

Bethlehem Police Department



2019

Annual Report

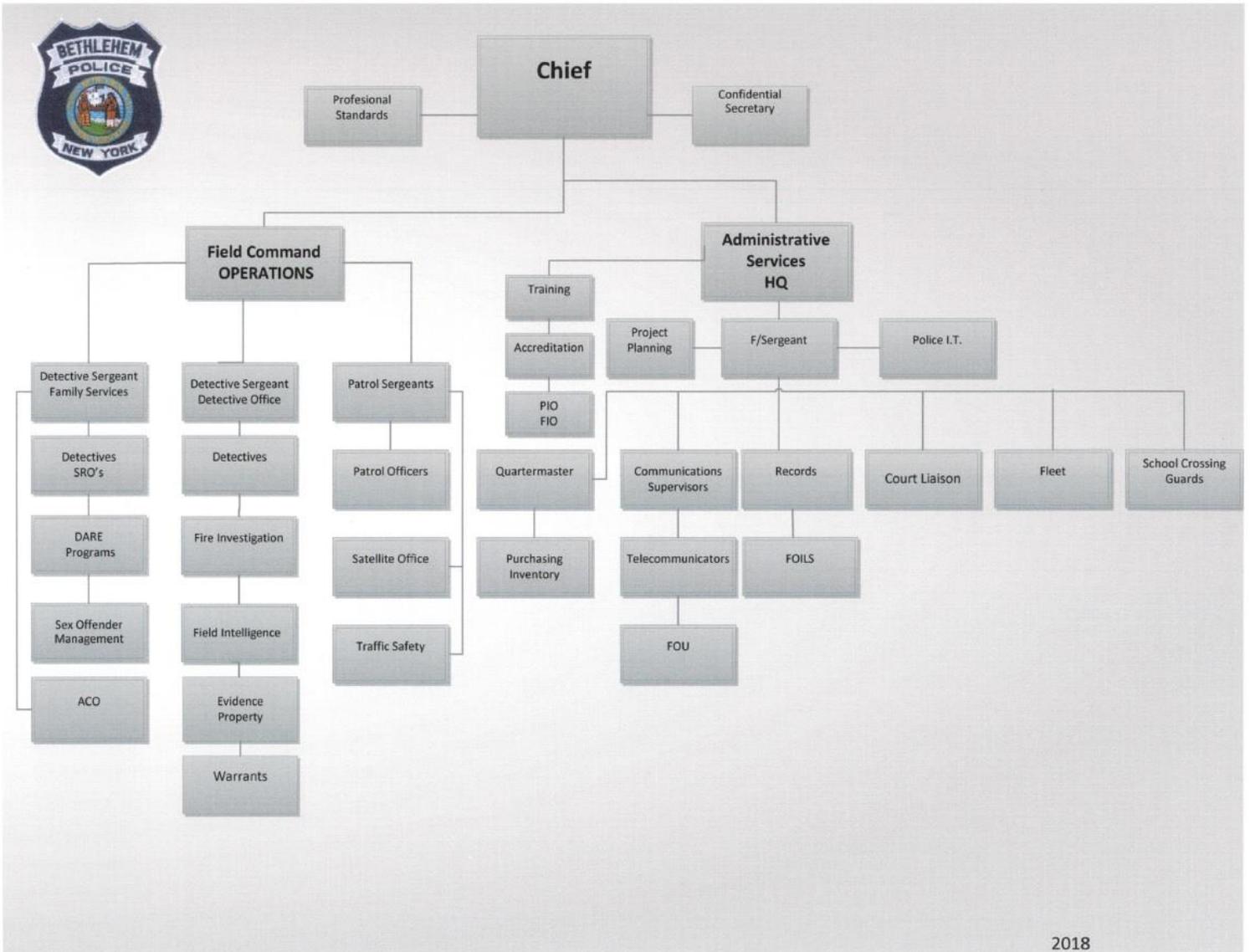
Town of Bethlehem, New York

Contents

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART	4
CONTACT THE DEPARTMENT	5
DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL	6
ADMINISTRATION	7
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIVISION - HEADQUARTERS.....	9
TRAINING	10
FLEET MANAGEMENT	11
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	11
COMMUNICATIONS CENTER.....	13
FIELD OPERATIONS UNIT	15
RECORDS	15
ACCREDITATION.....	16
FIELD COMMAND – OPERATIONS DIVISION	17
TRAFFIC SAFETY	20
ALBANY COUNTY STOP DWI PROGRAM	24
ALBANY COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY AWARENESS COMMITTEE	25
DETECTIVE OFFICE	25
FAMILY SERVICES UNIT	26
SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER PROGRAM	27
DRUG ABUSE RESISTANCE EDUCATION	28
SUMMARY.....	28
BIKE PATROL	29
NEW YORK STATE SEXUAL OFFENDER REGISTRY.....	29
ANIMAL CONTROL	29
Crime Reporting.....	31
CHARTS	32
IBR Offenses.....	32
CALLS FOR SERVICE.....	32
HEADQUARTERS.....	35
Training Hours:.....	35

SPECIAL SERVICES	35
Family Services Unit.....	35
Family Services Unit Programs:	35
PATROL DIVISION.....	36
Patrol:.....	36
SELECTED ANIMAL CONTROL CALLS	37
CALLS FOR SERVICE	37
Calls for Service by Dispatch Type:	37
2019 SYNOPSIS OF SIGNIFICANT CASES.....	42
2019 Annual Awards Ceremony	51
2019 Officer of the Year Award	52
2019 Promotion Ceremony	55

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



2018

CONTACT THE DEPARTMENT

Field Command Operations

Commander Adam N. Hornick
ahornick@townofbethlehem.org
518-439-9973 ext. 1211

Family Services Unit

Detective Sergeant Gina F. Cocchiara
gcocchiara@townofbethlehem.org
518-439-9973 ext. 1212

Detective Office

Detective Sergeant James E. Cross Jr.
jcross@townofbethlehem.org
518-439-9973 ext. 1213

Administrative Services HQ

Deputy Chief Thomas M. Haffernan Jr.
theffernan@townofbethlehem.org
518-439-9973 ext. 1208

First Sergeant Brian Hughes
bhughes@townofbethlehem.org
518-439-9973 ext. 1205

Field Command – Operations Patrol

A- Line (Overnight Shift)

Sergeant Francis R. Muller
fmuller@townofbethlehem.org
518-439-9973 ext. 1358

Sergeant Robert C. Baldwin Jr.
rbaldwin@townofbethlehem.org
518-439-9973 ext. 1377

B-Line (Day Shift)

Sergeant Christopher Shunk
cshunk@townofbethlehem.org
518-439-9973 ext. 1364

Sergeant Michael A. Cozy
mcozy@townofbethlehem.org
518-439-9973 ext. 1363

C-Line (Afternoon Shift)

Master Sergeant James L. Rexford
jrexford@townofbethlehem.org
518-439-9973 ext. 1351

Sergeant Michael Whiteley
mwhiteley@townofbethlehem.org
518-439-9973 ext. 1360

DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL

2019 DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL

Chief of Police

Louis G. Corsi

Deputy Chief of Police

Thomas M. Heffernan, Jr.

Commander

Adam N. Hornick

Administrative Sergeant

Brian A. Hughes

Patrol Sergeants

James L. Rexford

Christopher Shunk

Francis R. Muller

Michael A. Cozzy

Robert C. Baldwin, Jr.

