



# *Hamden Police Department*

## *Monthly Report*

### *May 2011*



#### **Personnel Matters and Events**

Officer Mark Atwater of the Patrol Division was selected as the 2011 Masonic Lodge Police Officer of the Year award recipient. The award ceremony was held on May 18, 2010 at 6 p.m. at the Masonic Lodge located on Whitney Avenue and all personnel were encouraged to attend. Lieutenant Brian Carmody of the Patrol Division originally nominated Officer Atwater.

Captain John Lujick, Detective Stephen Rossacci, and Officer Angela Hall represented the Hamden Police Department in the Senior Professional Healthcare Council's 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium and Health Refresh Smile for the Spring+Wellness Fair that ran on Wednesday, May 18, 2011 at the Thornton Wilder Auditorium from 9:00 a.m. to noon. There were numerous health exhibits with information and screenings available to attendees. There were also free gift bags given out and coffee and snacks made available to anyone who attended. The Healthcare group also ran a raffle for related healthcare items. Hamden Police personnel participated and ran an information table at the event. Our display emphasized senior safety issues and crime prevention catered to the elderly citizen population. Captain John Lujick, Detective Steven Rossacci and Officer Angela Hall handed out safety brochures and police car refrigerator magnets (with HPD phone number). A portable display monitor ran power point presentations from the NCPC (National Crime Prevention Council) about safety for the elderly, internet scams and alarm systems. Approximately 50 to 60 contacts were made with attending citizens. Some of our event table neighbors were Quinnipiac Health and The Hamden Fire Department. Approximately 40 safety and security brochures were distributed. All of our handouts were made in-house with resources off the internet thus reducing costs to paper and ink toner.

#### **Training - Sworn Personnel**

During the month of May, training for the Department consisted of Firearms recertification and a review of the Departments Use of Force policies and procedures. Training was conducted at the Hamden Fish & Game Club in Hamden.

#### **Training: In-Service**

- Close quarters combat @ POST . Officer Mark Shepard
- Accident Reconstruction School @ POST . Officer Kevin Hall. Course covers all areas of reconstructing an accident and investigative techniques.
- Sovereign Nations and Terrorism @ POST. Sergeant David Ng
- Digital Photography School Course @ POST . Detective Angelo DeLieto
- Swat Training @ Milford Shoot House . Members of the Emergency Services Unit attended live fire training.
- White Collar Crimes& Terrorism @ POST . Detective John Marks



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#### **Training – K-9**

K-9 Units participated in training sessions at the Michael J. Whelan building on Newhall Street and the former High Meadows facility on Hartford Turnpike. Areas of training included:

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

#### **Training – Dispatchers**

During the month of May, Dispatchers attended training at the American Medical Response (AMR) facility in New Haven. The training consisted of Emergency Medical Dispatching annual recertification.

#### **Incidents of Special Interest**

On May 5, 2011, members of the United States Marshal Service Connecticut Violent Fugitive Task Force arrested Sigmund Edwards, who was working at a Milford business. Edwards was wanted out of California for Violation of Parole. The original charges are arson and domestic violence. Further investigation revealed that Edwards was wanted on a warrant for Violation of Probation, which originated out of the state of Connecticut. Upon arrest, Edwards was transported to Hamden Police headquarters. Sigmund Edwards, 38, of 82 Cherry Ann Street in New Haven was charged with Fugitive from Justice and Violation of Probation. He was detained at Hamden Police headquarters on an \$115,000 bond. Edwards is scheduled to appear in court in Meriden on May 12<sup>th</sup>. The state of California will extradite Edwards.

