



Hamden Police Department Monthly Report January 2013



Personnel Matters and Events

Throughout the month of January, 2013, the Department continued to provide a police presence at all Hamden schools during drop-off and pick-up hours.

On January 3, 2013, probationary officers Peter Conti and Jenisse Perez began their training at the New Haven Police Academy.

On January 17, 2013, members of the Traffic Division worked with the Connecticut State Police Truck Squad Unit to enforce commercial motor vehicle laws at targeted locations. The officers stopped approximately 28 trucks, conducted level I inspections on 3 vehicles, and issued 1 Misdemeanor Summons and 16 Infractions totaling \$1,700.00 dollars in fines.

On January 25, 2013, the Department was selected as a 2013 CIRMA Risk Management Achievement Award recipient for establishing risk management training and education as a department priority. The award is based on a robust training curriculum that topics such as risk management, employee safety and workplace violence. Chief of Police Thomas J. Wydra stated, "We believe very strongly in developing our employees, and providing them with training in selected topics that will make us more effective and efficient in the delivery of our services."

On January 26, 2013, Officer Angela Hall of the Patrol Division was honored as the Hamden Elks Police Officer of the Year award recipient. Officer Angela Hall is a 5-year veteran of our department and was selected through careful consideration by the command staff.



Hamden Elks Lodge



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Personnel Matters and Events (continued)

During the month of January, the Community Liaison Unit was involved in the following community outreach events:

- Hamden Youth Advisory Council Meeting
- Safety Talk at Wintergreen Magnet School (3 Sessions)
- Law Enforcement Club Meetings @ Hamden Middle School
- Police & Youth Grant Meetings with Kids (3 Sessions)
- Tour of Police Department for Law Enforcement Club
- March Madness Meeting at Youth Services
- Police and Youth Grant Discovery Dance



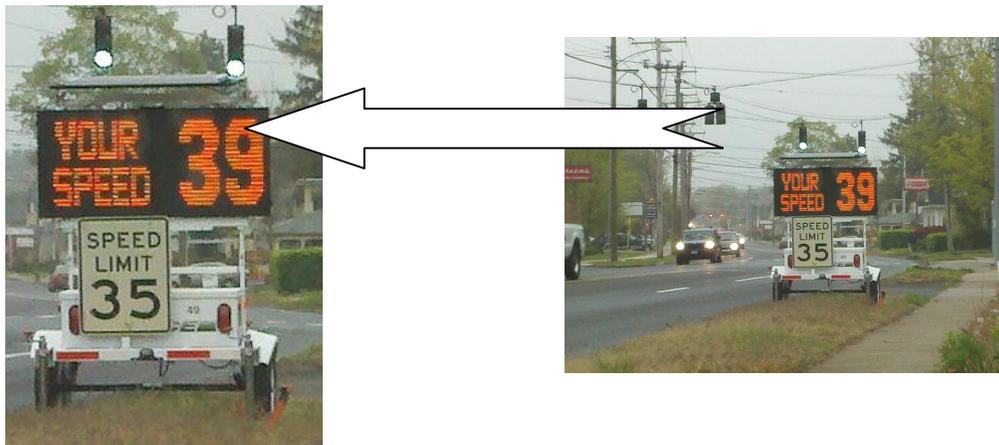


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Traffic Calming

Members of the Traffic Division deployed Speed Compliance Units throughout areas of Hamden based on complaints received from the public or through verified analysis and enforcement by the department. The devices were deployed at the following locations: Haverford Street, Ridge Road, Woodlawn Street, Whitney Avenue, and Mather Street.



A flash of light when speed is recorded over the posted speed limit simulates that a photograph was taken of the violator.



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Training - Sworn Personnel

Department-wide training for the month of January consisted of Report Writing, Juvenile Law Update and Blood Borne Pathogens. The Report Writing topic was presented by Assistant Chief Michael Patten of the Yale University Police Department.

Training: In-Service

There was no in-service training attended during the month of January.

Training – K-9

K-9 Units participated in training sessions at the Michael J. Whelan building on Newhall Street with several other agencies. The training curriculum included:

- Building searches
- Narcotics detection
- Patrol techniques
- Obedience
- Explosive detection
- Tracking
- Suspect apprehensions

Training – Dispatchers

The newly appointed Dispatchers have successfully completed their job training and have now transitioned into independent work assignments.