Michael S. Whiteley

Detective Sergeants

Gina F. Cocchiara

James E. Cross, Jr.

Detectives

Charles H. Radliff, Jr.

Chad A. Rice

Gerald N. Young

Kenneth G. Beck, Jr.

Adam H. Cobb

I.T. Officer

Scott P. Galough

Traffic Safety Investigators

Craig M. Sleurs

William D. Austin

Patrol Officers

Peter Resnick

David T. Caputo

Michael J. Berben

Timothy C. Travis

Rico R. Fiore

Jeffrey M. Gallagher

Chad A. Ferraro

Ryan W. VanAmburgh

James E. Corrigan

Mark D. Gorman Sr.

Brian P. Mahan

Kristen Spinnato

Yekaterina Dickerson

Roy K. Swann Jr.

Caitlyn A. Krage

Isaiah F. Burton

Matthew J. Dring

Amanda L. Mueller

Andrew T. Hynes

Senior Telecommunicator

Brent W. Dragon

Telecommunicators

Brian J. Sleurs

Melissa J. Powell

Sharon E. Huether

Jared L. Willard

Katherine A. Gould

Melissa Harnett

Jessica Falconiere *

Kristina Leamy

Alex Griffin

Joanna Nunziato

Animal Control Officers

Richard A. Watt **

Kevin D. McDonough

Kevin R. Vantine

Secretary to the Chief

Diana Jacon

Records

Frances Andriano

Brianna M. Tice

School Crossing Guards

Isabella D. Glastetter

Mike Roberts

Jennifer Hammond

Stacey Logsdon

Bertie C. Reed, Jr.

Mary Root

Jean Krell

William Krell

Erika Geist

** Resigned in 2019*

*** Retired in 2019*

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.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIVISION - HEADQUARTERS

Deputy Chief Thomas M. Heffernan, Jr. began his law enforcement career in 1990. He commands the Administrative Services Division and is responsible for assisting the Chief of Police in directing and overseeing all phases of administration and police services. He is second in command of the Bethlehem Police Department and in the absence of the Chief, directs all operations. Deputy Chief Heffernan has served as a Patrol Officer, Patrol Sergeant, Lieutenant and Deputy Chief over the years. He holds an Associates degree in Criminal Justice and is a graduate of the FBI National Academy Program in Quantico, Virginia.

The responsibilities of the Administrative Services Division include counter terrorism intelligence, Program Manager New York State Accreditation Program, departmental training, overseeing public safety communications, E-911 emergency phone system, computer aided dispatch, police hard copy and electronic records, federal and state record reporting, Freedom of Information requests, 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. Deputy Chief Heffernan 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. First Sergeant Brian Hughes is second in command of the division and oversees the records section.

The Administrative Services Division works in cooperation with the Human Resources department to handle personnel matters, including recruiting, screening, interviewing, hiring, training, union grievances, contract negotiations, matters of internal affairs and disciplinary procedures. Additionally, Deputy Chief Heffernan represents the police department on the town's Health and Safety/Risk Assessment Committee. The committee is responsible for developing, reviewing and monitoring town wide policies and procedures. He works closely with PERMA to reduce job related injuries through training and best practices.

TRAINING

The Administrative Services Division is responsible for coordinating departmental training, researching training opportunities and staying current and up to date with training certifications and requirements.

Deputy Chief Heffernan schedules personnel to attend training and sets up in-house programs for law enforcement agencies throughout upstate New York. The Bethlehem Police Department is known statewide for its commitment to law enforcement training and views education as a priority.



Some examples of annual training include:

- Sexual Harassment
- Workplace Violence
- 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



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 Administrative Services Division oversees the police department's fleet of vehicles, consisting of marked and unmarked patrol cars, unmarked administrative, command, detective cars and specialty vehicles. (Field Operations Unit, Forensic Unit 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

Administrative Services 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 twenty three mobile data terminals or MDTs. Each patrol MDT is a ruggedized Panasonic Toughbook with several peripherals to include a printer, barcode scanner, GPS, and cellular connectivity. Cellular connectivity allows 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. 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.



The Police Department is currently in a project to outfit every patrol car with an in car camera system. At the time of this report, most of the fleet has been outfitted with the new Coban cameras.

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.

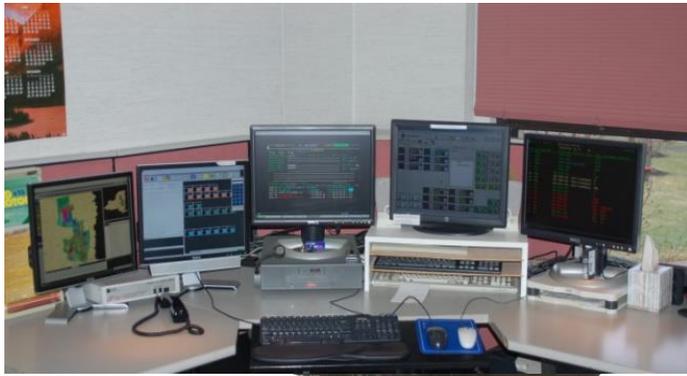
Fingerprints are no longer done on print cards, but via a laser fingerprinting system that captures the fingerprints and instantly digitizes them for transmission to NYS DCJS and the FBI. Photographs are also done digitally and transmitted along with the fingerprints allowing for rapid confirmation of 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.



Administrative Services administers a secure 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.

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 is often used at special details throughout the town and 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.

ACCREDITATION

The New York State Accreditation program 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 and currently preparing for its sixth re-accreditation in 2020.



FIELD COMMAND – OPERATIONS DIVISION



The Field Command Operations Division is led by Commander Adam Hornick. 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. From 2015 to 2017 he also served as the Region 3 Vice President of the

New York State Association of Traffic Safety Boards.

Six Patrol Sergeants supervise twenty-one Patrol Officers and provide the initial response to calls for emergency services. Patrol personnel work out of the main station located at 447 Delaware Avenue in Delmar and out of a satellite office located in the Delmar-Bethlehem Volunteer Ambulance building at 1121 Route 9W in Selkirk.

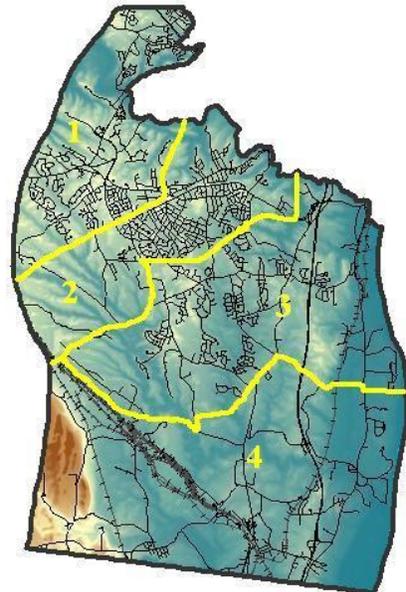
Patrol vehicles are equipped with the most modern police equipment including multi-channel 800 mhz. two-way radios, emergency extrication equipment, hazardous/emergency warning lights, tactical vests, patrol rifles, RADAR and other devices and emergency first aid supplies. All of the vehicles have mobile data capability which enables officers to have a direct link to federal, state and local data bases from the field. The patrol car is a modern day office with all of the capabilities an officer has at the station being available in 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.

