



Town of Waterford, Connecticut, Police Commission Meeting Agenda

Auditorium at Waterford Town Hall

5/12/2025 5:00 pm

Call to order and establish quorum:

Pledge of Allegiance:

Public input:

Acceptance of minutes: April 14, 2025 Regular Meeting

Correspondence:

Traffic Commission Review:

Chief's Report:

- a. K9 Reports for April
- b. Youth Report for April
- c. Investigative Services Report for April
- d. Training Report for April
- e. Support Services Report for April
- f. Patrol Report for April
- g. Animal Control Report for April
- h. Community Engagement Report for April

Old Business:

- a. Recording of Commission Meetings

New Business:

- a. Discussion of out-of-series transfers
- b. Police Commission nominations for the term starting June 1, 2025:



MINUTES
BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
April 14, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Commissioner J. Dimmock, Commissioner C. Gamble, Commissioner M. Gelinas, Commissioner R. Brule

ABSENT: Commissioner T. Sheridan

DEPARTMENT: Chief M. Balestracci, Lieutenant P. Flanagan, Sergeant Michael Fedor, Traffic Officer M. Devine, Training Officer M. Sylvestre, Officer B. Winakor

CALL TO ORDER AND ESTABLISH A QUORUM:

Commissioner Dimmock called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. in the General Meeting Room of the Waterford Police Department. A Quorum was established.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC INPUT: Helen Kwasniewski discussed concerns, including speeders in her neighborhood, line of sight issues, dangerous intersections in town, and late-night loud music expected in the upcoming months.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Gamble and seconded by Commissioner Gelinas to accept the March 10, 2025, Regular Meeting minutes. Commissioner Brule abstained. Motion passed.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Correspondence was reviewed.

TRAFFIC COMMISSION REVIEW:

Traffic Report was received.

CHIEF'S REPORT:

- a. K9 Reports for March
March report was received.
- b. Youth Reports for March
March report was received.
- c. Investigative Services for March
March report was received.
- d. Training Report for March
March report was received.
- e. Support Services Report for March
March report was received.
- f. Patrol Report for March
March report was received.
- g. Animal Control Report for March
March report was received.
- h. Community Engagement Report for March
March report was received.

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. Recording Commission Meetings – The IT director, Jeff Robillard, expects the auditorium to be complete in four to six weeks. The BOE has a person to set up the audio-visual equipment before recording meetings. He suggested the BOPC may want to consider assigning someone to do this if meetings are moved to the auditorium for recording.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Tour and discussion of locker rooms. The costs of the locker room renovation project are coming in much higher than anticipated. Officer Sylvestre discussed the increase in female hiring trends and the fact that there are no locker room facilities for any additional women officers. Officer Winakor reported on the progress of the locker room committee and the quotes from contractors they are working with for initial pricing. The committee is researching cost-saving measures to enable the project to be completed within the budget. The contractor advised that the project would take approximately thirteen weeks from start to finish. There was discussion of officers needing a temporary locker room arrangement during construction.
- b. Executive Session for case review.

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Dimmock and seconded by Commissioner Brule to enter into Executive Session, including Chief Balestracci and LT Flanagan at 5:45 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 6:00 p.m. No votes or actions were taken while in Executive Session.

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Gelinas and seconded by Commissioner Gamble to adjourn the meeting at 6:00 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by:



Diane E. Driscoll
Recording Secretary



The Waterford Police Department

Traffic Officer Report

April 2025



LINE OF SIGHT ISSUES:

- No new reports
-

DOT RELATED ISSUES.

- I have requested changes to the previously submitted encroachment permit submitted to DOT to place solar speed signs on Route 156 in the area between the high school and Jordan Fire house. The change in request is that we utilize battery powered speed signs, instead the solar. DOT requirements to install poles for the solar signs would not be cost effective. The battery powered speed signs will go on the existing speed limit signs.

PARKING COMPLAINTS:

- Working with Zoning regarding commercial vehicle parking complaint, no violation at this time.
- Complaint of RV parked in cul de sac, causing line of sight issue. Owners working to move the vehicle to new location.

ENFORCEMENT RELATED COMPLAINTS:

- Complaint of speed issues on Summer St. Working on getting speed data.

