

# Bethlehem Police Department



2016

Annual Report

Town of Bethlehem, New York

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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



On behalf of the men and women of the Bethlehem Police Department, I am pleased and honored to present our Annual Report for 2016. This report contains information on trends in our community as well as the department's proactive approach to crime along with information on department operations, and responsibilities. Our members continue to meet very high standards of training to assure that we have the most capable, effective, efficient and compassionate personnel, along with strong uncompromising enforcement of the laws, which is administered fairly and consistently.

After a lot of research and planning the department will be migrating to a new 800 megahertz shared public safety radio system built by the Albany County Sheriff's Office. The new radio system will allow for enhanced interoperable communications between municipalities in the region. Additionally, we began another collaborative project with Albany County Sheriff's Office involving a shared Computer Aided Dispatch System (CAD), which

will allow for more efficient dispatching of emergency services and data sharing with surrounding agencies, in live time. It is anticipated that this will also reduce annual system maintenance costs significantly for the Town.

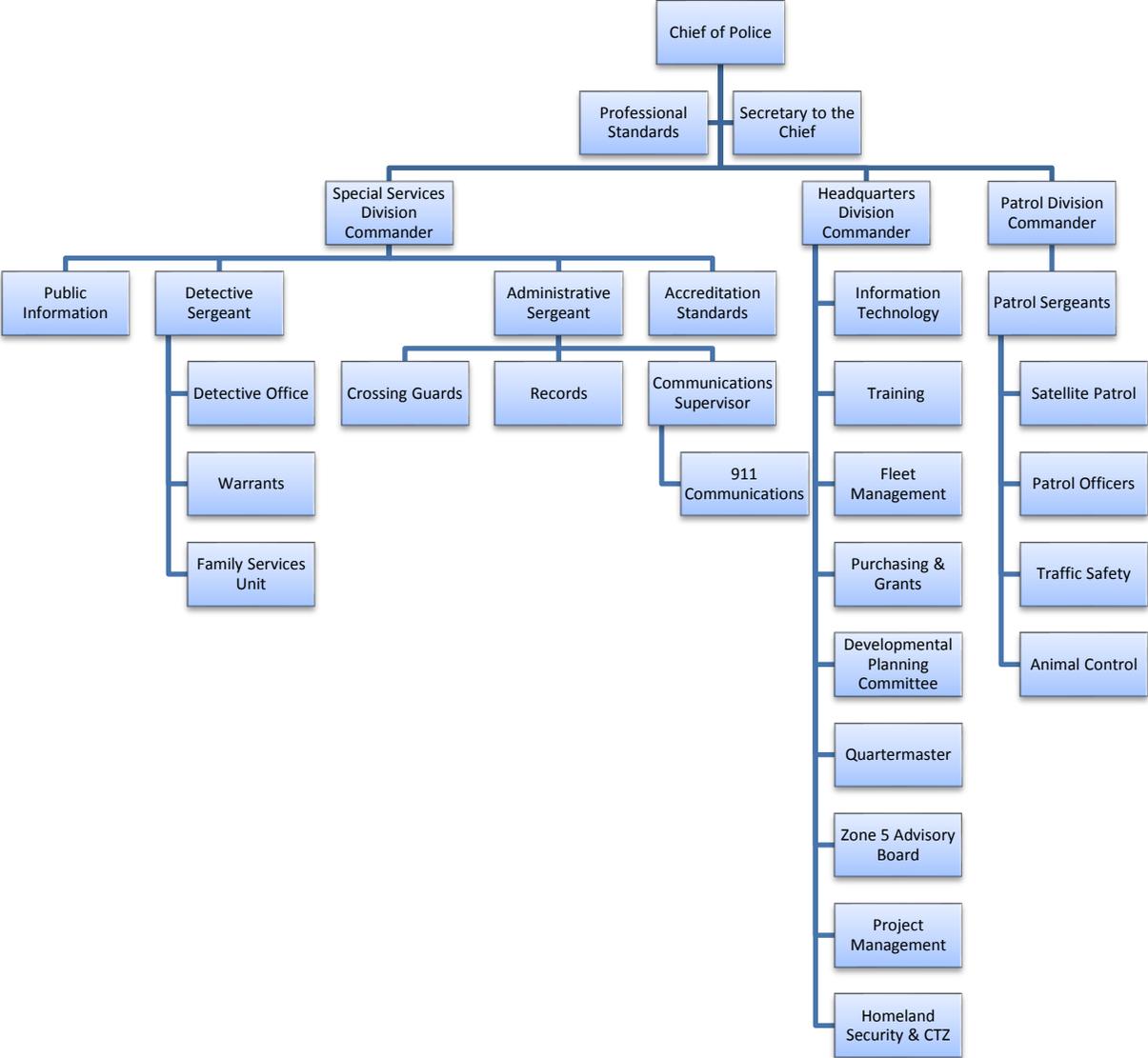
This year B.P.D. celebrated its 75th anniversary, a milestone in our history of proudly serving the residents of the Town of Bethlehem. Prior to 1941 the Town was policed by a constabulary. Hats off to those officers who came before us as we follow the traditions of the B.P.D.

We look forward to 2017 and the many challenges that will undoubtedly face the department. As budget considerations are at the forefront of business decisions, our goals remain the same; to provide the best possible public safety services to our community in a responsible, accountable and cost effective manner. We will never sacrifice service quality when it comes to community safety. Even as we implement service efficiencies, foster sound business practices, and implement fiscally responsible initiatives, we will meet head-on the array of challenges associated with policing our community.

I welcome your comments and suggestions and hope that you find this report informative.

Respectfully,  
Louis G. Corsi  
Chief of Police

# ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



## CONTACT THE DEPARTMENT

### **Patrol Division**

Commander Adam N. Hornick  
[ahornick@townofbethlehem.org](mailto:ahornick@townofbethlehem.org)  
439-9973

Lieutenant Robert Berben  
[rberben@townofbethlehem.org](mailto:rberben@townofbethlehem.org)  
439-9973

### **A-Line Shift**

Sergeant Brian Hughes  
[bhughes@townofbethlehem.org](mailto:bhughes@townofbethlehem.org)  
439-9973

### **B-Line Shift**

Sergeant Chris Shunk  
[cshunk@townofbethlehem.org](mailto:cshunk@townofbethlehem.org)  
439-9973

### **C-Line Shift**

Sergeant James Rexford  
[jrexford@townofbethlehem.org](mailto:jrexford@townofbethlehem.org)  
439-9973

Sergeant Steve Kraz  
[skraz@townofbethlehem.org](mailto:skraz@townofbethlehem.org)  
439-9973

### **Special Services**

#### **Headquarters Division**

Deputy Chief Thomas M. Heffernan, Jr.  
[theffernan@townofbethlehem.org](mailto:theffernan@townofbethlehem.org)  
439-9973

F/Sgt. Robert Helligrass, Sr.  
[rhelligrass@townofbethlehem.org](mailto:rhelligrass@townofbethlehem.org)  
439-9973

Detective Sergeant Gina Cocchiara  
[gcocchiara@townofbethlehem.org](mailto:gcocchiara@townofbethlehem.org)  
439-9973

## DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL

### **Chief of Police**

Louis G. Corsi

### **Deputy Chief of Police**

Thomas M. Heffernan, Jr.

### **Commander**

Adam N. Hornick

### **Lieutenant**

Robert J. Berben

### **Administrative Sergeant**

Robert J. Helligrass, Sr.

### **Patrol Sergeants**

Brian A. Hughes

James L. Rexford

Christopher Shunk

Stephen M. Kraz

Francis R. Muller

### **Detectives**

D/Sgt. Gina F. Cocchiara

Charles H. Radliff, Jr.

Chad A. Rice

Michael S. Whiteley

Gerald N. Young

James E. Cross, Jr.

Kenneth G. Beck, Jr.

### **I.T. Officer**

Scott P. Galough

### **Traffic Safety Investigator**

Craig M. Sleurs

William D. Austin

### **Patrol Officers**

Peter Resnick

George W. Travis \*\*

David T. Caputo

Michael J. Berben

Timothy C. Travis

Adam H. Cobb

Michael A. Cozzy

Rico R. Fiore

Jeffrey M. Gallagher

Chad A. Ferraro

Ryan W. VanAmburgh

James E. Corrigan

Robert C. Baldwin, Jr.

Mark D. Gorman Sr.

Brian P. Mahan

Michael Walsh

Kristen Spinnato

Yekaterina Dickerson

Roy K. Swann Jr.

Caitlyn A. Krage

### **Senior Telecommunicators**

Brent W. Dragon

Brianna M. Tice

### **Telecommunicators**

Brian J. Sleurs

Melissa J. Powell

Sharon E. Huether

Jared L. Willard

Katherine A. Gould

Jennifer E. Peters

David R. Markes

Julia Volk\*

Melissa Harnett

### **Animal Control Officer**

Richard A. Watt

### **Secretary to the Chief**

Diana Jacon

### **Records**

Fran C. Markel

Mary C. Cox

### **School Crossing Guards**

Isabella D. Glastetter

Mike Roberts

Jennifer Hammond

Raymond F. Linstruth

Bertie C. Reed, Jr.

Mary Root

Jean Krell

William Krell

Erika Geist

Stacey Logsdon

\*\* GML 207 C

\* Resigned in 2016

# ADMINISTRATION

## TOWN OF BETHLEHEM Police Department



### **Louis G. Corsi** *Chief of Police*

Louis G. Corsi is the Chief of Police of the Bethlehem Police Department. He has been a law enforcement officer since 1979 with a degree in Criminal Justice and has held the positions of Patrol Officer, Patrol Sergeant, Lieutenant and Deputy Chief before being appointed to the position of Chief in 2003.

Chief Corsi is an active member of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, the New York State Association of Chiefs of Police, Northeastern Chiefs Conference and the F.B.I. Law Enforcement Executive Development Association.

The Chief is a member of the Advisory Board at the Glenmont Job Corps Center, a member of the Albany County Traffic Safety Board and an Executive Board member for the Zone 5 Regional Law Enforcement Training Center where he also serves as President on the Board of Directors. Chief Corsi also serves as President of the Executive Board for the Northeastern Chiefs Conference. Appointed by Governor Pataki and then reappointed by Governor Paterson, the Chief held a seat on the New York State Accreditation Council as the representative of the New York State Chiefs Association. He is a strong proponent of police professionalism and continuing education and training.

The police department has assumed a leadership role in the development and implementation of the E-911 countywide emergency communications systems and serves as one of the five primary PSAPs (Public Safety Answering Points) within the county. The department was the first to provide an interactive computer aided dispatch (CAD) and records management system in the

county and continues to work closely with federal, state and local agencies to develop new computer applications which will further ensure the delivery of efficient and effective public safety services.

The department is committed to family services and has received statewide recognition for its innovative pro-active programs designed to educate, inform and protect parents and children and to deal with those special types of problems unique to family life and raising children. The police department is a charter member of the Albany County Coalition against Domestic Abuse and actively participates in enforcement, legislation and protection with regards to victims of domestic violence.

Traffic safety is a priority of the department and members have received national, state and local recognition for their accomplishments. The department has received several grants to further traffic safety efforts in the Town of Bethlehem and has accident investigation and reconstruction specialists on staff to determine cause, assist in prosecutions and to determine priorities in our prevention programs. The Division of Criminal Justice Services, Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) and the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee have honored the department for its contributions to traffic safety.

The town has provided state of the art investigational equipment to our detectives including a laser fingerprint device for identifying latent prints, audio and video surveillance equipment, high-resolution photographic capabilities and other technical material used in support of criminal investigations. We have learned that DNA is the fingerprint of the future and have trained our investigators in collecting and identifying DNA evidence, while providing state of the art equipment to accomplish this task. The availability of these types of resources to the investigators provides for increased efficiency and effectiveness and has often led to the identification, apprehension, prosecution and conviction of suspects.

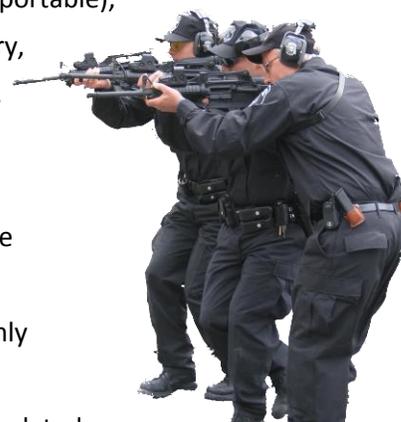
## SPECIAL SERVICES DIVISION / HEADQUARTERS DIVISION

Deputy Chief Thomas M. Heffernan, Jr. commands the Special Services and Headquarters Divisions. Deputy Chief Heffernan began his law enforcement career in 1990. He has served as a patrol officer, patrol sergeant and patrol commander over the years. He holds a degree in criminal justice and is responsible for the Detective Office, Family Services Unit, public safety communications, E-911 emergency phone system, computer aided dispatch, police hard copy and electronic records, federal and state record reporting, New York State Sex Offender Registry, Freedom of Information Requests and pistol and explosives



licensing. He works closely with local police agencies, fire departments and emergency medical services to assure that responses are coordinated through the communications center so that there is an immediate response to an emergency or other medical service. Sergeant Robert J. Helligrass, Sr. is second in command of the division and in charge of the records section.