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.

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.



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, 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. 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.

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. 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, TEPPCO, 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.



The Bethlehem Police Department partners with the New York State Governor’s Traffic Safety Committee and continues to receive grants to increase our efforts in ensuring safe roadways in the Town. These efforts focus on education and enforcement of driver’s and are deployed in areas in our Town that are identified as high crash areas based on the regular review of traffic crash data. Data driven policing has helped our agency to concentrate efforts in high crash areas and target specific types of offenses in these areas. The Bethlehem Police Department continues to be a leader in setting up high-visibility multi-agency enforcement efforts in these high crash areas.





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.

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 Crossgates Mall, as part of the annual Albany County Traffic Safety Show.

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 has the TraCS system equipping all patrol units with mobile data terminals capable of electronic ticketing and crash reports, as well as motor vehicle/NYSPIN inquiries. 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.



See!

- Expect pedestrians.
- Pay attention!
Don't text while driving!
- Obey the speed limit.

Be Seen!

- Use crosswalks.
- Obey signals.
- Look left, look right,
look left again!
- Pay attention!
Don't text while crossing!

Pedestrian Safety: It's no Accident.



ALBANY COUNTY STOP DWI PROGRAM

The Albany County STOP DWI 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.

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.

The Detective Office is also responsible for all vice related investigations, including drug and narcotics investigations. With the ever prevalent opioid epidemic the detective office has continued to see a increasing caseload. Coupled with a significant rise in identity theft related crimes and new technology like crypto-currency the roles of the detectives is ever changing and they are called on to investigate more complex crimes involving suspects all over the country and the world.

FAMILY SERVICES UNIT

The Family Services Unit (FSU) consists of three Detectives, two School Resource Officers and a Detective Sergeant, all are certified DARE instructors. 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.

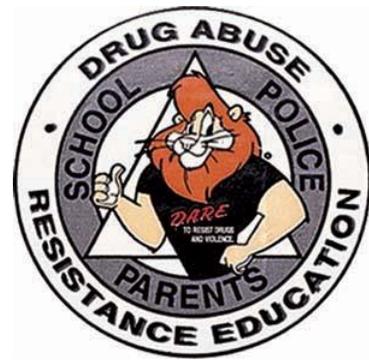
DRUG ABUSE RESISTANCE EDUCATION



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.

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



ANIMAL CONTROL

The town has one full time Animal Control Officer, and in 2018 added one part time Animal Control Officer. 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 veteran 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.

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.

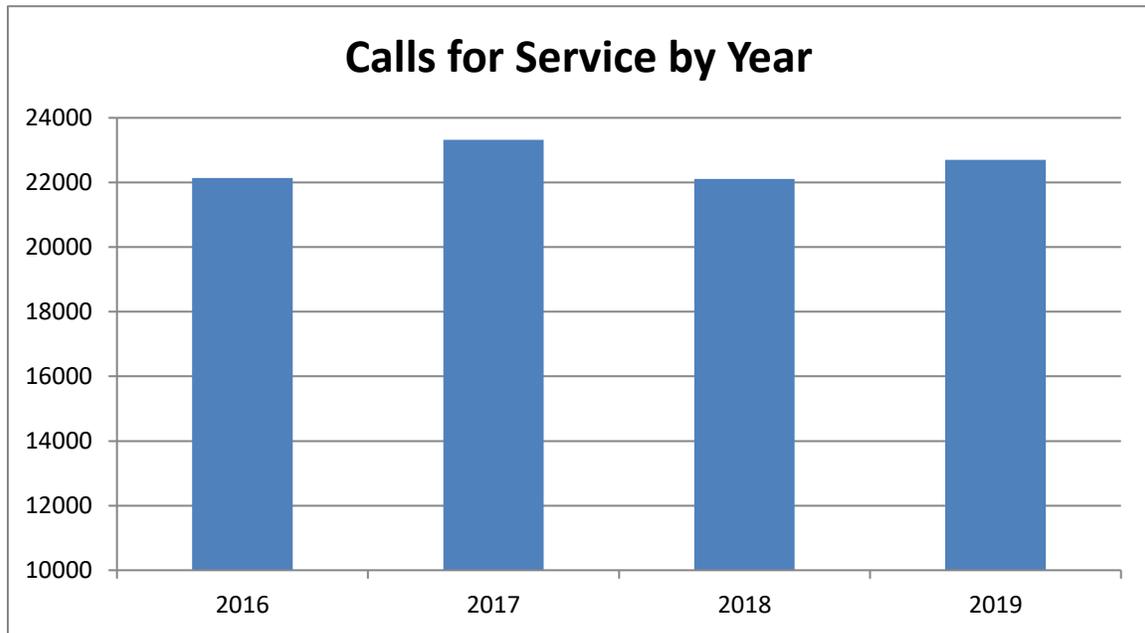
2) IBR improves the accuracy of reported information. When agencies transition to IBR, they generally report improved accuracy in their reported crime data. Agencies report that there are significantly fewer errors with regard to classification of crimes. In addition, crimes that are reported and then 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.