REQUESTS FOR SIGNS OR CHANGE OF ROADWAY FEATURES:

- Call regarding street light being removed due to a pole replacement. Evening sergeant checked the area and determined it is recommended to be replaced. DPW contacted and working with Eversource to ensure the light is returned.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

No upcoming events

UPCOMING ROAD CONSTRUCTION WITH CLOSURE:

No large projects anticipated

TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT: **641** Total Traffic Stops

Officer	Devine #88	Diogo #95	Reed #93	Total
Infractions	18	292	92	402
warnings	31	149	49	229
misdemeanor	1	5	4	10



The Waterford Police Department

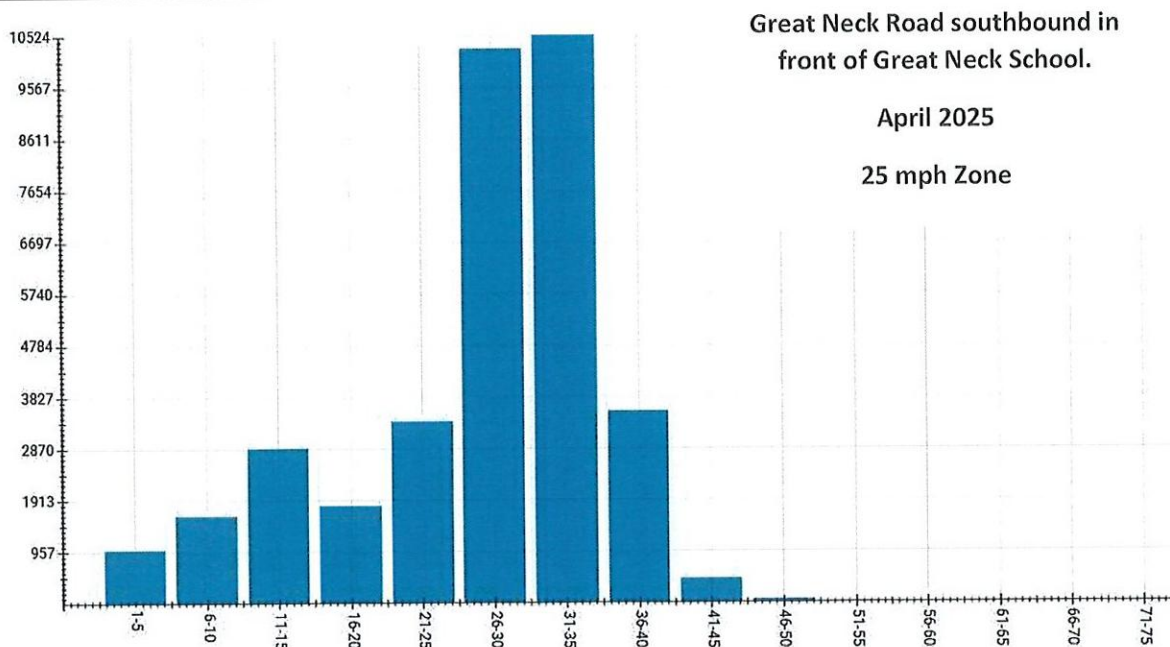
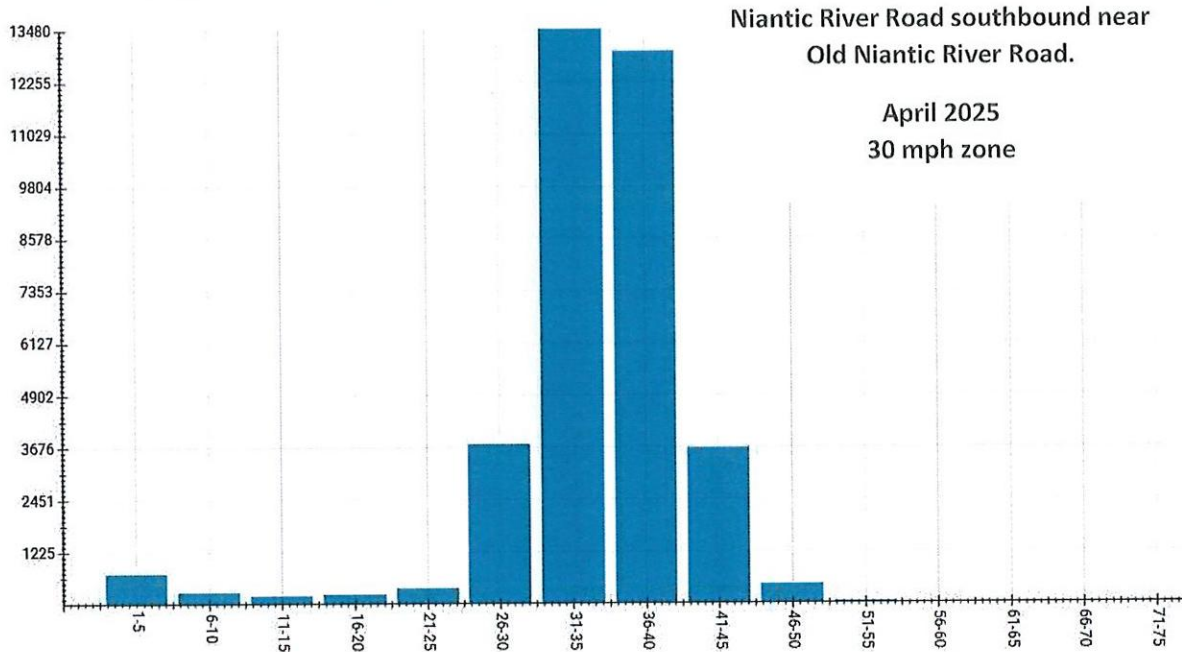
Traffic Officer Report

