

2020

New Canaan Police Department Annual Report

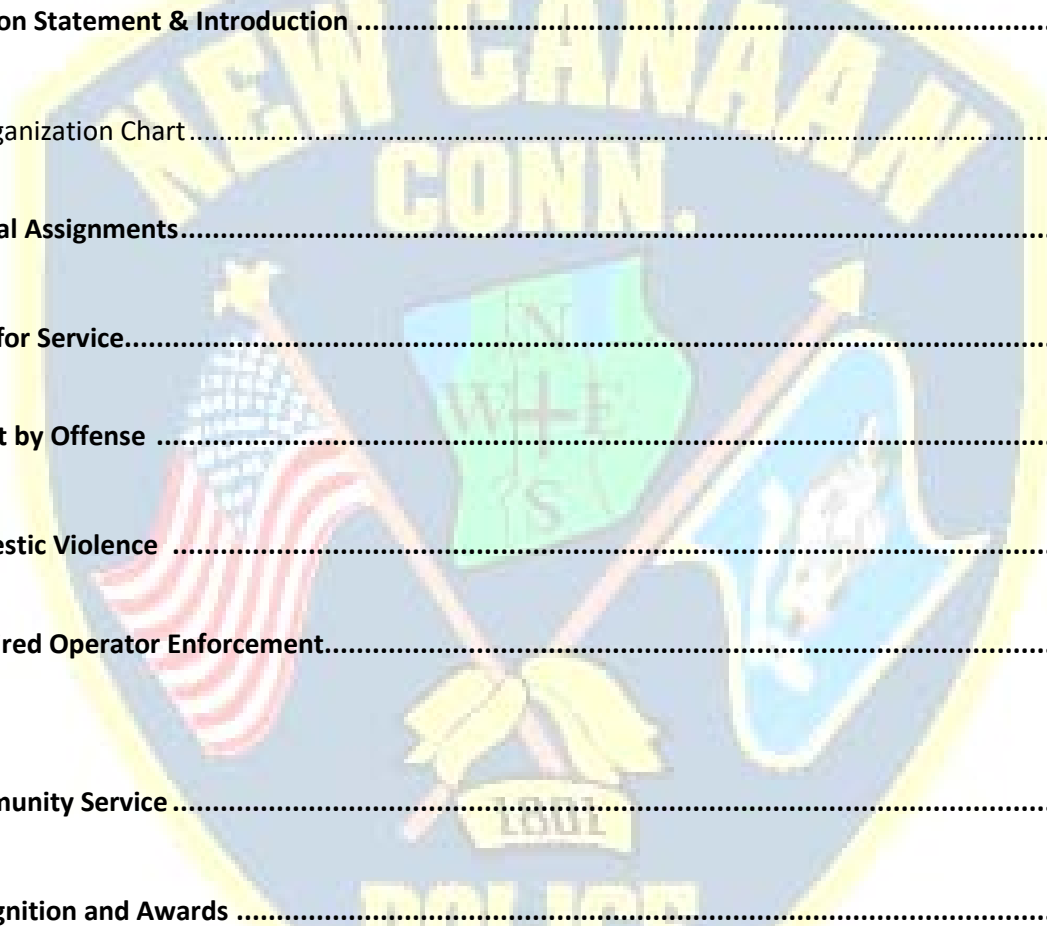


For more information about the New Canaan Police Department and the material in this report, please contact:

New Canaan Police Department
174 South Avenue
New Canaan, CT 06840
(203) 594-3500

Leon M. Krolikowski
Chief of Police

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The background of the page features a large, semi-transparent badge of the New Canaan Police Department. The badge is shield-shaped with a yellow border. At the top, it says "NEW CANAAN" in a large, yellow, serif font, with "CONN." below it in a smaller font. In the center, there is a green shield with a white cross and the letters "N", "W", "E", "S" in the quadrants. To the left is an American flag, and to the right is a blue shield with a white figure. At the bottom, there is a yellow banner with the year "1891" and the word "POLICE" in large, yellow, serif font below it.

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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 high school diploma or equivalent.

In 2020 the New Canaan Police Department hired two new officers bringing us to full complement.



