



townofbethlehem.org/police

2023 Annual Report

Town of Bethlehem Police Department

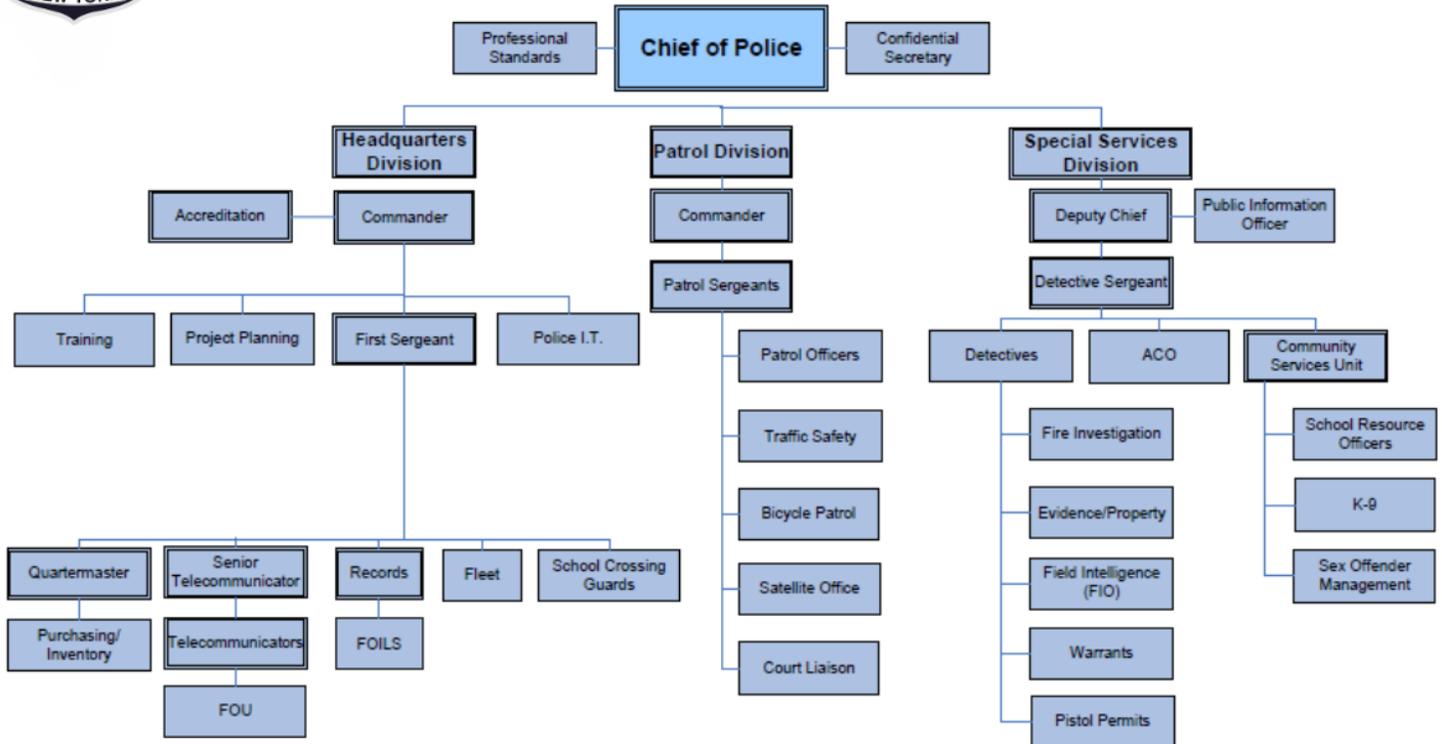
Chief Gina F. Cocchiara



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ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



Effective 01/2024

CONTACT THE DEPARTMENT

Chief of Police

Chief Gina Cocchiara
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518-439-9973 ext. 1207

Headquarters Division

Commander Robert C. Baldwin, Jr.
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Patrol Division

Commander Michael A. Cozy
mcozy@townofbethlehem.org
518-439-9973 ext. 1208

Special Services Division

Deputy Chief James L. Rexford
jrexford@townofbethlehem.org
518-439-9973 ext. 1209

A- Line (Overnight Shift)

First Sergeant Roy K. Swann, Jr.
rswann@townofbethlehem.org
518-439-9973 ext. 1205

Sergeant Kristen N. Spinnato
kspinnato@townofbethlehem.org
518-439-9973 ext. 1384

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

Sergeant John D. Springer
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518-439-9973 ext. 1398

Detective Office

B-Line (Day Shift)

Master Sergeant James Corrigan
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518-439-9973 ext. 1376

Sergeant Chad Ferraro
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518-439-9973 ext. 1386

C-Line (Afternoon Shift)

Sergeant Matthew Dring
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518-439-9973 ext. 1389

Sergeant Daniel Callahan
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518-439-9973 ext. 1399

DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL

2023 DEPARTMENT SWORN PERSONNEL

Chief of Police

Gina F. Cocchiara

Deputy Chief

James L. Rexford

Commanders

Michael A. Cozzy

Robert Baldwin

Administrative Sergeant

Brian A. Hughes **

Patrol Sergeants

Christopher Shunk **

Michael S. Whiteley **

Chad A. Ferraro

James E. Corrigan

Kristen N. Spinnato

Roy K. Swann, Jr.

Matthew Dring

Daniel Callahan

Detective Sergeant

James E. Cross, Jr.