April 2025



SPEED TRAFFIC SIGN DEPLOYMENT:

The two solar powered speed signs have remained in place at the below listed locations:



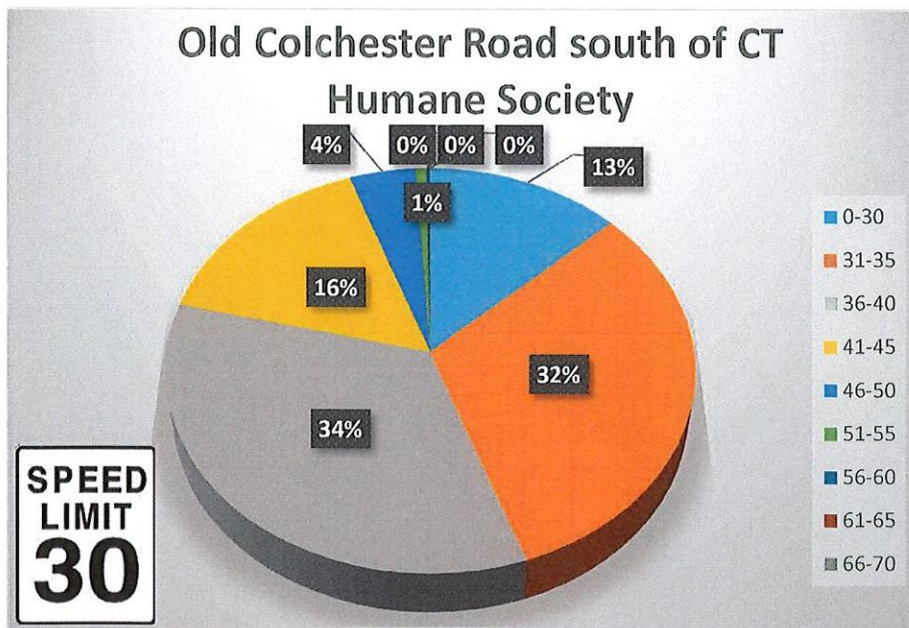
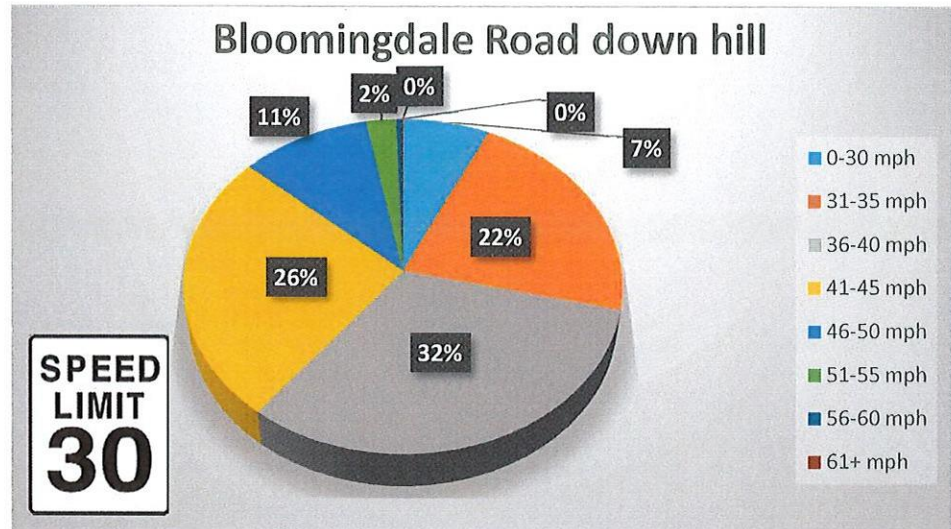


The Waterford Police Department Traffic Officer Report April 2025



Battery Powered Signs: Battery powered speed feedback signs were placed on Old Colchester Road and Bloomingdale Road. The following data was obtained between April 16, 2025 and April 21, 2025

Speed	Count
0-30 mph	646
31-35 mph	2009
36-40 mph	2953
41-45 mph	2400
46-50 mph	977
51-55 mph	221
56-60 mph	41
61+ mph	14



Speed	Count
0-30	680
31-35	1650
36-40	1790
41-45	821
46-50	234
51-55	36
56-60	10
61-65	2
66-70	1



The Waterford Police Department Traffic Officer Report April 2025



WHALING DR. SPEED STUDY:

April 16, 2025 to April 21, 2025 a speed study was conducted on Whaling drive, based on a complaint that had been previously received. Whaling Dr, is a cul de sac with approximately eighteen houses on the road. The complaint received was in regards to speeding at reckless speeds. Utilizing the Jamar Speed Radar black box, I attached the box on a light pole near the intersection of Whaling Dr and Lamphere Rd. The box was facing in toward Whaling Dr. and has the capability to records traffic in both directions. The data obtained showed the average speed in this straight section of the road was 22.8 mph. Whaling Dr. does not have an established speed limit. 75% of recorded traffic was at or below 25 mph. Of the remaining 25% only 2% exceeded 30 mph, with the high speed being 35 mph.