POLICE COMMISSION

The New Canaan Police Commission consists of three appointed Commissioners; Paul Foley Chairman, James McLaughlin Secretary and Shekaiba Bennett Member. 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.

DEPUTY CHIEF – 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

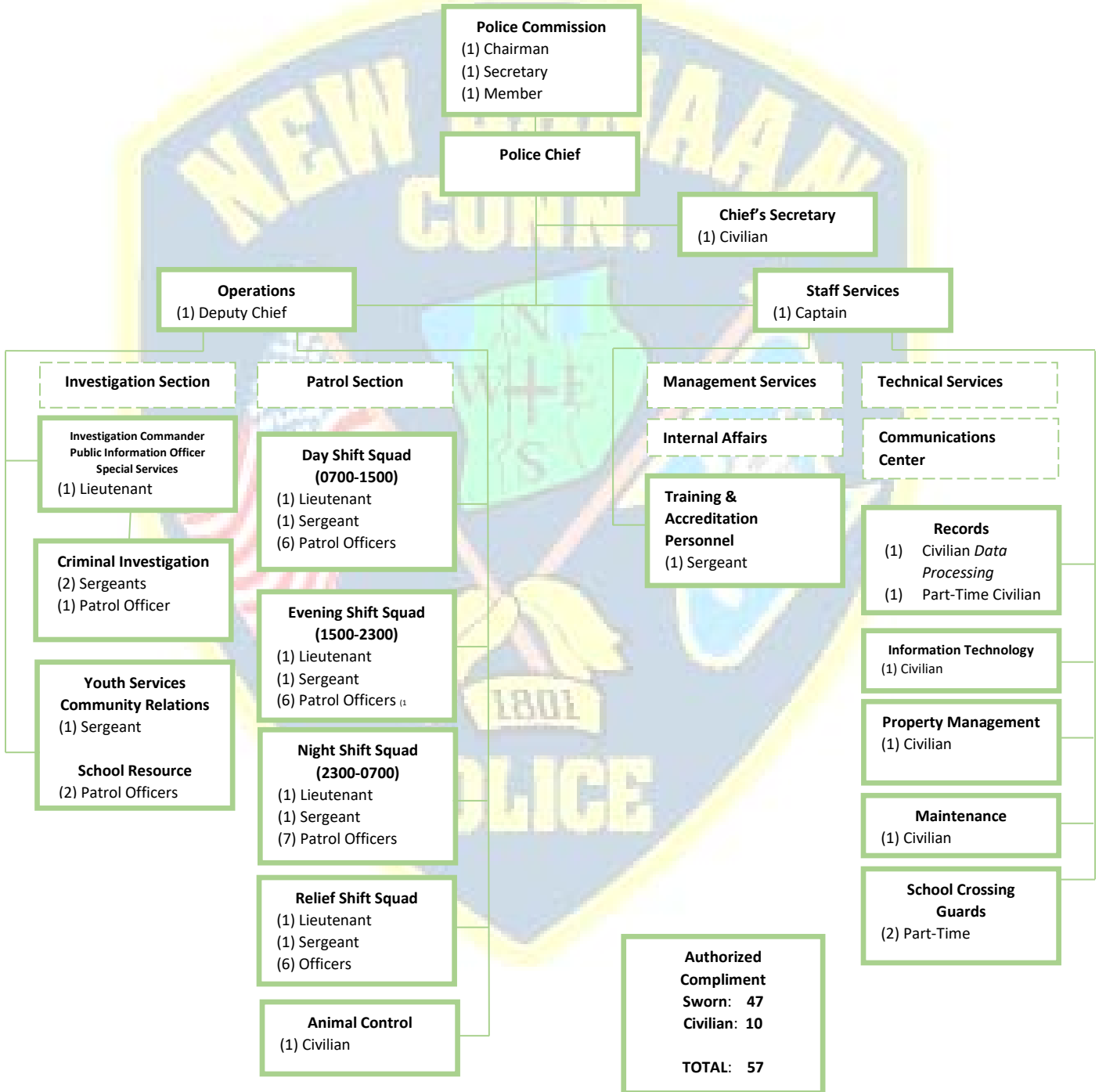


Captain Andrew Walsh, under the direction of the Chief of Police, supervises the personnel in the support division. Support divisions for the Department include Training, Records, Property, Information Technology, Maintenance, and School Crossing Guards. Additionally, the Captain coordinates and directs Department activities relating to police-community relations, chaplain services, counseling and referral services for Department members, Internal Affairs and other special projects. In 2020 there was 1 complaint that prompted an investigation with Internal Affairs.



