

# NEW CANAAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

## 2017 ANNUAL REPORT



For more information about the New Canaan Police Department and the material in this report, please contact:

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**Leon M. Krolikowski**  
Chief of Police

New Canaan Police Department • 2017 Annual Report  
*A Nationally Accredited Law Enforcement Agency*



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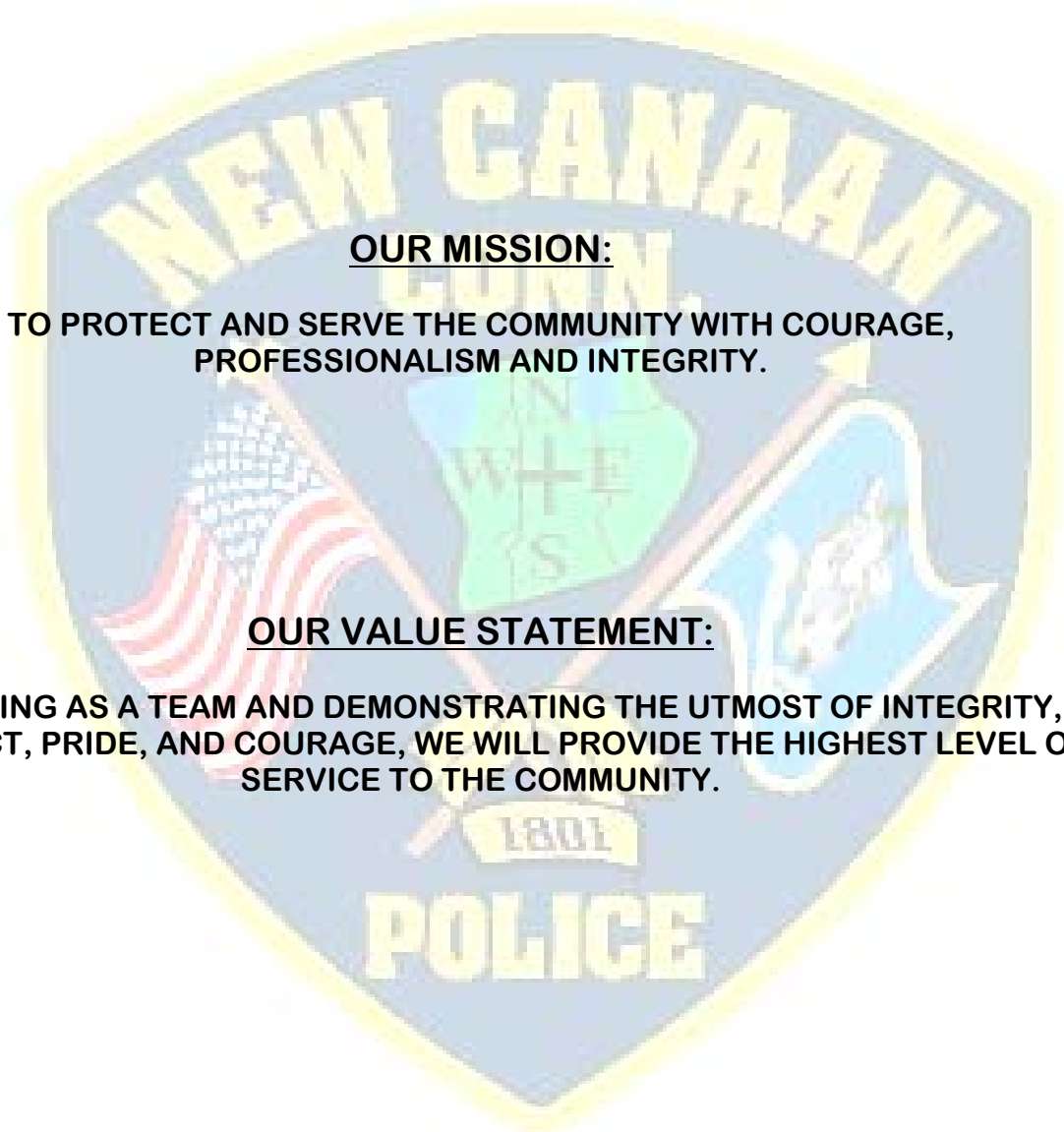
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**OUR VISION:**  
**A SAFE, PEACEFUL AND CRIME-FREE COMMUNITY**

