

Annual Report



Fiscal Year 2006-2007

Hamden Police Department

Annual Report

2006 – 2007

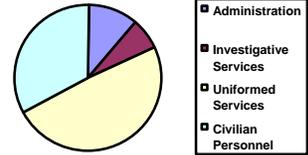
The Hamden Department of Police Services mission is to protect the rights and integrity of all persons without prejudice or bias against race, religion, ethnic and national origin or sexual orientation within its jurisdiction; to safeguard the diversities of our communities and its citizens, to be free from criminal attack, threat of violence and persecution, secure in their possessions, and vigilant that together we can enjoy peace and harmony. The Department's goal is to enforce the law in a fair and impartial manner, recognizing both the statutory and judicial limitations of police authority and the constitutional rights of all persons.

There were many personnel changes that the Department encountered during this fiscal year, including the retirement of 19 Police Officers of various ranks. These retirements included 1 Deputy Chief, 3 Captains, 1 Lieutenant, 8 Sergeants, 1 Detective, and 3 Patrol Officers, as well as Police Chiefs Robert Nolan and John Kennelly. Chief Nolan retired in November 2005, and was replaced by Chief Kennelly, who served as Chief until his retirement at the end of the fiscal year. The unusually large number of retirements was attributed to significant changes in pension benefits that expired with the labor agreement on June 30, 2006.

In November 2005, Lieutenant Thomas Wydra was promoted to the rank of Deputy Chief, and assumed command of the Investigative Services Division. Also in November 2005, Lieutenant John Lujick was promoted to the rank of Captain, assuming an executive command role in the Uniform Services Division. The Department was in the process of selecting a new Police Chief and administrative Deputy Chief as the fiscal year came to a close.

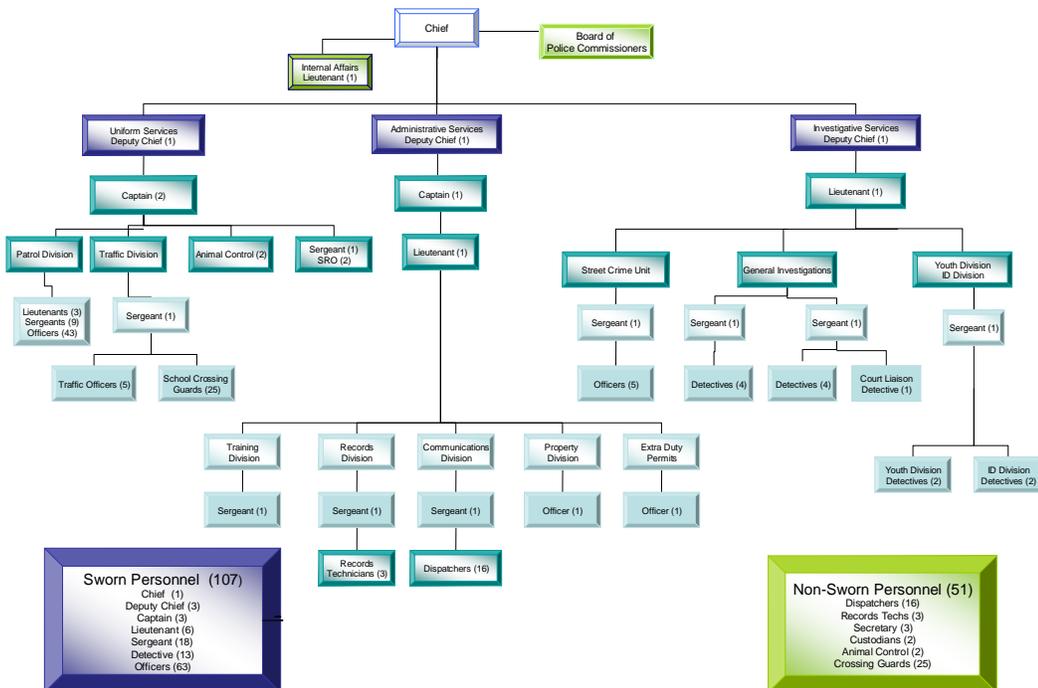
Throughout the year, the Department hired 10 new Police Officers, 6 of whom were already certified with the State of Connecticut Police Officer Standards and Training Council serving in other municipal and university agencies. These 6 certified officers were not required to attend the basic Police Academy, and were available for patrol duty almost immediately.