The responsibilities of the Headquarters Division include all aspects of departmental training, management of grants, purchasing, overseeing the operation and maintenance of all radio equipment (fixed, mobile and portable), police computer systems (fixed, mobile and portable), Project management, Quartermaster (uniforms and equipment), Inventory, fleet management, crime analysis and statistical research, Annual Report, planning and research. Additionally, Headquarters represents the police department on the town's Developmental Planning Committee. The Development Planning Committee (DPC) consists of representatives of the various Town departments that are involved in facilitating or servicing development projects in Town. The DPC holds regularly scheduled monthly meetings during which prospective developers can present development concepts and receive feedback from the Town on a host of development related issues. The DPC facilitates early communication between the Town and developers during the project concept phase with regard to a variety of issues.



## TRAINING

Headquarters is responsible for all departmental training and the maintenance of required certifications. The Division schedules personnel to attend training and sets up in-house programs that we sponsor for law enforcement agencies throughout upstate New York. The Bethlehem Police Department is known statewide for its commitment to law enforcement training and we view the education of our personnel as a very high priority. Although there is an effect on available manpower when personnel are assigned for training, there are certifications that must be maintained regularly.

Some examples include:

- First Aid-CPR, Automatic External Defibrillators
- Firearms Certification (twice a year)
- Rapid Response to an Active Shooter
- Use of Force/Defensive Tactics
- Domestic Violence
- Hazardous Materials/Incident Response
- Blood Borne Pathogens-HIV/AIDS-Hepatitis Risk Avoidance



Federal and state requirements for training are ever increasing and the burden for this training is placed directly on each municipality due to budget cuts. We are very fortunate to have outstanding personnel who are certified trainers so that we may meet and exceed minimum training guidelines. The unfortunate effect of these requirements is the reduction in the number of officers available to respond to calls for service.



The concept of regionalism is clearly demonstrated by our participation in the Zone 5 Regional Law Enforcement Training Academy, which coordinates all state certified training in ten counties. Chief Corsi serves on the Board of Directors as President. This cooperative effort saves money for every municipality in the zone which participates and provides consistent, quality and professional training.

## FLEET MANAGEMENT

The Headquarters Division is responsible for the police department fleet of vehicles, consisting of marked and unmarked patrol cars, unmarked administrative/command/detective cars and specialty vehicles. (Field Operations Unit, D.A.R.E. car and Animal Control vehicle). The goal of fleet management is to provide the necessary transportation for the delivery of services to the people of the Town at the best possible price. We are fortunate to have the Town Highway Department maintaining these vehicles and keeping them in safe operating condition. They do an excellent job at a reasonable cost. Through the management of fleet operations, substantial savings were found in the cost of replacing police vehicles.



## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Headquarters is also responsible for servicing and supporting the I.T. needs of the police department. Currently the department has a mobile computer fleet consisting of fifteen mobile data terminals or MDTs. Each MDT is a ruggedized Panasonic Toughbook with several peripherals to include a printer, barcode scanner, GPS antenna, and GOBI cell connectivity. The predominant software used in patrol cars is TraCS (Traffic and Criminal Software) which allows for electronic tickets and accident reports to be issued. Electronic tickets and accident reports have greatly increased the efficiency of the department by reducing paper work and time consuming data entry tasks.



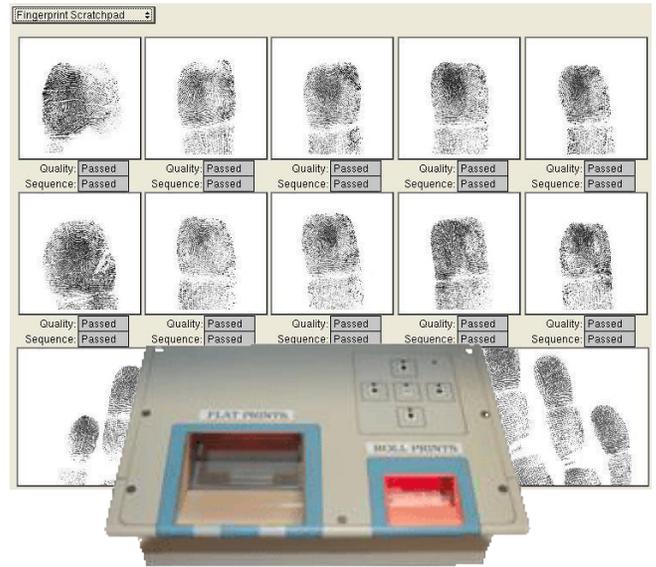


Each traffic unit has a DVM or Digital Video Mirror (left) that digitally records video and audio anytime the emergency lights are activated. The vehicle data modems allow for the officer to receive information about suspects, and vehicles, directly to their MDT rather than having to rely on a dispatcher to relay information to them over the radio.



Additional technology in the fleet is two License Plate Readers or LPRs (left). The LPR system is a tool that the traffic enforcement officers use to investigate and locate more serious infractions of the NYS Vehicle and Traffic Law such as, suspended drivers and suspended vehicle registrations. Since the implementation of the LPR system, Vehicle and Traffic Law misdemeanor summons have increased.

The police department also uses technology inside the station, including the arrest booking process. Fingerprints are no longer done on print cards, but via a laser fingerprinting system that captures the fingerprints and instantly digitizes them for transmission to NYS DCJS and the FBI. Photographs are also done digitally and transmitted along with the fingerprints allowing for rapid confirmation of a suspects identity and more efficient data flow both ways between the department, DCJS and the FBI.



Evidence integrity is a major consideration of any criminal investigation. That is why the Bethlehem Police Department's Detectives Division employs evidence barcode tags. All evidence taken in by the Detectives is tagged with a computer generated barcode label containing pertinent case information and automatically logged into evidence. A handheld barcode scanner

is then used to track the evidence through its life cycle in the department's evidence lockers ensuring that a proper chain of custody is always maintained. The scanner has also increased the efficiency of the Detective Division by greatly decreasing the number of man hours required to conduct evidence inventories.

 The Headquarters Division also maintains a cellular network connecting the patrol cars to both internal and external law enforcement databases. This is accomplished using a VPN or Virtual Private Network that allows for the fast, secure, and uninterrupted exchange of data between patrol vehicles and the police station. Police officers can now access law enforcement records on the road as well as transmit completed accident reports and tickets to the station. This gives our officers the critical information they need at their fingertips and allows the officers to spend more time on patrol and less time in the station.



## DETECTIVE OFFICE

The Detective Office consists of three detectives under the immediate direction of the Detective Sergeant. Their duties include the investigation of all major offenses and unattended deaths. They conduct extensive background investigations of applicants for employment and are responsible for the security, storage, accountability and disposition of all evidence and property coming into the possession of the police department. The Detectives Office works closely with the Albany County District Attorney's Office, as well as with the victims of crime. They work cases with investigators from other law enforcement agencies including local police, state and federal authorities. They assist patrol officers in investigations and arrests and ensure continuity in the chain of evidence necessary for the successful prosecution of a criminal case.

## FAMILY SERVICES UNIT

The Family Services Unit (FSU) consists of three Detectives, two School Resource Officers and a D.A.R.E. Officer under the immediate direction of Detective Sergeant Gina Cocchiara. Members of the FSU are specially trained and state certified experts in dealing with adolescent behaviors and problems. They are New York State certified Police Juvenile Officers, School Resource Officers and members of the State of New York Police Juvenile Officers Association. All FSU members are assigned to specific schools within the Town of Bethlehem in conjunction with their necessary duties.

These assignments assist in creating a relationship that helps with the investigations they are assigned. They visit all elementary, middle and high schools in the Bethlehem School District and A.W. Becker Elementary School in the Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk School District, as well as St. Thomas the Apostle Parochial School.



The FSU has an expanded role in the way that the department interacts with families at risk. Not only is the unit responsible for all investigations where the suspect is less than sixteen years of age, but is also directly involved in other family matters, such as: domestic violence follow-up, sex offender notifications /management, elder abuse, child sexual exploitation and abuse both physical and sexual, and provides a number of child safety presentations throughout the town.

The primary focus of the Unit is threefold:

Investigations – Members of the FSU conduct a wide range of investigations. Some of the more common complaints investigated are: Criminal mischief, graffiti, drug sales, drug possession and sexual assaults. Additionally, the FSU conducts “sting” operations to prevent the sale of alcoholic beverages or tobacco products to underage persons.



Prevention - Crime prevention efforts are provided to make individuals, businesses, neighborhoods and certain vulnerable persons more aware of how to protect themselves from becoming the victim of a crime.

Education - Educational and informational programs are conducted throughout the year. Presentations such as internet safety, young adult legal rights, elder concerns, home alone and bicycle/walking safety are some examples.

The FSU works closely with the Albany County Family Court, Albany County Attorney’s Office, Albany County District Attorney’s Office, Albany County Probation Department, Albany County Office of Children and Family Services as well as a variety of other social agencies. The members are sensitive to family dynamics and attempt to bring together all of the resources necessary to help a child or family in crisis. Additionally, the establishment of the Bethlehem Youth Court has provided another avenue for the disposition of non-violent offenses. The involvement of students as prosecutors, judge, jury and defense representatives has had a meaningful impact on all of those who participate as well as the offender, who is judged by his/her peers.

## **SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER PROGRAM**

The School Resource Officer (SRO) Program was initiated in January of 1996 with the approval and cooperation of the Bethlehem Town Board and the Bethlehem Central School District. This pilot program was completed at the end of the school year and upon review, all agreed to continue the program full time. The program continues today and is recognized statewide as one of the most successful youth violence prevention programs between a municipality and a school district.

The concept behind the SRO Program is simple. To put another positive role model in the schools to help with children at risk, provide specialized teaching and instruction, interact with children in an informal setting and to provide a presence, which helps to assure a safe, effective learning environment. This partnership between the schools and the police has proven to be a very effective means for sharing common concerns and providing a unified effort in our children's education and well-being.

SROs interact with school administration, guidance staff, teachers, school support staff and students. They attend most school social functions and sporting events. They work closely with school staff and parents to support children entering the Middle School and the High School.

### **Bethlehem Central High School**

Detective Chad Rice is assigned to the Bethlehem Central High School during the school year. Detective Rice is a certified school resource officer, juvenile officer and a D.A.R.E. instructor. He is a member of the New York State Juvenile Police Officers Association, the state and national D.A.R.E. Officers Association and the state and national School Resource Officers Association.

Some of the activities that Detective Rice is involved in at the high school include:

- Teaching and participating in Health and Social Problems classes.
- Participating in Government, Business, English, Physics and Physical Education classes.
- Assisting with student orientation in the move from the eighth grade to the ninth grade.
- Partnering with administration and students to help maintain a safe and orderly environment throughout the school year.

### **Bethlehem Central Middle School**

Detective Mike Whiteley is assigned to the Bethlehem Middle School during the school year. Detective Whiteley is a certified school resource officer, juvenile officer and a D.A.R.E. instructor. He is also a member of the New York State Juvenile Police Officers Association and the state and national D.A.R.E. Officers Association. Detective Whiteley remains an active member of the board of directors for the

Bethlehem Youth Court. Further information about Detective Whiteley and the SRO program can be found at [http://bcsd.k12.ny.us/middle/BCMS\\_SRO.html](http://bcsd.k12.ny.us/middle/BCMS_SRO.html)

Some of the activities that Detective Whiteley is involved in at the middle school include:

- Teaching Stranger Abduction, Project Adventure, Substance Abuse Avoidance and Physical Education.
- Mediation between students.
- Acting as mentor to several students; assisting with personal problems, school projects and family activities.
- Partnering with school administrators in developing and implementing school safety standards as required by the State Education Department and monitoring the response to assure compliance.
- Participating in school social activities as well as professional development programs attended by the teaching staff.

## ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Detective Ken Beck is assigned to all Town of Bethlehem public Elementary Schools during the school year. Detective Beck's primary responsibility within the schools is to present the nationally known Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) program. When not teaching D.A.R.E, Detective Beck is frequently called upon to conduct presentations on various child safety issues to students in kindergarten through fourth grades or to assist the School Resource Officers assigned to the other schools.

## DRUG ABUSE RESISTANCE EDUCATION



The most visible program that the department provides is Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.). Each fifth grade class at Bethlehem Central Schools and St. Thomas School and A.W. Becker Elementary School is provided this nationally recognized program, teaching more than 500 kids each year. The D.A.R.E. program teaches students self-esteem at a critical time during their adolescence and provides no-nonsense information about drug and alcohol abuse as well as preventing violence.

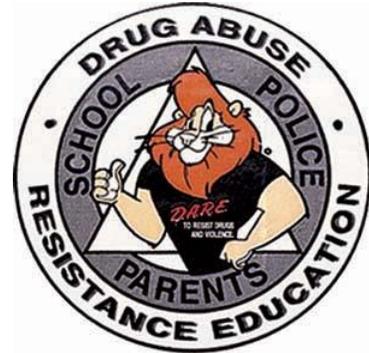
The D.A.R.E. program is sometimes criticized on a national level, mainly because the value of the program is not fully understood by its critics. Any prevention program is difficult to quantify with regards to its success. D.A.R.E. is just one piece of the puzzle that works together with educators, business leaders,

community leaders, the clergy and local government to provide support for adolescents during a difficult time of their life.

