



Hamden Police Department

Monthly Report

November 2010



Personnel Matters and Events

Officer Paul Calamita was transferred back to the Patrol Division from the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)-New Haven Task Force, effective November 9, 2010. Officer Calamita's efforts and contributions to a large scale narcotics investigation during the last five (5) months while assigned to the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)-New Haven Task Force was instrumental in the success of the investigation.

Detective Michael DePalma was transferred back to the Detective Division from the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)-New Haven Task Force, effective November 9, 2010. Detective DePalma's efforts and contributions to a large scale narcotics investigation during the last five (5) months while assigned to the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)-New Haven Task Force was instrumental in the success of the investigation.

Lt. Francis McDermott received a certificate and award of achievement from Renbar Kennels for distinguished contributions as an instructor during a nine-week Patrol/Narcotics Detection Canine Handlers Course held from September 7, 2010 to November 10, 2010

Effective November 18, 2010, Officer Brian Kelly was transferred back to the Patrol Division from his assignment with the New Haven Tactical Narcotics Unit.

On November 16, 2010, twenty people were arrested on drug related charges in a sweep that was part of dismantling an alleged large drug-trafficking organization centered in the Newhallville section of New Haven and Hamden. The arrests followed an 11-month investigation by the FBI New Haven Safe Streets Task Force, the DEA New Haven Task Force, and the New Haven and Hamden police departments. The organization allegedly distributed crack cocaine and cocaine throughout the Greater New Haven area. In association with the arrest of the defendants, law enforcement officers seized approximately one kilogram of cocaine, more that 150 grams of crack cocaine, approximately \$75,000.00 in cash, six vehicles, two motorcycles and two firearms.

As part of the "Click-It or Ticket" A Safe Thanksgiving Weekend Wave # 39 Campaign which was conducted from November 08 – November 21, officers conducted seatbelt enforcement as part of a grant that was funded by the State of Connecticut's Department of Transportation. The Officers that participated under the grant proceeds issued 195 infractions for seat belt violations, 3 infractions for other m/v violations, 4 Misdemeanor Summons and 37 verbal warnings. The Officers that participated in the "Click-It or Ticket" Campaign, which included Administration personnel, Traffic Division personnel, and Officers on routine patrol (saturation enforcement efforts) issued 32 infractions for seat belt violations, and 20 infractions for other m/v violations.

Total Infractions issued for seat belt violations: 227

Total Infractions issued for other m/v violations: 23

Total Misdemeanor Summons issued: 4



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Training - Sworn Personnel

During the month of November, the Department conducted in-service training for all sworn personnel, which included Landlord Tennant laws and Gang Investigations.

Training: In-Service

Various training opportunities attended by Hamden Police Staff

- Mid-Management Training - Deputy Chief Bo Kicak and LT. Brian Carmody
- Date Rape Investigation - Officer Angela Moreno
- Digital Photography - Officer Greg Curran
- Effective Police Interactions with Youth – Officers Robert Dunham and Angela Moreno
- Children, Youth and the Police – Officers Robert Dunham and Angela Moreno

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. Training areas included: Building searches, Narcotics detection, patrol techniques, obedience, explosive detection, tracking, and suspect apprehensions.

Training – Dispatchers

Emergency Medical Dispatching – Pro Quality Assurance (QA) software workshop.



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Incidents of Special Interest

On November 1, 2010, at approximately 7:30 p.m. Officer Robert O'Neil of the Patrol Division observed a motor vehicle traveling on Circular Avenue without its headlights on. A motor vehicle was subsequently conducted. Further investigation led to the search of the vehicle where officers located and seized a pair of brass knuckles with spikes. The operator of the vehicle, Jaclyn Smith, was promptly arrested. Jaclyn Smith, 19, of 58 Michael Road, Hamden was charged with Weapons in a Motor Vehicle, Operating Without a License and Failure to Have Headlights on. Smith, who was released on a Written Promise to Appear, is scheduled to appear in court in Meriden on November 12th.