On May 6, 2011, at approximately 11:30 p.m. Hamden Police were summoned to the area of 1349 Dixwell Avenue on the report of a large gathering. A local business had an event for high school students. Officers observed 2 individuals involved in a fight. Sergeant Michael Doherty was able to arrest one of the combatants. A 14 year-old New Haven resident was charged with Breach of Peace and is scheduled to appear in court on May 17<sup>th</sup>. A short time there after, at approximately 12:00 a.m., officers observed several individuals punching, kicking and stomping on another individual who was lying in the middle of the street. Officer Mark Sheppard was able to arrest one of the individuals responsible for the beating. He was arrested after a foot pursuit. This individual made several attempts at assaulting the arresting officers. Hamden Police arrested: A 16 year-old New Haven resident. He was charged with Assault in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree, Interfering With a Police Officer and Breach of Peace. He is scheduled to appear in court on May 23<sup>rd</sup>. Shortly thereafter, officers responded to numerous reports of shots fired in the area of Dixwell Avenue and Lexington Street. Moments later, Officer Dennis Putnam of the Patrol Division arrested another individual who was yelling at officers, while walking in the street. That after several requests to use the sidewalk he was arrested. The 17 year-old New Haven resident was charged with Breach of Peace and Unsafe Use of the Highway When a Sidewalk is Available. He is scheduled to appear in court on May 17<sup>th</sup>.



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#### **Incidents of Special Interest (cont)**

On May 7, 2011, at approximately 1:30 a.m. Hamden Police responded to a Woodin Street address on the report on a criminal mischief. While en route, officers learned that the complainant's ex-boyfriend intentionally broke a window at her residence. Officers further learned that he fled in a white van. While conducting the investigation in New Haven, Sergeant Michael Sigmon observed a white van being operated recklessly on Valley Street. The operator of the van, later identified as Claymont Arrington, exited the vehicle on Diamond Street, and fled on foot. He was subsequently arrested at his Dyer Street residence. Arrington was in the possession of a knife. Claymont Arrington, 36, of 299 Dyer Street in New Haven was charged with Carrying a Dangerous Weapon, Interfering With a Police Officer, Reckless Driving and Engaging an Officer in Pursuit. Arrington, who was detained at police headquarters on a \$25,000 bond, is scheduled to appear in court in Meriden on May 19<sup>th</sup>. The criminal mischief complaint on Woodin Street is under investigation.

On May 10, 2011, at approximately 4:30 a.m. Hamden Police responded to the area of Whitney Avenue and Mount Carmel Avenue on the report of an accident with injuries. Investigation revealed that the operator of a vehicle, which was traveling northbound on Whitney Avenue, struck another vehicle, which was traveling southbound, head-on. Further investigation led to the arrest of the operator of the northbound vehicle, who was identified as Jesse Bostock. He was arrested after failing a Field Sobriety Test. Bostock suffered minor injuries. Jesse Bostock, 40, of 295 Cook Hill Road in Wallingford was charged with Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol and Failure to Drive in Proper Lane. Bostock, who was released after posting a \$500 bond, is scheduled to appear in court in Meriden on May 17<sup>th</sup>. Officer Shawn Nutcher of the Patrol Division conducted the investigation.

On May 10, 2011, at approximately 11:30 a.m. Hamden Police responded to Thai Spice, 2100 Dixwell Avenue, on the report of an armed robbery. Investigation revealed that an individual, described as a black male, wearing jeans and a sweatshirt, entered the restaurant, armed with a handgun. The individual quickly fled on foot, after taking an undisclosed amount of money. Shortly thereafter, Officers Mark Atwater and Nicholas DeAngelo of the Patrol Division located the individual, identified as Justin Hemphill, hiding in a wooded area in close proximity to the restaurant. He was promptly arrested. Officer John Battick and his K-9 partner Cesare conducted a track and located several pieces of evidence, including the firearm, which was a facsimile. Justin Hemphill, 19, of 95 Kaye Vue, Apartment 1J in Hamden was charged with Robbery in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree, Using a Facsimile Firearm and Larceny in the 6<sup>th</sup> Degree. Hemphill, who was detained on a \$100,000 bond, is scheduled to appear in court in Meriden on May 20<sup>th</sup>.