THE WATERFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT



K-9 Activity Report

April 2025

K-9 Ozzy

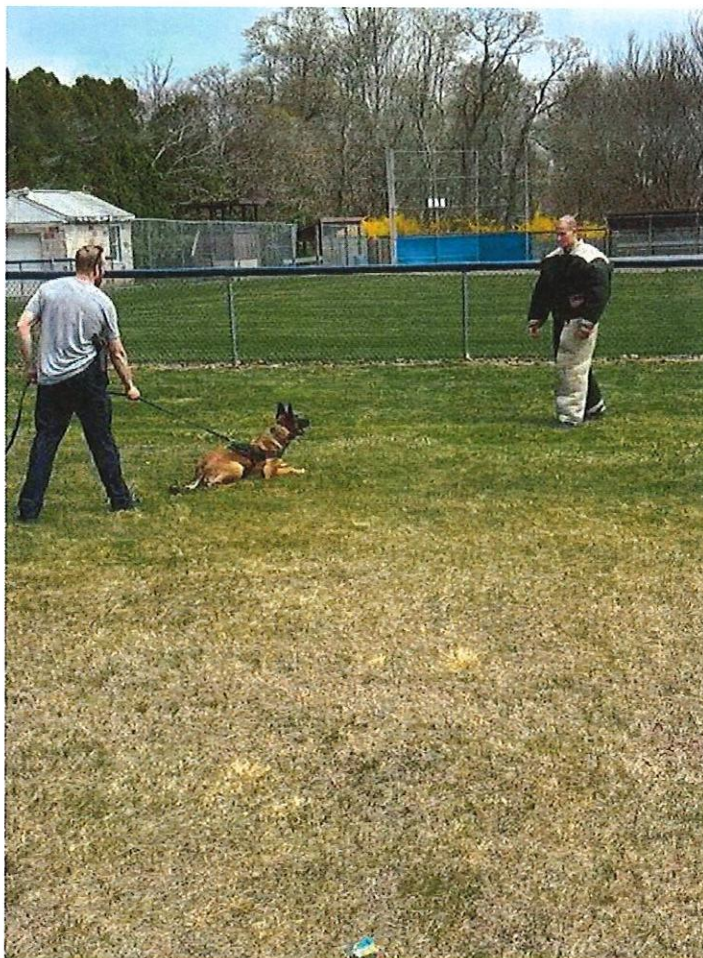
Monthly Uses: 3

2025 Uses: 10

K-9 Tico

Monthly Uses: 5

2025 Uses: 10



K-9 Usage

Ozzy

- ♦ K9 Ozzy and Officer Genung assisted on a motor vehicle stop. The operator was providing conflicting stories and a ripped open Suboxone strip was observed on the driver's floorboard. K9 Ozzy was deployed for an open air sniff of the vehicle and K9 Ozzy displayed alert behavior for the presence of narcotics. A hand search was conducted and no contraband was located inside the vehicle.
- ♦ K9 Ozzy and Officer Genung assisted the ELPD in the search of a suspect attempting to gain entry into a residence. K9 Ozzy was able to acquire a track and pulled to the cul de sac where he lost the track. The owner of the building reported a vehicle sitting in the cul de sac that took off shortly after he arrived home.

Tico

- ♦ K9 Tico and Officer Surdo assisted in 5 open air sniffs of vehicles for this agency in the month of April. During one of the open air sniffs, K9 Tico showed alert behavior and the vehicle was eventually hand searched. Located inside the vehicle were narcotics and drug paraphernalia. Two individuals were taken into custody for the drug charges.

Monthly Training

- ♦ Monthly K-9 training was conducted on 4/8/25 and 4/22/25 in obedience, tracking, article search, building search, area search, narcotics detections, and apprehension work.