The D.A.R.E. Program brings together the many resources in the community in a common effort to provide our children with the knowledge and techniques for avoiding substance abuse, negative peer group pressure and helps to raise a child's self-esteem. The success of this program lies with our ability to bring government, law enforcement, schools, clergy, parents, students and community leaders together, working as partners for the future of our youth.

### **SUMMARY**

The School Resource Officer Program and the D.A.R.E. Program are prevention efforts. Their value cannot be measured or quantified. But in our experience of more than thirty years, we have found that when segments of the community come together with a common mission such as with the schools and the police, the children benefit, the schools enjoy a resource not otherwise available and the image and the effectiveness of the police are increased by making them part of this common effort.



Positive role models in our schools and otherwise in our community provide a base from which our children's lives may be enriched. These partnerships help to provide a safe, nurturing environment and contribute to the quality of life in the Town of Bethlehem.

### **BIKE PATROL**

The Bike Patrol program is used to supplement vehicle operations and provide a presence in areas of the town not readily accessible by patrol cars. It promotes a greater public contact while increasing police presence. Bike patrol officers are also responsible for presenting bicycle safety courses.



## **CRIME PREVENTION**

Preventing crime saves money, saves lives, reduces injury and reduces property loss. The patrol car that you see on the street is by its presence, a crime prevention tool used in conjunction with a formalized crime prevention program that works together with community groups and the elderly to help educate against elder abuse and current crime prevention programs. Specially trained officers follow-up every serious offense to provide information to victims on how better to protect themselves and their property.

## OPERATION ID

Operation ID is a program where Crime Prevention Officers provide a distinctive identification number that can be tracked anywhere in the country by any police department. This number, specific to a person or a family, is then applied to any of the owner's property by use of an engraver, provided by the department. The use of owner-applied numbers deters theft and facilitates the recovery and establishment of ownership of lost and stolen property.

## COMMUNICATIONS CENTER



The Police Department is responsible for police, fire, advanced and basic life support and heavy-duty rescue dispatching in the town. Communications personnel are highly trained and have often sustained life, or helped to revive patients while awaiting the arrival of emergency medical services.

CAD, or Computer Aided Dispatching, is a fully interactive system providing computer based support for daily call taking and dispatching of single and multiple units of police, fire and emergency medical services. All call and unit activity are automatically time stamped and tracked. "Run cards", programmed for all of the mutual aid agreements between fire departments and EMS, quickly identify the appropriate units to dispatch, and thereby eliminating any delay. Access throughout the system by all officers and telecommunicators can be made directly to state and federal criminal/informational systems from any terminal.

CAD also coordinates all information coming in to the police department and records information about persons, addresses, offenses and incidents. This data is instantly available when an inquiry is made about any of these subjects and provides lifesaving information to units responding to an emergency.

CAD can provide information such as hazardous material storage, medical histories, history of violence with a person or at an address and other information that is readily available to the first responders to an incident. CAD allows them to more efficiently, safely and effectively serve the public.



CAD further provides for electronic reporting of data required by the federal and state government, the automatic entering and printing of the majority of reports generated by the department and direct-link

operations to the Division of Criminal Justice Services, Motor Vehicle Department, National Crime Information Center and Interpol.

Future enhancements of the CAD system will provide for on-scene direct entry and inquiry to federal, state and local computer data banks. All of this technology will reduce the time needed for an officer to do paperwork in the station and keep more officers available to respond to calls for service.

Fully implemented in 2011, the eJusticeNY Integrated Justice Portal (the Portal) provides a single interface through which authorized users can access information from a variety of federal, state and local agency sources. The Portal improves the administration of justice by ensuring that data needed to support criminal justice is available when and where it is needed through a single point of access – at the click of a mouse! The Portal represents a significant milestone in ongoing and longstanding efforts to enhance the quality and availability of criminal justice information. By tying information together and pushing it to the “front-line”, the Portal addresses the need for an efficient data delivery system, and provides authorized users with simple and inexpensive access to timely and complete information to improve public safety and the administration of justice.

## **FIELD OPERATIONS UNIT**

The field operations unit is capable of providing all emergency functions, including a direct link to state and federal databases, from anywhere in the town. The unit can be used at the scene of major incidents as a command center.

## **RECORDS**

The Records Section secures and stores all departmental records. It is the repository for all departmental records of arrests, incidents, accidents and other departmental reporting. The Records Section is responsible for data entry and retrieval for all federal, state and local statistical reporting. The Records Section is also responsible for all Freedom of Information Requests received. Only authorized personnel can access prohibited information such as juvenile records, sealed court records, etc.



## NEW YORK STATE SEXUAL OFFENDER REGISTRY

New York State provides law enforcement agencies with a registry of sex offenders who have been convicted and are now living in our communities. The Special Services Division maintains this registry and makes information available to the public as allowed by law. Offender Watch is a free resource available to the public that alerts and informs them about registered sex offenders in their neighborhood.

For residents of the Town of Bethlehem the web site is:

[http://www.sheriffalerts.com/cap\\_main.php?office=54797](http://www.sheriffalerts.com/cap_main.php?office=54797).

There are also links to this resource on the town's web site.



## ACCREDITATION

Accreditation is the process by which police organizations demonstrate that they operate within generally accepted standards. Its purpose is to enhance the effectiveness, efficiency and professionalism of an agency while promoting training and public confidence in law enforcement. Originally accredited in 1990 as the fourth department statewide to achieve this honor, the Bethlehem Police Department received its fifth re-accreditation in 2015.



## PATROL DIVISION

The Patrol Division is commanded by Lieutenant Robert Berben. Lieutenant Berben has been a law enforcement officer since 1987 with a degree in Criminal Justice and has held the positions of Patrol Officer, Patrol Sergeant and Special Services commander.



On June 30th, 2015 Adam Hornick was promoted to the position of Police Commander and assumed a supervisory role of the Patrol Division.

Commander Hornick has been a sworn law

enforcement member since 2000, and has held the positions of Patrol Officer, Detective and Detective Sergeant. He has a Master's Degree in Public

Administration from Marist College and a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice

from the State University of New York at Albany. Commander Hornick has also been an instructor at the Zone 5 Regional Law Enforcement Training Center for new police recruits since 2003, and has been an instructor for Zone 5 in the training of police supervisors since 2014. In 2015 he also began serving as the Region 3 Vice President of the New York State Association of Traffic Safety Boards.



Six Patrol Sergeants supervise twenty-two Patrol Officers and provide the initial response to calls for emergency services. Patrol personnel work out of the main building located at 447 Delaware Avenue in Delmar and out of a satellite office located in the Bethlehem Volunteer Ambulance building on Route 9W in Selkirk.

Patrol vehicles are equipped with modern equipment including multi-channel two-way radios, emergency extrication equipment, hazardous/emergency warning lights, signs and other devices and emergency first aid supplies. All of the vehicles have mobile data capability which enables officers to have a direct link to federal and state data bases from the field. All of the patrol officers are trained to sustain life in an emergency until relieved by Emergency Medical Service personnel and have often saved lives, or even brought a victim back to life, through their dedicated efforts.

Officers are provided with safety equipment to make them more visible in reduced lighting situations, disinfectants and cleaning materials to prevent contamination by the AIDS and Hepatitis-B viruses and materials to clean scenes where rabies exposure or other contamination is suspected. Each car also carries biohazard disposal equipment and evidence collecting gear for safely securing biohazard evidence.

The Patrol Division is responsible for the initial investigation of most criminal offenses and motor vehicle crashes. They provide services that are often found in suburban communities that are unavailable to

larger municipalities, such as assisting people who are locked out of their vehicle, checking vacant properties and homes when people are away on vacation, as well as many "quality-of-life" issues, through a modified community policing program.

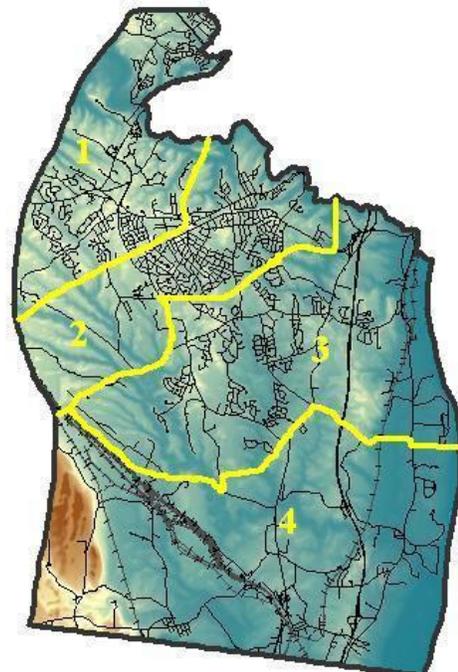
Making property checks for example, is not only a service to our community, but assures that the patrol units get into every residential neighborhood with a degree of regularity. Often the erroneous perception is that the police only patrol the main highways, but this is only because they are more visible to more people at those times.

The Bethlehem Police Department takes a pro-active role with regards to traffic safety. All officers regularly enforce traffic laws in residential areas as well as on major highways and in special areas that have been identified as potential hazards. Two officers are specially trained and certified as federal and state inspectors and conduct road checks throughout the town to assure that commercial vehicles are in compliance with all safety regulations.



Federal, state and county grants have been awarded to the police department, which makes it possible for the Patrol Division to engage in selective enforcement activities and "Community Policing" efforts. Some of these activities include STOP-DWI programs; Vehicular Homicide, Manslaughter and Assault initiatives where a person has been killed or seriously injured by a driver under the influence of alcohol or drugs, and Victims' Impact Panels. "Operation Access", a handicapped parking enforcement effort, educational presentations to students and to the public, seat belt/passenger restraint, child safety seat inspection stations, and speed and alcohol enforcement. The purpose of these initiatives is to save lives, prevent and reduce serious injuries to motorists and passengers, and to be part of a nationwide effort to promote the principles of traffic safety.

The town is divided into four patrol zones as determined by the number and type of calls for service. Zone 1 covers Slingerlands and North Bethlehem, Zone 2 covers Delmar and Elsmere, Zone 3 covers Glenmont and parts of Delmar, and Zone 4 covers Selkirk, South Bethlehem and part of Glenmont.



The Satellite Station, located in Selkirk, is responsible for all of the Zone 4 area and portions of Zone 3. Officers report to

their office in the Bethlehem Ambulance building for duty and work out of that office 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The response from the public for this effort has been overwhelmingly favorable and our ability to respond to emergencies more quickly in the southern part of the town has saved lives and made the police a more visible presence in the community. Officers working out of the satellite office have formed a "partnership" with the community in the spirit of community policing. Initial funding for this very effective concept has been provided through a "COPPS" (Community Oriented Policing and Problem Solving) grant, a program made possible by the Omnibus Crime Bill of 1994. The satellite office is under the direction of the Station Commander, Sergeant Brian Hughes, an experienced veteran of the department.

The Selkirk satellite operation has involved the police department in the community with excellent results. This program and the "Community Policing" concept has shown itself to be the standard for future public safety policies. Community programs conducted in the satellite areas include snowmobile safety, young boater safety, ATV safety, pedestrian safety and bicycle safety. Crime Prevention and Town Senior Services programs are also provided to residents and businesses. Because of the high volume of truck traffic moving through the area, commercial vehicle safety inspections are conducted in conjunction with the State Department of Transportation to assure that commercial vehicles meet all safety standards.

The Patrol Division of the Police Department is the most visible of all of the public safety services provided in the town. The division takes a very pro-active position in the enforcement of the vehicle and traffic law in an effort to reduce traffic fatalities and injuries. Strict enforcement of speed, seatbelt, and occupant protection, child restraint statutes, active drinking and driving enforcement and the many safety features now found in motor vehicles have led to a dramatic reduction in fatalities and have reduced the severity of injuries suffered in car crashes.

Today there is a much greater public awareness of traffic safety issues. Communities demand that their local governments provide highway safety for vehicles, pedestrians, bicyclists, in-line skaters and others who share the roadway. The public is also more aware of their own responsibilities in taking steps to maximize personal safety.

Miles driven on patrol in the town average about 360,000 or more per year. The patrol fleet consists of marked vehicles that are fully equipped with emergency equipment and supplies. Vehicles are maintained in top condition economically and efficiently by the Town Highway Department.

The Bethlehem Police Department has a serious concern for the heavy commercial traffic traveling over the roadways in the town. Industries such as CSX, Sabic Innovative Plastics, Owens-Corning, BOC Gases, Air Products, TEPPICO, Callanan Industries and several large freight and construction companies, put large trucks and other vehicles on the road, often laden with hazardous materials or other dangerous cargo.

We have taken an active role with the State Department of Transportation in monitoring this traffic and conducting periodic road checks to remove commercial vehicles from the road when they do not meet state and federal safety standards.



## TRAFFIC SAFETY



Traffic safety is a broad responsibility for police agencies. The Bethlehem Police Department has established itself as being proactive in many facets of traffic safety while being tempered with consistency and fair enforcement. The department uses the three "E's" generally associated with traffic safety. Enforcement and Education are the

two more commonly associated components with Engineering being overshadowed.