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Incidents of Special Interest

On January 1, 2012, at approximately 4:00 a.m., members of the Patrol Division responded to the report of a forcible burglary at Dunkin Donuts, 1900 Dixwell Avenue. Investigation revealed that 2 individuals forcibly entered the store at 8:00 p.m. of the previous evening, by breaking a store window. Once inside, they proceeded to a rear office and stole an undisclosed amount of money. The individuals were wearing dark clothing, with hoods pulled over their heads. Detective William Onofrio and Officer Scott Jason conducted the investigation.

On January 3, 2012, during the early morning hours, a detail of personnel from the Street Interdiction Team, Patrol Division, Detective Division and Traffic Division commenced a large-scale warrant service operation that led to the arrest of thirteen (13) individuals. Twelve of these arrested persons reside in Hamden. The arrest warrants were based on an investigation that began throughout the months of October through December, 2012. The Street Interdiction Team began an investigation into drug trafficking and violent crime activity that has been reported in the southern section of Hamden, specifically in the First Street area. The investigation was supported by information received from the community, as well as from information developed by investigative personnel. A lengthy and detailed investigation was conducted that led to the application and subsequent approval of twenty-eight (28) arrest warrants for sixteen (16) individuals. The majority of the arrest warrants included drug distribution charges. The Department expects to make additional arrests as a result of this investigation. Chief Thomas J. Wydra issued the following statement regarding this investigation: "This operation and these arrests represent a high level of teamwork and initiative by our staff, as well as an unwavering commitment to our communities that the Hamden Police Department is dedicated to eradicating our streets of drug trafficking and violent crime. We place the highest value on our community partnerships, and the delivery of effective and evidence-based police services."

The arrested persons include:

Brian Ward, 20, of 39 Gorham Street, Hamden. He was charged with Conspiracy to Sell Marijuana and Sale of Marijuana. Brian Smith, 20, of 659 Newhall Street, Hamden. He was charged with 2 counts of Sale of Marijuana. Calvin Brown, 36, of 44 First Street, Hamden. He was charged with 3 counts of Sale of Marijuana. Demarco Ware, 18, of 113 Second Street, Hamden. He was charged with 3 counts of Sale of Marijuana. Alahn Cole, 22, of 171 Warner Street, Hamden. He was charged with Conspiracy to Sell Marijuana. Brett Givens, 27, of 966 Winchester Avenue, Hamden. He was charged with Sale of Marijuana. Tony Felton, 19, of 48 Fourth Street. He was charged with Sale of Marijuana, Possession of Marijuana and Interfering with a Police Officer. Jonathan Coburn, 21, of 655 Fitch Street, Unit 17d, Hamden. He was charged with Sale of Marijuana. George White, 52, of 655 Fitch Street, Unit 17d, Hamden. He was charged with Failure to Appear in the 1st Degree. Jason Corso, 32, of 1879 State Street, Hamden. He was charged with Sale of Narcotics. Steven Steele, 34, of 65 Easton Street, Hamden. He was charged with Sale of Narcotics, 5 counts of Possession of Narcotics, 5 counts of Possession of Narcotics with the Intent to Sell and Risk of Injury to a Minor. Theodore Hawley, 40, of 11 Dix Street, Hamden. He was charged with Threatening in the 2nd Degree and Disorderly Conduct. Rashuad Parson, 24, of 218 Farren Avenue, New Haven. He was charged with Sale of Narcotics. The thirteen (13) individuals who were arrested were all being detained at police headquarters on bonds ranging from \$25,000 to \$50,000. They are scheduled to appear in Meriden Superior Court on January 24, 2013.



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Incidents of Special Interest (continued)

On January 4, 2013, members of the Patrol Division received information that Brandon McNeal was at a Goodrich Street residence and that there was an active warrant for his arrest. Officers Mark Katz and Robert O'Neill responded and found McNeal, who was hiding in the basement. He was arrested and transported to Hamden Police Headquarters. Brandon McNeal, 29, of 91 Second Street, Hamden, was charged with Assault in the 2nd Degree and Conspiracy to Commit Robbery in the 1st Degree. McNeal, was detained on a \$75,000 bond, and was scheduled to appear in Meriden Superior Court on January 7, 2013. The arrest warrant was based on an incident that occurred on May 29, 2012, when Hamden Police responded to the Hospital of Saint Raphael on the report of an assault. Upon arrival, officers met with a 53 year-old New Haven resident, who had sustained facial injuries. The victim advised police that he believed he was struck in the face with a brick. Investigation revealed that the victim was painting a house on Fairview Avenue, when he was approached by a female who was asking for money. Moments later, an acquaintance of the female, later identified as Brandon McNeil, approached him and struck him with a blunt object. Further investigation revealed that McNeil allegedly removed a small amount of money from the victim's wallet. Detective Angelo Polzella submitted an arrest warrant application for McNeal to the courts and the arrest warrant application was subsequently approved.