Traffic Safety Investigator

William D. Austin

Patrol Officers

Rico R. Fiore

Jeffrey M. Gallagher**

Ryan W. VanAmburgh

Mark D. Gorman, Sr.

Bryan P. Mahan

Cesar Martinez **

Yekaterina N. Dickerson

Isaiah F. Burton

Amanda L. Mueller

Andrew T. Hynes

Cameron Apple

Corey J. Watts

Alexander S. Hazelton

Brady G. Hughes

Luke T. Mara

Alexander Griffin

Antonio Archina

Stephen Celestino

Detectives

Chad A. Rice

Kenneth G. Beck, Jr.

Adam H. Cobb

Michael J. Berben

Caitlyn Krage

Senior Telecommunicator

Brent W. Dragon

Telecommunicators

Melissa J. Powell

Sharon E. Huether

Jared L. Willard

Katherine A. Gould

Kristina Leamy *

Joanna Nunziato

Michael K. Mittler

Christopher P. Kowalski

Jessica Falconiere *

Animal Control Officers

Richard A. Watt

Geoffrey A. Nunziato

Andrew Schmidt

***Retired*

**Resigned*

DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL

2023 DEPARTMENT CIVILIAN PERSONNEL

Chief's Confidential Secretary

Susan Heath

Senior IT Specialist

Frank Heuer

Records

Brianna M. Tice

Ciara Hodges

School Crossing Guards

Charles J. Asprion

Isabella D. Glasetter

Robert McElroy

Mike P. Roberts

Mary E. Root

Nancy Tommey

Linda T. Taylor

Richard L. Vanderbilt**

***Retired*

TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

Police Department



Gina F. Cocchiara
Chief of Police

Gina F. Cocchiara was sworn in as Bethlehem's eighth Chief of Police on August 31, 2020. Chief Cocchiara began her policing career in 1994 and joined the Bethlehem Police Department in 1998 and has been a resident of the Town of Bethlehem since 2000. She started in the Patrol Division, and was later promoted to the rank of Patrol Sergeant in 2008. After spending a number of years working in the Patrol Division, Sergeant Cocchiara was promoted to the position of Detective Sergeant in 2015, leading Detectives in both the Detective's Office and then the more specialized division, the Family Services Unit (now known as the Community Services Unit). In 2020, Detective Sergeant Cocchiara was promoted to the rank of Chief of Police where she currently leads all operations within the Bethlehem Police Department. Chief Cocchiara is the first woman in the history of the Bethlehem Police Department to attain any rank above patrol officer, and most notably the rank of Chief.

Chief Cocchiara holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice Administration. She is a graduate of the 2020 Inaugural Session of the F.B.I.'s National Command Course at Quantico, VA. She is on the Board of Directors for New York State Women in Law Enforcement (NYWLE) and Zone 5 Regional Law Enforcement Training Academy. She is an active member in the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), the New York Association of Chiefs of Police, and the State of New York Police Juvenile Officers Association (SNYPJOA).

Chief Cocchiara was born and raised in Suffern, NY. Outside of work, Chief Cocchiara enjoys hiking, bike riding, and taking quick trips to explore new places with her family.

HEADQUARTERS



Commander Robert Baldwin

The Headquarters Division is overseen by Commander Robert Baldwin. Commander Baldwin started his law enforcement career with the Bethlehem Police Department in 2009. He has a Master's of Business Administration from Sage Graduate School and a Bachelor's Degree in Marketing and Management from Siena College. Commander Baldwin has held the positions of Patrol Officer, Patrol Sergeant and in June of 2022 was promoted to Commander, assigned to the Headquarters Division. He is a nationally certified Fire Investigator, a member of the Capital Region Forensic Hazardous Materials Team, and state certified Firearms Instructor.

The Headquarters Division Commander is responsible for and oversees the Telecommunications Section, Records Section, Departmental Training, Police Information Technology and the Administrative functions of Quartermaster/Inventory (uniforms and equipment), Fleet Management, Project Management and Grants.

TRAINING

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

Commander Baldwin 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
- De-Escalation Training
- Implicit Bias Training
- 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 Cocchiara currently serves on the board of Directors. 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 oversees the police department's fleet of vehicles, consisting of marked and unmarked patrol cars, unmarked administrative and command cars, 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

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 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.



Additional technology we use are 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 stolen vehicles, suspended drivers, and suspended vehicle registrations. Since the implementation of the LPR system, the number of 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 suspect's 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 administer 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, emergency medical services, 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 the 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 (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.

SPECIAL SERVICES

Deputy Chief James L. Rexford



The Special Services Division is overseen by Deputy Chief James Rexford. Deputy Chief Rexford started his career in law enforcement officer in 1997 with the Town of Coeymans Police Department and lateraled to the Town of Bethlehem Police Department in 1998. He has a Bachelor's Degree from the State University of New York at Albany in Criminal Justice and a Master's Degree in Public Administration from Marist College. Commander Rexford has held the positions of Patrol Officer, Patrol Sergeant, Master Sergeant, Commander, and in July of 2022 was promoted Deputy Chief overseeing the Patrol Division. The Special Services Division is made up of the Detective Office and the Community Services Unit. Members of the Detective Office and Community Services Unit are overseen by the Deputy Chief and one Detective Sergeant. The Detective Office specializes in adult level crimes, while the Community Services Unit specializes in adolescent crimes and public programs. Both units are made up of detectives who often collaborate to complete investigations and solve crimes. Members of the Detective Office work closely with the Albany County District Attorney's Office as well as the Bethlehem Town Court regarding adult criminal cases. Members of the Community Services Unit work closely with Albany County Family Court, Albany County Probation, and Bethlehem Town Court regarding adolescent cases and diversionary programs such as the Bethlehem Youth Court. Members of both units conduct operations to prevent the sale of alcohol and tobacco products to minors. Detectives are also utilized when conducting pre-employment background investigations.