The Department's 106 sworn police officers are supported by 51 non-sworn civilian personnel, including 25 crossing guards, 16 communication technicians and 2 animal control officers.



The Department is managed by the Chief of Police and is divided into 3 major divisions, each of which is commanded by a Deputy Chief. These 3 divisions include Administrative Services, Investigative Services, and Uniform Services.

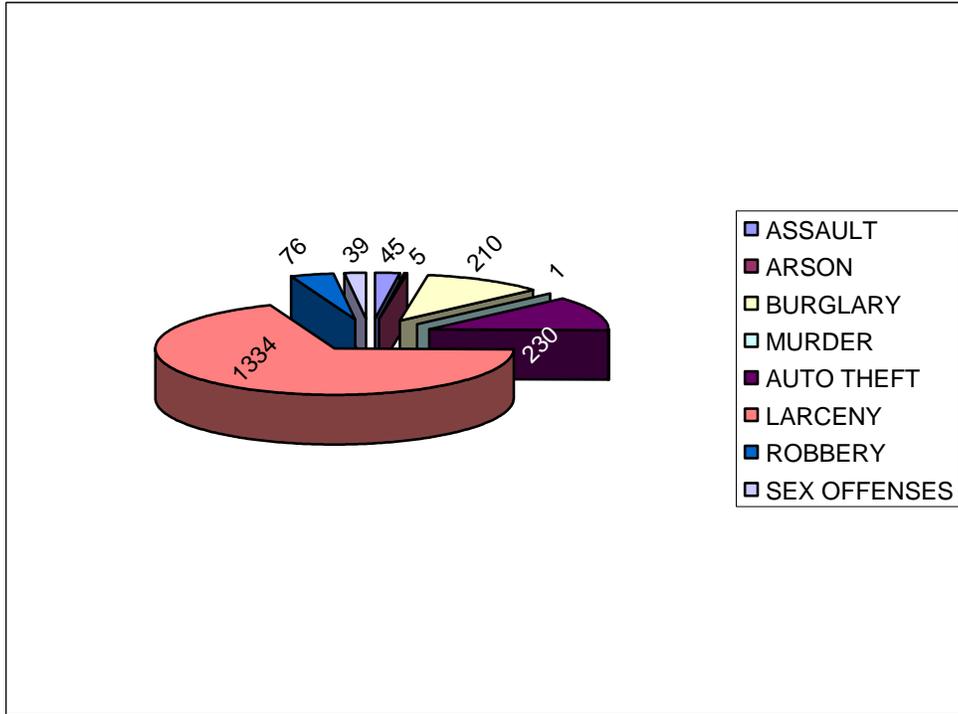
HAMDEN POLICE DEPARTMENT



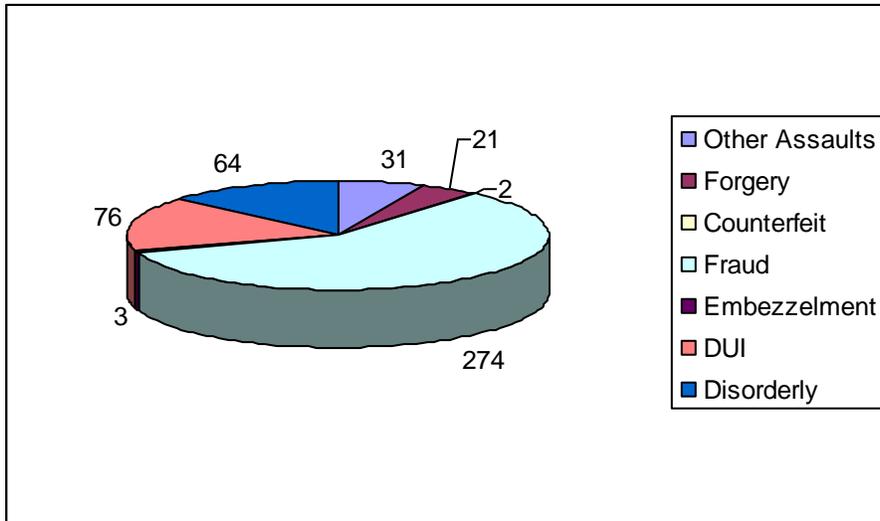
The Department received and responded to 51,174 calls for service during this fiscal year.