**OUR MISSION:**  
**TO PROTECT AND SERVE THE COMMUNITY WITH COURAGE,  
PROFESSIONALISM AND INTEGRITY.**

**OUR VALUE STATEMENT:**  
**WORKING AS A TEAM AND DEMONSTRATING THE UTMOST OF INTEGRITY,  
RESPECT, PRIDE, AND COURAGE, WE WILL PROVIDE THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF  
SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY.**



## INTRODUCTION

The New Canaan Police Department became a Nationally Accredited Law Enforcement Agency in 1992 and is one of fourteen Connecticut departments recognized by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement agencies. Located at 174 South Avenue; the New Canaan Police Department has expanded and adapted to meet the ever-growing challenges of modern law enforcement.

The Town of New Canaan was incorporated in 1801. Since its inception over a hundred years ago, the New Canaan Police Department diligently serves the community of New Canaan through the enforcement of the laws enacted by the Local, State, and Federal Legislative bodies. In May of 1889, the State Legislature granted the Borough of New Canaan the power to provide police protection to its residents. Prior to this decree, police protection consisted of a night watchman and one or two elected constables. The present day police force was established in November of 1889 with the first Chief of Police of the modern-day police department being named in 1892. From the basement of Town Hall to its current location, from a night watchman to a 47-member police force, the New Canaan Police Department has evolved to become a nationally recognized organization.

The primary mission of the New Canaan Police Department and its Officers is the protection of all persons and properties within its jurisdiction. This mission must be accomplished through the upholding of laws constitutionally enacted by local, State, and Federal legislative bodies. Our agency serves the community of New Canaan by performing the law enforcement function in a professional manner.

## PERSONNEL SUMMARY

The New Canaan Police Department at full complement is comprised of 47 sworn officers and 10 civilian employees. Patrol officers respond to a wide variety of calls for service. Our officers are Emergency Medical Responders and are dispatched to medical calls as well. In order to apply as an officer, applicants are required to have a minimum of 60 college credits, two years law enforcement experience or two years of active military service.

In 2017 the New Canaan Police Department promoted Scott Romano to the position of Sergeant.

We also hired two new officers, Nicole Vartuli and Robert Rizzitelli.



## **POLICE COMMISSION**

The New Canaan Police Commission consists of three appointed Commissioners; Stuart Sawabini Chairman, Sperry DeCew Secretary and Member Paul Foley. They are responsible for managing and supervising the Police Department and appointing the Chief of Police and subordinate Police Officers. Monthly meetings, which are open to the public, are held to allow the Commission to review reports and to address requests from New Canaan residents.

## **CHIEF OF POLICE**



The Police Chief's position is designed to provide effective leadership, control and planning for the police department. Under the guidance of the Police Commission, the Chief's responsibilities include management, budgeting, and control of the Operations and Staff Services Divisions within the department. Under the direction of the Chief of Police, Captain Leon Krolikowski took over the position of Chief of Police for the New Canaan Police Department and continues to serve the community and the department as a whole.

## **CAPTAIN – OPERATIONS**



Under the direction of the Chief of Police, John DeFederico oversees the Patrol and Investigative Sections to insure adherence to the rules, regulations, and guidelines of the department. The Captain of Operations also serves as the Department's commander when there is a general deployment of officers in response to an emergency or special event.