The goal of our efforts is to reduce every type of crash, including those caused by impaired driving, motorcycles, pedestrians, bicycles and commercial vehicles, making our roadways safer. To accomplish this goal we will remain dedicated to traffic safety and responsive to the community.

Our traffic safety efforts are consistent with national programs and target the dangers of aggressive and distracted driving behaviors, occupant restraint compliance, speed enforcement and zero tolerance for operating while impaired by alcohol or drugs.

There are several independent programs that the department has undertaken and remains committed to that allows a greater commitment to traffic safety as well as a flexibility that continually addresses the changing and varied needs of the Town.

In order to understand our commitment, it is necessary to look at the formalized program, which began in the 1990's. The Department received funding from the National Highway Safety Administration, (NHTSA) through the acceptance of a grant from the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee for restraint compliance and motorcycle helmet enforcement. In response, the department created the position of Traffic Safety Investigator in order to meet the goals set forth by the grant. The resulting efforts by this program in conjunction with overall department participation raised the Town's restraint compliance well beyond the National and State compliance level.

As the traffic safety program evolved, the department expanded its role for both enforcement and education. The following are community presentations made by Traffic Safety Investigators:

- Defensive Driving
- Pedestrian Safety
- Occupant Restraint and child passenger safety
- DWI Deterrence
- Mock DWI crashes for High School students
- High School Driver Education programs
- Alcohol Awareness/SLA Seminar
- Commercial Motor Vehicle awareness & compliance
- Bicycle Safety



These topics have been presented in the Town of Bethlehem and in support of County and State events, which have been held at Colonie Center and Crossgates Mall, as well as other venues such as the Times Union Center and the Empire State Plaza.

Officers start receiving their law enforcement education at the Police Academy. Currently, Chief Louis G. Corsi serves as the Board president for the Zone 5 Regional Law Enforcement Training Academy. The following traffic safety curriculums have been designed for both recruit and in-service personnel:

- Commercial Motor Vehicle enforcement
- Standardized Field Sobriety testing
- Breath Analysis Operators certification/re-certification
- Professional Traffic Stops
- Vehicle and Traffic Law
- Traffic Direction and Control

In addition, the department sends personnel to training conferences, provides in-service training and education on legal updates and court decisions to maintain a high degree of officer proficiency.

New York State has enacted “Zero Tolerance” laws for vehicle operators under the age of twenty-one who drive under the influence of alcohol. Young drivers may now be summoned for a blood content as little as .02% and their driving privileges subsequently suspended or revoked after an Administrative Motor Vehicle hearing.

The Bethlehem Police Department was involved in one of the first cases in Albany County that resulted in a license suspension. Subsequently, the department actively participated in statewide training for officers. Attorneys and motor vehicle administrative law judges participated as well.

The department’s goal for community education is to develop voluntary compliance which will further reduce injuries and deaths from traffic crashes, but studies and real experiences have shown that the lessons learned here carried beyond the borders of the Town and impact many other lives.

The department has long realized the changing needs of traffic safety. There is an ongoing analysis of statistics received from the State Department of Motor Vehicles, from data collected by the department and, most importantly, from the involvement of the residents in response to traffic complaints and concerns, which are subsequently investigated and evaluated. The Town is not a large enough sample to forecast broad trends so as to identify clearly a cause and effect relationship. However, what has been seen is that our long term data supports what is being reported on a statewide and national level. This nationwide initiative coordinates state, county and local law enforcement efforts, traffic engineering planning and data collection all in a concerted effort to reduce injury and fatal crashes.

The department’s ability to investigate crashes has also been enhanced by funding with the purchase of an electronic total work station (ETWS). This surveying and mapping equipment, most easily recognized at construction sites, had been adapted for use by law enforcement in the collection and documentation of evidence points. The department has used this equipment for vehicle crashes as well as felony criminal cases.

Partnerships have been developed with members of the NY State Police Crash Reconstruction Unit, which have enhanced these investigations and provided documents necessary for presentations to court cases.

The year 2007 brought about many changes in the department, but especially in the field of traffic safety. The Chief of Police, in recognition and acknowledgement of expanding and redefining the role of the Traffic Safety Officer, designated the position as Traffic Safety Investigator. The Investigator status defines more appropriately their job description.

The department implemented the TraCS system equipping all patrol units with mobile data terminals capable of electronic ticketing and motor vehicle/NYSPIN inquiries. In 2008 the role of TraCS was expanded to include electronic accident reports.

The Division of Criminal Justice Services has added new technology to the breath-testing instrument. The department was able to replace the existing breath-testing instrument upgrading to a new generation of infra-red breath-testing instrument.

The Bethlehem Police Department has recognized that the daily commute for many is a quality of life issue. The department continually looks for ways to improve its response to the community's desire to travel in safety. Education, Engineering and Enforcement are all part of the solution. Safety is everyone's business and, though not a pleasant experience, the issuing of citations is a necessary step in the overall traffic safety program to reduce injuries and deaths. When traffic laws are disobeyed, all users of the roadways are endangered. The department hopes that the use of the three "E's" will encourage all to drive safely and responsibly making our roadways safer for all users.

## **ALBANY COUNTY STOP-DWI PROGRAM**

The Albany County Special Traffic Options Program is focused on the enforcement of the Driving While Intoxicated or Impaired laws and provides payments to localities for enforcement, training, education and equipment. Funding comes from fines collected for DWI and DWAI convictions in local courts. The money is turned back to the municipalities through local grants, administered by the County. The department continues to support the saturation patrols known as DWI Blanket Patrols for alcohol and drug impaired enforcement on the County and State level.



Victim Impact panels, the first of which was conducted at the Bethlehem Central High School, mock DWI crashes, and Students Against Destructive Decisions (S.A.D.D.) sponsored events are part of the STOP-DWI program and have continued to personalize the tragedies resulting from alcohol related, speed and non-restraint use crashes in an attempt to heighten the awareness of the seriousness of this problem. The Traffic Safety Investigators and the School Resource Officers partner with students in a continuing commitment to prevent the unnecessary loss of lives.

The Chief of Police, as a member of the Albany County Traffic Safety Board, is able to assure the department's participation in all regional events. Further, the distribution of federal and state funds to police agencies in Albany County must be done with the approval of this board and the Chief's membership provides for equitable distribution for the Town's share of these funds.

### **ALBANY COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY AWARENESS COMMITTEE**

The Bethlehem Police Department is a member of the Albany County Traffic Safety Awareness Committee, which focuses on preventing crashes and reducing injuries through education and coordination of law enforcement agencies for traffic safety events. The committee also provides programs on child restraint seats and occupant protection. Currently, the department holds child safety seat checks by appointment only.

### **NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION GRANTS**

Federal grants are administered through the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee and provided to localities for specific traffic safety efforts with the approval and recommendations of the County Traffic Safety Board. This provides for a consistent, nation-wide direction in priority areas of traffic safety.

NHTSA is currently funding a traffic safety program to encourage the use of seat belts and child restraints, for the dangers of aggressive and distracted driving behaviors, and for driving while intoxicated or impaired enforcement. The purpose of these grants is to reduce every type of crash.

Public education and increasing public awareness is an important part of this effort. Trained officers go into the schools and teach young drivers and students too young to drive the importance of wearing a seat belt and shoulder harness, as well as using child restraint seats whether they are the operator or a passenger. Parents often tell us how they were admonished by their children for not properly using restraints; the kids often quoting the officer that they had met at one of our training programs. Other programs are presented to civic groups, concerned citizens and professional organizations, all in an effort to raise awareness as to the importance of buckling up.

The Bethlehem Police Department, the Chief of Police and our Traffic Safety Investigators have received awards from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee and the Albany County Traffic Safety Awareness Committee for our efforts, which resulted in seat belt/child restraint compliance, exceeding 80%. This recognition represents the efforts of our officers whose purpose is to save lives and reduce injuries in automobile crashes.

The police department has a continuing Alcohol Awareness Program, which has several purposes - to create a police liaison between the various school, government, parent, student, community and civic groups who share a concern for youths under the age of twenty-one who unlawfully use or possess alcoholic beverages. It also provides factual, non-judgmental information to youths about the dangers of alcohol use and abuse. Our goal is to create an atmosphere in the Town of Bethlehem that tells our children that we know that they have problems, but that we care about their future and are working hard to make Bethlehem a better place to live and grow up. In furtherance of this, our efforts are directed at adults as well as children so that the many influences that contribute to the problems may be addressed.

Our Alcohol Awareness Program compliments our enforcement efforts by providing information to our residents and their children; by becoming part of a community wide effort to intervene with people at risk, or people who put themselves at risk before they suffer medical, legal, emotional or family problems resulting from the use or abuse of alcohol.

## ANIMAL CONTROL



The town has one full time Animal Control Officer scheduled for forty hours a week coverage. Calls for Animal Control Services continue to increase, fueled mainly by the public's awareness and concern for the possibility of exposure to rabid animals and most recently, the West Nile Virus. The purpose of Animal Control Services in a suburban community are best described by Animal Control Officer Richard A. Watt:

"To provide the enforcement of the appropriate Federal, State, County and Town laws, regulations and codes. To provide humane care to animals both domestic and wild. To protect both people from animals and animals from people. To provide educational information to the public concerning animal/people cohabitation. To help coordinate the efforts of different groups and agencies involved with the above. To serve the residents, their guests and their animal companions of the Town of Bethlehem, in a professional and compassionate manner."

Animal Control Services are provided by specially trained and equipped personnel who are also available in emergency situations. They are active in assisting our residents with domestic and wild animal

problems, presenting informational seminars on rabies and other animal threats, licensing, animal cruelty enforcement and town code enforcement.

Animal Control also contributes in many unseen ways, such as a first line of warning for environmental problems and diseases. Animal Control Officers collect and provide the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Wildlife Pathology Unit with specimens that meet certain criteria for forensic examination, such as rabies vector species, suspicious or unnatural animal deaths and various birds such as crows and their related species. Animal Control is and has been for years the single-leading contributor to the New York State Wildlife Pathology Unit of gathered animal specimens in the state. The results of these submissions have provided evidence of illegal hunting, illegal pesticide application and toxic waste. In addition, it allows a variety of other agencies such as the New York State Department of Health and Center for Disease Control to use the information gathered from animal submissions to monitor and understand such diseases as rabies and West Nile Virus.

The Capital District Animal Control Officers Association was formed in 1995 with Bethlehem ACO Richard Watt elected the first president. They are dedicated to:

- Increasing requirements and qualifications for officers
- Improving public education
- Working more closely with the public
- Improving training
- Improving interdepartmental cooperation
- Attaining peace officer status to more effectively enforce cruelty to animal statutes.

Animal Control Officer Richard A. Watt continues to serve the Town of Bethlehem with compassion and kindness, and a dedication to protecting our residents, their pets and wildlife in general.

## Crime Reporting

### NYS Incident-Based Reporting (IBR)

Incident-based reporting (IBR) is a streamlined way of submitting a police department's required crime reports. IBR replaces multiple reports with a single monthly computerized submission. Instead of summarizing key events, Incident Based Reporting records specific incident details, including information about the offender, victim, and property. Data are collected on all types of crimes, not just the most serious offenses. If multiple crimes occur during a single incident, they are all reported. DCJS then uses the computer-generated IBR files to classify the crimes into Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) categories.

### Advantages of Using IBR

**1) IBR reduces police department crime report paperwork and saves staff time.** Uniform Crime Reporting requires the department to submit seven different monthly forms. These forms can be complex and time consuming to complete. IBR files are produced by the department's records management system (RMS) software and submission of most data can be done by email.

**2) IBR improves the accuracy of reported information.** When agencies transition to IBR, they generally report improved accuracy in their reported crime data. Agencies report that there are significantly fewer errors with regard to classification of crimes. In addition, crimes that are reported and then subsequently determined to be unfounded are automatically removed from the IBR submission files. The current UCR reporting protocols have no mechanism to remove unfounded cases from the month in which they were originally reported.

**3) IBR expands the information on the local crime picture which is readily available to local departments.** All participating IBR agencies receive a crime analysis report on their reported crime from DCJS. This report provides an excellent starting point for understanding the local crime picture, and includes details on victims, suspects, crime locations, drugs seized and weapons used. Ad hoc reports are also generated by DCJS upon request. In addition, the structure of IBR files makes local crime analysis, including mapping, easier to do.