HAMDEN POLICE DEPARTMENT

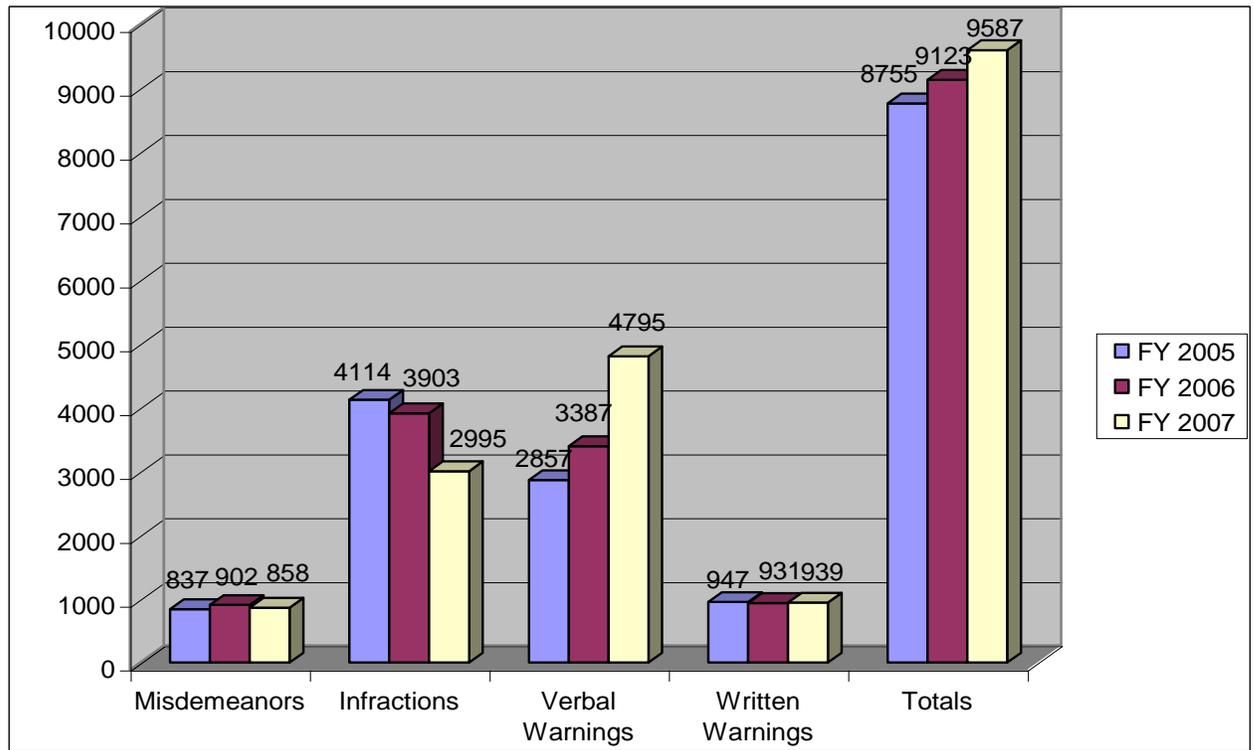
PART I CRIME STATISTICS INVESTIGATED BETWEEN 7/1/2006 AND 6/30/2007



PART II CRIME STATISTICS



Motor Vehicle Productivity:



The **Administrative Services Division** is comprised of several smaller divisions, including Central Communications, Training, Internal Affairs, Extra duty/Permits, Records/Internet Technology, Property/Evidence, and Budget/Grant Coordination.
Central Communications

Central Communications Division

Central Communications is supervised by a Police Sergeant and staffed by 16 communication technicians. These technicians are responsible for all emergency and non-emergency calls for service requests that are received by the Department, as well as all radio dispatch communications for both Police and Fire Department personnel. All technicians are trained, in accordance with State of Connecticut guidelines, in Emergency Medical Dispatch protocols to greater enhance our ability to help persons requesting medical assistance. During the year, \$10,000.00 was allocated from the State of Connecticut E-911 fund to this Division to pay for computer and related equipment upgrades.