## **CAPTAIN – STAFF SERVICES**

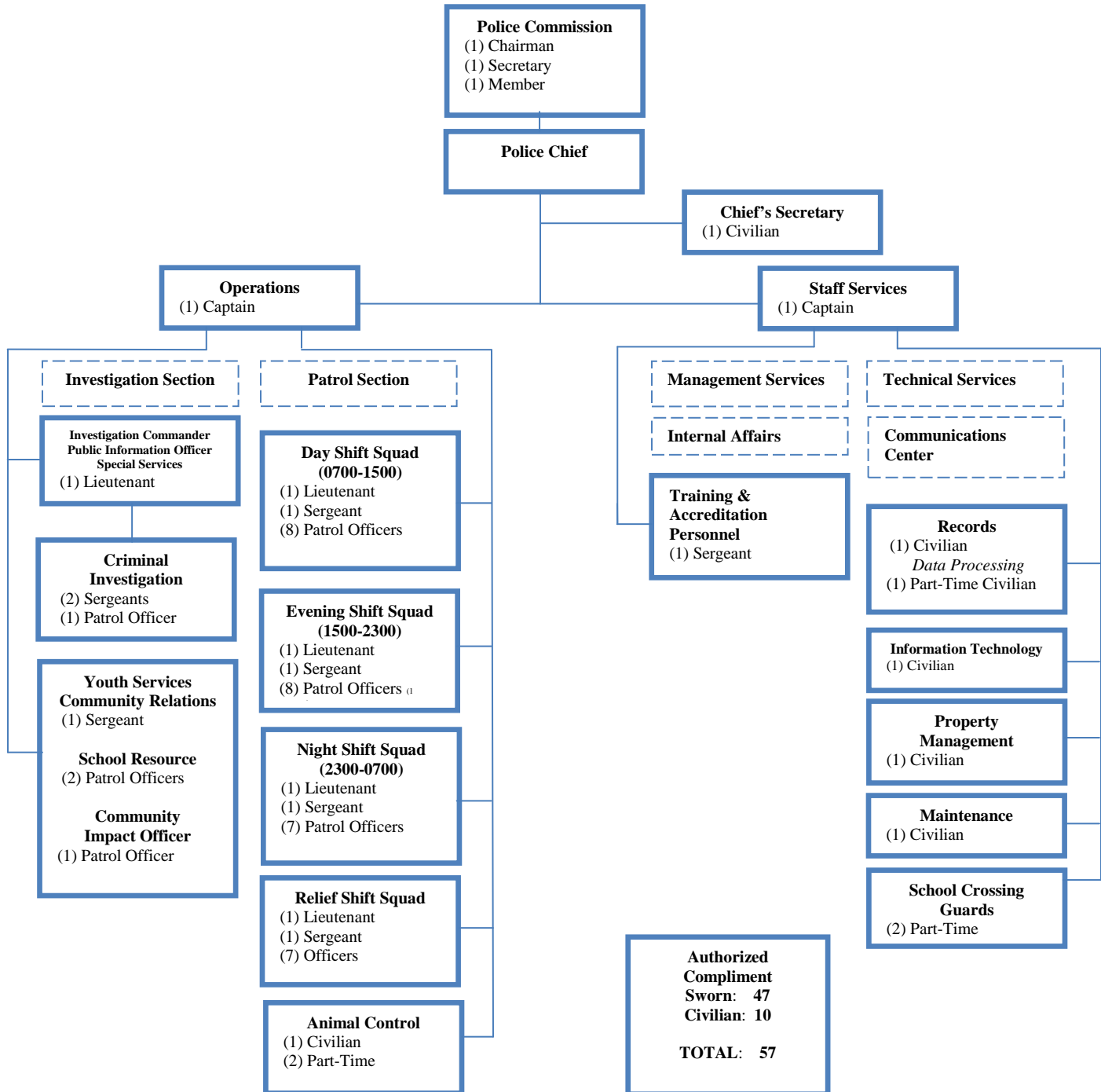


Captain Andrew Walsh, under the direction of the Chief of Police, supervises the personnel in the support division. Support divisions for the Department include Training, Records, Property, Information Technology, Maintenance, and School Crossing Guards. Additionally, the Captain coordinates and directs Department activities relating to police-community relations, chaplain services, counseling and referral services for Department members, Internal Affairs and other special projects. In 2017 there were 3 complaints that prompted investigations with Internal Affairs.



# NEW CANAAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

## 2017 Organizational Chart



# SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS

## BICYCLE PATROL



The Bicycle Patrol Unit is authorized to conduct motor vehicle stops while on patrol. The mobility of the bike patrol also simplifies enforcement of pedestrian and bicycle traffic and crosswalk violations. The bikes are equipped with red and blue lights, a siren and "POLICE" decals, making them easily identifiable as a police unit.