ACCREDITATION

The New York State Law Enforcement Agency Accreditation Program was established as a voluntary program that provides law enforcement agencies with a mechanism to evaluate and improve the overall effectiveness of their agency and the performance of their staff. The program is made up of 110 standards which are required to be up-to-date, maintained, and adhered to on an annual basis. An onsite assessment is conducted every five years to ensure compliance. The goal of the program is to ensure that each accredited agency is following best practices, policies, and procedures. Accreditation is formal recognition that an agency's policies and practices meet or exceed the standards established by the council in the areas of administration, training, and operations.



The council is the authoritative body responsible for guiding the direction of the program, developing model standards designed to promote excellence and professionalism in the field of law enforcement, and developing policy to establish program rules and expectations. The Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) Office of Public Safety (OPS) administers the program in accordance with the council policies.

The Bethlehem Police Department originally became an accredited agency in 1990. At the time, it was only the fourth agency in the state to do so. In 2020, an onsite assessment was conducted and the Department once again earned re-accreditation status. Being part of the accreditation program for 30 years has been both an honor and a privilege.

DETECTIVES OFFICE

The Detectives Office consists of one Detective Sergeant and three Detectives. The Detective Office is tasked with investigating all major crimes, unattended deaths, and adult sexual based offenses. Members of the Detective Office are highly trained in evidence collection, crime scene investigation, and interviewing techniques. All evidence and non-evidentiary property fall under the purview of the Detective Office.

The Detective Office is the primary point of contact when conducting large scale or joint investigations involving other local, state, or federal agencies. These investigations can consist of anything from financial crimes to homicides. All vice related investigations, such as human trafficking and drug offense operations are conducted by the Detective Office. Members of the Detective Office also assist patrol with investigations that lead our members outside of Town.

COMMUNITY SERVICES UNIT

The Community Services Unit consists of two detectives who are supervised by the Detective Sergeant from the Detective Office. Members of the Community Services Unit oversee all investigations involving juvenile suspects and victims. Criminal investigations range from criminal

mischief, graffiti, larceny, sex offenses, and narcotics. Members of the Community Services Unit are specially trained to investigate adolescent crimes and conduct forensic interviews involving juveniles. Members of the Community Services Unit are experts at evaluating adolescent behavior and identifying concerns. Domestic violence follow-ups, elder abuse, and child abuse are also the responsibility of the Community Service Unit.

Members of the Community Services Unit also served in a dual role as School Resource Officers. As School Resource Officers, members of the Community Services Unit visit Bethlehem Central School District elementary schools, St. Thomas School, and A.W. Becker Elementary school.

During such visits the School Resource Officers teach D.A.R.E, assist with fire drills, safety planning, and safety drills. School Resource Officers are often called upon by school officials to assist with home visits, criminal activity, and to address a myriad of additional concerns or issues that may arise.

The Community Services Unit focuses on crime prevention through education. Education plays a major role in crime prevention and safety. Members of the Community Services Unit perform classroom presentations and outdoor program events for school age children on such topics as, internet safety, young adult legal rights, and bicycle/pedestrian safety.



SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER PROGRAM

The School Resource Officer Program was established in the Town of Bethlehem in 1996. The program curriculum has evolved over the years in order to stay up-to-date with modern issues and educational requirements of the children. School Resource Officers are assigned to specific schools within the Town of Bethlehem. The School Resource Program is a partnership between the Police Department and the schools. The goal of the School Resource Program is to provide specialized education, safety, and trust. The partnership between the schools and the police allows for the sharing of concerns and solutions in a way that prioritizes the wellbeing of the children.



ANIMAL CONTROL

The town has one full-time and two part time Animal Control Officers who serve the Town of Bethlehem with compassion, kindness, and a dedication to protecting our residents, their pets, and wildlife in general. The duties of the Animal Control Officers include dog licensing, animal cruelty cases, and capture of loose and stray dogs. In addition, Animal Control Officers also

care for and transport sick or injured animals to veterinarian clinics and coordinate with rehabilitation centers when possible. On any given day, an Animal Control Officer could be dealing with anything from an injured bald eagle to loose livestock. The number of calls for Animal Control services continue to increase, fueled mainly by the public's awareness and concern for the possibility of exposure to nuisance, injured, or sick animals. Calls have also increased due to loose and possibly dangerous, wild, domestic and companion animals. Most citizens also realize rabies, tick borne, and other zoonotic diseases (ones that can pass between humans and animals) are still very present. The purpose of Animal Control Services is best described by veteran Animal Control Officer Richard Watt:

“To provide the enforcement of the appropriate Federal, State, County and Town laws, regulations and codes. To provide humane care for animals including companion, 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 manor.”

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 community. The Patrol Division maintains this registry and makes information available to the public as allowed by law. Offender Watch is a free resource available to the alert and inform the public 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 of Bethlehem web site.