On January 8, 2013, Officer Derick Manning of the Patrol Division responded to the Cedar Hurst School, 871 Prospect Street, on a report that a student had brought a handgun into school. Investigation revealed that a 17 year old student had a black handgun in his waistband. Officers responded to his address in New Haven, and spoke with his mother. The mother was cooperative and turned over a black handled BB gun that resembled a real handgun. She advised officers that she found it in his back pack and seized it. Later, the juvenile admitted to bringing the BB gun to school. The investigation is continuing. Cedar Hurst personnel advised the student that he is no longer allowed to attend their school and the mother was notified.

On January 10, 2013, Romeik Best turned himself in at Hamden Police Headquarters after being informed that there was an active warrant for his arrest. Best, 20, of 12 Lee Street, Hamden, was charged with Forgery in the 3rd Degree (2 counts) and Larceny in the 4th Degree. Best, who was released on a Written Promise to Appear, was scheduled to appear in Meriden Superior Court on January 24, 2013. The arrest warrant was based on an incident that occurred October 5, 2012, when Hamden Police responded to Peoples United Bank regarding a fraud complaint. Investigation revealed that on August 17, 2012, Romeik Best presented a teller with a check in the amount of \$1,990.80, which was subsequently cashed. The next day, Best returned to Peoples United Bank, and opened a checking and savings account with a \$4,850.00 check. On August 20, 2012, bank personnel were made aware that both checks were counterfeit. Detective John Marks assumed the investigation which led to the application of an arrest warrant for Best, which was subsequently approved by the court.

On January 11, 2013, Joseph Giordano was arrested at Meriden Superior Court on the strength of a Habeas arrest warrant. Giordano, 33, of 22 Gordon Street in East Haven, was charged with Forgery in the 3rd Degree and Illegally Obtaining Narcotics. The arrest warrant was based on an incident that had occurred on October 17, 2012, when members of the Patrol Division responded to Rite Aid, 2165 Dixwell Avenue, on the report of a fraudulent prescription. Investigation revealed that Joseph Giordano allegedly presented the pharmacist with a forged prescription for 90 Oxycodone tablets. The prescription was subsequently filled. Officer Patrick McCue of the Patrol Division conducted an investigation which led to the application of an arrest warrant for Giordano, which was subsequently approved by the court.



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Incidents of Special Interest (continued)

On January 13, 2013, Shawn Fernandez turned himself in at Hamden Police Headquarters after being notified of an active warrant for his arrest. Fernandez, 29, of 110 Welton Street, New Haven, was charged with Larceny in the 3rd Degree, Criminal Mischief in the 1st Degree, Mutilated Engine Number and Operating a Chop Shop. Fernandez, who was released on a Written Promise to Appear, was scheduled to appear in Meriden Superior Court on January 24, 2013. The arrest warrant was based on an incident that occurred on October 15, 2012, when Officer Stephen Baris of the Patrol Division commenced an investigation into a stolen motor vehicle complaint. Information had been received that the vehicle, which was stolen in New Haven, may have been at a Hamden address. Investigation led to the execution of a search and seizure warrant at 222 Morse Street in Hamden. Officer Baris, who was accompanied by several other officers, located the stolen vehicle, as well as car parts from several other vehicles that were stolen in the area. An arrest warrant application, which was subsequently approved by the court, was submitted for Shawn Fernandez.

On January 14, 2013, at approximately 2:00 p.m., School Resource Officer Paul Calamita responded to the Hamden High School administrative office with regards to a student who was in the possession of a knife. Investigation revealed that the school administration received information that a 15 year-old student was walking in the hallway with a large knife protruding from his pocket. Hamden High School Security subsequently escorted the student to the administrative office, where security staff located the knife. The knife, which had a blade of over 4 inches, was turned over to police. The student was promptly arrested. A 15 year-old Hamden resident was charged with Possession of a Dangerous Weapon on School Grounds. The juvenile, who was released on a Written Promise to Appear to the custody of his mother, was scheduled to appear at Juvenile Court in New Haven on February 1, 2013.