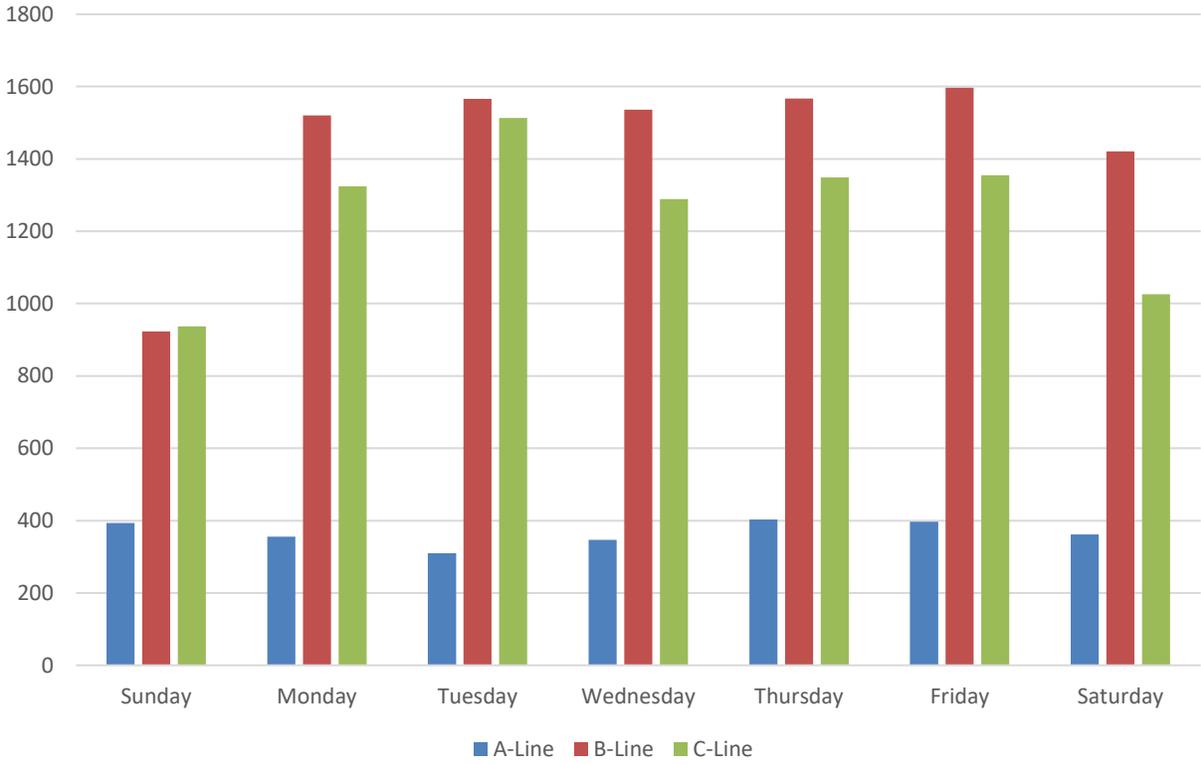
CHARTS

IBR Offenses

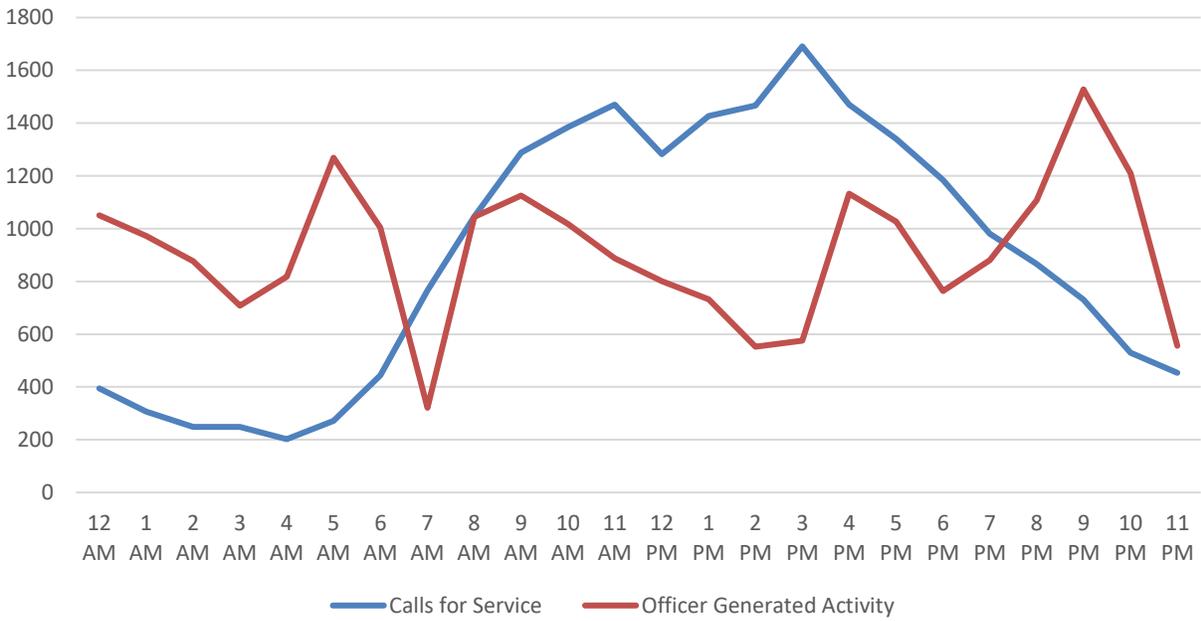
CALLS FOR SERVICE



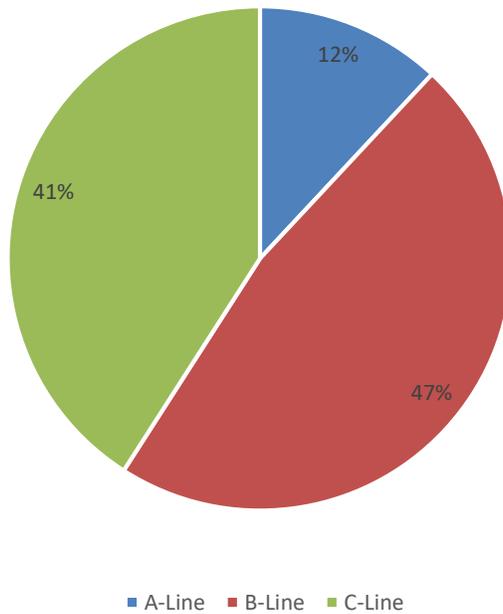
2019 Calls for Service by Day of Week / Shift



2019 Calls for Service and Officer Generated Activity by Hour of Day



2019 Calls for Service by Shift



HEADQUARTERS

Training Hours:

	2017	2018	2019
Police Department Personnel	2,107	2,343	3,162
Communications Personnel	170	314	133
Animal Control	0	18	33
TOTALS	2,277	2,675	3,327

SPECIAL SERVICES

Family Services Unit

	2017	2018	2019
Calls for service	985	1211	1415
Reports	96	130	124
Adult arrest	21	17	20
JV arrest	16	25	18
Investigations	486	623	616
School events	65	55	74
Referral to CPS/MH	21	18	24
Sex offender registry	67	65	97
Senior Programs	2	1	5
D.A.R.E. classes taught	156	170	170

Family Services Unit Programs:

During 2019 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>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>
Motor vehicle stops	8,166	7,991	7,229
Traffic Arrests	3,606	3,985	3,956
Speed Arrests	594	511	558
DWI Arrests	56	35	37
Violation Arrests	348	279	124
Misdemeanor Arrests	480	394	456
Felony Arrests	117	74	128
Seat Belt/ Child Restraint Violations	154	104	117
Cell Phone Use	256	200	187
Parking/Warning Tickets	290	138	292
Traffic Details in response to Community Concerns	3,461	4,200	3,792
Fatal Accidents	1	0	1
Personal Injury Crashes	125	133	121
Alcohol Related Personal Injury Crashes	9	4	3
Property Damage Crashes	661	701	645
Property Damage Crashes (Non-Reportable)	279	325	290
Property Checks	9,939	10,952	10,233

SELECTED ANIMAL CONTROL CALLS

	2017	2018	2019
Information Requested	2	0	0
Animal Annoying	241	195	153
Animal Bite	18	9	26
Animal Cruelty	81	74	70
Dead/Injured Animal	303	328	319
Lost animal	165	130	108
Found Animal	130	95	95
Rabies Investigation	101	79	33
Running at Large	207	165	144
Trapped Animal	7	4	6
Animal other	95	214	276
Total	1,350	1,293	1,230

CALLS FOR SERVICE

Calls for Service by Dispatch Type:

911 EQUIPMENT FAILURE Count	4
ABC-UNDER AGE DRINKING (65C) Count	2
ACCIDENT-LEAVING THE SCENE OF A PDA Count	116
ACCIDENT-OTHER Count	25
ACCIDENT-PERSONAL INJURY AUTO Count	133
ACCIDENT-PROPERTY DAMAGE AUTO Count	778
ACCIDENT-Unknown Injury Auto Count	4
ALARM-BURGLARY NON-BANK Count	1007
ALARM-BURGLARY-BANK Count	12
ALARM-OTHER Count	93
ALARM-ROBBERY BANK Count	4
ALARM-ROBBERY NON-BANK Count	2
ALL OTHER INCIDENTS Count	2085
ALL OTHER SELF INITIATED ACTIVITY Count	643
ANIMAL CONTROL-All Other Count	183
ANIMAL CONTROL-Animal Annoying Count	153