PATROL DIVISION

Commander Michael Cozzy



The Patrol Division is overseen by Commander Michael Cozzy. Commander Cozzy began his law enforcement career in 2002 with the Albany County Sheriff's Office as a Deputy Sheriff before coming to the Bethlehem Police Department in 2003. Commander Cozzy served as a Patrol officer and Patrol Sergeant before being promoted to Commander in 2020. Commander Cozzy holds a Bachelor's Degree in Biology from the State University at Albany. The Patrol Division is comprised of the uniformed officers that people commonly see responding to calls for service and patrolling the streets of our community. It is made up of six Patrol Sergeants who supervise twenty-one Patrol Officers. Patrol Division personnel are either assigned to the main station located at 447 Delaware Avenue in Delmar or the satellite station located in the Bethlehem Volunteer Ambulance building at 1121 Route 9W in Selkirk. 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. The Patrol Division is responsible for traffic safety, investigating motor vehicle crashes, and the initial investigation of most criminal offenses. They also provide additional services to the community such as assisting people who are locked out of their vehicle, checking homes when people are away on vacation, as well as addressing "quality-of-life" issues.

TRAFFIC SAFETY UNIT

Within the Patrol Division there is also the Traffic Safety Unit. This unit is comprised of one Traffic Safety Investigator who is specially trained in commercial vehicle enforcement and vehicle crash management. As of 2022, the Traffic Safety Investigator is part of the Albany County Crash Reconstruction team, which specializes in investigations of serious and fatal vehicle crashes.



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 increased communications between officers and the community. Bike patrol officers are also responsible for presenting bicycle safety courses. We currently have over 20 members that are bike patrol certified officers. They patrol using 4 E-Bikes and 2 mountain bikes to monitor the Albany County Rail Trail in town, as well as side streets and other less traveled parts of town.



PATROL DIVISION – GRANT FUNDED INITIATIVES

The Patrol Division participates in several grant funded initiatives. The first is STOP DWI which is an initiative that is administered by Albany County, which specifically focuses on education and enforcement of impaired driving.

“High Visibility Engagement Campaign”, formerly known as “Crackdown”, is another initiative the Town of Bethlehem Police Department participates in. The focus of this program is impaired driving and it is a two-prong approach. First, there is a component that requires police departments to provide educational material to help educate the public on the dangers of impaired driving. Secondly, it provides funding for enforcement of impaired driving laws.

“Click It or Ticket”, which is funded by the Governor’s Traffic Safety Committee with the focus of reducing personal injury crashes. This grant requires grant recipients to provide educational and enforcement efforts focused on occupant protection with the goal of saving lives, preventing and reducing serious injuries to motorists and passengers, and is part of a statewide effort to promote the principles of traffic safety.



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 is 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