## CHARTS

### IBR Offenses

IBR Offense	2014	2015	2016
100 - Kidnapping	7	2	2
11A - Forcible Rape	2	4	1
11B - Forcible Sodomy	7	7	6
11C - Sexual Assault with an object	0	0	2
11D - Forcible Fondling	5	11	13
11E - Course of Repeated Sexual Contact	1	4	0
120 - Robbery	6	2	2
13A - Aggravated Assault	23	14	11
13B - Simple Assault	193	177	155
13C - Intimidation	62	55	54
200 - Arson	3	1	0
210 - Extortion/Blackmail	3	0	2
220 - Burglary/Breaking and Entering	60	60	53
23A - Pocket-Picking	1	1	0
23B - Purse-Snatching	3	2	1
23C - Shoplifting	128	99	170
23D - Theft from a Building	80	75	74
23E - Theft from a Coin-Operated Machine or Device	0	1	0
23F - Theft from a Motor Vehicle	29	40	25
23G - Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts or Accessories	12	11	7
23H - All Other Larceny	205	229	190
240 - Motor Vehicle Theft	11	9	8
250 - Counterfeiting/Forgery	26	44	39
26A - False Pretenses/Swindle/Confidence Game	9	5	6
26C - Impersonation	100	149	95
280 - Stolen Property Offenses	17	11	12
290 - Destruction/Damage/Vandalism of Property	159	159	160
35A - Drug/Narcotic Violations	83	105	102
35B - Drug Equipment Violations	5	4	11
36B - Statutory Rape	1	3	2
370 - Pornography/Obscene Material	9	2	16
510 - Bribery	3	1	0
520 - Weapon Law Violations	31	14	14
90A - Bad Checks	3	6	3
90C - Disorderly Conduct	3	2	3
90D - Driving Under the Influence	70	127	79
90F - Family Offense, Nonviolent	0	0	2
90G - Liquor Law Violations	1	0	0
90H - Peeping Tom	1	2	0
90J - Trespass of Real Property	86	102	67
90Z - All Other Offenses	638	673	611
999 - Do Not Count	2	1	3
<b>TOTAL OFFENSES</b>	<b>2090</b>	<b>2215</b>	<b>2001</b>

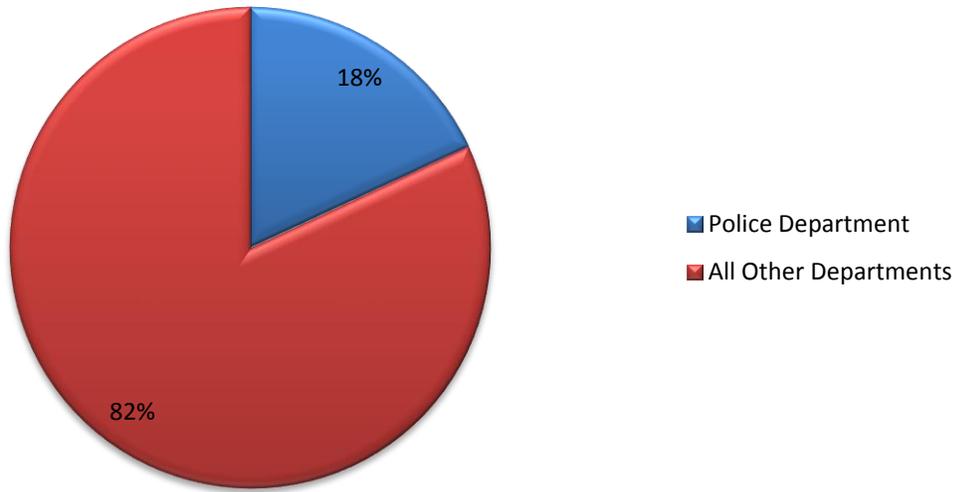
## BUDGET

The Chief of Police is responsible for administering the funds for police services, public safety communications and animal control, found in three separately managed accounts. The majority of money spent within each of these accounts is for personal services.

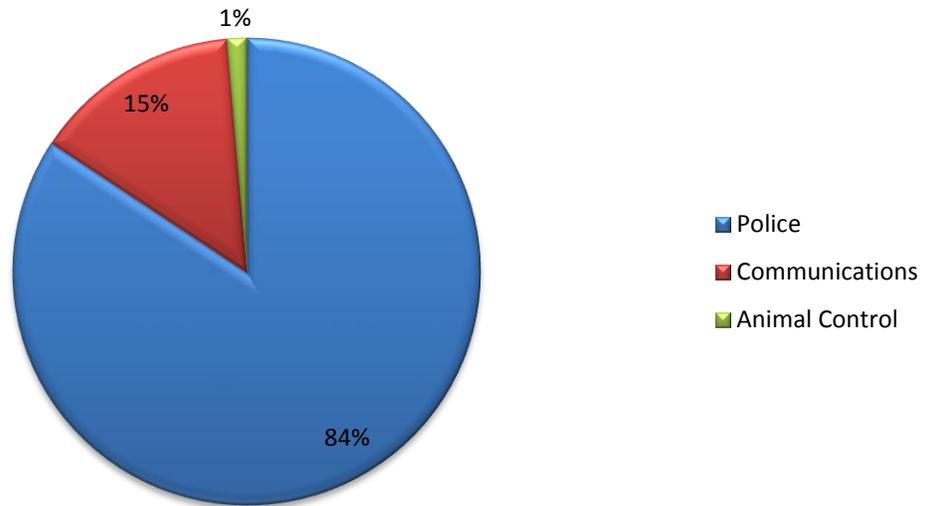
The following is a brief overview of recent budgetary expenditures:

<b>Police Department</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>
<b>Personal Services</b>	5,426,626	5,469,703	5,608,833
<b>Equipment</b>	145,000	151,085	450,264
<b>Contractual Expenses</b>	606,461	615,122	40,522
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,178,087</b>	<b>6,235,910</b>	<b>6,099,619</b>
<b>Communications</b>			
<b>Personal Services</b>	1,013,357	987,532	993,045
<b>Equipment</b>	6,000	6,000	6,000
<b>Contractual Expenses</b>	43,750	41,000	40,522
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,063,107</b>	<b>1,034,532</b>	<b>1,039,567</b>
<b>Animal Control</b>			
<b>Personal Services</b>	75,623	77,071	79,622
<b>Equipment</b>	0	0	0
<b>Contractual Expenses</b>	14,280	17,420	15,467
<b>Total</b>	<b>89,903</b>	<b>94,491</b>	<b>95,089</b>
<b>Department Totals</b>	7,331,097	7,364,933	7,234,275
<b>Total Town Budget</b>	38,312,347	38,557,390	40,004,129
<b>% of Total Town Budget</b>	19.1	19.1	18.1

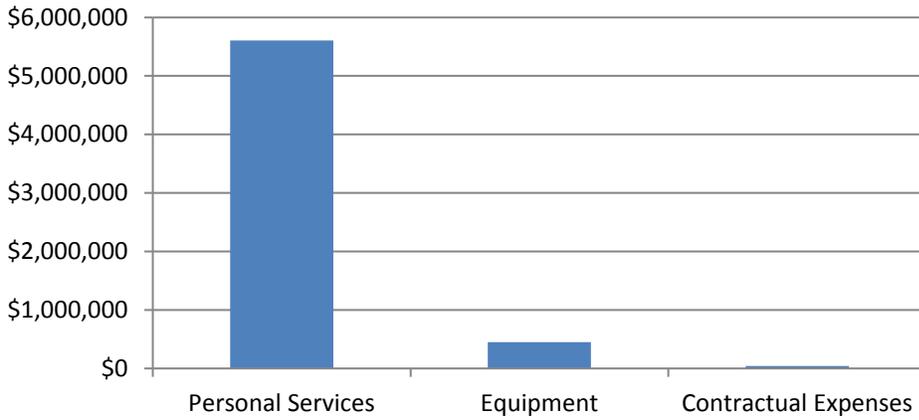
## 2016 Town Budget \$40,004,129



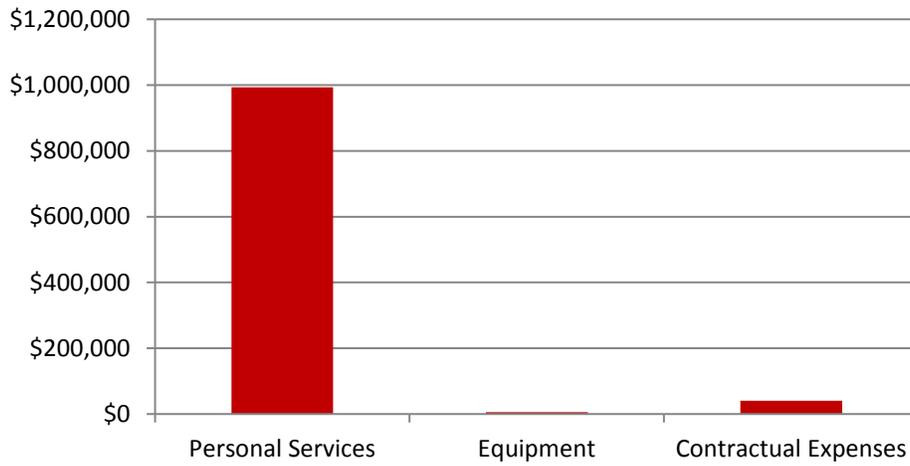
## 2016 Police Budget \$7,234,275



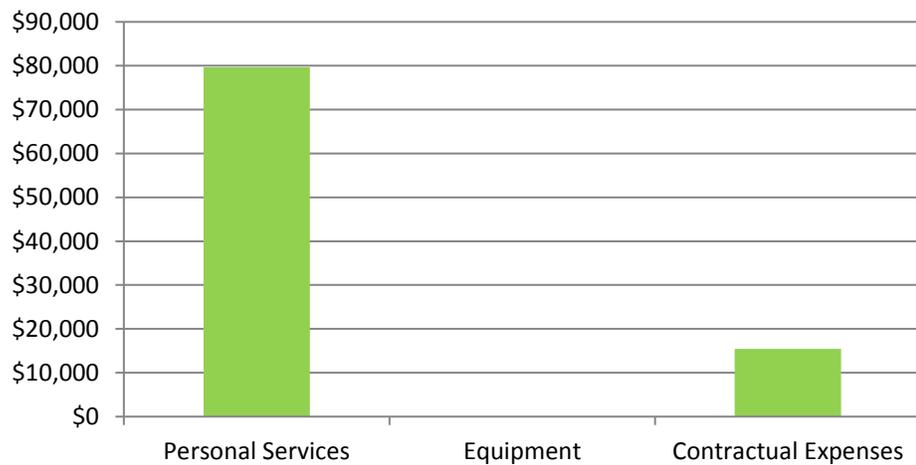
## Police \$6,099,619



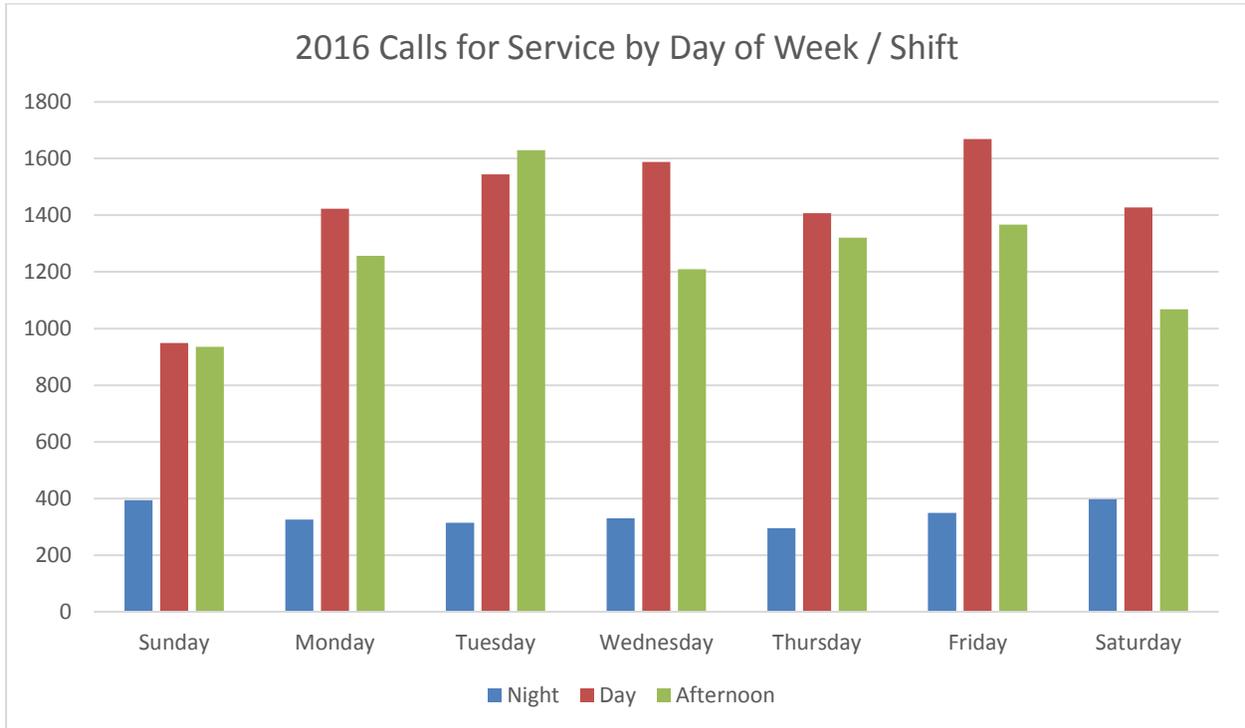
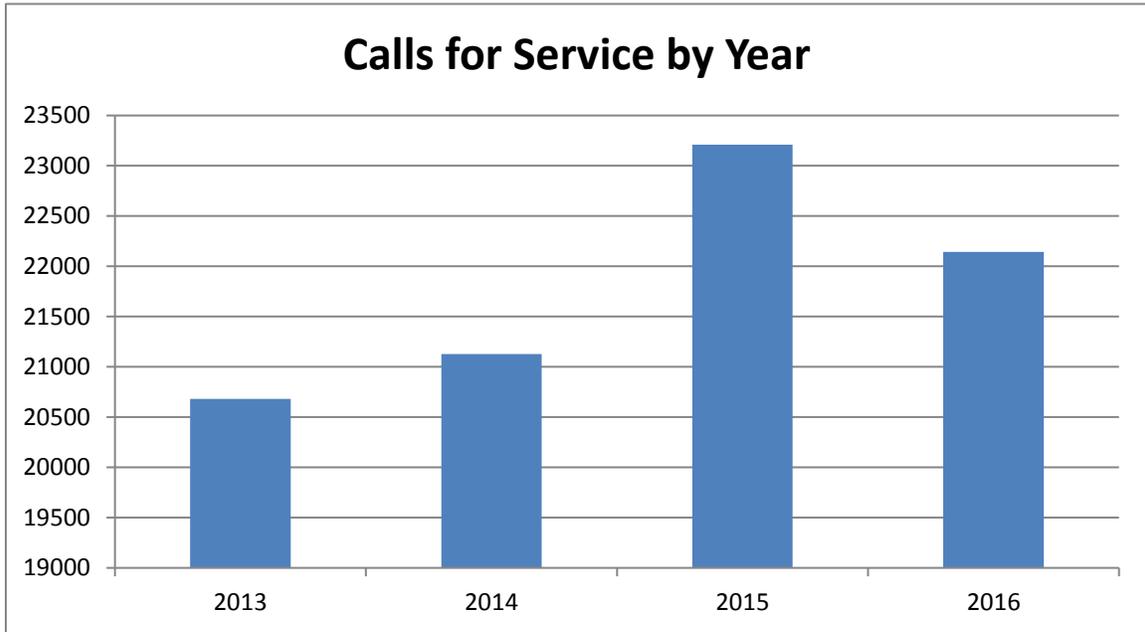
## Communications \$1,039,567