New Canaan Police Department

2020 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.



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 liaison 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.

COAST

Our Community Outreach and Support Team is comprised of officers who have completed advanced mental health training, including crisis intervention. These officers respond to and follow up with those who have had police contact during a crisis incident, in order to connect them with additional services to decrease their chances of repeated police contact. These officers are also equipped with the BolaWrap® Remote Restraint, which is a device that allows an officer to restrain someone from a distance without using pain compliance tools.

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 New Canaan police department had an onsite assessment in June 2019 and was successful in meeting or exceeding all requirements to remain accredited.



CALLS FOR SERVICE

	2020	2019	2018
Calls for Service	12265	13757	17459
Motor Vehicle Stops	2556	3549	4391
Alarms	1030	1361	1492
Medical Calls	1228	1273	1405
Services/Other	1121	1071	1193
Motor Vehicle Crashes	312	496	555
Disputes/Family Disputes	111	98	114
Larceny	108	86	106
DUI	20	23	29
Burglaries	13	15	15
Stolen Vehicles	27	10	10
Assaults	5	4	1
Narcotics Violations	44	39	50
Fraud/ID Theft	90	90	151
Juvenile Complaints	44	62	22

The year 2020 provided many challenges to the community and law enforcement. Due to a reduction in vehicular traffic, traffic stops and motor vehicle crashes saw a significant decline. Alarm calls also experienced a decline, which can most likely be attributed to more people remaining at home. There was a significant increase in stolen vehicles. Most, if not all, occurred when vehicles were left unlocked with the keys inside.

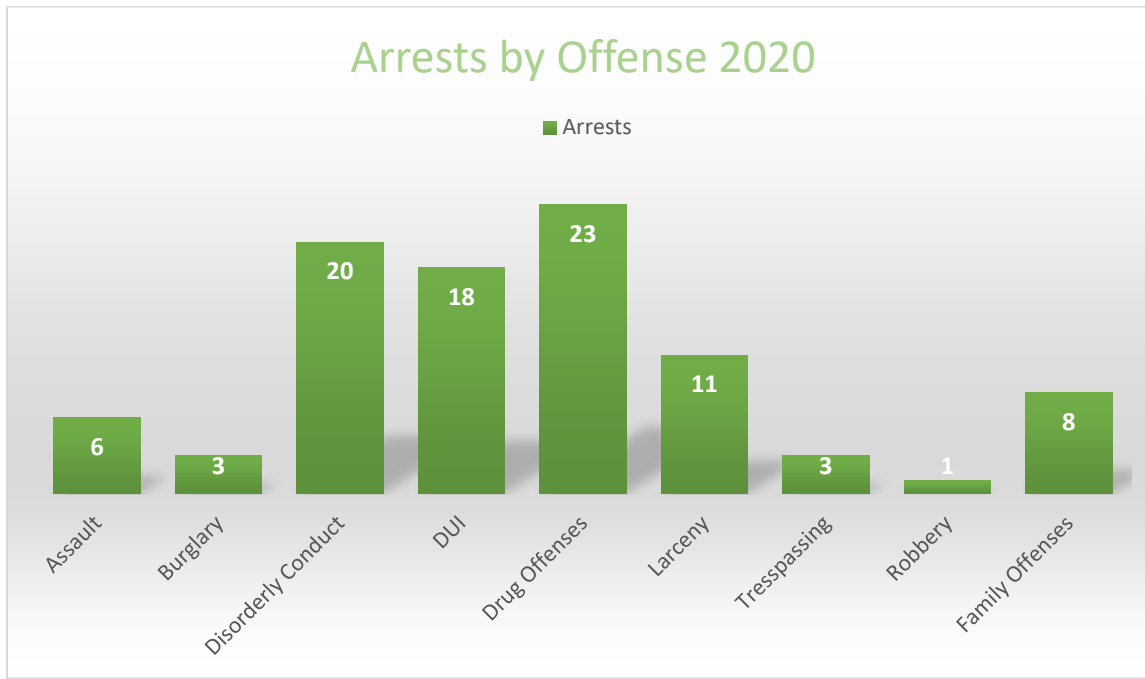
Responding to residential and commercial alarms is a major function of the police in order to protect personal property. For more information on registering or false alarm reduction click [Alarms](#).