On January 16, 2013, members of the Patrol Division responded to a Santa Fe Avenue address on the report of a larceny from a motor vehicle. The individual responsible for the theft stole the resident's pocketbook, which contained several credit cards. An investigation, which was conducted by Officer Joseph Liguori, revealed that the credit cards were used during the early morning hours at a Sunoco Gas Station, located on Frontage Road in East Haven. A surveillance photograph depicts the suspect as a white male, beard, wearing a black hooded sweatshirt with the letters C.O.D. imprinted on it. The suspect was observed exiting an Infiniti SUV FX35, color black. The vehicle possibly had a Virginia or Massachusetts license plate. Officer Joseph Liguori is continuing with the investigation.

On January 17, 2013, at approximately 9:15 p.m., Hamden Police responded to the report of an armed robbery at a Gulf Service Station, located at 1624 Dixwell Avenue. Investigation revealed that a lone individual entered the business and demanded money and cigarettes, while pointing a firearm at the clerk. The individual, who threatened to kill the clerk, then fled with an undisclosed amount of money and several boxes of cigarettes. Shortly thereafter, Lieutenant Kevin Samperi of the Patrol Division observed an individual on Millis Street, who fit the general description. The individual, who was later identified as Anthony Onofrio, subsequently ran into a backyard, where he was apprehended by Lieutenant Samperi. Onofrio was transported to Hamden Police Headquarters. Anthony Onofrio, 47, of 233 Goodrich Street, Hamden, was arrested and charged with Robbery in the 1st Degree, Larceny in the 2nd Degree and Refusal to be Finger printed. Onofrio, who was detained on a \$100,000 bond, was scheduled to appear in Meriden Superior Court on January 30, 2013.



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Incidents of Special Interest (continued)

On January 18, 2013, at approximately 9:45 a.m., members of the Patrol Division responded to 43 Alenier Street for a verbal domestic dispute. The female complainant advised officers that her boyfriend Lenny Hutchins, was a convicted felon and had weapons and firearms hidden in the home. Upon further investigation, a shotgun was located and a search warrant was applied for. Upon execution of the search warrant, a handgun was located and seized as well as ammunition. It should be noted that the arrestee Lenny Hutchins also had martial arts type weapons in his home and truck (swords, nun chucks and several martial art belts). Hutchins was charged with Criminal possession of a firearm, 2 counts, and weapons in a motor vehicle. Hutchins was held on a \$100,000 dollar bond and was scheduled to appear in Meriden Superior Court on January 31, 2013. The investigation was conducted by Officer Stephen Baris and assisted by Officer Derick Manning and Sergeant Steven Crowley.

On January 18, 2013, Hamden Police arrested Lance Clark on the strength of an active arrest warrant. Lance Clark had turned himself in at police headquarters after being informed of the arrest warrant. Clark, 25, of 44 Pond Street in New Haven, was charged with Criminal Attempt to Commit Burglary in the 2nd Degree. He was scheduled to appear in Meriden Superior Court on February 1, 2013. The arrest warrant was based on an incident that occurred on December 17, 2012, at approximately 8:00 a.m., when members of the Patrol Division responded to a Newhall Street address on the report of a burglary in progress. Investigation revealed that an individual attempted to gain entry to the residence via a kitchen door. He had previously gained entry into the porch by forcing open a locked storm door. The homeowner, who was asleep, screamed, causing the individual to flee on foot towards an awaiting motor vehicle. Detective Donald Remillard conducted a further investigation which led to the application of an arrest warrant for Lance Clark. The arrest warrant application was subsequently approved by the court.

On January 18, 2013, at approximately 5:30 p.m., members of the Patrol and Detective Divisions responded to a residence at 125 Putnam Avenue on the report of a robbery. Investigation revealed that the 66 year-old resident was confronted by an individual, who he was familiar with. The individual, who was identified as Christopher Dupuis, allegedly stole a bottle of prescription narcotics and a small amount of money from a table. The elderly resident struggled with Dupuis, in an attempt to detain him. The struggle continued into a common hallway. With the assistance of the New Haven Police Department, Dupuis was located at his residence. He was subsequently turned over to the custody of the Hamden Police Department. Christopher Dupuis, 30, of 1151 Chapel Street, Apt. 514, New Haven, was charged with Robbery in the 3rd Degree and Larceny in the 6th Degree. Dupuis, who was detained on a \$500 bond, was scheduled to appear in Meriden Superior Court on January 30, 2013.