Records/Internet Technology Division

The Records/Internet Technology Division continues to manage the Department's computer system, as well as all mobile data terminal computers assigned to every uniform police vehicle. Twelve laptop and twelve desktop computers were purchased in May 2005 to replace existing computers that were old, often in need of repair, and outside of the warranty program. These 24 new computers were desperately needed to keep our systems up to date and in the best possible working order. The purchase of computers had previously been accomplished on a yearly basis through the Capital Budget process at the request of the Finance Department. However, this fiscal year offered no funding from

the Capital Budget for this expenditure. The Department was able to purchase the new computers by way of several internal transfers totaling \$10,000, as well as \$20,000 from the Legislative Council's Emergency and Contingency account.

Budget/Grant Coordination

The management of the Department's \$9,993,797 operating budget for 2005/2006 as well as all Federal and State grant applications are performed by a Police Captain and Lieutenant working under the direction of the Administrative Services Deputy Chief and the Office of the Chief of Police. These personnel work closely with the Finance and Purchasing Departments, as well as the Mayor's Office and Legislative Council in order to coordinate the day-to-day management of the Department's finances.

The Department continues to be aggressive in the competitive field of grant application with the federal and state governments. During this fiscal year, the Department realized the success of the following grant awards:

\$27,210.52 was received from the 2004 Homeland Security grant for 4 new computer network servers that will enable the Department to move our information technology into the future. We will be able to operate our in-house computer system from our police cars in the field thus increasing the ability to disseminate needed information at a more rapid pace. We will also possess a larger capacity for data storage and faster data retrieval. The new servers will also allow the ability for on-line training to our Officers via the Hamden Police Intranet site that is presently limited by capacity and speed.

\$37,567.00 was received from the 2004 Homeland Security grant for the Avid Media Detective Forensic Video and Clarification Tool made by Ocean System for the Department's Identification Division. This system will enable our detectives to clarify, sharpen, stabilize, magnify and correct the color in video images and unlock the hidden evidence needed to identify subjects and objects in videos. This video analysis unit is state of the art equipment that has the capability to view multiplex images as well as allow the user to process any type of digital and/or analog video for clarity. The system will be used to examine all types of video that the Department receives as evidence and will aid in identifying subjects of interest in criminal investigations.

\$4,771.95 was received from the 2004 Homeland Security grant for a portable Ultra-Lite system for the Department's Identification Division that will provide Detectives with the ability to examine evidence and fingerprints using an intense light with special filters to see information that normally would be difficult to see. The system utilizes battery power that will allow deployment to areas where power is unavailable. The system is used in the detection of forensic evidence such as saliva, semen, bone/teeth fragments, and trace evidence. The system also utilizes special powders to detect and document fingerprint evidence.

\$2,500.00 was received from the Law Enforcement Block grant for a new speed enforcement radar unit for the Department's Traffic Division.

\$3,881.50 was received from the Department of Justice Bulletproof Vest Replacement Program that allows the Department to continue with the necessary turnover of this invaluable equipment for our sworn personnel.

the Department has benefited from this program for several years.

\$20,700.00 was received from the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation Division of Highway Safety DWI Holiday grant reimbursing the Department for 75% of allowable operational expenses of overtime wages for drunk driving enforcement for the 2005 Christmas and New Years holidays. This enforcement was accomplished through mobile patrols and roadblocks during peak hours.

\$10,750.00 was received from the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation Division of Highway Safety grant for 2006 July 4th DWI

operational expenses of overtime wages for drunk driving enforcement for the July 4th holiday period. This enforcement was accomplished through mobile patrols and roadblocks during peak hours.