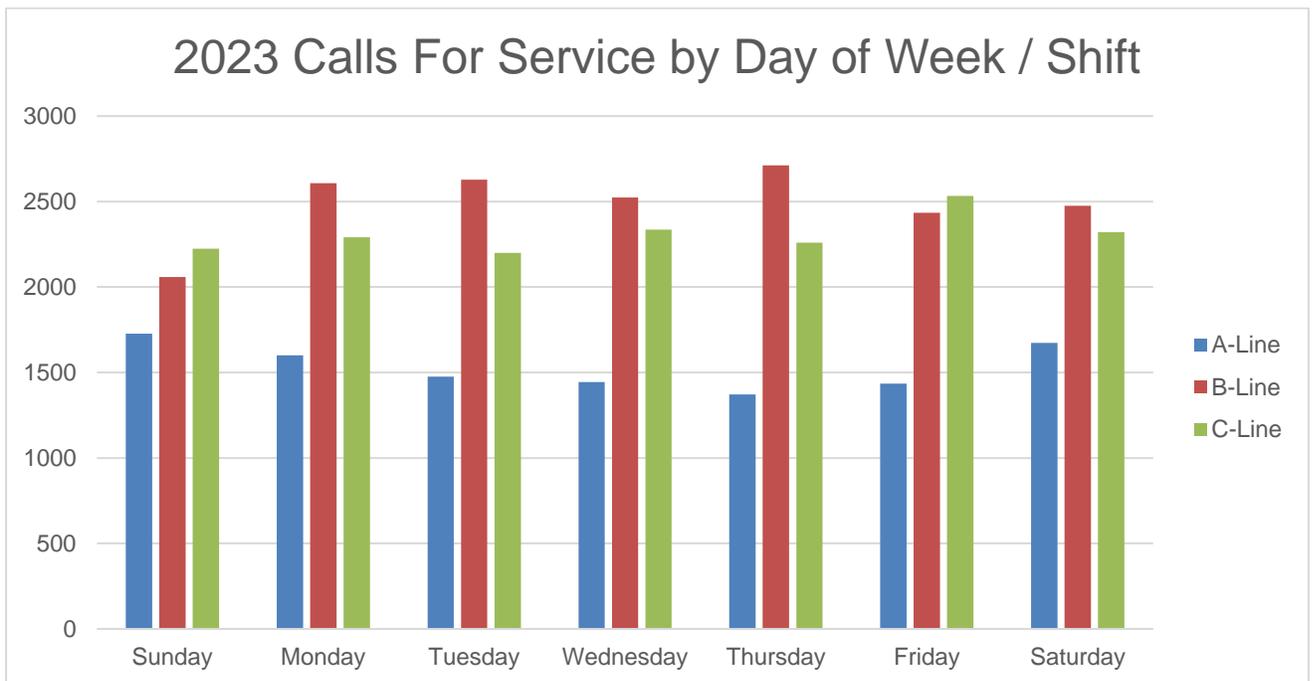
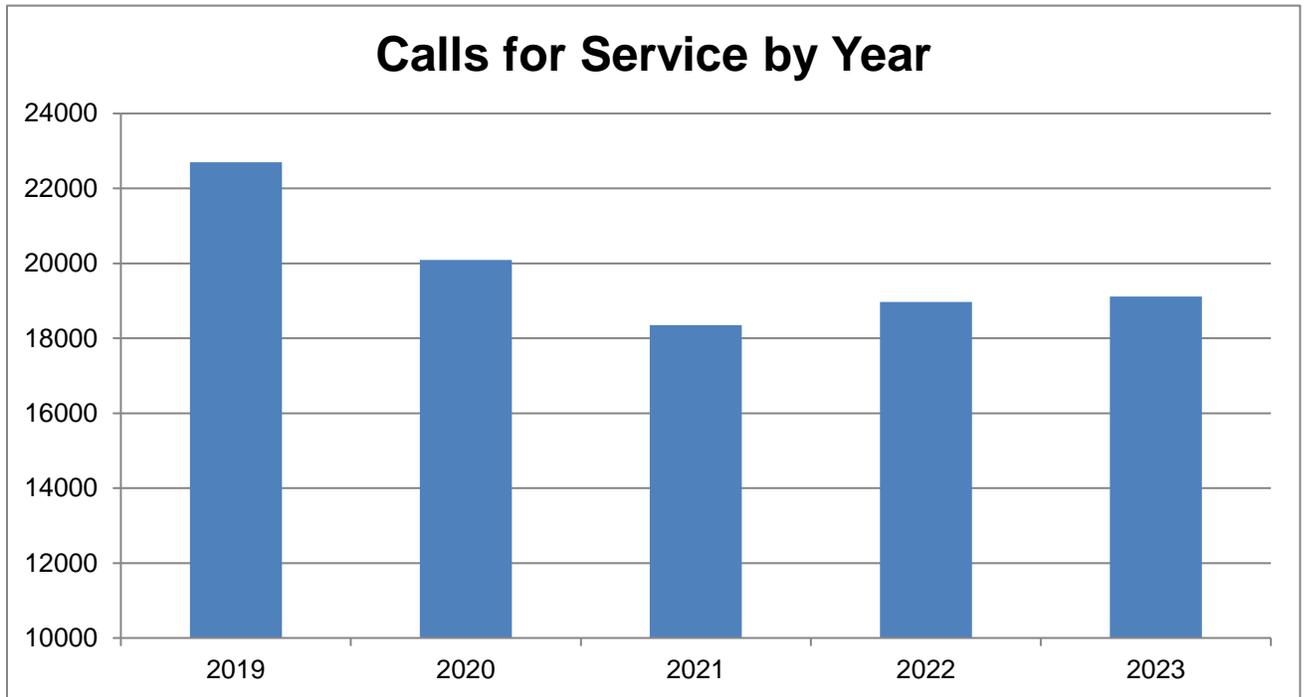
1) IBR reduces police department crime report paperwork and saves staff time. Uniform Crime Reporting requires the department to submit seven different monthly forms. These forms can be complex and time consuming to complete. IBR files are produced by the department's records management system (RMS)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

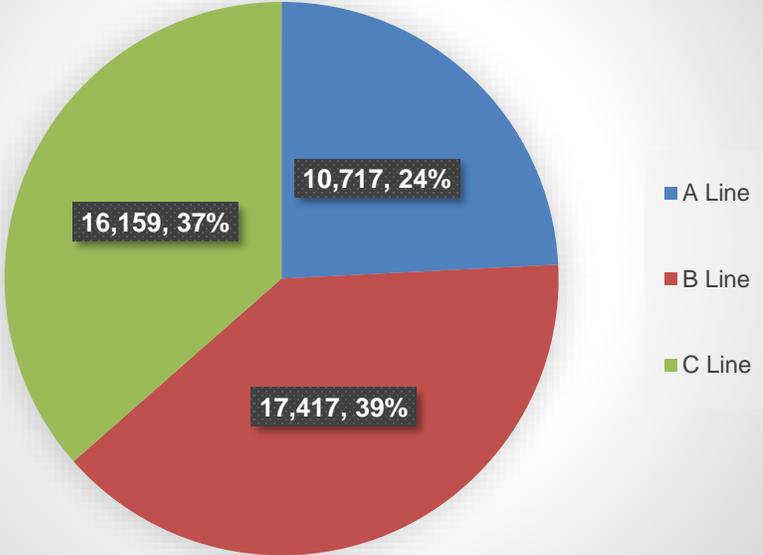
3) IBR expands the information on the local crime picture which is readily available to local departments. All participating IBR agencies receive a crime analysis report on their reported crime from DCJS. This report provides an excellent starting point for understanding the local crime picture, and 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