## MOTORCYCLE PATROL



The New Canaan Police Department motorcycle is an effective tool in addressing the many traffic issues that face our department. Over the past few years, the Department has been challenged with additional traffic enforcement and traffic investigations from the community. With the increase in calls-for-service and other demands placed upon the duty shift, the department believes that an alternative approach to better respond to the community is best resolved by a dedicated Motorcycle Enforcement Officer (M.E.O.) which will be modeled after the Traffic Enforcement Program. An internal selection process results in the extensive training and testing with the Connecticut State Police.

## SPECIAL RESPONSE TEAM



The Special Response Team (SRT) was established after a comprehensive testing process that included an FBI fitness test, a firearms proficiency exercise, and a personnel interview. The SRT is comprised of nine officers, two of who are snipers. Each team member is specially trained and equipped to handle critical incidents with levels of danger beyond normal expectations and exceeding the safe operation limits of regular Department personnel. The team trains monthly on situations ranging from search and rescue, barricaded suspects, hostage rescue, warrant service, firearms, railroad issues, and perimeter security. Armed with their extensive training in tactical procedures and weaponry, these officers are indispensable in resolving matters involving potential armed aggression and resistance.

## K-9 UNIT



Officer Rivera and K9-Apollo have worked along-side officers from our own department as well as other agencies in conducting police investigations. Our K9 Unit is called upon to conduct searches for missing persons, narcotic searches as well as building searches and tracking dangerous suspects. In order to maintain constant preparedness of Apollo, Officer Rivera will frequently conduct training exercises throughout the year. There may be an occasion where you will see Officer Rivera and K9-Apollo training at a local park or school.



## COMMUNITY IMPACT OFFICER (CIO)



The CIO works directly with the business community and citizens to strengthen the lines of communication to heighten community awareness and develop a stronger community partnership. The officer meets with business owners, identify concerns, and generate common priorities between the private and the public sectors. The CIO plans events such as Coffee with a Cop to facilitate interaction between the community and the police. For more information about the CIO or to report an issue, please contact the New Canaan Police Department at (203) 594-3500.

## SCHOOL RESOURCE AND SCHOOL LIASON OFFICERS

The school resource officer positions place one officer in Saxe Middle School and one in the New Canaan High School. These officers are the primary liaison between the police department, High School administration, Saxe Middle School administration, faculty, and student body. School liason officers are each assigned an elementary school and routinely visit while on patrol. They perform similar functions as the school resource officer.

## T.R.I.A.D.

T.R.I.A.D is a coalition of Senior Citizens, Police, and the representatives of local businesses working together to foster community support from our seniors and to reduce crimes against the elderly. This community-based policing program allows the Department to interact with a specific segment of the community in a caring, cooperative manner. For more information about TRIAD, please contact the New Canaan Police Department at (203) 594 – 3500.

## ACCREDITATION

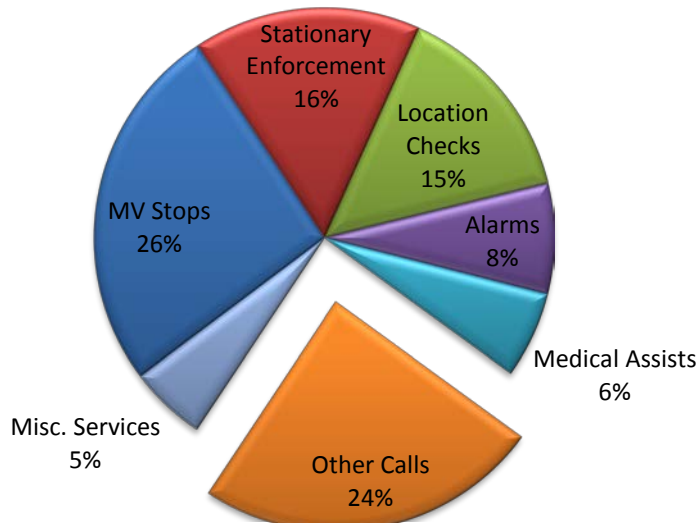
The Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) has established standards designed to increase law enforcement capabilities, prevent and control crime, and reduce liability. Accredited status is intended to earmark an agency's commitment to excellence in leadership, resource management and service delivery. The benefits of accreditation are several; assurance of the best professional police service that can be provided, better accountability to citizen concerns, controlled liability insurance costs, increased community advocacy, and recognition of excellence. The next Accreditation on-site assessment is scheduled for 2019.