In the fall of 2005, the Department accepted \$6,020.00 in a donation from the Frank Ceasar Memorial Golf Tournament and purchased a new identification card system that has allowed for new, up to date identification cards being issued to all personnel. The computerized unit is a major upgrade over the antiquated system that had previously been used.

In May 2006, the Legislative Council approved the Department to enroll in a program to receive personal property from the U.S. Department of Defense under the 1033 military surplus equipment program. The property is to be used with an emphasis on counter drug/counter terrorism and would be reported to the Risk Manager and Purchasing Agent so it will be properly insured and accounted for in our asset inventory. The Department has participated in and received equipment from this worthwhile program in the past.

The **Uniform Services Division** is comprised of the Patrol Division, Traffic Division, Community Police Division, K-9 Unit and Animal Control Officers.

Patrol Division

The Patrol Division continues to be the largest division in the Department, responding to and investigating the majority of calls for service received. This Division operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 52 weeks a year and participates in all types of police investigations possible.



During this fiscal year, 9 new uniform vehicles were purchased and outfitted for service with all new equipment including overhead lightbars and mobile data terminals.



The prisoner van will be available for duty sometime in August/September 2006 when it will be utilized for the bulk of prisoner transports, including to and from area courts, other law enforcement agencies, and for street transport to police headquarters. This transport vehicle will allow Officers at incidents to stay in service in the field following an arrest, rather than

returning to headquarters to follow through with booking and processing duties.

Traffic Division

The traffic unit of the Hamden Police Department is responsible for the enforcement of motor vehicle laws and the investigation of motor vehicle accidents. There are 4 officers and one Sergeant assigned to this unit, who serve as the primary investigators in all potentially fatal motor vehicle accidents, and fatal accidents, four of which occurred this year. The officers of this unit are trained in all aspects of accident reconstruction and speed enforcement.

Traffic officers have continued to work with the Connecticut State Police Truck Squad periodically in the enforcement of tractor-trailer violations, and have continued to utilize the Speed Monitoring Awareness Radar Trailer throughout the town, based on citizen requests. In addition, the Traffic Division continues to be responsible for the management of the fleet.

2006-2007FY

Accident Statistics

Accident/ Injuries: 375 Accident/No Injuries: 1673

Hit and Run: 241 Fatal: 4 Private Property: 410

K9 Division

The K-9 Unit consists of 3 police dog/handler teams, all of which are certified as basic patrol dogs. The 3 teams are also each certified in a specialty function. K-9 Titan and his handler, Officer Jason Venditto specialize in explosives detection. K-9 Cesare and his handler, Officer John Battick specialize in narcotics detection. Officer Craig Appleby was selected as a new K-9 handler in February 2006, and is anticipated to begin training with a new partner in the fall of 2006.



Each K-9 team is assigned to one of the three shifts to give 24-hour coverage to the town. The teams respond to a variety of calls including, but not limited to, lost and missing persons, fleeing criminals, burglaries, crowd control situations, suspicious packages, and narcotics calls. The teams have proven to be an invaluable asset not only in their deterrence of crime and ability to find and locate individuals that would normally escape, but also as a public relations tool. The K-9 teams performed 24 K-9 demonstrations during the fiscal year for local schools, camps and civic organizations.

2006-2007FY

K9 Assists

Hamden: 162 Out of Town: 19

Animal Control Division

The Hamden Police Department Animal Control Division consists of two officers who are presently using Veterinarian and holding facilities in North Haven. This fiscal year, the Town began the first stages of designing an animal shelter within our borders. Despite the lack of on site facilities, the Division continues to rescue and rehabilitate numerous wild and domestic animals in the Town and has been involved with programs such as adoption services and training clinics for animal owners in the Town.

The **Investigative Services Division** is comprised of the Detective Division, Youth Division, Identification Division, and the Street Crime Unit.

Detective Division

Detective personnel assigned here continue to investigate all major and complex crimes reported to the Department including murders, sexual assaults, robberies, burglaries, arsons, identity theft, and significant larcenies. There are 2 major investigations of note that were conducted by these personnel during this fiscal year.