On January 20, 2013, at approximately 1:00 p.m., Hamden Police received a telephone call from a resident who was following his motor vehicle, which was stolen hours earlier. Officer Ronald Glifort of the Patrol Division observed the stolen vehicle traveling southbound on Dixwell Avenue. As he attempted to conduct a motor vehicle stop, the vehicle fled at a high rate of speed. The vehicle was pursued briefly and the pursuit was terminated at the Hamden/New Haven city line. Moments later, the fleeing vehicle crashed into a tree on Brewster Street. The 2 occupants subsequently fled from the vehicle on foot. The driver of the vehicle, Jarelle Gibbs, was arrested after a lengthy foot pursuit. Officer Michael Nawrocki's K-9 partner Hank apprehended Gibbs as he was attempting to scale a fence. Two New Haven Police Officers arrested the passenger, Dwayne Sayles, who was observed fleeing on foot in the area of Shelton Avenue and Bassett Street. Jarelle Gibbs, 18, of 4A Greenwood Street, New Haven was arrested and charged with Larceny in the 3rd Degree, Conspiracy to Commit Larceny in the 3rd Degree, Criminal Trover, Interfering with a Police Officer and Engaging in Pursuit.



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Incidents of Special Interest (continued)

Gibbs, who was detained at police headquarters on a \$100,000 bond, was scheduled to appear in Meriden Superior Court on February 1, 2013. Dwayne Sayles, 19, of 481 Valley Street, New Haven, was also arrested and charged with Larceny in the 3rd Degree, Conspiracy to Commit Larceny in the 3rd Degree, Criminal Trover and Interfering with a Police Officer. Sayles, who is on parole, was remanded to custody. He is scheduled to appear in Meriden Superior Court on January 22, 2013.

On January 22, 2013, the United States Marshal Service Connecticut Violent Fugitive Task Force, in which Hamden Police Detective Raymond Quinn is a member, attempted to serve a felony warrant for the Collier County Florida Sheriff's Office. Collier County Sheriff's Office was in the possession of an arrest warrant for Juan Posada-Hernandez, for the charge of Capital Sexual Battery of a Child under 12 Years Old. USMS Task Force members subsequently located Posada-Hernandez at his place of employment, Splash Car Wash in Hamden. He was arrested and transported to Hamden Police Headquarters. Juan Posada-Hernandez, 29, of 168 Blatchley Avenue, New Haven, was charged with Fugitive from Justice. He was detained at police headquarters on a \$500,000 bond, and is scheduled to appear in Meriden Superior Court on February 5, 2013.

On January 23, 2013, at approximately 6:30 p.m., members of the Patrol and Detective Divisions responded to the report of a robbery at Pawn Paradise, 1194 Dixwell Avenue. Upon arrival, officers found the 40 year-old female co-owner, lying on the floor of the cash room. Hamden Fire Rescue responded and rendered medical assistance. The victim was transported to Yale . New Haven Hospital as she sustained an injury to her elbow. Investigation revealed that the victim heard a knock on the back door. Upon opening the door, 2 individuals entered and pushed her. She advised officers that the individuals had their faces covered. The victim advised police that she was able to activate the panic button. Detective Angelo DeLieto of the Major Crimes Unit is continuing with the investigation.

On January 23, 2013, at approximately 9:00 p.m., members of the Patrol Division responded to the area of Dixwell Avenue and Putnam Avenue on the report of an attempted street robbery. Investigation revealed that a 66 year-old Hamden resident was walking on Putnam Avenue, at which time a motor vehicle abruptly stopped in front of him. An individual, described as a dark-skinned male, 20 to 30 years of age, 6'2", large build, exited the vehicle and demanded his belongings. The individual then began fighting with the victim, in an attempt to steal his personal items. The victim was able to fend off his attacker and there were no reported injuries. Officer Michael Nawrocki conducted the initial investigation.

On January 24, 2013, at approximately 4:30 p.m., members of the Patrol and Detective Divisions responded to Dunkin Donuts, 1399 Dixwell Avenue, on the report of an armed robbery. Investigation revealed that an individual, described as a white male, late 20's to early 30's and a thin build, entered the establishment and demanded money, while displaying a black-colored handgun that was tucked in his waistband. The individual then fled on foot towards Beacon Street with an undisclosed amount of money. Officer Michael Nawrocki and his K-9 partner Hank conducted a track which met with negative results. Detective Angelo DeLieto of the Major Crimes Unit is continuing with the investigation.