ANIMAL CONTROL-Animal Cruelty Count	70
ANIMAL CONTROL-Animal In Trap Count	6
ANIMAL CONTROL-Dead/Injured Animal Count	319
ANIMAL CONTROL-Dog Bite to Human Count	26
ANIMAL CONTROL-Dog Running at Large Count	144
ANIMAL CONTROL-Found Animal Count	95
ANIMAL CONTROL-General Assistance Count	40
ANIMAL CONTROL-Lost Animal Count	108
ANIMAL CONTROL-Overdue Dog License Inv Count	53
ANIMAL CONTROL-Possibly Rabid Animal Count	33
ARREST-BENCH WARRANT-BETHLEHEM COURT Count	46
ARREST-BETHLEHEM COURT WARRANT Count	111
ARREST-OTHER Count	95
ARREST-OTHER AGENCY Count	3
ASSIST-AMBULANCE/EMS Count	3021
ASSIST-CITIZEN (DIRECTIONS,INFO,ETC) Count	777
ASSIST-FIRE DEPARTMENT (RESCUE/TRAFFIC) Count	682
ASSIST-OTHER Count	31
ASSIST-OTHER PD/LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY Count	242
ATTEMPT TO STOP Count	3
AWOL FROM INSTITUTION-NOT FILE 6 YET Count	22
BURGLARY Count	24
Call Transfer Count	4
CHECK-FOR DEBRIS IN ROADWAY Count	213
CHECK-FOR EXPLOSION Count	3
CHECK-FOR FLOODING CONDITION Count	12
CHECK-FOR WIRES DOWN/ARCING Count	61
CHECK-ON ROAD CONDITION Count	63
Child Safety Seat Check Count	87
COMMUNITY CONTACT Count	21
Court Security Detail Count	76
CRIMINAL MISCHIEF Count	89
DEER-ISSUE TAG Count	4
Department Sponsored Program Count	4
Detective Office Investigation Count	75
DISORDERLY CONDUCT/PERSON Count	3
DISPUTE-CIVIL Count	12
DISPUTE-DOMESTIC-BELIEVED/NON-VIOLENT Count	191

DISPUTE-NEIGHBOR Count	43
DNA Sample Count	16
DRUG RELATED INCIDENT Count	200
Employee Background Check Count	1
Equip in need of service Count	16
FAMILY COURT ORDER VIOLATION Count	28
Family Services Programs Count	288
Fingerprinting Count	91
FIREWORKS Count	48
FOIL Request Count	303
FOLLOW-UP Count	954
FORGERY Count	106
HARASSMENT Count	59
HARASSMENT-AGGRAVATED Count	71
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS Count	14
INFORMATION-POLICE/GENERAL Count	1067
LANDLORD/TENANT DISPUTE Count	8
LARCENY-BAD CHECKS Count	6
LARCENY-GENERAL PETIT/GRAND Count	291
LARCENY-POSSESSION OF STOLEN PROPERTY Count	2
LARCENY-SHOPLIFTING PETIT/GRAND Count	120
LARCENY-THEFT OF SERVICES Count	4
Letter of Good Standing Count	11
LOCKOUT RESIDENCE Count	12
LOST LICENSE PLATE Count	55
MOTOR VEHICLE STOP Count	297
NOISE COMPLAINT Count	89
NOISE-LOUD PARTY Count	19
On Job Injury Count	5
OPEN DOOR Count	83
Order of Protection violation Count	26
OVERDOSE Count	1
Peddlers Permit's Count	1
PERSON-ACTING STRANGELY Count	10
PERSON-ANNOYING Count	24
PERSON-CHECK ON THE WELFARE OF Count	446
PERSON-DESPONDENT Count	116
PERSON-INTOXICATED Count	36

PERSON-MISSING (FILE 6) Count	39
PERSON-OTHER Count	30
PERSON-SUSPICIOUS Count	337
PERSON-UNWANTED Count	90
PERSON-WITH GUN Count	1
PISTOL PERMIT APPLICATION Count	53
POWER OUTAGE Count	25
Project Child Safe Count	1
PROPERTY LOST Count	65
PROPERTY-CHECK VACATIONS/ETC. Count	341
PROPERTY-FOR DESTRUCTION Count	157
PROPERTY-FOR SAFE KEEPING Count	8
PROPERTY-FOUND/ABANDONED Count	141
PROPERTY-OTHER Count	23
PROWLER Count	12
Record Check Count	503
Request Report Count	248
ROBBERY-STRONGARM/WEAPON Count	1
Serve family court papers Count	44
SEWER PROBLEM Count	97
Sex Offender Registration Count	100
SEX OFFENSES/RELATED INCIDENTS Count	16
Special Needs Check Count	1
Special Needs Registration Count	141
Street Light Malfunctions Count	9
TEST Count	30
TOWN LAW-ALL OTHER OFFENSES Count	1
TOWN-SOLICITING W/O A PERMIT Count	9
TOWN-UNLAWFUL DUMPING Count	8
Traffic Detail Count	338
TRAFFIC-CHECK FOR POSSIBLE DWI Count	12
TRAFFIC-HAZARD Count	173
TRAFFIC-OTHER Count	122
TRAIN/RAILROAD COMPLAINTS Count	4
TRESPASS Count	20
VEHICLE-ABANDONED Count	24
VEHICLE-BLOCKING Count	77
VEHICLE-DISABLED (IN/OUT OF TRAFFIC) Count	303

VEHICLE-ERRATIC OPERATION Count	328
VEHICLE-IN VIOLATION (PARKING, ETC) Count	80
VEHICLE-INSPECTION RE EQUIPMENT VIOL Count	132
VEHICLE-LOCKOUT Count	212
VEHICLE-OFF ROAD Count	60
VEHICLE-OTHER Count	180
VEHICLE-STOLEN/UNAUTHORIZED USE Count	11
VEHICLE-SUSPICIOUS Count	352
VIOLENCE-ASSAULT Count	22
VIOLENCE-ATTEMPTED SUICIDE Count	13
VIOLENCE-CHILD ABUSE Count	2
VIOLENCE-DOMESTIC/VIOLENT Count	147
VIOLENCE-FIGHT Count	54
VIOLENCE-OTHER Count	3
VIOLENCE-SHOTS FIRED UNKNOWN Count	33
VIOLENCE-UNATTENDED DEATH Count	32
Warrant Issued Count	6
WATER PROBLEM Count	159
YOUTHS ANNOYING Count	66
Grand Count	22576

2019 SYNOPSIS OF SIGNIFICANT CASES

On January 4, 2019 the Bethlehem Police responded to Planet Fitness at 329 Glenmont Road for a report of a stolen wallet. Upon arrival the victim reported that while working out, persons unknown entered his locker and stole his car keys and the jeans they were in. Members were able to develop a male suspect in the case and were working with management proactively to catch the suspect in the act. On January 9, 2019, management contacted the Bethlehem Police to advise the suspect had arrived at the location. Responding members were able to locate the suspect a short distance away, sitting in his car preparing to use heroin. During a subsequent interview the suspect did admit to the original larceny. He was charged with possession of a controlled substance and drug paraphernalia as well as the original larceny. 19-0207/19-0469

On January 26, 2019 the Bethlehem Police responded with the Selkirk Fire Department to 620 US Route 9W for a reported fire in Apartment 4. Arriving units quickly identified a working fire in Apartment 4 on the first floor and began extinguishment, while ensuring occupants of the surrounding apartments were safely out of the building. When they entered Apartment 12 on the second floor, they were met with a strong smell of marijuana and quickly identified an illegal marijuana grow. Members of the Bethlehem Police cause and origin team responded and processed the fire scene determining the cause of the fire to be an accidental cooking fire while additional members were able to obtain a search warrant for Apartment 12. Upon execution, members secured numerous marijuana plants at various levels of maturity, grow tents, lights, and several additional items used for the grow.