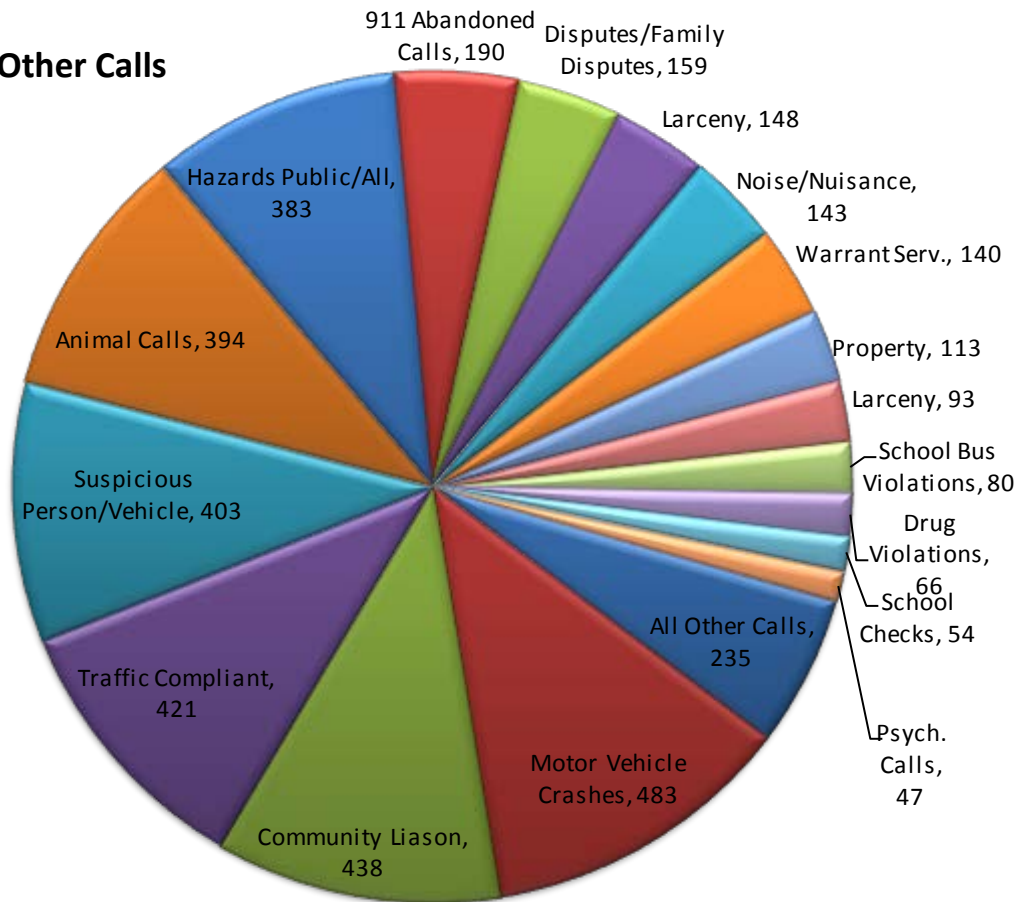


# CALLS FOR SERVICE

## Calls Logged in 2017

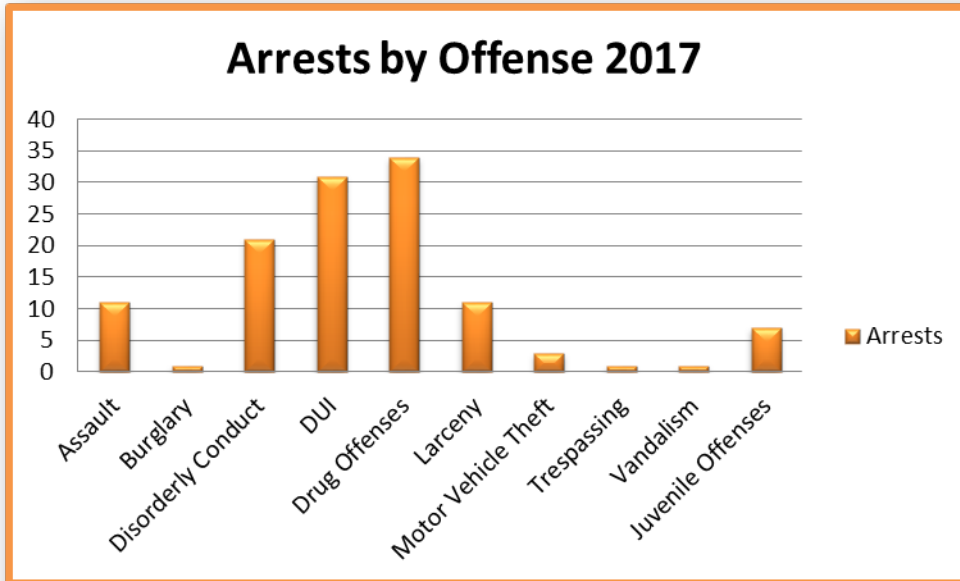


## Breakdown of Other Calls



**New Canaan Police Department**  
**ARREST BY OFFENSE**

There were a total of 162 people arrested in 2017. These include both warrant and warrant-less arrests. Our detective division was able to close 14 cases by arrests with 34 cases pending suspect identification through DNA or fingerprint analysis. In 2017 all 11 assault charges and 17 of the disorderly conduct charges were related to a family dispute.



**Trends**

In 2017 New Canaan, as well as many other towns in Connecticut, saw an increase in motor vehicle thefts. New Canaan had 14 reported vehicle thefts in 2017 compared to just 6 in 2016.

Location checks rose from 1099 in 2016 to 3064 in 2017. This was in direct correlation to proactive patrols in response to the rise in motor vehicle thefts.

Reports of burglaries (- 42%), larcenies (- 6%), family disputes (- 15%), violent crimes (- 50%), and suicide attempts (- 58%) all decreased from the previous year.



New Canaan Police Department  
**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE DIVISION**

<b>NCPD 2017 Domestic Violence Data</b>						