On November 4, 2010, Terry Evans, 19, of 106 Arch Street, Hamden was arrested on the strength of an arrest warrant and charged with Robbery in the 2nd Degree, Assault in the 3rd Degree and Larceny in the 2nd Degree. Evans who was detained on a \$10,000 court ordered bond, was arraigned on November 4th. The arrest warrant was based on an incident that had occurred on October 15, 2010, when a 16 year-old Hamden resident approached Officer Michael DiMaria of the Patrol Division and stated that he was the victim of a robbery. Investigation had revealed that the 16 year-old was approached by 2 individuals who assaulted him and stole his belongings in the area of the Hamden Plaza. The investigation is continuing in an effort to identify the other suspect involved in the robbery.

On November 9, 2010, at approximately 8:45 a.m. members of the Patrol Division responded to Stop and Shop, 1245 Dixwell Avenue, on the report of a robbery. Investigation revealed that an individual, who is confined to a motorized wheelchair, later identified as Steven Banks, attempted to steal over \$100 in merchandise. When Banks was confronted by store security and management, he allegedly threatened them, while holding a knife. Banks then proceeded to the Farmington Canal Line. Moments later, officers arrested Steven Banks, 47, of 45 Daisy Street, Apt. A, New Haven. Banks was charged with Robbery in the 1st Degree, Larceny in the 6th Degree and Criminal Trespass in the 1st Degree. Banks, who was released after posting a \$5,000 bond, is scheduled to appear in court in Meriden on November 23rd. Banks was also arrested on the strength of a warrant for 2 counts of Failure to Appear.

On November 10, 2010 at approximately 2:00 p.m. Officer Stephen Baris of the Patrol Division responded to 229 Woodin Street on the report of a burglary in progress. Upon arrival, Officer Stephen Baris found an individual, identified as Lee Chenault, inside of the residence. Chenault was in possession of burglar tools, which included a screwdriver. Investigation revealed that Chenault forcibly entered the residence via the first floor. He then allegedly attempted to enter the 2nd floor residence by force. Lee Chenault, 50, of 75 Dorman Street in New Haven was arrested and charged with Burglary in the 3rd Degree, Criminal Attempt to Commit Burglary in the 3rd Degree, Criminal Attempt to Commit Larceny in the 6th Degree and Possession of Burglar Tools. Chenault, who was detained on a \$5,000 bond, is scheduled to appear in court in Meriden on November 22nd.



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Incidents of Special Interest (cont)

On November 15, 2010 at approximately 1:30 p.m. members of the Patrol Division responded to a Manilla Avenue address on the report of a burglary in progress. The complainant advised police that while she was at home, someone had forcibly entered. Moments later, Officers Derrick Manning and Brett Ferrara observed 3 individuals in the area. After further investigation, they were arrested for the burglary. All 3 suspects are residents of the Children's Center. The following three individuals were arrested:

Caesar Santiago, 18, of 1400 Whitney Avenue, Hamden. He was charged with Burglary in the 2nd Degree and Criminal Mischief in the 2nd Degree. Santiago, who was detained on a \$5,000 bond, is scheduled to appear in court in Meriden on November 29th.

A 17 year-old Hamden resident was charged with Burglary in the 2nd Degree and Conspiracy to Commit Criminal Mischief in the 2nd Degree. He was detained on a \$5,000 bond with a court date of November 30th.

A 15 year-old Hamden resident was charged with Burglary in the 2nd Degree and Conspiracy to Commit Criminal Mischief in the 2nd Degree. He was released on a Written Promise to Appear with a Court date of November 29th at Juvenile Court in New Haven.

On November 18, 2010, at 2:08 p.m. members of the Patrol Division responded to Bob's Store on the report of a shoplifting. Investigation revealed that Mark Desimone, who was accompanied by a 2 year-old child attempted to leave the store with a pair of boots. He was subsequently detained by store security. Further investigation revealed that his accomplice, identified as Brittany Young, left the store with another pair of boots. They were both promptly arrested. While en route to police headquarters, Desimone threatened to harm officers. Officers learned that Desimone was wanted by the State of New York for Violation of Parole. The parole violation is in relation to a previous Robbery 2nd Degree and Possession of Prison Contraband conviction. Mark Desimone, 33, of 472 Village Street, North Branford was charged with Fugitive from Justice, 2 counts of Larceny in the 6th Degree, Risk of Injury to a Minor and Threatening. Desimone, who was detained at police headquarters on a \$50,000 bond, is scheduled to appear in court in Meriden on November 30th. The State of New York will extradite him. Brittany Young, 23, of the same address was charged with Larceny in the 6th Degree. Young, who was released on a Written Promise to Appear, is scheduled to appear in court in Meriden on December 3rd. Officer Nicholas D'Angelo conducted the investigation.