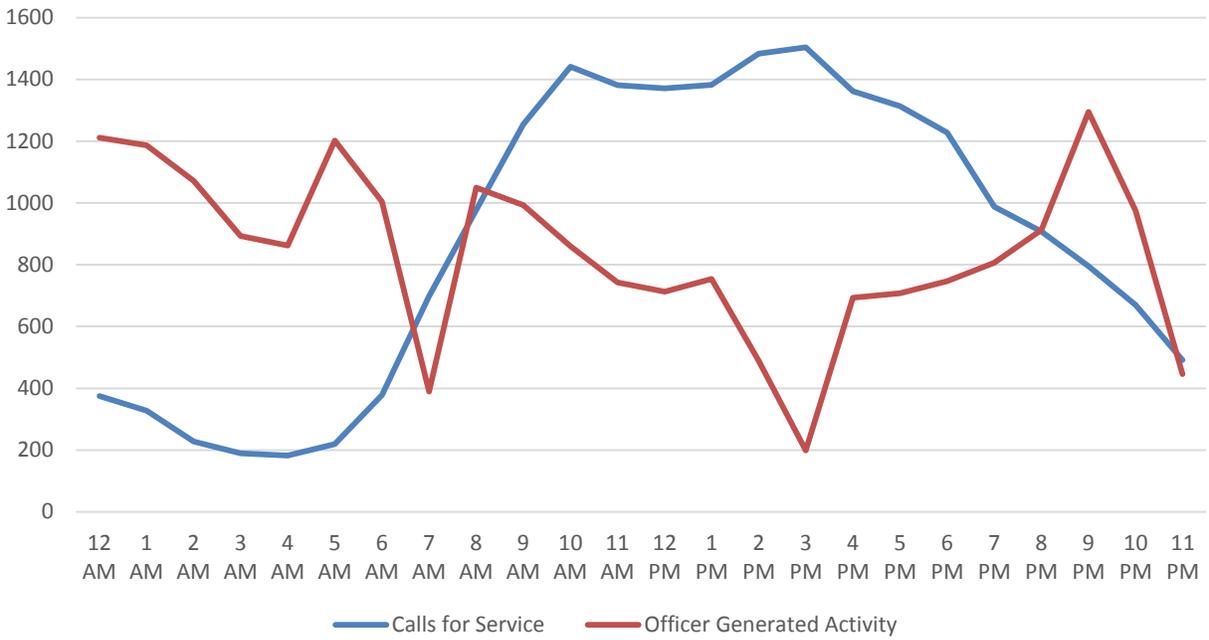
## Animal Control \$95,089



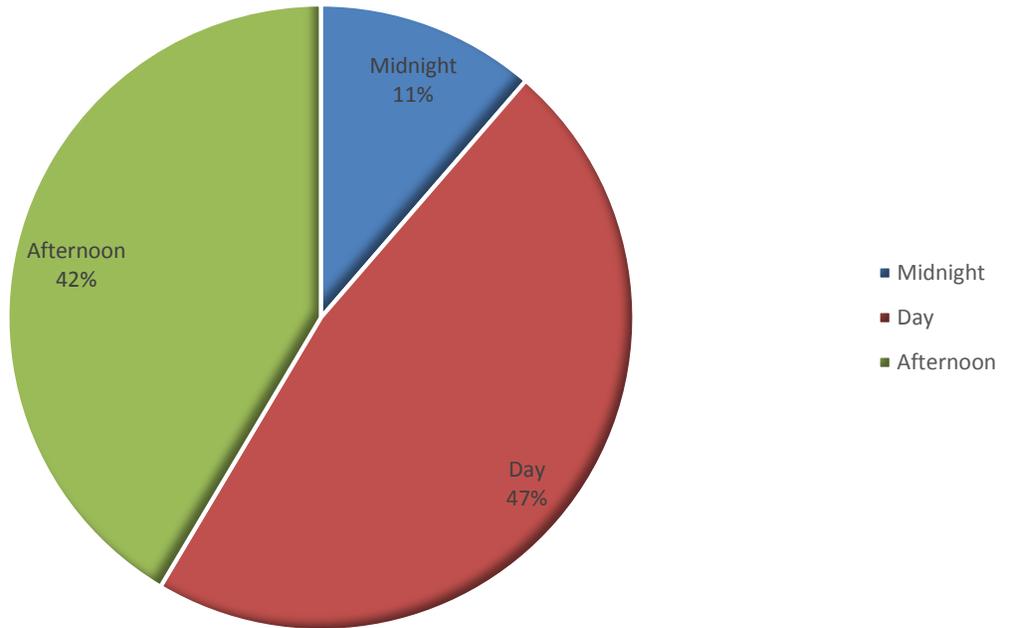
## CALLS FOR SERVICE



### 2016 Calls for Service and Officer Generated Activity by Hour of Day



### 2016 Calls for Service by Shift



## HEADQUARTERS

### Training Hours:

	2014	2015	2016
Police Department Personnel	1,617.50	1,357.40	4,341.30
Communications Personnel	162	0	74
Animal Control	17	0	30
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>1,796.50</b>	<b>1,357.40</b>	<b>4,445.30</b>



## SPECIAL SERVICES

### Detectives

This chart represents the number of cases assigned to Detectives involving these incidents.

INCIDENT TYPE	2014	2015	2016
ABC Offenses-All Other	2		1
Aggravated Harassment	2		5
Aircraft Accident	2		
Animal Annoying (Any Type)		1	
Animal Cruelty	8		5
Arrests-All Other			2
Arson	10		
Assault	6	9	5
Assist Citizen	1	1	
Assist FBI - Task Force	3		
Assist Fire Department	3		3
Assist Other Law Enf Agency		2	
Att Kidnapping	2		
Attempt to Locate			12
Background Invest	9	3	1
Burglary	84	3	8
Check Welfare	2		1
Child Abuse	2	4	
Civil Dispute		1	
Computer Crime		2	
Crim Diversion of Meds		1	
Crim Poss Cont Sub	12	4	4
Crim Poss Forged Instrument	11	2	10
Crim Poss Stolen Property	2	1	
Crim Poss Weapon	6		1
Criminal Contempt	5		
Criminal Impersonation			1
Criminal Mischief	46	20	20
Criminal Trespass		4	
Criminal Sale Any Drug	5		
Dangerous Dog			2
Disturbed/Despondent Person	10	7	5
Domestic Dispute	633	416	407
Driving while Ability Impaired			9
Driving While Intoxicated	17	8	19

<b>Drug Investigation</b>	13	4	
<b>Endanger Welfare of Incompt</b>	6	7	2
<b>Endangering Welfare of a Child</b>	14	5	5
<b>Escape</b>	1		
<b>False Report</b>	10	1	
<b>Fatal Accident</b>	1		
<b>Fire Investigation</b>	4	2	2
<b>Forcible Touching</b>			5
<b>Forgery</b>	17	37	20
<b>Found Animal</b>	4		
<b>Found Property</b>	2	6	
<b>Fugitive From Justice</b>	1		
<b>Grand/Petit Larceny</b>	204	101	49
<b>Harassment</b>	16	12	30
<b>Hazardous Material Incident</b>	3	2	1
<b>Identity Theft</b>	91	33	15
<b>Immigrations</b>		2	
<b>Information</b>	23	24	15
<b>Intimidating Victim</b>	7	2	1
<b>Intoxicated Person</b>	1		
<b>Lost Property</b>	6		
<b>Making Graffiti</b>		3	9
<b>Missing Person-File 6</b>	19	8	13
<b>Money Laundering</b>	28	2	
<b>Obst.Gov.Admin</b>	3		
<b>Overdose</b>	2	1	1
<b>Pistol Permit App</b>		44	74
<b>Poss Weapon</b>		1	
<b>Poss. Marijuana</b>	6	1	5
<b>Presidential Threat</b>		1	1
<b>Property for Destruction</b>	1		
<b>Prostitution</b>	3	1	
<b>Rape</b>	13		2
<b>Reckless Endangerment</b>	1		
<b>Religious Disturbance</b>	1		
<b>Repossessed Vehicle</b>	1		
<b>Robbery</b>	21	8	6
<b>Runaway-No File 6</b>	2	4	4
<b>Scheme to Defraud</b>	10	1	4
<b>Senior Referral</b>	2		

Sex Crime	23	2	20
Sex Off - Fail Register	2	6	
Sex Offender Registry	15	11	3
Sexual Abuse		28	4
Sexual Misconduct	2	2	
Stalking			1
Suspicious Person	2	2	1
SuspPackage	1		1
Threatened School Violence		1	1
Trespass	1	4	
Unattended Death	7	7	8
Unearthed Human Remains		1	1
Unlawful Imprisonment	3		
Unlawful Surveillance	3		
Unlawful Growing Cannabis	2		
Unlawfully Dealing W/Child	4		7
VEH-Stolen MV Recovery		3	
VEH-Stolen MV/Unauth Use		3	
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1485</b>	<b>872</b>	<b>832</b>

### Family Services Unit

	2014	2015	2016
<b>Calls for service</b>	1,004	1,011	1,029
<b>Reports</b>	111	115	121
<b>Adult arrest</b>	46	32	41
<b>JV arrest</b>	21	17	11
<b>Investigations</b>	811	860	865
<b>School events</b>	71	78	65
<b>Referral to CPS/MH</b>	23	22	25
<b>Sex offender registry</b>	47	80	84
<b>Senior Programs</b>	4	4	3
<b>D.A.R.E. classes taught</b>	146	146	146

### Family Services Unit Programs:

During 2016 FSU members also taught the following programs to our schools and community. These multi-faceted programs are designed as outreach programs and are taught in a variety of locations in town. The purpose of these programs is awareness, education, safety and crime prevention. During the

year these family services programs reached our community's youth, parents and elderly population in efforts to raise awareness and partner with the community.