<b>Month</b>	<b>Total # of Family Disputes</b>	<b>Total # of Arrests</b>	<b>Dual Arrests</b>	<b>Child/Children Present</b>	<b>Child/Children Involved</b>	<b>Relationship of Victim to Offender</b>
January	6	3	0	2	2	4 Spouse, 2 Parent/Child
February	4	2	0	5	2	3 Spouse, 1 Parent/Child
March	6	5	2	3	4	2 Spouse, 4 Parent/Child
April	6	2	0	2	1	1 Spouse, 3 BF/GF, 1 Parent/Child, 1 Sibling
May	3	2	0	1	1	1 Spouse, 1 BF/GF, 1 Sibling
June	7	3	0	2	4	3 Spouse, 4 Parent/Child
July	1	1	0	0	0	1 BF/GF
August	7	3	0	0	4	1 Spouse, 1 BF/GF, 4 Parent/Child, 1 Sibling
September	7	4	0	4	2	3 Spouse, 2 Parent/Child, 1 BF/GF, 1 Oth. Relative
October	3	1	0	0	3	1 Spouse, 1 Parent/Child, 1 Sibling
November	5	3	0	6	0	3 Spouse, 2 BF/GF
December	6	4	0	7	1	3 Spouse, 1 Parent/Child, 1 BF/GF, 1 Sibling
<b>Totals</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25 Spouse, 20 Parent/Child, 10 BF/GF, 5 Sibling, 1 Oth. Relative</b>

The New Canaan Police Department can assist residents in obtaining warrants, orders of protection and counseling. As the Domestic Violence Coordinator, Officer Michael O’Sullivan oversees all Family Dispute incidents, reviewing the subsequent investigations and following up with the victims. When necessary, an officer will remove weapons from homes where domestic violence has occurred. For more information about Domestic Violence or the Crisis Center, please contact Officer O’Sullivan at (203) 594-3500.