In New Canaan, police officers are trained Emergency Medical Responders that respond to all medical calls. Officers carry lifesaving equipment such as oxygen, automated external defibrillators (AED), and NARCAN®.

The New Canaan Police respond to a variety of calls some of which do not fit into a specific category. A service call can refer to any type of assistance or service rendered to the public or assisting another law enforcement agency



ARREST BY OFFENSE



There were a total of 101 people arrested in 2020. These include both warrant and warrant-less arrests. In 2020, the detective bureau closed 17 cases by arrest and several other cases have active arrest warrants. Multiple cases are pending DNA or fingerprint matches to identify suspects and two cases were transferred to federal agencies.

TRENDS

Family disputes continue to be a major concern for the community and the police department. In 2020, they resulted in over 30 arrests spanning three different charges.

Motor vehicle thefts and larcenies from motor vehicles continued their upwards trend. Most, if not all of these cases did not involve violence or forcible entry. The incidents show that the vehicles involved were left unlocked or the keys were left inside.



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

NCPD 2020 Domestic Violence Data

Month	Total # of Family Disputes	Total # of Arrests	Dual Arrests	Child/Children Present	Child/Children Involved	Lethality Assessments Conducted	Referrals Due To Lethality Assessments	Relationship of Victim to Offender
January	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	Spouse
February	5	3	0	0	1	1	0	1 Spouse, 3 BF/GF, 1 P/Child
March	3	2	0	3	1	2	1	1 Spouse, 1 BF/GF, 1 P/Child
April	4	2	0	0	2	0	0	2 Spouse, 2 P/Child
May	4	3	0	1	0	1	1	2 Spouse, 2 BF/GF
June	4	2	0	0	0	1	1	2 Spouse, 2 BF/GF
July	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	2 BF/GF
August	4	3	0	5	1	1	1	3 Spouse, 1 P/Child
September	4	3	0	2	1	2	0	3 Spouse, 1 P/Child
October	7	1	0	2	3	0	0	3 Spouse, 3 P/Child, 1 BF/GF
November	4	4	1	2	2	1	1	1 Spouse, 3 P/Child
December	6	3	0	3	2	1	1	3 Spouse, 2 P/Child, 1 Sibling
Totals	48	26	1	20	13	11	7	