**In school programs**

Internet safety  
 Investigations Q & A  
 US Constitution and Law  
 Career Day  
 CSI  
 Fingerprinting  
 Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety  
 Officer Friendly  
 Constitution Day  
 Men/Women in law enforcement  
 Halloween safety  
 Santa letters

**Community programs**

Cell/internet safety  
 School safety (for parents)  
 Personal safety  
 Camp Counselor training  
 Fingerprinting  
 Crimes against the elderly  
 Consequences of Actions  
 BYC Code of conduct  
 Officer friendly  
 Halloween tour and safety  
 BYC Induction  
 Station tours

**PATROL DIVISION**

Patrol:

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>
Motor vehicle stops	4,727	5,315	5,889
Traffic Arrests	2,590	2,218	2,361
Speed Arrests	454	238	425
DWI Arrests	34	73	50
Violation Arrests	120	141	168
Misdemeanor Arrests	377	563	532
Felony Arrests	145	134	159
Seat Belt/ Child Restraint Violations	98	80	88
Cell Phone Use	96	84	84
Parking/Warning Tickets	159	62	112
Traffic Details in response to Community Concerns	1,167	1,643	3,069
Fatal Accidents	1	0	1
Personal Injury Accidents	141	122	140
Alcohol Related Personal Injury Accidents	4	9	7
Property Damage Accidents	619	642	603
Property Damage Accidents (Non-Reportable)	338	360	335
Property Checks	9,195	11,684	10,086

## SELECTED ANIMAL CONTROL CALLS

	2014	2015	2016
<b>Information Requested</b>	0	0	3
<b>Animal Annoying</b>	243	253	229
<b>Animal Bite</b>	20	10	20
<b>Animal Cruelty</b>	60	87	71
<b>Dead/Injured Animal</b>	265	266	270
<b>Lost animal</b>	152	165	141
<b>Found Animal</b>	142	138	150
<b>Rabies Investigation</b>	34	39	68
<b>Running at Large</b>	248	222	220
<b>Trapped Animal</b>	2	3	5
<b>Animal other</b>	154	129	212
<b>Total</b>	1,320	1,312	1389

## CALLS FOR SERVICE

### Calls for Service by Dispatch Type:

CAD INCIDENT TYPE	
<b>911 EQUIPMENT FAILURE</b>	4
<b>ABC-OTHER OFFENSES</b>	48
<b>ABC-UNDER AGE DRINKING (65C)</b>	4
<b>ACCIDENT-LEAVING THE SCENE OF A PDA</b>	109
<b>ACCIDENT-LEAVING THE SCENE OF A PIA</b>	1
<b>ACCIDENT-OTHER</b>	14
<b>ACCIDENT-PERSONAL INJURY AUTO</b>	146
<b>ACCIDENT-PROPERTY DAMAGE AUTO</b>	793
<b>ACCIDENT-Unknown Injury Auto</b>	15
<b>ALARM-BURGLARY NON-BANK</b>	976
<b>ALARM-BURGLARY-BANK</b>	21
<b>ALARM-OTHER</b>	109
<b>ALARM-ROBBERY BANK</b>	11
<b>ALARM-ROBBERY NON-BANK</b>	7
<b>ALL OTHER INCIDENTS</b>	1807
<b>ALL OTHER SELF INITIATED ACTIVITY</b>	468
<b>Animal Control Request for info</b>	3
<b>ANIMAL CONTROL-All Other</b>	141

ANIMAL CONTROL-Animal Annoying	229
ANIMAL CONTROL-Animal Cruelty	71
ANIMAL CONTROL-Animal In Trap	5
ANIMAL CONTROL-Dead/Injured Animal	270
ANIMAL CONTROL-Dog Bite to Human	20
ANIMAL CONTROL-Dog Killing Animal	2
ANIMAL CONTROL-Dog Running at Large	220
ANIMAL CONTROL-Found Animal	150
ANIMAL CONTROL-General Assistance	55
ANIMAL CONTROL-Lost Animal	141
ANIMAL CONTROL-Overdue Dog License Inv	14
ANIMAL CONTROL-Possibly Rabid Animal	68
ARREST-BENCH WARRANT-BETHLEHEM COURT	55
ARREST-BETHLEHEM COURT WARRANT	127
ARREST-OTHER	47
ARREST-OTHER AGENCY	3
ASSIST-AMBULANCE/EMS	2787
ASSIST-CDPC	12
ASSIST-CITIZEN (DIRECTIONS,INFO,ETC)	1130
ASSIST-FIRE DEPARTMENT (RESCUE/TRAFFIC)	754
ASSIST-OTHER	24
ASSIST-OTHER PD/LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY	305
AWOL FROM INSTITUTION-NOT FILE 6 YET	16
BURGLARY	54
Call Transfer	10
CHECK-FOR DEBRIS IN ROADWAY	163
CHECK-FOR EXPLOSION	3
CHECK-FOR FLOODING CONDITION	7
CHECK-FOR WATER BREAK/LEAK	1
CHECK-FOR WIRES DOWN/ARCING	62
CHECK-ON ROAD CONDITION	47
Child Safety Seat Check	94
COMMUNITY CONTACT	168
Court Security Detail	75
CRIMINAL MISCHIEF	105
DEER-ISSUE TAG	2
Detective Office Investigation	79
DISPUTE-CIVIL	21
DISPUTE-DOMESTIC-BELIEVED/NON-VIOLENT	173
DISPUTE-NEIGHBOR	20
DNA Sample	24
DRUG RELATED INCIDENT	215
Employee Background Check	1

Equip in need of service	58
<b>FAMILY COURT ORDER VIOLATION</b>	38
Family Services Programs	349
Fingerprinting	83
<b>FIREWORKS</b>	44
FOIL Request	156
<b>FOLLOW-UP</b>	916
<b>FORGERY</b>	126
<b>HARASSMENT</b>	48
<b>HARASSMENT-AGGRAVATED</b>	94
<b>HAZARDOUS MATERIALS</b>	26
<b>INFORMATION-POLICE/GENERAL</b>	1056
<b>K9-TRACK-MISSING/WANTED PERSON</b>	1
<b>LANDLORD/TENANT DISPUTE</b>	14
<b>LARCENY-BAD CHECKS</b>	9
<b>LARCENY-GENERAL PETIT/GRAND</b>	289
<b>LARCENY-SHOPLIFTING PETIT/GRAND</b>	150
<b>LARCENY-THEFT OF SERVICES</b>	3
Letter of Good Standing	3
<b>LOCKOUT RESIDENCE</b>	7
<b>LOST LICENSE PLATE</b>	31
<b>MOTOR VEHICLE STOP</b>	250
<b>NOISE COMPLAINT</b>	89
<b>NOISE-LOUD PARTY</b>	4
On Job Injury	22
<b>OPEN DOOR</b>	60
Order of Protection violation	13
<b>OVERDOSE</b>	2
<b>PERSON-ACTING STRANGELY</b>	6
<b>PERSON-ANNOYING</b>	12
<b>PERSON-CHECK ON THE WELFARE OF</b>	340
<b>PERSON-DESPONDENT</b>	77
<b>PERSON-INTOXICATED</b>	12
<b>PERSON-MISSING (FILE 6)</b>	59
<b>PERSON-OTHER</b>	53
<b>PERSON-SUSPICIOUS</b>	380
<b>PERSON-UNWANTED</b>	86
<b>PERSON-WITH GUN</b>	1
<b>PISTOL PERMIT APPLICATION</b>	103
<b>POWER OUTAGE</b>	35
Project Child Safe	24
<b>PROPERTY LOST</b>	94
<b>PROPERTY-CHECK VACATIONS/ETC.</b>	108

<b>PROPERTY-FOR DESTRUCTION</b>	17
<b>PROPERTY-FOR SAFE KEEPING</b>	3
<b>PROPERTY-FOUND/ABANDONED</b>	157
<b>PROPERTY-OTHER</b>	43
<b>PROWLER</b>	5
Record Check	394
Request Report	213
<b>ROBBERY-STRONGARM/WEAPON</b>	2
Serve family court papers	32
<b>SEWER PROBLEM</b>	165
Sex Offender Registration	84
<b>SEX OFFENSES/RELATED INCIDENTS</b>	20
<b>STALKING</b>	1
Street Light Malfunctions	3
TDY Test	2
<b>TEST</b>	57
<b>TOWN LAW-ALL OTHER OFFENSES</b>	1
<b>TOWN-SOLICITING W/O A PERMIT</b>	8
<b>TOWN-UNLAWFUL DUMPING</b>	13
Traffic Detail	204
<b>TRAFFIC-CHECK FOR POSSIBLE DWI</b>	70
<b>TRAFFIC-CHECK FOR RECKLESS DRIVER</b>	3
<b>TRAFFIC-HAZARD</b>	123
<b>TRAFFIC-OTHER</b>	143
<b>TRAIN/RAILROAD COMPLAINTS</b>	14
<b>TRESPASS</b>	16
<b>VEHICLE-ABANDONED</b>	26
<b>VEHICLE-BLOCKING</b>	63
<b>VEHICLE-DISABLED (IN/OUT OF TRAFFIC)</b>	290
<b>VEHICLE-ERRATIC OPERATION</b>	384
<b>VEHICLE-IN VIOLATION (PARKING, ETC)</b>	35
<b>VEHICLE-INSPECTION RE EQUIPMENT VIOL</b>	77
<b>VEHICLE-LOCKOUT</b>	254
<b>VEHICLE-OFF ROAD</b>	39
<b>VEHICLE-OTHER</b>	236
<b>VEHICLE-STOLEN/UNAUTHORIZED USE</b>	8
<b>VEHICLE-SUSPICIOUS</b>	360
<b>VIOLENCE-ASSAULT</b>	23
<b>VIOLENCE-ATTEMPTED SUICIDE</b>	10
<b>VIOLENCE-CHILD ABUSE</b>	1
<b>VIOLENCE-DOMESTIC/VIOLENT</b>	135
<b>VIOLENCE-FIGHT</b>	33
<b>VIOLENCE-OTHER</b>	2

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<b>VIOLENCE-RECKLESS ENDANGERMENT</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>VIOLENCE-SHOTS FIRED UNKNOWN</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>VIOLENCE-UNATTENDED DEATH</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>Warrant Issued</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>WATER PROBLEM</b>	<b>211</b>
<b>YOUTHS ANNOYING</b>	<b>87</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>22026</b>

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## 2016 SYNOPSIS OF SIGNIFICANT CASES

January 2, 2016 – An attempted robbery was reported at a local food establishment. Two male suspects fled the scene prior to patrols arrival. Bethlehem dispatch center put out a BOLO (be on the lookout) for the suspects. Within a half an hour of the broadcast a NYSP troop car located the subjects in East Greenbush. Bethlehem Patrol Officers and Detectives were able to gather the supporting evidence and witness statements to develop this case and effect arrests. The two subjects were arrested, each charged with two felony counts of robbery. 16-077

January 4, 2016 – Bethlehem High School staff intercepted a student possessing marijuana, drug paraphernalia, a controlled substance, a BB gun and a switchblade knife and reported it to the School Resource Officer/Detective. The student was arrested and charged with misdemeanor counts of criminal possession of a controlled substance and criminal possession of a weapon, violations of unlawful possession of marijuana, and unlawful possession of a weapon on school grounds. He was arraigned and remanded to the Albany County Jail in lieu of \$2,500.00 cash/bond. 16-145

January 8, 2016 - After an investigation regarding a failure to make the deposit of over \$4,000 in business proceeds, a female employee from a local business was arrested for one felony count of grand larceny, one felony count and one misdemeanor count of falsifying business records. 16-0388

January 20, 2016 – An in progress residential burglary was reported. A local man entered an occupied residence through an unlocked rear door in an attempt to steal prescription medications from the kitchen. The homeowner confronted the intruder who gave a false name and stated he was there to visit the homeowner's brother. The intruder fled the residence and when the homeowner's brother returned home the two quickly identified who the intruders real identity was and contacted the Bethlehem Police. The man was later arrested and charged with one felony count of burglary and one misdemeanor count of attempted Petit larceny. 16-01034

January 21, 2016 – The Bethlehem Police conducted a SLA (State Liquor Authority) sting at various local businesses which are licensed to sell alcohol. During the sting four business establishments were cited for misdemeanor counts of unlawfully dealing with a child for selling alcohol to an under aged person working under controlled conditions with Bethlehem detectives. 16-01141

January 22, 2016 – A homeless man was charged with one felony count of intimidating a victim or witness and one misdemeanor count of aggravated harassment after threatening the life of an Albany County Assistant District Attorney. 16-0988

January 24, 2016 – Bethlehem police officers and detectives were called to investigate a residential burglary in Glenmont. The homeowners returned home after four hours to find kitchen cabinets opened and food out on the counter tops. An MP3 player was reported missing. A neighbor provided a description of a possible suspect. Patrols spotted the subject a short time later walking on an area road way. When the patrol officer attempted to interview the subject he ran into the woods. ACSD K9 was deployed. On

the K9 track the stolen MP3 player was located. The track was unsuccessful in locating the subject. However, patrols spotted the same subject walking on the roadside a few days later and after a lengthy foot search the subject was found hiding by the riverbank and was detained. The subject did provide Officers with an oral admission of guilt regarding the burglary. The subject was charged with one felony count of burglary and one misdemeanor count of petit larceny. 16-1305

February 2, 2016 – After an investigation into stolen NYS inspection stickers from Jiffy Lube an ex-employee was observed on the store video entering the business and removing the stickers. He was arrested on one felony count of burglary and one misdemeanor count of petit larceny. 15-23197

February 9, 2016 – Bethlehem Police arrested a Schenectady man for one felony count of grand larceny, one felony count of identity theft and one misdemeanor count of petit larceny after an investigation uncovered that he had stolen a debit card from a client at the Center for the Disabled and used it to make withdrawals and purchases. He was also found to have deducted unauthorized funds from a second client's bank account for his benefit. 16-1622 and 16-1627

February 12, 2016 – After an investigation into missing funds totaling \$1567.90 at the Delmar Subway an employee was arrested for one felony count of falsifying business records and one felony count of grand larceny. 16-02427

February 18, 2016 – Bethlehem detectives conducted an investigation involving social media into a man soliciting sex and offering drugs to minors. The Ravena man was arrested after he responded to a predetermined location to meet an under aged female. Detectives concurrently executed a search warrant at his Ravena apartment. They recovered material relating to his social media involvement. The subject was charged with a felony count of disseminating indecent material to a minor and one misdemeanor count of endangering the welfare of a child. 16-2292

March 12, 2016 – At 10:00 pm the Bethlehem police dispatch received a panic alarm from the Corner Store in Selkirk. Responding patrols arrived within one minute of receiving the call to find the store clerk reporting that he was just robbed at gunpoint. The suspect was reported to have taken \$1500.00 of store proceeds before exiting the rear of the store and running into the woods. The immediate vicinity of the store was secured as additional assistance was requested from the Albany County Sheriff's Department, SUNY Albany K9 and the New York State Police aviation units. Within hours Bethlehem detectives identified a suspect and located him at the Red Carpet Inn in Albany. He was charged with one felony count of robbery 1<sup>st</sup>, one felony count of criminal possession of a weapon, one felony count of grand larceny and one misdemeanor count of menacing. 16-4178





March 24, 2016 – Bethlehem Police responded to Krumkill Rd at Russell Rd for a serious personal injury accident with entrapment. A Glenmont woman was trapped inside her vehicle with serious visible injuries to her face, arm and lower extremities. The vehicle at fault was operated by a Watervliet man who had crossed the double yellow pavement markings and struck the oncoming vehicle head on. After a completed investigation of the incident the male operator was charged with

one misdemeanor count of reckless driving, and two traffic infractions for failure to keep right and driving to left of pavement markings. 16-4829

March 28, 2016 - Bethlehem police conducted an investigation at the area Lowes regarding a Troy man's ongoing scheme to enter the store, retrieve items from the store shelves then return the items without a receipt for a refund. Police were called when the man was spotted in the store. The man gave a false identity to the officers and was carrying his nephew's identification. The man was attempting to return three windows for a return of \$329.40. The man was properly identified by the officers at which time he was found to have two active arrest warrants. The man was charged with two misdemeanor counts of petit larceny and criminal impersonation. 16-5028

April 4, 2016 – From August 2014 to date the Bethlehem Police Department in conjunction with the New York State Police, Saratoga County Sheriff's Department, Colonie Police Department and the Guilderland Police Department have been conducting a joint investigation into a series of residential burglaries. In April of 2016 the male suspect in this case pled to one felony count of burglary 2<sup>nd</sup> which carried a sentence of 5 years in a state prison to be served in conjunction with a 30 year sentence for an offense in Saratoga County. 14-13304, 14-13316, 14-19035, and 14-20515.