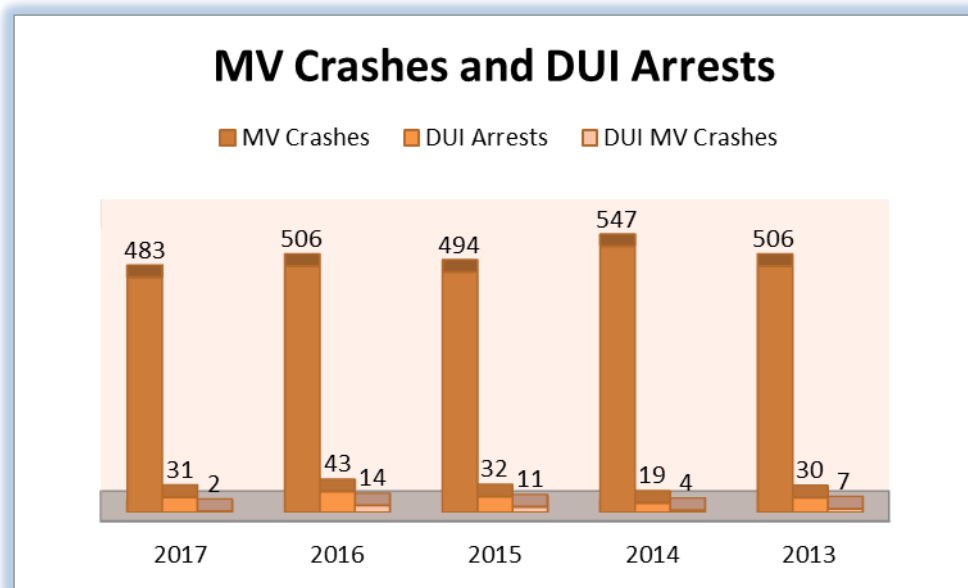


## New Canaan Police Department Impaired Operator Enforcement

The New Canaan Police Department is dedicated to removing impaired operators off of the road. Officers are trained in detection of impaired operators and our department participates in a multi-jurisdictional DUI taskforce. In 2017 the DUI taskforce consisting of officers from several area departments held a roadblock in the city of Norwalk.

In July of 2017 our department held a DUI roadblock in New Canaan which resulted in three DUI arrests. The roadblock also led to three citations for drug violations, one arrest for drinking while driving and one arrest for domestic violence.

Even though there were approximately 1000 fewer motor vehicle stops in 2017 than 2016, they resulted in four more DUI arrest, a 20% increase.



New Canaan Police Department  
**COMMUNITY SERVICES**

**NATIONAL PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKE BACK**



The New Canaan Police Department and the Inland Wetlands Department continued to partner with the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) to participate in National Prescription Drug Take Back Program. Residents are encouraged to bring their unwanted prescription medication to the police station. The initiative is meant to promote proper disposal of drugs as well as prevent abuse of medication that could be expired and dangerous. The drop box is located within the front lobby of the New Canaan Police Department. Disposal instructions are posted on the front of the box. All medications can be disposed of safely and confidentially. In 2017 we disposed 517.6 lbs. of medication.

**FINGERPRINT**

The New Canaan Police Department provides fingerprinting services for New Canaan residents, employee applicants, and persons who work within the Town limits. The hours for fingerprinting are 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM on Tuesdays and Thursdays. There is a \$15.00 fee and each applicant is required to produce a valid photo ID at the time of service. For more information about Fingerprinting services, please contact Property Management at (203) 594 – 3503.



**PROJECT LIFESAVER**

Project Lifesaver is a program that provides a timely response in order to save lives and reduces potential injury to adults and children who wander due to Alzheimers, Autism and other related conditions or disorders. Citizens enrolled in the project wear a small personal transmitter around the wrist or ankle that emits an individualized tracking signal. If the enrolled client goes missing, once notified by the caregiver, their local Project Lifesaver agency (NCPD) sends out a trained emergency team to find the wanderer.

**TOURS**

Tours of the Police Department are conducted by the Youth Officer, Sgt. Joe Farenga, as requested by various groups. For more information on scheduling one of these tours or for additional information, please contact the Youth Office at (203) 594 – 3519.