On November 22, 2010, during the early morning hours, members of the Patrol Division investigated several burglary and larceny complaints that occurred in the area of Carmel Street and Riverside Drive. Individuals were targeting motor vehicles that were parked in their respective garages. The vehicles were left unlocked. In one instance, the garage door was forced opened. In addition, one residence in the area was burglarized and in another, a burglary was attempted. Residents were urged to remove valuables from their vehicles, lock doors to their homes and vehicles. The Detective Division is conducting the investigation.



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Incidents of Special Interest (cont)

On November 26, 2010, members of the Street Interdiction Team observed a drug transaction in the area of 1125 Dixwell Avenue. Investigation led to a motor vehicle stop where officers observed marijuana in plain view. Further investigation led to the discovery of over 20 grams of crack cocaine, which was packaged for sale. The street value of the crack cocaine is estimated at approximately \$1,000. The following occupants in the motor vehicle were arrested:

Robby Elbert, 33, of 16 Nutmeg Drive, Meriden was charged with Conspiracy to Possess Narcotics With the Intent to Sell. Elbert was detained on a \$50,000 bond.

Chauncey Moore, 29, of 179 Springdale Avenue, Meriden was charged with Conspiracy to Possess Narcotics With the Intent to Sell. Moore was detained on a Remand to Custody Order, issued by the Department of Parole.

Daniel Nelson, 26, of 104 Lewis Avenue, Meriden was charged with Possession of Narcotics With the Intent to Sell, Possession of Narcotics and Possession of Marijuana. Nelson was detained on a \$25,000 bond. All of three suspects are scheduled to appear in court in Meriden on December 10th.

On November 27, 2010, at approximately 9:45 p.m. members of the Patrol Division responded to the area of State Street and Hubbard Place on the report of an individual, standing in the street, asking for help. The individual, a 46 year-old Hamden resident, advised officers that he met a woman, Maria Soto, who had allegedly invited him to her residence. While at the residence, he was beaten by at least 2 individuals. Furthermore, his wallet was stolen and he sustained facial injuries. Investigation led to the arrest of Soto and the 2 individuals allegedly responsible for the robbery and assault. They are identified as Heriberto Soto and Fernando Molina. Hamden Police arrested:

Maria Soto, 36, of 2192 State Street, Hamden was charged with Conspiracy to Commit Robbery in the 2nd Degree and Conspiracy to Commit Larceny in the 2nd Degree. Maria Soto was detained on a \$10,000 bond. She is scheduled to appear in court in Meriden on December 8th.

Heriberto Soto, 29, of 2192 State Street, Hamden was charged with Robbery in the 2nd Degree, Larceny in the 2nd Degree and Assault in the 3rd Degree. Heriberto Soto was detained on a \$10,000 bond and is scheduled to appear in court in Meriden on December 8th.

Fernando Molina, 34, of 360 Poplar Street, New Haven was charged with Robbery in the 2nd Degree, Larceny in the 2nd Degree and Assault in the 3rd Degree. Molina was detained on a \$10,000 bond and is scheduled to appear in court in Meriden on December 8th.

On November 29, 2010, at approximately 7:30 p.m. members of the Patrol Division responded to the report of a shooting victim at the corner of Dixwell Avenue and Second Street. Upon arrival, officers found Nazario Mateo, 25, suffering from a gunshot wound to the leg. Mateo was transported to Yale-New Haven Hospital. Investigation revealed that the shooting occurred in the area of Second Street and Warren Street. The Detective Division is conducting the investigation.