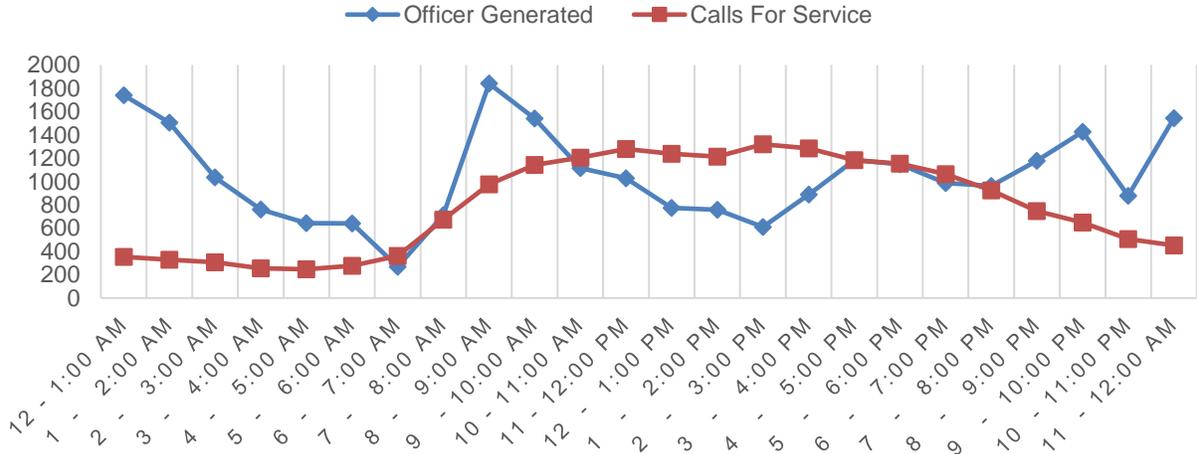
CALLS FOR SERVICE



2023 Calls For Service by Shift

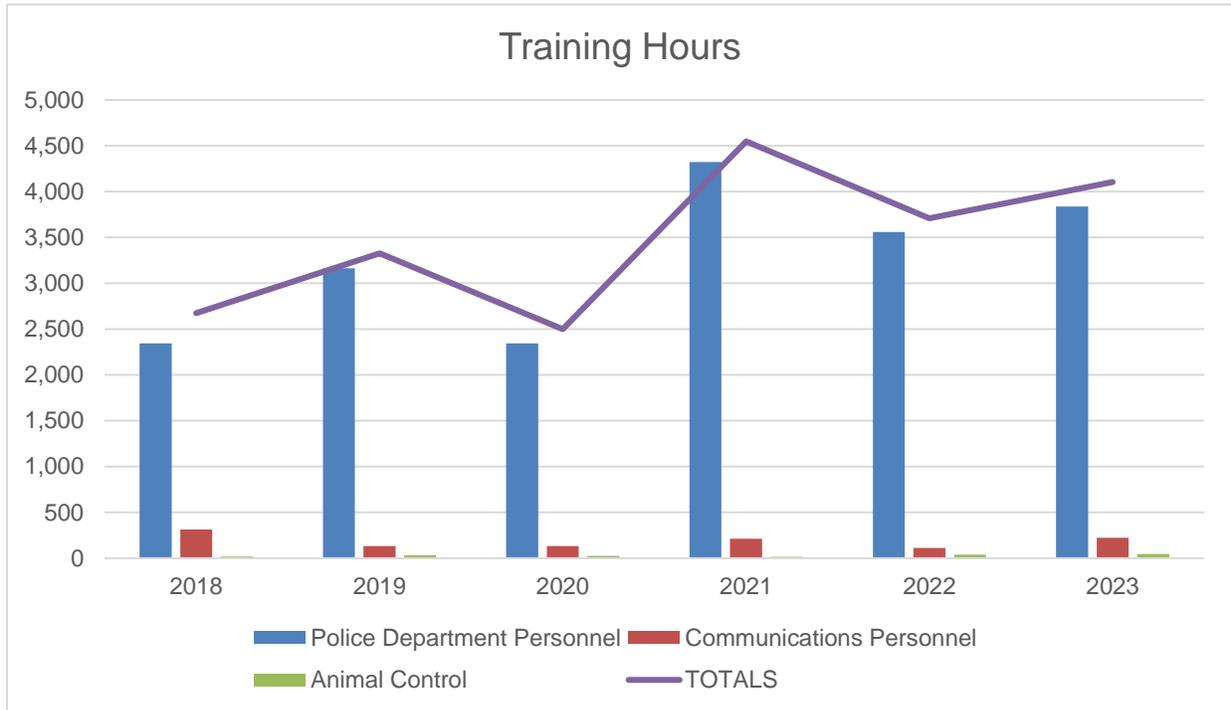


2023 CALLS FOR SERVICE AND OFFICER GENERATED ACTIVITY BY HOUR OF THE DAY



HEADQUARTERS

Training Hours:

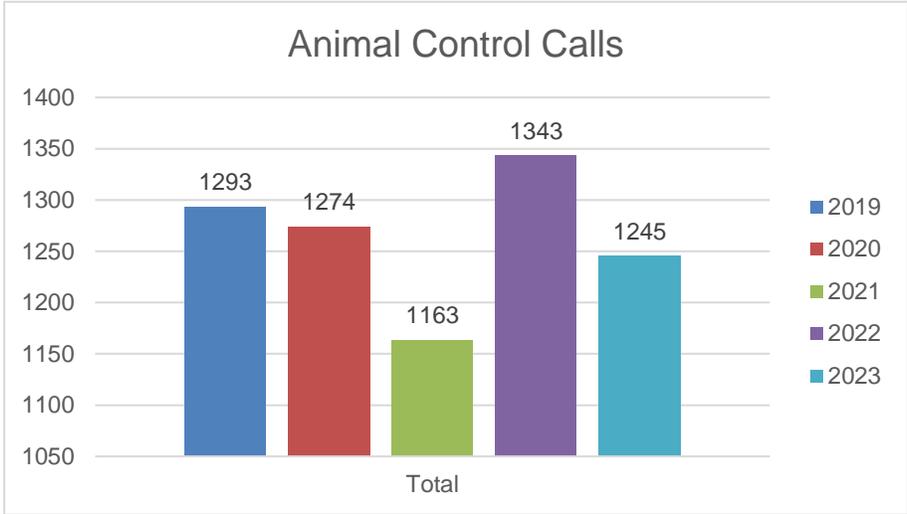


	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Police Department Personnel	2,343	3,162	2,343	4,322	3,560	3,837
Communications Personnel	314	133	132	212	110	221
Animal Control	18	32	24	14	40	45
TOTALS	2,675	3,327	2,499	4,548	3,710	4,103



PATROL/SELECTED ANIMAL CONTROL CALLS

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Motor vehicle stops	7,991	7,229	2,611	3,337	7,105	7,515
Traffic Arrests	3,985	3,956	1,385	1,895	2,861	3,121
Speed Arrests	511	558	209	293	280	264
DWI Arrests	35	37	26	24	65	61
Violation Arrests	279	124	130	98	33	16
Misdemeanor Arrests	394	456	309	200	338	266
Felony Arrests	74	128	118	70	149	99
Seat Belt/ Child Restraint Violations	104	117	15	68	85	43
Cell Phone Use	200	187	20	93	196	100
Traffic Details in response to Community Concerns	4,200	3,792	2,057	2,236	3,975	5,339
Fatal Accidents	0	1	2	1	1	2
Personal Injury Crashes	133	121	168	96	122	107
Alcohol Related Personal Injury Crashes	4	3	5	2	5	8
Property Damage Crashes	701	645	804	594	607	627
Property Damage Crashes (Non-Reportable)	325	290	242	202	247	195
Property Checks	10,952	10,233	10,292	9,021	10,087	12,314



CALLS FOR SERVICE

Calls for Service by Dispatch Type

	Call Count
911 Accidental	680
911 Hang Up	718
Administrative	415
Alarm Bank	10
Alarm Burg	618
Alarm Hold Up	16
Alpha	1513
Animal Control	1248
Assault	17
Assist Other Agency	233
Assist Person	1206
Bomb Threat	9
Bravo	947
Burglary	18
Carbon Monoxide	56
Carbon Monoxide illness	9
Charlie	936
Check A Person	1312
Check A Vehicle	1610
Community Programs	640
Court	56
Crash PD	780
Crash PI	98
Crash Unknown	39
Criminal Mischief	34
Delta	541
Dispute Civil	72
Domestic Physical	91
Domestic Verbal	296
DPW Notification	199
Drugs	222
Echo	65
EMD	11
Emotionally Disturbed Person	75
EMS Call	138
Fight	25
Fire Call	10
Fireworks	32
Get A Report	390
Hazardous Condition	166

HazMat	33
Investigation/Follow up	303
Juvenile Incidents	45
Larceny	376
Missing Person	23
Mutual Aid	35
Open Door/Window	21
Other	59
Outdoor Fire	66
Person With Weapon	4
Police Information	939
Property	255
Property Check	12319
Prowler	7
Rescue	15
Robbery	1
Sex Crimes	54
Shots Fired	22
Standby Quarters	2
Structure Fire Alarm	253
Structure Fire Confirmed	19
Structure Fire Possible	45
Structure Fire Vulnerable	143
Town Offense	62
Traffic Detail	5339
Traffic Hazard	433
Traffic Stop	7515
Train Incident	1
Vehicle Fire	14
Vehicle in Violation	237
Vehicle Lockout	148
Warrant	116
Grand Total	44455

2023 SYNOPSIS OF SIGNIFICANT CASES

February 7, 2023 - Members of the Bethlehem Police were called in the early morning hours to a Delmar neighborhood after multiple cars were broken into overnight with several items taken. Department members were able to identify the suspect and take him into custody. 2023-5042, 2023-5074, 2023-5173

February 27, 2023 - The Bethlehem Police were called to the Hilltown Jewelers for a robbery that had just occurred. Arriving members determined that two individuals entered the store and began looking at jewelry. One of the suspects then grabbed jewelry and both suspects fled the store. The suspects have been identified and charged with this incident. 2023-7416

April 3, 2023 - Members of the Bethlehem Police became involved in a domestic violence investigation that occurred in the Glenmont area. The victim, who presented with multiple injuries, reports that during the incident her juvenile son came to her defense by stabbing the attacker. 2023-11963



May 11, 2023 - Members of the Bethlehem Police were called to State Route 85 along with multiple fire and EMS units for a high-speed vehicle collision. Upon arrival it was quickly determined that the young vehicle operator was severely entrapped and in critical condition. The second vehicle operator was also located in his vehicle with apparent minor injuries. Unfortunately, efforts to extricate and provide lifesaving measures the young operator were unsuccessful. The other operator has been charged for causing his death. 2023-16990