THE WATERFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT

Youth Office Activity Report



April 2025

- ♦ SRO Malbaurn and Inv. Zaldivar participated in a Career Q&A presentation at WHS. 22 students attended and the event was organized by the College and Career staff at WHS.
- ♦ During the month of April SRO Lane dealt with a social media issue in school. There was a harassment issue with students (via text after school) hours that was largely dealt with on the school/administrative level.
- ♦ On April 3rd SRO Lane assisted the school nurse / admin team with a student that was having seizures.
- ♦ SRO Malbaurn investigated a report of a student making "concerning" comments on social media. The student was evaluated and referred to a school counselor.
- ♦ Throughout the month of April SRO Lane collaborated with the Clark Lane Middle School health teacher and taught classes on the dangers of impaired driving.
- ♦ SRO Malbaurn and Off. Boxley assisted the WHS business department in their "Credit for Life Fair" on April 23rd.
- ♦ SRO Winters hosted the Youth Jeopardy Challenge with the three elementary schools (*pictures at right*).



Month at a Glance

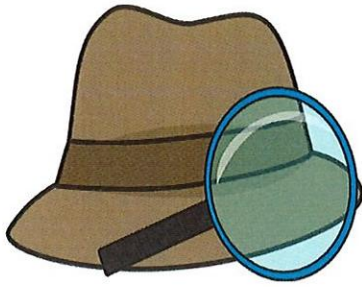
2 – Home Visits

8 - CAD Report

0- Case Reports

Arrests - 0 / JRB Referrals – 0

SROs Lane, Malbaurn and Winters continue to meet and talk with students on a daily basis for school, personal, and social related topics in an effort to develop lasting relationships b/w the department and the youth in our community.



THE WATERFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT

Investigative Services Division



April 2025

In the month of April 2025 the Investigative Services Division worked or assisted with 9 investigations.

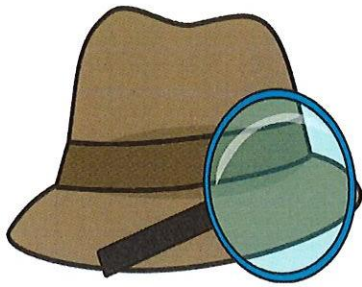
Current Active Investigations (16 Cases):

(These numbers do not include assist's to the Patrol Division)

Homicide-1	Pistol Permits-12
Burglary-3	Sex Assault-3
Larceny-1	Robbery-2
Firearms Compliance-1	Fraud-1
ID Theft-1	Narcotics-2
Untimely-1	Overdose-1

Year to Date Statistical Report

Case Numbers	Search Warrants	Background Checks	Arrests	Sex Assaults	
38	17	4	5	5	
Ex-Parte's	Auto Theft	Burglary	Unattended Deaths	Robbery	
0	0	2	4	1	



THE WATERFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT

Investigative Services Division



April 2025

April 2025 Updates:

During the month of April, Investigative Services conducted retail surveillance focusing on Ulta in the Waterford Commons. Investigative Services contributes time to the retail initiative on a regular basis primarily in an undercover capacity.

Sergeant Avdevich and Lieutenant VanOverloop attended a training focusing on the mental health of officers while in a Supervisory position.

Investigative Services hosted both CCSU Intern Garvin Lermayer as well as Waterford High School Intern Clara Mahoney.

Detective Bonkowski completed a two semester course, Scientific Evidence I, at the University of Rhode Island. This course began in September of 2024 meeting every Friday. Detective Bonkowski received (8) eight college credits for this course.

Investigative Services has continued to conduct follow-ups regarding the 2012 murder of Kyle Seidel. This month's focus was on re-interviewing past persons who may have information regarding the homicide.

Detective O'Connell and Detective Bonkowski attended a five day training on "Shooting Reconstruction". This course was hosted by the Henry Lee Institute of Science at the University of New Haven.

The Investigative Services Division completed six search warrants during the month of April for varying cases ranging from an ongoing robbery investigation to a narcotics arrest.

Investigative Services was assigned one background investigation for a police officer applicant.

April 2025 Investigations:

After a months long investigation lead by Detective Carroll, a male subject was arrested for the burglary of the Piercing Pagoda at the Crystal Mall. Rapid DNA and the Flock camera system helped to bring this case to a successful conclusion. The male suspect arrested was charged in the burglary with a larceny value of jewelry of approximately \$125,000.

Detective Bonkowski assisted Patrol with a Risk Warrant after numerous firearms were seized from a home stemming from a dual domestic arrest of two individuals who reside at the residence.

Detective O'Connell was assigned to an untimely death of a fifty two (52) year old female. This case is not suspicious in nature.

Investigator Zaldivar was assigned a juvenile sexual assault case involving a female victim and an adult male suspect. This case is still under investigation pending a search warrant approval from the New London Superior Court.

An arrest warrant is pending for a male subject in violation of the Sex Offender Registry's requirements to notify the state of change of address within a limited period of time.

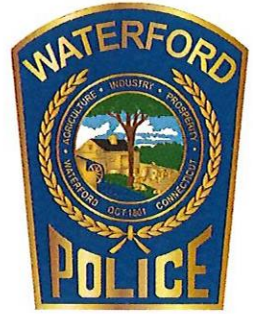
Investigative Services assisted the New London Police Department in a sexual assault investigation.