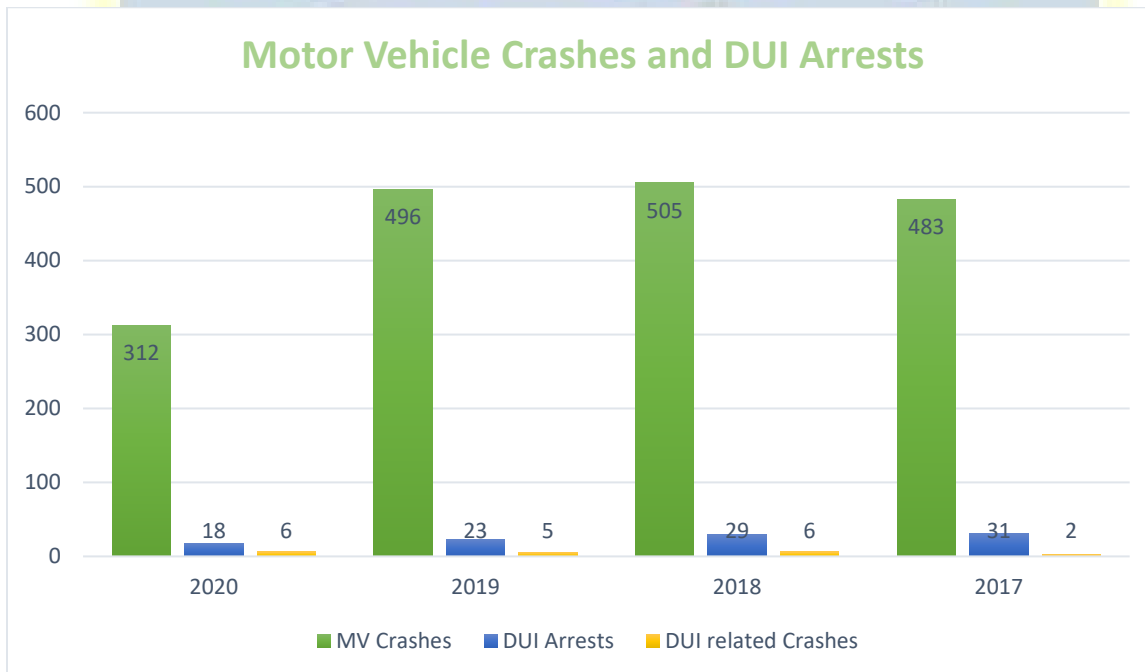
The New Canaan Police Department can assist residents in obtaining warrants, orders of protection and counseling. As the Domestic Violence Coordinator, Sergeant Michael O’Sullivan oversees all Family Dispute incidents, reviewing the subsequent investigations and following up with the victims. When necessary, an officer will remove weapons from homes where domestic violence has occurred. For more information about Domestic Violence or the Crisis Center, please contact Sergeant O’Sullivan at (203) 594-3519.



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.

In 2020, even with the significant decline in motor vehicle crashes and slight decrease in DUI Arrest, the number of DUI related crashes remained steady.



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 2020 we disposed 575.8 lbs. of medication.

FINGERPRINTING

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.

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.

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.

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.



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 3 officers who are trained in the proper installation procedures for child passenger safety seats, Officers Geoffrey Lambert, Rex Sprosta and Matthew Blank. Those officers work throughout the year installing and/or inspecting child passenger safety seats here at the New Canaan Police Department. To schedule an appointment for a child passenger safety seat check or installation, send an e-mail to Carseats@newcanaanct.gov.

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 within 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.



RECOGNITION OF OFFICERS

In 2020 the following awards were given to members of the Police Department.

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 2019 winner of the Perkin Award was Lt. DeFelice and the Commissioner's Shoot Award was Sgt. LaTourette.

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 Officer Gulino for his work in negotiating a peaceful resolution to a call involving a barricaded subject.

Physical Fitness Awards

Each year two fitness tests are conducted that measure each officer in the following categories: one and one half mile run; flexion; bench press; and agility. The winners of these awards have the highest overall score across all categories. In 2020 Officer Dewey received the Chief's Award of Excellence and Officer Connolly received the Commissioners' Physical Fitness Award.

Unit Citation Award

This award emphasizes the importance of teamwork and professionalism. While each one of our Officers is capable of great things individually, the Unit Citation Award recognizes the important elements of the way we must operate as an Agency with all members contributing in a coordinated effort. We achieve far greater results as a team. In 2020 three incidents resulted in the officers involved being awarded the unit citation.

In the first incident, Sgt. Payne, Ofc. Patten, Ofc. Jarvis, Ofc. Coughlin, Ofc. Ochs and Ofc. Callinan were given the award for their work in the pursuit of, investigation and arrest of individuals involved in an overnight burglary of a business.

In the second incident, Lt. Ogrinc, Sgt. Payne, Ofc. Lopez, Ofc. Blank, Ofc. Obando, Ofc. Clark, and Ofc. Schinella were given the award for their work in the swift response and securing the area during a call involving a barricaded subject.

Finally, Lt. Farenga, Ofc. Connolly, Ofc. Dewey, Ofc. Rivera, Ofc. Jarvis, Ofc. Obando and Ofc. Vartuli were given the award for their response, pursuit of and capture of three individuals breaking into vehicles.

Officer of the Year 2020

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. In 2020 Officer Sprosta was named officer of the year.