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#### **Incidents of Special Interest (cont)**

On May 11, 2011, after securing 4 arrest warrants for Moreau, officers responded to 205 Ridge Road. Officers found that Victoria Moreau had barricaded herself and her 2 grandchildren in a rear bedroom. She then charged at officers, while first removing her upper garments. She was eventually arrested. The arrest warrants were based on an incident that had occurred on February 16, 2011, when the Hamden Police Department's Special Victims Unit was assigned to investigate a physical abuse complaint at 205 Ridge Road. An investigator from the Department of Developmental Services brought the complaint to the attention of Hamden Police. Investigation revealed that Victoria Moreau, who was a caregiver to 4 mentally disabled clients, who all resided at 205 Ridge Road, physically and sexually abused them. Moreau was given responsibility by the State of Connecticut to house mentally challenged adults. The 4 disabled clients, who are described as 3 women and 1 man, whose ages range from 31 years of age to 50 years of age, are not able to talk. Further investigation revealed that all 4 disabled clients sustained physical injuries, which range from broken bones, to visible scarring to extremely poor hygiene. Two of the females and 1 male client were sexually assaulted when their private parts were manipulated in an aggressive and torturous manner. Officers learned that Moreau allegedly made the 4 disabled clients sleep on the floor and then hit them with a cane if they attempted to get up. She allegedly locked them in a closet for an extended period of time and that she gave them extremely hot or cold baths. These things were allegedly done because the disabled clients had problems with using the bathroom or they ate too slowly. Victoria Moreau, 74, of 205 Ridge Road in Hamden was charged with 4 counts of Cruelty to Persons, 3 counts of Sexual Assault in the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree, 4 counts of Disorderly Conduct, Assault in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree, Interfering With a Police Officer and Failure to Submit to Booking Procedures. Moreau, who was detained on an \$115,000 bond, was scheduled to appear in court in Meriden on May 12<sup>th</sup>. Moreau's daughter, Wendy Moreau of 85 Beers Street in New Haven, was arrested for Risk of Injury to a Minor, Disorderly Conduct, Interfering With a Police Officer and Failure to Submit to Booking Procedures. Wendy was detained at police headquarters on a \$20,000 bond. She was scheduled to appear in court in Meriden on May 25<sup>th</sup>. Detective Stephen Rossacci of the Special Victims Unit conducted the investigation.

On May 15, 2011, at approximately 6:30 p.m. Hamden Police responded to the area of Wilbert Street on the report of an attempted armed street robbery. Investigation revealed that 3 teen-aged Hamden residents were walking on Dallas Street, when 2 individuals approached them. One of the individuals demanded their belongings, while simulating that he had a firearm. One of the victims subsequently used his cell phone to call for help. The 2 individuals then fled on foot, southbound on Wilbert Street. Nothing was taken. Officer Michael Nawrocki and his K-9 partner Hank conducted a track, which met with, negative results. The individuals are described as dark-skinned males, early teens, with a thin build. The incident is under investigation.

On May 18, 2011, at approximately 1:30 p.m. Hamden Police responded to the area of Ridge Road and Carew Road on the report of an accident with injuries. A preliminary investigation revealed that a motorcycle, traveling southbound on Ridge Road, collided with a vehicle, which was traveling northbound. The operator of the motorcycle, Jeffrey Pasquale, 51, was transported to Yale-New Haven Hospital with serious injuries and subsequently died from his injuries. The operator of the other vehicle suffered minor injuries. Hamden Police had to shut down a portion of Ridge Road for well over an hour. Officer Richard Dziekan of the Traffic Division is conducting the investigation.