April 11, 2016 – A local group home employee was arrested after Bethlehem Police conducted an investigation into two separate reports of thefts of credit cards from clients of the group home. An Albany woman was arrested for two felony counts of grand larceny and two misdemeanor counts of petit larceny. 16-5891 and 16-5893.

April 12, 2016 – Pursuant to a joint investigation with the New York State Police, a male suspect from Schenectady was arrested and charged with felony counts of scheme to defraud and grand larceny and one misdemeanor count of petit larceny after he confessed to stealing \$1340.10 worth of area rugs from the Glenmont Lowes. 16-4643

April 26, 2016 - Bethlehem Police arrested three females for an assault of a 17 year old female at a Glenmont residential facility. The suspects were charged with misdemeanor counts of assault and

conspiracy, arraigned in front of the town judge and remanded to the Albany County Jail in lieu of \$3000.00 bail. 16-6813

May 23, 2016- After test driving a vehicle at a local automobile shop, two Albany men returned after the shop closed and stole the vehicle. An employee still in the area observed the two driving into the city of Albany in the stolen vehicle and notified the Bethlehem Police. Bethlehem Police notified Albany Police and in a joint investigation the two were found in possession of the vehicle a short time later. Both were arrested for a felony count of grand larceny and a misdemeanor count of conspiracy. The Albany Police Department also charged the two with criminal possession of stolen property. 16-8464

May 24, 2016 - A call for a residential burglary in progress was received by the Bethlehem Police Department. Responding Officers observed a front window and back slider door broken. Officers conducted a search of the residence and located a Selkirk man still inside the residence. The man was arrested without incident. He was charged with felony counts of burglary 2<sup>nd</sup> and criminal mischief 3<sup>rd</sup> and a misdemeanor count of possession of burglar tools. He was arraigned and remanded to the Albany County Jail held without bail. 16- 8496.



May 25, 2016 – The Bethlehem Police Special Services Unit conducted a State Liquor Authority (SLA) sting throughout the town. Under controlled conditions three businesses within the town sold alcohol to a minor and the store employee in each store was arrested for a misdemeanor count of unlawfully dealing with a child. 16-8671, 16-8673, 16-8676

June 08, 2016- A motor vehicle stop in the Town of Colonie launched a joint investigation with the Bethlehem Police Department that yielded the arrest of two Bronx men for multiple felonies. The men were found to be in possession of multiple forged credit cards that they had previously attempted to use at the Lowes store in Glenmont to purchase \$2039.82 in merchandise. The men were charged with felony counts of criminal possession of a forged instrument, identity theft, grand larceny and a misdemeanor count of unlawful possession of personal identification information. 16-8666.

June 09, 2016 – Bethlehem patrols and detectives responded to a residential burglary. Upon checking the residence, Bethlehem detectives observed what appeared to be blood in front of the broken window and numerous other droplets leading to the bathroom. Detectives secured a DNA sample from one of the

blood droplets in front of the broken window. The sample was submitted to the NYSP lab for examination. The DNA returned on a Selkirk man. He was arrested and charged with a felony count of burglary and a misdemeanor count of criminal mischief. 15- 12540



June 11, 2016 An Albany man entered through a rear employee access door of a local beauty salon and removed an employee's iPhone and iPad mini from the breakroom table. The Bethlehem Police reviewed the surveillance video from the salon which showed the suspect exiting a vehicle. Bethlehem Detectives interviewed the owner of the vehicle used in the burglary and found that he was not the operator on the day of the burglary, however, the interview developed the identity of the suspect. The owner also used the track my iPhone application and traced the iPhone to an Arbor Hill, Albany location. A warrant was signed and the suspect was later arrested and charged with a felony count of burglary and a misdemeanor count of petit larceny. He was remanded to the Albany County Jail without bail. 16-9590.



June 21, 2016-  
Bethlehem Police

Detectives made an arrest after a two month long investigation involving multiple area business locations were damaged with graffiti. The tag was identified and linked to a local Delmar man. The suspect gave a full confession to the Detectives and turned over the spray paint used in the commission of the crimes.

The man was charged with multiple misdemeanor counts of Criminal Mischief, Making Graffiti and Possession of Graffiti Instruments. 16-5404, 16-10056, 16-10151.

July 15, 2016 – A joint investigation with the New York State Police Computer Crimes Unit and the Bethlehem Police Department Special Services Division resulted in a search warrant being conducted at a Glenmont residence. The Glenmont woman was arrested after she was found to be in possession of child pornography. She was charged with two felony counts of promoting sexual performance by a minor. 16-11723

July 30, 2016 – Police investigate a reported rape in Delmar. After interviewing the suspect he is arrested for first degree rape. 15-13191

August 2, 2016 – An area thunder and lightning storm came through the town of Bethlehem and two houses in the town were struck by lightning causing property damage. Fire departments from Elsmere, Delmar, Slingerlands, North Bethlehem and Selkirk all responded. No injuries were reported. 16-12849 & 16-12852

August 8, 2016 – After a lengthy multi-jurisdictional investigation an arrest was made of a Waterford man who was burglarizing numerous residences in the town of Bethlehem and the capital district. The man did admit to over 30 burglaries in 7 counties in the capital district area. In the Town of Bethlehem the man was charged with two counts of felony burglary, one felony count of grand larceny, one misdemeanor count of petit larceny and one misdemeanor count of criminal mischief. 16-13349 & 16-13391

August 17, 2016 – Bethlehem Family Services Detective arrested a Glenmont man for a felony under the NYS Corrections Law after he failed to report a change of residential address to the local authorities. He was also found in possession of a computer laptop with a social media account activated which is in violation of his conditions of parole. He was charged with one felony count of sex offender failure to report change of address/status in 10 days – prior offense. 16-13424

September 2, 2016 – A resident came home to find his window air-conditioner was pushed into his house and a bag of his belongings was next to the same window. Upon police arrival the suspect had already fled. A neighbor had noticed a suspicious vehicle on the block and took down a partial license plate and gave it to police with a description of the vehicle and the operator. An officer searched a database using the information provided and developed a suspect. After the suspect was positively identified in a photo array by the witness a search warrant was conducted on the suspect's residence. A warrant was issued and the suspect was arrested. He was charged with one felony count of burglary and one felony count of grand larceny. He was remanded to the Albany County Jail in lieu of \$75,000 cash /bond. 16-14795

September 27, 2016 – An area supermarket reported the theft of a large quantity of NYS Lottery scratch off tickets. The stores Lottery Security Director uncovered that one individual had been redeeming large quantities of winning lottery scratch off tickets at two other area supermarkets in Clifton Park and Cohoes. A joint investigation with the Cohoes Police Department and store management uncovered a store employee was found to have stolen the lottery tickets. The tickets had a face value of approximately \$2000.00 and a potential value of \$30,000.00. The Cohoes woman was charged with one felony count of grand larceny. 16-16279.

October 21, 2016 – Bethlehem Police Officers responded to a residential burglar alarm. As patrols checked the exterior of the residence they found a rear lower window broken. As the Officers cleared and secured the residence a second call for a residential burglary in progress went out. Town highway employees observed a white male break out the front window of a home and enter the residence. Bethlehem Detectives responded to the call and located a Delmar man exiting the house. The male suspect fled from the scene and was caught after a short foot pursuit. He was taken into custody after resisting arrest. The man was charged with two felony counts of burglary, two misdemeanor counts of criminal mischief and possession of burglar’s tools, one misdemeanor count of criminal possession of stolen property and resisting arrest. The man was remanded to the Albany County Jail in lieu of \$50,000.00 cash/bond. 16-17670 & 16-17671.

November 12, 2016 – In the early morning hours a Patrol Officer observed a vehicle traveling on Delaware Avenue without its headlights on. The patrol officer attempted to conduct a motor vehicle stop of this vehicle. The vehicle did not pull over but instead applied the brakes hard coming to a stop a few times before driving again. The vehicle then crashed into a utility pole. The operator exited the car and after identification it was found that the male was only 12 years old. It was determined that the youth ran away from an area youth center and had stolen the truck from an area community college. The father of the youth was notified of the incident and the youth was transported to a local hospital as a precaution. The youth was charged with one felony count of criminal possession of stolen property and misdemeanor counts of criminal mischief and reckless endangerment. 16-19225.

November 19, 2016 – In the early morning hour’s patrols responded to a report of a motor vehicle crash in Delmar. Upon Patrols arrival they observed a motor vehicle badly damaged in the tree line of the roadside. The officers removed the single occupant/male driver of the vehicle and began CPR until EMS arrived on scene to further treat and transport the man to the hospital. The man was pronounced deceased upon arrival to the hospital by ER doctors. 16-19709.



December 13, 2016- Bethlehem Patrols and Detectives responded to a robbery in progress call from a Delmar eatery. A description of the suspect was provided to all responding units and within a few minutes the man was located in close proximity to the establishment. The female victim identified the man as the one who had forcibly stolen her cell phone. The man was still in possession of the stolen cell phone when he was apprehended by patrols. The Albany man was arrested and charged with one felony count of

robbery and one misdemeanor count of criminal possession of a hypodermic instrument. The man was arraigned and remanded to the Albany County Jail in lieu of \$5,000.00 bail. 16-21098

December 14, 2016- As part of a multi-jurisdictional investigation, a large scale forged check scheme was thwarted as Bethlehem Police arrest an Albany man on multiple felony counts of criminal possession of a forged instrument and attempted grand larceny. 16-21207, 16-21208, 16-21209 & 16-21210.

December 20, 2016 – An under aged girl reported that she received an inappropriate request on her Instagram account by a local business owner. The Instagram request highlighted a photograph of what appeared to be an under aged nude female. Bethlehem detectives interviewed the suspect and secured a full confession. A search warrant was conducted at the suspect’s residence where further evidence was secured. The suspect was charged with one felony count of disseminating indecent material to minors, one felony count of possessing sexual performance by a child and one misdemeanor count of endangering the welfare of a child. The suspect was remanded to the Albany County Jail on \$25,000.00 cash/bond. 16-14795

## 2016 Officer of the Year Award



It gives me a great deal of pleasure to nominate First Sergeant Robert J. Helligrass to receive the Legion's Man of the Year award in the police department.

Bob is a 33-year veteran of the armed services, serving in the United States Air Force. He is also a 28-year veteran of the department, beginning his career in 1989. In 2003 he was promoted to the rank of Sergeant and in 2008 he was once again promoted to the rank of First Sergeant.

In addition to being assigned to the Patrol Division as the department's First Sergeant, he is also responsible for:

- Overseeing the Records Office and Communications Center
- Establishing the Department's Sex Offender Registry
- He plays an important role with Fleet Management, assisting with the development of a fleet mileage and maintenance program extending the life of the fleet
- He's been designated as court liaison resulting in thousands of dollars saved each year through a new planned scheduling model
- Designated as assistant program manager for the New York State Accreditation program, resulting in successful reaccreditation since 1990
- Designated department Quartermaster, responsible for all agency equipment and uniforms
- Assists with range coordination and scheduling of almost 20 agencies, including County, State and Federal agencies
- Purchasing
- Mobile command vehicle

He has been an outstanding asset to the department not just during this past year, but since he came on the job so many years ago. The men and women of the Bethlehem Police Department thank the Legion for their continued support over the years, and for honoring Bob Helligrass.

Very truly yours,  
*Louis G Corsi*  
Louis G. Corsi  
Chief of Police