In August 2005 an elderly man was murdered in his apartment at the Dunbar/Davenport apartment complex located at 125 Putnam Avenue. The entire Investigative Services Division, as well as the Patrol and Community Police Divisions worked cohesively to bring this case to a successful conclusion and within 1 week secured the arrest of a local female who had been an acquaintance of the victim.

In March 2006, the Division investigated burglary and vandalism complaints at 4 separate schools throughout Town, 2 of which involved arson. Hamden High School, Hamden Middle School and the ACES School on Skiff Street suffered significant non-fire damage, while the new Hamden Middle School was set on fire during nighttime hours. All school

buildings in Town were watched closely during the ensuing period, while detectives were trying to link together evidence from all scenes of the serial vandalisms.

All Department personnel contributed to the large-scale surveillances, and on the night of March 23, 2006, the Spring Glen Elementary School was set on fire in 2 different places with Department personnel in the area. The surrounding area was saturated with uniform and non-uniform personnel in search of the suspect(s). 1 subject was eventually located on the Farmington Canal line in close proximity to the fire after more fires to several motor vehicles in the parking lot of Sleepy's Mattress were discovered. The subject, as well as another individual who was later located, were arrested and eventually linked to the other school vandalisms that totaled more than \$150,000 in damage. The arrests led to the successful conclusion of these investigations where all Department personnel involved contributed great effort and dedication.

During the fiscal year, Detective Robert D'aniello was assigned to the State Police Computer Crimes Unit in Meriden where he primarily participated in identity theft, fraud, and child pornography investigations where Internet technology played a significant role. Detective D'aniello was promoted to Sergeant in January 2006, and returned to the Department in June 2006 when he assumed a supervisory position in the Records/Internet Technology Division. The Department was able to secure forensic computer equipment as a result Sergeant D'aniello's yearlong assignment with the Computer Crimes Unit. This valuable equipment will allow the Department to analyze forensic computer evidence and take a more pro-active role in the investigation of computer crimes, specifically internet crimes against children.

Youth Division

The Youth Division continues to be staffed by 2 detectives who primarily investigate crimes against persons under the age of 16 and missing person complaints. These detectives shoulder a heavy workload and work closely with the Hamden School system as well as the Yale Child Behavioral Health Unit in New Haven. During the year, these detectives were placed under the supervision of the Identification Division Sergeant to better facilitate the closely related job assignments that often occur between the detectives assigned to both divisions.

Street Interdiction Team

The Street Crime Unit continues to be staffed by a Sergeant and 5 Investigators, 1 of whom is assigned to the Statewide Narcotics Task Force out of the South Central District Office. The Unit continues to enjoy a close working relationship with the SNTF, as evidenced on 5 separate occasions during the year where Street Crime Unit personnel assisted in SNTF investigations that led to arrests and drug seizures. The Unit primarily investigates vice type crimes, specifically narcotics distribution and possession. The Unit also continues to target underage drinking complaints.

The Unit conducted 208 investigations during the year, effected 230 arrests, and seized 6 weapons, 10 vehicles, and \$26,516. There is 1 significant investigation that this Unit conducted during this fiscal year.

In January 2006, Investigators received information regarding a large-scale marijuana trafficking operation working in Town. Intimate details of the operation and its leader were received and corroborated. Investigators conducted surveillance on a Mill Rock Road residence, and eventually arrested a subject who was found to be in possession of almost 4 lbs. of marijuana and \$1,261 in U.S. currency. The investigation led the Investigators to 425 Mill Rock Road where a "stash house" was located, less than 100 feet from the Hamden Middle School property. Approximately 35 lbs. of marijuana was seized from the residence as well as \$9,000 in U.S. currency and numerous packaging and weighing items. The arrested individual was identified as a career criminal based on his criminal background.



This investigation that culminated in the seizure of approximately 40 lbs. of marijuana being prepared for distribution near the doorsteps of the Hamden Middle School is an outstanding example of the Department and our citizens working cooperatively to rid our streets of this type of dangerous element.

The Hamden Police Department continues to strive to deliver quality and professional law enforcement services to the diverse communities in Hamden. The men and women of our Department are committed to the safety and protection of those we serve.