Detective Carroll was assigned a years old sexual assault investigation from the Waterford Country School. This case is still under investigation.



TRAINING REPORT

APRIL 2025

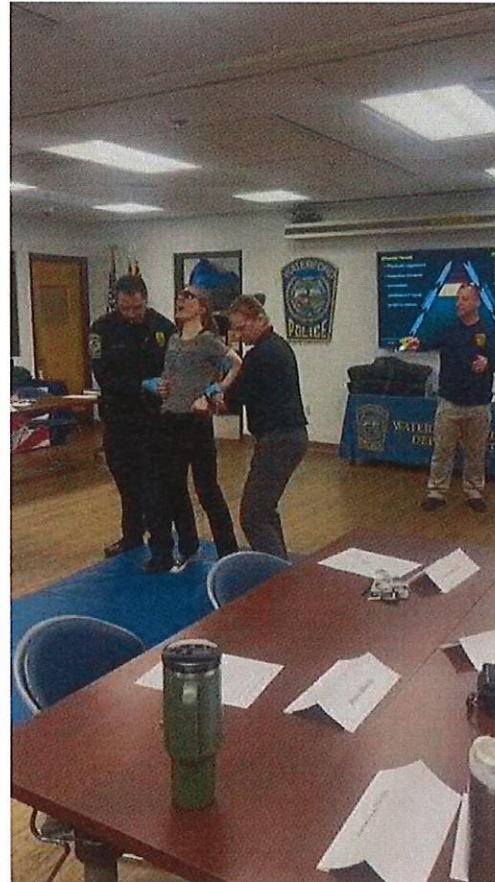


New Officer Updates

Hiring Process: The Waterford Police Department continues its efforts in recruiting and hiring. Training is continuing with the new hiring process to fill two current vacancies, and two more upcoming vacancies.

Recruit Status: Recruit Maselli and Recruit Abram completed Phase 2 of their Field Training and are currently in Phase 3. During Phase 3, they are doing 75% of the work.

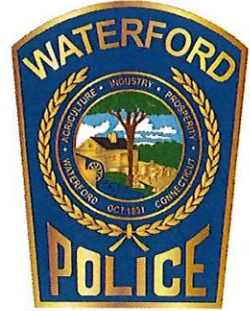
Recruit Mack completed his fourth week at the Connecticut Police Academy at POST-C in Meriden, CT.



THE WATERFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT

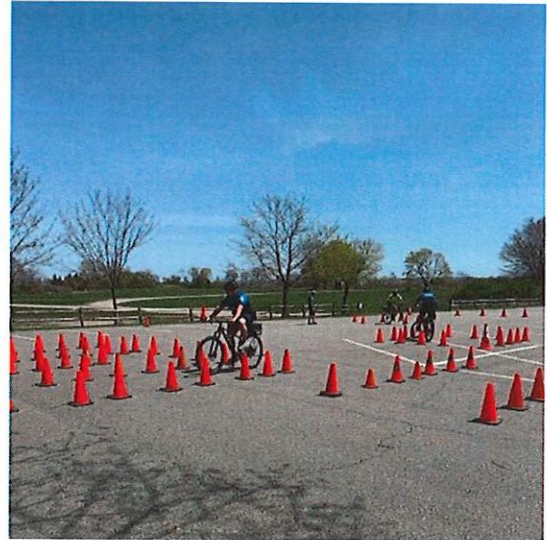


TRAINING REPORT APRIL 2025



Officer Winakor, Officer Charron, and Officer Reed attended a two-day Basic Interview & Interrogation Course hosted here at the Waterford Police Department. Officers were trained on how to establish rapport, understand body language, as well as how to elicit the maximum information out of a interviewee as possible just to name a few.

Sergeant Firmin and Sergeant Epps attended a three-day mid-management supervision course. This course covered topics related to labor relations, planning, time management, municipal budgeting, and personnel management towards the next generation of police officers.



Officer Charron attended a three-day Writing Effective Law Enforcement Reports training at the Middletown Police Department. This training concentrated on the organization of thoughts and communicating factual findings into a written report. There were also different strategies discussed on how to improve report writing and practical exercises to go along with that.

Officer Maffeo hosted a two-day Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement (ARIDE) training here at the police department that Officer Boxley and Officer Suplita attended. This is a POSTC mandated training that all officers have to receive after graduating from the police academy. This course reviews SFST's but is focused on drug impaired driving.

Officer Reed, Investigator Zaldivar, and Sergeant Epps attended a four-day police



mountain bike training hosted here at the police department that was taught by Officer Sylvestre and Detective Raymond Carroll. This training is designed to give officers all the training they need to become bike certified. This involves bike maintenance, many hours riding the bicycle, as well as obstacle courses and various drills just to name a few.