February 5, 2019 the Bethlehem Police Detective Unit, was conducting an investigation into a complaint at the AT&T store located at 241 Route 9W. It was determined that two individuals were recruiting less fortunate individuals from Vermont, then traveling to the capital district to open cell phone accounts. They would open the account with several lines receiving brand new cell phones for each account, then give the account holder a small amount of money and keep the phones. The account, in the name of the less fortunate individual would then go into default as no payments were being made, allowing the main suspects to obtain brand new unlocked cell phones for resale. On this date management contacted detectives and advised one of the suspects was in the store with another individual. Detective units covertly entered the parking lot and were able to apprehend 3 suspects involved in the incident. They had just obtained 6 brand new iPhones under a bogus account. The two main suspects were charged with larceny in multiple incidents while the third was only charged with 1 incident. 19-1778/19-1782/19-2040/19-2065

February 12, 2019 the Bethlehem Police were requested to respond to the area of 77 Brockley Drive for a vehicle crash. Upon arrival investigating members were able to identify a vehicle located in the driveway of a residence in that area had been driven across several lawns causing damage and struck a road sign causing damage to the vehicle. Members attempted to locate the driver at the residence, who during the interview became combative and had to be restrained. He was ultimately charged with several vehicle and traffic charges relating to fleeing the scene of a crash and driving while intoxicated. 19-2432

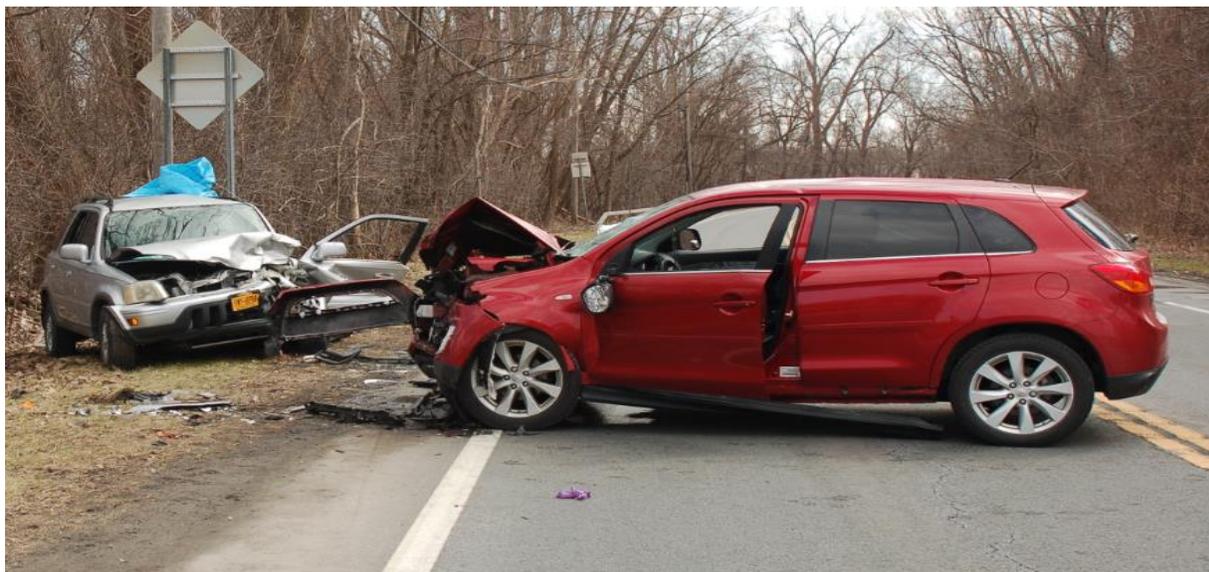
March 6, 2019 the Bethlehem Police responded to a harassment complaint at the Dunkin Donuts 1355 New Scotland Road in Slingerlands. Upon arrival police learned that a suspect that had been previously advised to stay away from the victim a month before after unwanted contact,

had again arrived at the victims work to harass her. The suspect, a previous teacher of the victim, was attempting to initiate unwanted contact that was beginning to escalate. A warrant was obtained for his arrest and he was charged with one count of harassment. 19-3750

On March 8, 2019 the Bethlehem Police were called to Wal-Mart at 311 Route 9W to investigate an incident involving a hand gun. Upon arrival units interviewed the victim who advised the husband of a girl he had been dating, held a gun to his head and threatened him. With the assistance of The State Police, the suspect was located near his home in Rensselaer County where the gun was located and he was taken into custody. During the interview the suspect did admit to the incident and he was charged with criminal possession of a weapon, reckless endangerment, and menacing. 19-3915

On April 2, 2019 an Albany man was arrested and charged in numerous larcenies after he was identified as a result of a several month investigation. The suspect was charged with entering several mercantile establishments in the town, stealing wallets from unknowing patrons, then using their credit cards and stealing their cash. The suspect had an extensive criminal history and had committed several similar offenses in neighboring communities. 19-4444, 19-4265, 19-1738

On April 6, 2019 the Bethlehem police were called to the area of 18 River Road for a 2 vehicle head on collision involving serious physical injuries. The occupants of both vehicles needed to be extricated from their vehicles and transported to the hospital for serious injuries. The operator of one of the vehicles was arrested and charged with driving while intoxicated after members were able to secure video of the suspect nearly causing 2 other crashes in the City of Albany prior to entering the town and then secure video of the crash itself. 19-5837



On May 4, 2019 members were called to the Henry Hudson Park for the report of a body recovered in the river. Members responded and with the assistance of the Selkirk Fire Department, were able to remove the remains of a male individual located by a fisherman. The subject was later identified as a missing person from the City of Albany and the cause of death was ruled not suspicious. 19-7744

On the morning of May 7, 2019 members of the Bethlehem Police began to investigate a rash of overnight burglaries and vehicle larcenies. In total there were 5 burglaries and several larcenies from vehicles reported from that overnight period. These incidents were tied to several other similar patterns in Rensselaer and Saratoga counties. While suspects in these incidents have been identified, the investigation is ongoing. 19-7948, 19-7966, 19-7959, 19-7938, 19-7988

On May 7, 2019 a suspect entered the Cumberland Farms at 68 Route 9W with a bag covering his head demanding money from the register. The clerk would not give any money and the suspect fled stealing property from the counter. As a result of the investigation, several items from the crime were recovered and submitted to the New York State Police Laboratory for analysis. Attempts to compare this crime to similar ones in the area were unsuccessful. This case is open and still pending results from the lab. 19-7937

On June 7, 2019 police were called to the area of 593 River Rd for a U-Haul truck that had crashed into a tree. First arriving units were able to determine the driver of the vehicle had fled into the woods. Upon further investigation, members determined the vehicle had been reported stolen from the City of Troy. After a search of the area members were unable to locate the driver. The vehicle was secured and processed for evidence. This case remains open pending results from the New York State Police Laboratory. 19-10055

