Warwick and Coventry Police Departments entered into a partnership to provide tactical police services to both towns and formed the West Warwick/Coventry Regional SWAT Team. The purpose for the merger was to more efficiently utilize police services and resources, and effectively respond to calls for specialized police assistances, while ensuring adequate manpower levels. For the first time in several years the Regional Team posted vacancies and accepted applications from within the two departments.

There were numerous applications, and at the end of the selection process six (6) new members were added to the Team. This did not increase the overall membership, but filled vacancies formed by retirements. Several of these new members attended the Providence Police Department Basic SWAT Operators Course and several others were training by team instructors are in the process of being certified by the Rhode Island Police Officers Commission on Standards and Training (POST).

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. During the previous year various members of the Regional Team were used on several potential barricaded subject calls, barricade/possible hostage call, and numerous warrants. Further, the ability to have trained tactical officers on the duty with the specialized equipment at the outset of potentially violent and dangerous calls, has limited the need full team response, because these incidents were immediately contained and de-escalated.

The team continued to train regularly during the past year, in areas required by the Rhode Island POST certification program. This program established a certification process and set minimum standards for all Rhode Island Tactical Teams and their members to meet.

The West Warwick/Coventry Regional SWAT Team, which is led by Lt. James Tiernan, the Team Commander, completed the recertification process after being assessed by a review board consisting of members of the Rhode Island Tactical Officers Association. After the final review by the POST, the Team was granted another three year certification.

The Tori Lynn Andreozzi Foundation continued to be a great friend and supporter of the Regional Team by providing funding assistance which enabled team to obtain new tactical vests.

Several members of the team received further specialized training in weapons systems, maintenance, liability, and specialized equipment.

Notable Tactical Incidents:

On Sunday, August 12, 2012, members of the SWAT Team assisted the Rhode Island State Police with a barricade incident on Shippee Ave. Troopers from the Rhode Island State Police had gone to the address to make a warrant attempt on an individual, considered armed and dangerous, who was wanted by the Coventry Police. While investigating the incident, troopers stopped a vehicle and the occupants stated that they had been robbed at gunpoint by the suspect wanted by Coventry Police. The suspect had stated that he would not surrender to the police without a fight and would kill any officer who tried to arrest him.

Members of the patrol division and SWAT Team assisted the State Police Tactical Team and Troopers and after several hours of negotiations by the State Police, the suspect surrendered and was arrested.

On Saturday, June 22, 2013 members of the patrol division had responded to an apartment on Home St after the resident made a call and stated that he had a 9mm handgun and knife and was going to kill himself. Patrol officers set up perimeter security and evacuated several of the neighbors. Contact was made by the shift Captain, who spoke with the individual for over ½ hour. Subsequent to this, officers on scene began speaking with the subject, but he refused to exit his apartment and at one point shut his window and refused to talk to the police.

The SWAT Team was activated and took command of the incident. The crisis negotiations team made several attempts, by various means to contact and speak with the individual, but to no avail. Concerned that the subject had caused harm to himself, the team entered the apartment and located the individual, who was transported to the hospital.

#### Honor Guard

The West Warwick Police Department Honor Guard represented the Town and Police Department 13 times during the past year. While this number is up from the previous year, it is unfortunately due to an increase amount of funerals attended by the unit. The Honor Guard was again proud to serve at local parades, specifically The Holy Ghost Labor Day Parade and Friendly Sons of St. Patrick's, St. Patrick's Day Parade.

The unit was also represented at the Department Promotional and Swearing In Ceremony. For the first time in several years the Honor Guard marched in the nationally recognized Aquidneck Island Police Officers Parade held in Newport, Rhode Island. A tribute to fallen officers all over the world, this year's parade was dedicated in memory of Sergeant Maxwell Dorley of the Providence, R.I. Police Department, who was killed in the line of duty. Police officers from all over North America and Canada were in attendance.

Members of the Honor Guard unit attended the Tori Lynn Andreozzi Foundations walk a thon fundraiser, held at the West Warwick Sports Complex. The Honor Guard in their Stetson hats, red dress blouses, and flags along with the Fire Department's Honor Guard led the opening lap of the walk a thon, an event they were proud to be a part of.

No matter what the event, a parade, memorial, or funeral service, the Department's Class A uniform stands out. At the Aquidneck Island Parade the Honor Guard met and took photos with their contemporaries in red, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.



#### Website

The West Warwick Police Department's website 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 by the department's webmaster, Detective Sergeant Roland Coutu.

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.

www.westwarwickpd.org