Support Services Report

April 2025



Records Activity

FOI Requests	158	16%
Warrants	44	10%
Phone Calls	172	-6%
Walk in Assists	161	7%
Background Checks	8	0%
Protective Orders	23	-4%
Officer Tasking Requests	82	-4%
Case Erasures	302	11%
DCF Requests	14	-30%
Court Requests	14	56%
Abstracts	381	27%
Video Requests	19	-10%
Reports Accepted	80	-8%

- * The CSOs covered 82 shifts during the month, equating to 651 hours of shift coverage.
- * CSO Bertrand has been assisting with data collection for Larceny related offenses for a crime analysis project.
- * Records personnel completed a significant FOI request involving 10 years worth of personnel information in which the requester routinely called demanding information. The difficult caller was handled professionally and respectfully by records personnel.
- * A distracted driving grant secured by Admin Sgt. Fedor provided funding for dedicated enforcement shifts, leading to 193 traffic stops with 122 infractions issued.

CSO Activity

Adult Arrests	37
Juvenile Arrests	0
Firearms Transfers	49
Pistol Permits Issued	5
Walk In Complaints	32

Fingerprints

Pistol Permits	12
Employment	13
Miscellaneous	0
Peddler/Precious Permits	3
Warrant Follow Ups	265



Patrol Report

Commissioners Activity Report

April 2025



DV Incident: Leads to Seizure of Numerous Guns

On 4/16/25 day shift responded to a property retrieval complaint on Two Mile Hill RD. Responding officers determined that a domestic violence incident had occurred several days prior in which both parties pointed firearms at one another. Based on investigative efforts, numerous firearms including an AR-15, a semi-automatic shotgun, and nine high capacity magazines were seized. Two Risk Protection orders, one Risk Protection Warrant, and two arrest warrants were prepared and presented to a judge at New London Superior Court.



Seized firearms at left.

Seized narcotics at right.



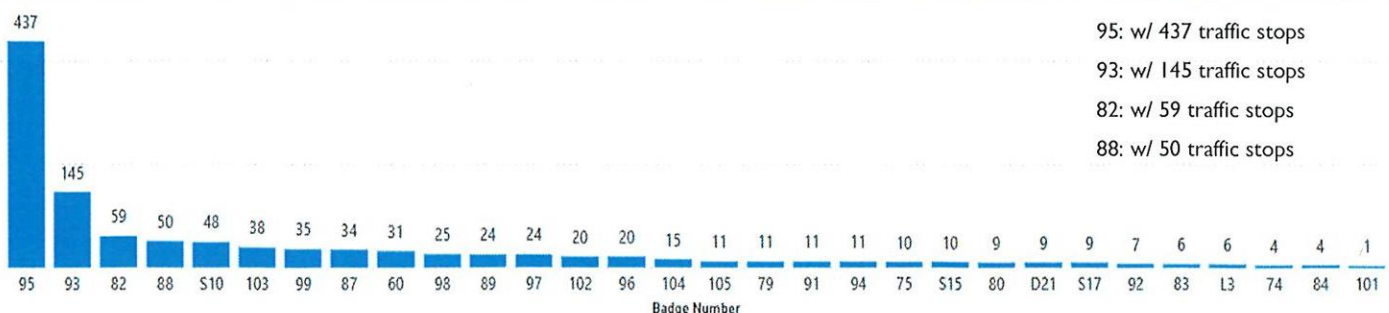
Retail Theft Initiative: Business Check Leads to Drug Arrest

On 4/21/25 at approximately 10:41pm officers were conducting a business check at Wal-Mart. Wal-Mart is the "focus" business of the week for the Retail Theft Initiative. Officers alertly observed a suspicious vehicle in the parking lot and advised loss prevention. The female occupant was observed shoplifting and was taken into custody. The two male occupants who remained in the vehicle were found to be in possession of narcotics, drug paraphernalia, and a scale commonly used to weigh narcotics. This case resulted in the arrest of all three subjects for a variety of larceny/narcotics related charges.

Patrol Calls for Service Monthly Snap Shot:

Total Service Calls	3084
Case Numbers	149
Arrests	102
Juvenile Arrests	0
Larcenies	37
Arrest Warrants	8
Domestic Violence Investigations	12
Traffic Crash	55
DUI Investigations	5
EDP/Welfare Check	35
School Checks	48
Motor Vehicle	1125
Written Warnings	430
Infractions	511
Verbal Warnings	140
Misdemeanor	36
Other	8

SELF INITIATED MOTOR VEHICLE ACTIVITY BY BADGE NUMBER



95: w/ 437 traffic stops

93: w/ 145 traffic stops

82: w/ 59 traffic stops

88: w/ 50 traffic stops

**Overdose Call Leads to Arrest by Warrant**

On April 2nd at 2353 hours the midnight shift was dispatched to an address on Woodlawn Avenue for a reported drug overdose. Upon arrival officers located a subject inside of the residence who had been administered naloxone and was now conscious and alert. The subject initially provided EMS with a fictitious name. Responding officers were familiar with the subject and knew that he had three active PRAWN warrants (held by Waterford PD, East Lyme PD, and Montville PD). The subject was taken into custody for three counts of Failure to Appear in court in the Second Degree.