May 11, 2023 - Members of the Bethlehem Police were called to the South Albany Airport of a reported plane crash. Arriving members learned that shortly after takeoff a plane occupied by 3 individuals fell from the sky crashing in a field on CSX property. Luckily, all individuals were transported to local hospitals and treated. 2023-16996



May 20, 2023 - Members of the Bethlehem Police Special Service unit became involved in an investigation after the mother of the juvenile victim learned of inappropriate images on her child's phone. The investigation led to the arrest of the suspect by FBI members in Boston. The suspect was identified in multiple cases. 2023-18113

May 30, 2023 - The Bethlehem Police along with several fire and EMS agencies were called to Equinox Court for an active structure fire. Upon arrival members quickly identified a large multi-unit apartment complex fire involving several buildings. The fire took several hours to contain, no injuries were reported. 2023-19495



June 18, 2023 - The Bethlehem Police were called to investigate the larceny of a high-end sports car. It was learned that the victims agreed to meet in the parking lot of a local business to sell the car after a pre-arranged Facebook Marketplace sale. After completion of the transaction the victims learned that the suspect had provided a fraudulent check. The car was recovered and the suspect was arrested in the case. 2023-21741

July 15, 2023 - Members of the Bethlehem Police were called to a Glenmont residence with multiple fire agencies for a working structure fire. Members were quickly able to determine that all occupants were out of the residence but 1 was transported for smoke inhalation. The cause of the fire was determined to be accidental. 2023-25181



August 1, 2023 - Members of the Bethlehem Police were called to a Slingerlands apartment complex for employee theft. The investigation revealed that over a period of several months the employee had stolen of \$25000 from the company. The suspect was arrested and charged with this incident. 2023-27053

August 7, 2023 - Department members did attempt to conduct a traffic stop on a violating in Glenmont. A vehicle pursuit ensued into the city of Albany where the occupants bailed from the vehicle and resulted in a foot pursuit. Members did locate an illegal firearm in the vehicle. The suspects have been charges in the case. 2023-27824



September 4, 2023 - The Bethlehem Police were called to the area of Jim's Tastee Freeze for a report of a larceny in progress. The witness reported two individuals had stolen the ATM machine from the store and had transported it across the street and into the woods. Members were ultimately able to recover the ATM and take both suspects into custody. 2023-30931

September 14, 2023 - Members of the Bethlehem Police were called to a Delmar residence for a reported overdose. Upon arrival investigating members identified an unconscious unresponsive resident and a second resident that was in the initial stages of an overdose. Also in the residence were 2 young children. Resuscitation efforts were unsuccessful while treating the first resident. The second was treated and later charged with child endangerment. 2023-32084

November 14, 2023 - Members of the Bethlehem Police were attempting to assist another agency by stopping a vehicle involved in a larceny. During the stop the suspect did flee the scene and a pursuit ensued. The suspect was ultimately taken into custody and identified in multiple larcenies. 2023-3162, 2023-38899

December 5, 2023 - Members of the Bethlehem Police Department were requested to respond to a burglary in progress at Shannon Chiropractic in Delmar. Upon arrival members quickly established a perimeter and the suspect was taken into custody. The suspect was linked to previous burglaries at the same location. 2023-41566

December 27, 2023 - Members of the Bethlehem Police Department were called to Plug Power for an armed robbery that had just occurred. Responding members learned that an employee had arranged to meet a prospective buyer for property he was selling on Facebook Marketplace after his shift. When the parties met the buyers forcefully took the property at gunpoint and fled the area. Both suspects have been identified and were charged in the case. 2023-44013

2023 AWARDS

Below is a list of members who received awards for their actions and the performance of their duties in 2023. Members we presented with their commendations at a ceremony held in 2024.

AWARD RECIPIENTS

Exceptional Duty Award

Sergeant Daniel Callahan

Chief's Achievement Award

Deputy Chief James Rexford

Commander Robert Baldwin

Detective Caitlyn Krage

IT Specialist Frank Heuer

Master Sergeant Michael Whiteley (Ret.)

Department/Unit Citation Award

Deputy Chief James Rexford

Commander Michael Cozy

Commander Robert Baldwin

First Sergeant Roy Swann

Master Sergeant James Corrigan

Detective Sergeant James Cross

Sergeant Chad Ferraro

Sergeant Kristen Spinnato

Detective Chad Rice

Detective Adam Cobb

Detective Michael Berben

Detective Caitlyn Krage

Officer Rico Fiore

Officer Isaiah Burton

Officer Cameron Apple

Officer Alexander Hazelton

Officer Luke Mara

Officer Brady Hughes

Officer Alex Griffin

Officer Stephen Celestino

Telecommunicator Brent Dragon

Telecommunicator Sharon Huether

Telecommunicator Joanna Nunziato

Telecommunicator Christopher Kowalski

Telecommunicator Michael Mittler

Police Records Clerk Brianna Tice

Police Records Clerk Ciara Hodges

Master Sergeant Michael Whiteley (Ret.)

Officer Jeffrey Gallagher (Ret.)

Life Saving Award

Sergeant Daniel Callahan

Officer Andrew Hynes

Officer Alexander Hazelton

Career Recognition Award

First Sergeant Brian Hughes (Ret.)

Master Sergeant Christopher Shunk (Ret.)

Master Sergeant Michal Whiteley (Ret.)

Officer Jeffrey Gallagher (Ret.)

2023 Officer of the Year

Officer Rico Fiore

2023 Telecommunicator of the Year

Telecommunicator Melissa Powell