On June 12, 2019 members of the Bethlehem Police were requested to respond to Kenwood Manor at Good Samaritan Nursing Home for an overnight burglary. Employees reported that when they arrived at work that morning they discovered an administrative office had been broken into and vandalized. Additionally, several medications stored in the office were stolen. Members were able to develop fingerprint evidence at the scene that led them to a previous employee that had left on bad terms. The individual was arrested for Burglary and Criminal Mischief. 19-10335

In the early morning of June 13, 2019 members of the Bethlehem Police were called with numerous fire departments to the Meadowbrook Apartments for a large commercial apartment fire. Responding units arrived to find one of the eight unit apartments fully involved. Both police and fire worked to evacuate that building and 4 additional buildings that were in danger of catching fire. The Bethlehem Police Cause and Origin team did request the assistance of New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control to assist in this major incident. The fire was

ultimately determined to be accidental; however, unfortunately one of the residents did perish in the fire. 19-10398



On July 15, 2019 the Bethlehem Police were contacted to respond to a burglar alarm at the Five Guys restaurant in Glenmont. Arriving units discovered the rear door had been pried open and the registers were tampered with. Upon further investigation it was determined that two suspects forced the rear door and entered stealing money from the register and a failed attempt at accessing the safe. Through investigation members of the Bethlehem Police have identified suspects in this case and are close to an arrest. 19-12420

On July 24, 2019 members of the Bethlehem Police were called back to Apartment 12 at 620 Route 9W after the landlord entered the apartment to investigate a water issue to find another marijuana grow in the apartment. Responding units secured the apartment and a search warrant was obtained. Upon execution members again located several marijuana plants at various stages of development. The tenant was arrested and charged with possession and unlawful growing of marijuana. 19-13036

On July 29, 2019 members of the Bethlehem Police were called to 620 Kenwood Ave with the Fire Department for a structure fire. First arriving units reported a fully involved structure fire at that location. The Bethlehem Police Cause and Origin team responded and was able to determine the cause of the fire to be as a result of an extremely powerful lightning strike at that location. 19-13366



On August 8, 2019, a several month investigation into payroll type checks being forged and unlawfully cashed resulted in a proactive check cashing operation involving Bethlehem Police, Colonie Police, Albany County Sheriff's and the US Postal Inspectors. As a result of the operation members were able arrest an Amsterdam woman after finding her in possession of numerous forged payroll checks. A subsequent search warrant at her residence revealed a mountain of corroborating evidence. 19-13025

On the morning of August 9, 2019, members were called to the Comfort Inn located at 37 Route 9W for a suspicious incident. Arriving members were advised that a male had run down stairs and through the lobby with his hands and legs bound, jumped into a vehicle and left the area. As members began to initiate the investigation, it was quickly learned that the subjects involved were under surveillance by the FBI and were part of the well known Felony Lane Gang. Members worked with the FBI and New York State Police to attempt to identify the victim in this case. Search warrants were executed on the hotel room and vehicles associated with the suspects. As a result a large amount of intelligence was developed pertaining to the Felony Lane Gang. Investigation revealed that the victim, a member of the Felony Lane Gang, had been bound and held in the room overnight until he was able to escape that morning. While members were able to obtain video of the victim later that day and confirm he was okay, they were unable to locate the victim for further interview. This investigation is ongoing. 19-14009

On August 10, 2019 members were called to the area of Feura Bush Road and Meads Lane for a 1-vehicle crash. Upon arrival responding units located the operator of a motorcycle pinned under

his machine in serious condition. Members worked quickly with fire and EMS to extricated the victim and transportsed him to the hospital for treatment. Investigation revealed the individual, who resided in Massachusetts, was just passing through the area. Members worked swiftly and extensively to locate and contact family in Massachusetts and Connecticut to respond to the hospital to be with their loved one. 19-14075

On September 11, 2019 members became involved in an animal cruelty investigation at a residence on Elm Ave in Selkirk. Police received information that several animals were being mistreated at that location. A search warrant was obtained and, as a result, police took custody of several animals for treatment and two subjects were charged with animal cruelty. 19-16026

On September 18, 2019 members of the Bethlehem Police were called to CVS for an individual who passed counterfeit currency. Responding members were able to obtain security video of the suspect and were quickly able to identify a Slingerlands woman as the suspect. This suspect had been involved in other recent fraud cases. Since that time, members of our department have worked to identify her in numerous similar incidents in Southern New York, New York City, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Massachusetts. The suspect is currently wanted on multiple warrants. 19-16403

On October 6, 2019 members were called to the Delaware Plaza for a stolen vehicle. The victim reported arriving at the plaza to shop and after returning she observed her vehicle to be missing. Through investigation the vehicle was located unoccupied in the City of Albany. Through a joint investigation with Albany police members were able to identify a suspect who subsequently admitted to the incident during the interview. He was charged with Grand Larceny. 19-17526

On October 16, 2019 members of the Bethlehem Police and the New York State Police conducted a joint prostitution detail at a hotel in the Town of Bethlehem. As a result of the operation members arrested 9 females for prostitution, some of which were interviewed by the safe streets task force of the FBI as part of a larger human trafficking investigation. Additionally, 1 male suspect was arrested for a class B felony of criminal sale of a controlled substance. 19-18159

On October 22, 2019 the Bethlehem Police were called to a Selkirk address where the victim had just fled after being held captive against her will along with her child. Arriving units established a perimeter and interviewed the victim further. They were able to determine the incident was domestic related with an ex- boyfriend who was still held up inside the residence armed with a weapon. Members were able to contact the suspect and convince him to surrender without further incident. He was charged with unlawful imprisonment, menacing with a weapon, possession of a weapon, endangering, and harassment. 19-18496

On October 23, 2019 members of the Bethlehem Police were called to the Elm Avenue Park after several residents fell victim to Felony Lane Gang activity. The suspects operate at multiple levels,

one group targets areas where several vehicles are parked unattended. They search for vehicles with purses and bags in plain view, then break the window and steal them. A second group will then use the stolen identities while attempting to pass forged checks on the victim's accounts or make withdrawals. The main suspects are often from the Florida area and they recruit less fortunate individuals to assume the identity of the original victims. 19-18537

On November 4, 2019 members were called to Hugh's Opticians for a report of a burglary. The owner reported that a suspect somehow entered the business and stole glass frames totaling over \$80,000.00. This investigation is ongoing at this time. 19-19409

On November 7, 2019 the Bethlehem Police were contacted to investigate a report of inappropriate touching to a juvenile victim by an employee of the Schools Out Program of the Glenmont Elementary School. Investigation led to the identification of an additional victim in this case. The suspect was arrested and charged with two counts of forcible touching and endangering the welfare of a child. 19-19603

On November 15, 2019 the Bethlehem Police were called to investigate a report of inappropriate contact by a Bethlehem resident with a teenage boy. Members interviewed all parties involved and obtained a search warrant for the search of the suspect's residence. He was ultimately charged with possession of a sexual performance of a child, possession of obscene material, forcible touching, and endangering the welfare of a child. This case is still pending. 19-20024