Proactive MV Enforcement: Leads to DUI Arrest

On April 9th the midnight shift was conducting proactive motor vehicle enforcement on the RTE 1 corridor. At 0010 hours Off. Jordan observed a vehicle heading eastbound at a high rate of speed. After catching up to the vehicle, Off. Jordan observed the operator swerving and failing to maintain lane. A traffic stop was initiated and the operator was found to be under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol. The subject was taken into custody and charged with Failure to Maintain Lane (CGS 14-236) and Driving Under the Influence (CGS 14-227a).

Car vs. Pedestrian MVACC: Leads to Arrest

On April 2nd patrol responded to a report of a motor vehicle accident in which it was reported a juvenile was struck by an evading car. Responding officers took statements and utilized the FLOCK system to identify a suspect vehicle. A short time later Off. Donovan located the offending vehicle after a FLOCK alert. The operator was charged with Evading the scene of a Motor Vehicle Accident and Failure to Yield to a Pedestrian at a Crosswalk.



In the Community Interest





THE WATERFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT

Animal Control Report



April 2025

- ♦ The ACOs assisted several citizens by temporarily taking custody of their dogs for safe keeping until they could be returned to the owner or their family. This included 2 untimely deaths, 1 owner sent to the hospital, and 1 owner arrested.
- ♦ ACO Ryan completed training on handling dangerous dogs with OC spray and "bite stick" to improve her skills.
- ♦ Two injured owls were assisted and brought to a wildlife rehabilitator after being struck by vehicles. One of the owls had to be euthanized due to the extent of injuries, but the other owl is recovering well.
- ♦ The ACO assisted with a severe cat attack at a local vet office, injuring the vet, a vet tech, and the owner. The cat was taken into quarantine since it was not current on its rabies shot.



	Waterford	East Lyme
Calls for Service	69	64
After Hour Call Outs	4	6
Tickets Issued	1	0
Warnings Issued	0	1
Dog Bites	5	1
Animals Redeemed	9	5
Animals Adopted	2	0
Animals DOA	1	1
Euthanized	0	0
Total Processed	12	6
Money Taken In	\$240	\$20
Donations	\$120	\$5

"Speaking for those who have no voice"



THE WATERFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT

Community Engagement Report

April 2025



Internships: Intern Gavin Lermayer shadowed Dispatch, Evening Shift Patrol, School Resource Officer Lane, Day Shift Patrol, Investigative Services, Training Officer Sylvestre, Traffic Officer Diogo, Midnight Shift Patrol, and Traffic Officer Reed. Intern Clara Mahoney shadowed Evidence/Court Officer Maffeo, Evening Shift Patrol, School Resource Malbourn, and Community Service Officer Ortiz.

Citizen's Academy: 20 participants attended classes about the School Resource Officers, Investigative Services, Use of Force, Dispatch, Marine Patrol, the K-9 Unit, and Digital Forensic Investigations. Participants witnessed a Phazzer Demo and K-9 Demo. Patrol Ride Alongs began for participants.

Rotary Club: Attended monthly meeting.



Domestic Violence Follow-ups: Conducted 4 follow-ups with DV victims. Attended the Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence's Quarterly Meeting.

Assistance to Youth Officers: Visited Ballestrini's Childcare Center. Brought Quaker Hill School Students to the CT Humane Society to drop-off collected donations. Gave a student a ride-along to Great Neck School with SRO Winters for a school fundraiser. Spoke about traffic stop safety at Rae's Driving School.

K-9 Officer Hodges: Held Read to Hodges at the Waterford Library. Received a Certificate of Accomplishment from Senator Christopher Murphy, and it was presented by the Waterford Lion's Club. Attended the Waterford Youth Football Egg Hunt, the Library Community Fair, Waterford ACO Easter Bunny Fundraiser. Visited Waterford Ambulance and Eastern CT Ballet.

Recruiting: Updated recruitment brochures. Interviewed by Mitchell College and Three Rivers Community College Students about how to become a police officer.

Officer Wellness: Visited the East Lyme Police Department after the untimely death of a retired officer. Organized a Wellness Day for Evening Shift. Visited Dispatch with donated snacks for National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week. Attended the Chaplain's Breakfast.

Special Olympics Efforts: Visiting multiple businesses for the Adopt A Mile Torch Run Program. Currently raised \$625 for the CT Special Olympics.

Interaction with Senior Services: Visited New London Rehab & Care and Greentree Manor. Attended Coffee with a Vet.