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#### **Incidents of Special Interest (cont)**

On May 20, 2011, at approximately 6:30 p.m. Sergeant Michael Doherty observed an individual selling DVD~~s~~ and CD~~s~~ from the rear of a motor vehicle, in the vicinity of 861 Dixwell Avenue. Further investigation revealed that the individual, who was identified as Scott Jennings, had 310 pirated CD~~s~~ and 263 pirated DVD~~s~~ in his possession. These items were located in crates and suitcases. Scott Jennings, 40, of 71 Hayward Road in Hamden was arrested and charged with 573 counts of Illegal Sale/Distribution of Recordings Without Identification Markings. Jennings, who was released after posting a \$2,500 bond, is scheduled to appear in court in Meriden on June 1<sup>st</sup>.

On May 25, 2011, at approximately 1 a.m. Hamden Police responded to 1795 Dixwell Avenue (Seven Eleven) on a reported armed robbery. A preliminary investigation had revealed that an individual, described as a black male, 19 or 20 years old, approximately 5q8+tall, thin build, wearing a black scarf or bandana covering the lower half of his face and a dark colored hooded jacket with a fur lined hood over his head, had approached the store clerk, pointed a black semi-automatic pistol at him and demanded money. The suspect then fled store with an undisclosed amount of money. A witness had informed officers that the suspect ran across Dixwell Avenue onto Red Rock Terrace and entered a dark colored Honda Accord which preceded Westbound on Red Rock Terrace and then turn left southbound on Lakeview Terrace. A search of the immediate area was conducted with negative results. The incident is being investigated by members of the Detective Division.

On May 25, 2011, at approximately 12:30 PM Hamden Police responded to 1061 Dixwell Avenue on a report of a dog being stabbed by its owner. Upon arrival, Officers observed an 8 month old bulldog lying in blood, in the driveway of the residence. Officers also observed a silver colored folding knife with a blade of about 3+with blood on it, lying approximately 8 feet away from the animal. The owner of the dog, Alexander Bernard, 25, of 257 Sheffield Avenue, New Haven, CT was promptly arrested at the scene and charged with Cruelty to Animals and held on a \$10,000.00 bond and given a court date of 06/08/2011. Animal Control officers responded to the scene and transported the dog (Princess) to the North Haven Animal Hospital to be treated for her injuries.

On May 27, 2011, David B. Fein, United States Attorney for the District of Connecticut, announced that EDMUND JACKSON, SR., 54, of New Haven, was sentenced today by Senior United States District Judge Ellen Bree Burns in New Haven to 92 months of imprisonment, followed by a life term of supervised release, for distributing crack cocaine. This matter stems from a joint law enforcement investigation conducted by the FBI New Haven Safe Streets Task Force, the DEA New Haven Task Force, the New Haven Police Department and the Hamden Police Department. Through the use of court-authorized wiretaps, investigating officers identified and dismantled a large drug-trafficking organization that was centered in the Newhallville section of New Haven and Hamden, and was responsible for the distribution of crack cocaine and cocaine throughout the Greater New Haven area. According to court documents and statements made in court, from June through August 2010, JACKSON purchased crack cocaine from members of the drug trafficking organization and then distributed some of the crack to others. On March 8, 2011, JACKSON pleaded guilty to one count of conspiring to distribute 28 grams or more of cocaine base (%~~crack cocaine~~). Thirty-seven individuals have been charged in federal court with various narcotics offenses as a result of this investigation.



# *Hamden Police Department Monthly Report May 2011*



## **Incidents of Special Interest (cont)**

This matter was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation's New Haven Safe Streets Task Force (composed of members of the New Haven, Ansonia, Milford, East Haven, and Hamden Police Department, and the Connecticut State Police and the Connecticut Department of Correction), the Drug Enforcement Administration's New Haven Task Force (composed of members of the New Haven, West Haven, Meriden, Ansonia, Hamden and Branford Police Departments), along with substantial participation by members of the New Haven and Hamden Police Departments. The United States Marshals Service assisted with the arrest of defendants in November and December 2010. The investigation was funded in significant part by the United States Attorney's Office Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force and supported by the Office's Project Safe Neighborhoods and Anti-Gang programs. This matter is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Christopher M. Mattei and Robert M. Spector.