**SPEAKERS**

The Department can arrange for one of its personnel to speak on many police related subjects to any community group. Please allow for two weeks' notice. Contact the Community Relations Officer at (203) 594-3519.



New Canaan Police Department  
**COMMUNITY SERVICES (continued)**

**CLOSED HOUSE CHECKS**

As a service to New Canaan residents planning on being away from their homes for an extended period of time, the New Canaan Police Department offers house checks. Residences on the closed house list are checked on a limited basis by a uniformed police officer. The perimeter inspection of the home ensures all doors and windows are secure. This service helps to deter potential burglars and provides for additional security while your house is unoccupied. If you are interested in this service, please call (203) 594 – 3500 for more information.

**Safe Kids - OCCUPANT PROTECTION (Car seats)**

According to the National average, more than 85% of all child passenger safety seats are incorrectly installed. The New Canaan Police Department recognizes this and has 2 officers who are trained in the proper installation procedures for child passenger safety seats, Officers Geoffrey Lambert and Thomas Patten. Those officers work throughout the year installing and/or inspecting child passenger safety seats here at the New Canaan Police Department, for an appointment for a child passenger safety seat check, call (203) 594-3555.

**TRAFFIC CALMING**

Due to the large number of residential neighborhoods within the Town of New Canaan, the Police Department conducts a program known as Traffic Calming. The Police Commission and the Staff Services Captain direct this traffic safety initiative, with assistance from other officers and town agencies. The Commission takes these solicitations from concerned citizens for problem traffic areas by mail or e-mail. The Group then evaluates the areas, along with historical statistical data to determine a course of action, if any, to take. The Traffic Calming Committee meets monthly to address various traffic safety concerns in town.

**CIVILIAN POLICE ACADEMY**

The Civilian Police Academy is an annual program where up to 20 members of the public are selected to get a close up look of the operations of the department. A variety of topics are taught by personnel of all ranks with in the department. Topics include: criminal investigation, traffic enforcement, SRT, dispatch among many others. Building tours, equipment demonstrations and ride alongs are part of the program. For questions contact Sgt. Mitchell (203) 594-3506.

**POLICE COMMISSION MEETINGS**

Police Commission meetings are held monthly at police headquarters. Except for executive session, meetings are open to the public. The meetings allow the Commissioners to review monthly departmental reports and address requests from the community. Anyone who would like to address the Police Commission should contact the Chief's Secretary at 203-594-3512.



**New Canaan Police Department**  
**RECOGNITION OF OFFICERS**

In 2017 the following awards were given to members of the Police Department.

**MEDICAL SERVICE AWARD**

This award shall be presented to any member of the police department for an act performed in the line of duty which, through disregard of personal safety or prompt and alert actions results in saving a life or preventing serious physical injury. This award was received by Sergeant LaTourette, and Officers Connolly, Coughlin, Gibson, Obando and Sheehan.

**PERKIN/COMMISSIONERS' SHOOT**

The Perkin/Commissioners' Shoot is the department's annual pistol qualification event, a competition to determine the department's best shooter. A perfect score in the shoot is 400. The 2017 winner of the Perkin Award was Officer Scott Humburg. Sgt. Latourette won the Commissioner's Shoot Award for 2017.

**MERITORIOUS POLICE DUTY AWARD**

This award shall be presented to any member of the police department who performs a highly credible accomplishment bringing public acclaim to themselves, the department, or the police profession as a result of training, devotion to duty, or service to the public. This award was received by Captain Walsh.

**EXCEPTIONAL DUTY AWARD**

This medal shall be awarded to any member of the police department who displays courage and an intelligent devotion to duty which contributes to the elimination of crime, and also constitutes an unusual accomplishment under adverse conditions with some degree of hazard to life and limb to the nominee, or where death or injury to a third party is prevented. This award was received by Sergeant Mitchell.

**OFFICER OF THE YEAR**

This award shall be presented once a year to a member of the police department below the rank of chief whose overall performance throughout the year embodies the police department's core values, vision and statement. The recipient must show exemplary performance in their self-initiated activity, community service/relations, professional appearance, heroism, crime prevention, investigative work and drug enforcement. Early in 2017, Officer Tam was named Officer of the year for 2016.