On December 4, 2019, a resident of Selkirk contacted the Bethlehem Police to report that an unknown individual broke into their garage and stole a battery from a vehicle parked in the garage. Responding members were able to develop a finger print from the suspect in the case. A warrant has been filed for this individual and is outstanding. 19-21194

During the month of December, members of the Bethlehem Police became involved in the investigation of several residents' personal checks that were being stolen from residential and commercial mail boxes. The checks were then altered for a higher amount and who the check was made payable to. These forged checks were then cashed by numerous suspects. Members of the Bethlehem Police worked in conjunction with Colonie Police, Guilderland Police, North Green Bush Police and the US Postal inspectors to identify the main suspect in the case. He was taken into custody and charged with numerous incidents. 19-21346, 19-21385, 19-21796, 19-22692

On December 17, 2019, members of the Bethlehem Police were called along with Selkirk Fire and Bethlehem EMS to the scene of a head on collision in the area of 380 River Road. At the time of call the area was being blanketed by a significant snowstorm. First arriving units reported that a car struck a fuel truck head on. The driver of the car was pinned in the vehicle and the passenger had been ejected through the windshield. Both subjects had serious injuries. All agencies worked

to stabilize the victims, complete extrication, and get them off to the hospital for treatment. 19-21919



2019 Annual Awards Ceremony

Life Saving Award:

Officer Michael Berben and Officer Kristen Spinnato - for the quick response to an unresponsive person call and life-saving treatment that resulted in a 46 year-old man making a complete recovery from cardiac arrest.

Telecommunicator Kristina Leamy and Officer Yekaterina Dickerson – for the vital roles they played in the response to an unresponsive person in Glenmont. Their efforts, as important parts of the cycle of survival, were instrumental in the patient making a full recovery.

Telecommunicator Kristina Leamy – for her dedicated service and calm demeanor in dealing with two separate callers reporting cardiac arrest. Her instructions and reassuring presence provided the first steps in the first response system that resulted in saving two lives.

Gallantry Award:

Officer Adam Cobb and Officer Bryan Mahan – for their response and efforts in responding to a call with a person with a loaded shotgun in the residence, and their ability to quickly end the situation peacefully.

Chief's Achievement Award:

Telecommunicator Katherine Arnold – for her teamwork in the incident involving an armed distraught person with a shotgun, and assisting in safely guiding the residents to safety and out of harm's way.

Detective Chad Rice – For his efforts in a large scale multi-agency criminal enterprise fraud case that resulted in the arrest of over two dozen people for felony offenses.

Sergeant Michael Cozzy - For his keen awareness in recognizing a vehicle wanted in Eric County and effecting a traffic stop that lead to the recovery of over \$10,000 in high end electronics.

Detective Michael Whiteley – For his efforts in working with multiple law enforcement agencies in four states to locate a missing child, in the mid-west, shortly before they were to travel across the country.

Detective Gerald Young and Commander Adam Hornick – For their response to a Slingerlands Bank robbery; and ensuing investigation which developed a suspect lead that was subsequently responsible for solving five bank robberies in Albany and Schenectady counties.

Officer Cesar Martinez – Despite being off-duty Officer Martinez viewed a missing juvenile bulletin and when coming into work for court, recognized the missing juvenile in the City of Albany, and was able to safely locate the juvenile and return the juvenile to the parents.

Officer Rico Fiore – Was awarded the 2018 Nathaniel Adams Blanchard Post Man of the Year award for his continued dedicated service and commitment to the Town and Community. Officer

Fiore is a dedicated member of this agency and his compassion for the community shows in everything that he does.

Unit Award:

Detective Sergeant James Cross, Detective Chad Rice and Detective Michael Whiteley - Bethlehem Police responded to a report of an armed home invasion in Delmar on July 18, 2018. While investigating the case Bethlehem Police began working with Troy PD who subsequently stopped the suspect vehicle and located a kidnap victim who was forced to drive to Delmar and back to Troy.

Due to the diligence and dedication of the members of Bethlehem PD and Troy PD all the suspects were arrested in a very short period of time and eventually sentenced to state prison. This case also closed another home invasion investigation in the City of Troy.

2019 Officer of the Year Award

By way of this memorandum I hereby nominate Traffic Safety Investigator (TSI) Craig Sleurs, as the 2019, Nathaniel Adams Blanchard American Legion Post 1040 "Man/Woman of the Year". Careful consideration is given to this award as we have so many members that could potentially qualify for this award.

Traffic Safety Investigator Sleurs is a twenty-year veteran of the Bethlehem Police Department, and twenty-five year veteran of law enforcement; he is assigned to Traffic Safety and Patrol in the Field Command Division. During his time at the Bethlehem Police Department, Investigator Sleurs has worked all patrol shifts and assignments. Investigator Sleurs has been assigned to traffic safety for eighteen years, and accepts all duties and responsibilities within the job without hesitation. TSI Sleurs has helped build the position of Traffic Safety Investigator within the Department to what it is today. His actions have allowed the Traffic Safety role to flourish within the agency.

TSI Sleurs is solely responsible for the streamlining of all maintenance on RADAR units and Datamaster, ensuring DCJS compliance for discovery purposes and accreditation purposes. These enhancements implemented by TSI Sleurs have resulted in fiscal savings to the Department and Town, as well as increased product life of the equipment. TSI Sleurs is also responsible for setting up the mock DWI crash for Bethlehem Central High School Students; this involves coordination with the school district and multiple fire and EMS agencies. This program has been very successful with high school juniors, seniors and staff alike.

TSI Sleurs has also been instrumental in the re-implementation of the DOT Road Safety Program in town. A monthly event, which requires coordination of patrol personnel, highway department personnel, and multiple state and federal partners. This program is designed to increase road safety with our partners in DOT, and works on both the enforcement and education prongs of the best practices of overall traffic safety management.

TSI Sleurs, shows a continued passion for traffic safety initiatives and his knowledge of the community and community members, allowing him to review issues and address them appropriately. TSI Sleurs assists in coordinating efforts from school bus drivers with complaints of vehicles passing stopped buses as well. He works to identify times and locations of this problem, and coordinate appropriate responses. He continues to work on all functional aspects of traffic safety including, STOP DWI, crash reconstruction, resident complaint response, traffic target area, and enforcement. His commitment to overall traffic safety initiatives is second to none.

TSI Sleurs is also a twenty-year member of the Bethlehem Police Department's Fire Investigation Cause and Origin team. As a certified Level II State Fire Investigator, TSI Sleurs uses his vast training and knowledge in the field of fire, and fire investigation, to be a valuable member of our agency's fire investigation team.

TSI Sleurs is also a sixteen-year member of the Capital District Forensic Hazardous Materials Team. This is a team comprised of highly trained law enforcement members who deal with potential crimes scenes that involve hazardous materials and weapons of mass destruction, and is responsible for dealing with these types of incidents in a four county region in the Capital District. TSI Sleurs participates in all team trainings and has worked to train new members of the response team.

Additionally, TSI Sleurs, in his free time, is a lifelong member of the Slingerlands Fire Department and currently serves as its agency Fire Chief, further epitomizing his career as a true and dedicated public servant to the community that he cares so much about.



2019 Promotion Ceremony



Swearing in of Officer Amanda Mueller and Officer Andrew Hynes – April 1, 2019



Promotional Ceremony of Sergeant Michael Whiteley – July 2, 2019



Promotional Ceremony of Detective Adam H. Cobb – August 16, 2019