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Incidents of Special Interest (continued)

On January 29, 2013, David B. Fein, United States Attorney for the District of Connecticut, announced that Quiyon Reed, also known as "Cutter", 29, of New Haven, was sentenced today by Senior United States District Judge Ellen Bree Burns in New Haven to 70 months of imprisonment, followed by four years of supervised release, for distributing heroin. Reed is one of 108 individuals charged as a result of "Operation Bloodline", a joint law enforcement investigation targeting narcotics trafficking and gang violence in the Dwight-Kensington and Fair Haven sections of New Haven. Led by the DEA New Haven Task Force and the New Haven and Hamden Police Departments, the year-long investigation included the use of court-authorized wiretaps on numerous telephones, extensive physical surveillance, controlled purchases of narcotics, execution of search warrants and seizures of narcotics and firearms. According to court documents and statements made in court, in the fall of 2011, Reed assisted a co-defendant's large-scale drug trafficking operation. Reed packaged heroin for street sale and served his co-defendant's drug customers. The investigation also revealed that Reed had access to firearms stored at one of his co-defendant's residences. Reed has been detained since his arrest on May 17, 2012. On October 25, 2012, he pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy to distribute 100 grams or more of heroin. This matter is being investigated by the Drug Enforcement Administration's New Haven Task Force, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, and the New Haven, Hamden, West Haven, North Haven, Branford, Ansonia and Meriden Police Departments. The United States Marshals Service, the Connecticut State Police, the Connecticut Department of Correction, Parole and Community Services and the Milford, Hartford, New Britain, North Branford and Stratford Police Departments have provided invaluable assistance to the investigation. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Dave Vatti and Marc Silverman.

On January 29, 2013, at approximately 4:00 p.m., members of the Patrol and Detective Divisions responded to Goffe Street in New Haven, regarding a robbery that occurred in Hamden. Investigation revealed that the victim, a 36 year-old New Haven resident, was exiting a private parking lot in his motor vehicle, located at 938 Dixwell Avenue. The victim stated that while he was waiting to enter Arch Street, an individual, described as a dark-skinned male, opened the rear door, entered the vehicle and then placed a gun to his head. The individual then unlocked the doors to the vehicle, at which time 2 females entered. The individual ordered the victim to drive the vehicle to the area of Goffe Street. He then reached into the victim's pocket and stole approximately \$100 dollars, before fleeing the scene. Detective Michael DePalma of the Major Crimes Unit is continuing with the investigation.

On January 29, 2013, at approximately 4:15 p.m., members of the Patrol and Detective Divisions responded to a Morse Street residence on the report of a street robbery. Upon arrival, officers spoke with the 62 year-old victim. She stated that as she parked her motor vehicle in front of her residence, an individual approached and ordered her to give him her bags. The individual then grabbed her shoulders, as she screamed for help. He then pushed her and took the bags. The victim subsequently took \$20 from her wallet and pleaded with the individual to leave her bags, which contained school supplies. The individual then stole her wallet and left her bags. He then entered an awaiting tan colored van, which fled the wrong way on Morse Street. The victim suffered a shoulder injury. The individual is described as a light skinned black male, 40 to 60 years of age, 6'0" stocky build, who was wearing a brown jacket. Detective Brian Stewart of the Major Crimes Unit is conducting the investigation.



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Incidents of Special Interest (continued)

On January 31, 2013, a press release was made to alert residents of the following information: Since November 2012, the Hamden Police Department has investigated a rash of residential burglaries, which are primarily occurring during daytime hours in the area of Benham Street to the New Haven city line.

Residents are asked to take some of the following precautions:

- Lock all doors and windows. Use dead-bolts if available.
- Install an alarm system.
- Install security lighting. Motion detectors if available.
- Some lighting should be on timers.
- Valuables should not be in plain view.
- Trim bushes and shrubs around window areas.
- Remove ladders and other items from yard. These tools are used by some individuals to gain entry.
- Install surveillance camera(s) if possible.

Residents were also encouraged to establish a Neighborhood Watch Program. The Hamden Police Department can assist residents in creating this type of program. Most importantly, residents should contact the Hamden Police Department at (203) 230-4000, immediately, if they observe suspicious activity.

