



# Hamden Police Department Monthly Report November 2012



## Personnel Matters and Events

On November 15, 2012, Assistant Town Clerk Joanne Cifarelli, swore in 2 new Officers in the Police Commission/Media Room. Both of the new officers are certified and have previous law enforcement experience. Officer Kelley Groleau served with the Orange Police Department for over five years, while Enrique Rivera-Rodriguez served with the New Haven Police Department for almost six years. Both officers will enter the field training program and are expected to be available for independent assignments in the very near future.

On November 30, 2012, Officer Linda Guerra (Badge #1) retired after serving the department for 30 years.



Officer Linda Guerra pins Badge #1 onto Officer Anthony Popolizio as the new senior Officer.



Officers Kelly Groleau and Enrique Rivera-Rodriguez are sworn-in by Assistant Town Clerk Joanne Cifarelli.



# Hamden Police Department Monthly Report November 2012



## Personnel Matters and Events (continued)

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

- Church Street School Tour of Police Department
- Law Enforcement Club Meetings @ Hamden Middle School
- Police & Youth Grant Meeting
- Bear Path School Tour of Police Department
- West Woods School Internet Safety Talk



Hamden Middle School



Church Street School



West Woods School



# Hamden Police Department Monthly Report November 2012



## Traffic Calming

Members of the Traffic Division deployed Speed Compliance Units throughout areas in Town with a high volume of speeding complaints. The signs and trailer were deployed on: Church Street, Arents Street, Haverford Avenue, Woodin Street, and Joseph Lane. Proactive traffic enforcement typically receives positive feedback from residents, schools, and business owners.



## Training - Sworn Personnel

November's Department wide training consisted of Defensive Driving, Domestic Violence, and Baton training.





# Hamden Police Department Monthly Report November 2012



## Training: In-Service

- Power Point and Advanced Power Point @ POST – Officer Dedric Jones
- Instructor Development @ POST – Officer Jeremy Brewer
- At Scene Traffic Crash Investigation @ POST – Sergeant Lyle Bennett
- Handcuffing, O.C. Spray and Baton Instructor @ Bridgeport Police Department - Officer Gabriel Garcia

## Training – K-9

K-9 Units participated in training sessions at the Michael J. Whelan building on Newhall Street and in Waterford, CT, 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 are progressing satisfactorily in training and are in the final stages of the Field Training program.





# Hamden Police Department

## Monthly Report

### November 2012



#### Incidents of Special Interest

On November 2, 2012, members of the Street Interdiction Team executed a search and seizure warrant at 310 Goodrich Street. Investigators conducted a lengthy investigation, which led to the search. A large quantity of marijuana was seized. Rocco Sweat, 24, of 661 Pine Rock Avenue, Hamden, was charged with Possession of Marijuana and Possession of Marijuana With the Intent to Sell. Sweat, who was released after posting a \$10,000 bond, was scheduled to appear in Meriden Superior Court on November 15, 2012.

On November 10, 2012, at approximately 12:15 p.m., members of the Patrol and Detective Division responded to 550 Newhall Street on the report of a burglary in progress. Investigation revealed that the Senior Project Manager for a town project entered the building and encountered three juveniles burglarizing an office area. The project manager was able to detain the juveniles, until the arrival of Hamden Police. Further investigation revealed that the juveniles ransacked the office and allegedly stole money and electronic equipment. Three New Haven juveniles, ages 15, 14 and 12, were all charged with Burglary in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree, Conspiracy to Commit Burglary in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree, Larceny in the 6<sup>th</sup> Degree, Conspiracy to Commit Larceny in the 6<sup>th</sup> Degree, Criminal Mischief in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree and Conspiracy to Commit Criminal Mischief in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree. They were all released to the custody of their families. They were all scheduled to appear in Juvenile Court in New Haven on November 20, 2012. Detective Mark Consorte conducted the investigation.

On November 10, 2012, at approximately 5:30 p.m., members of the Patrol Division responded to 56 First Street on the report of a domestic dispute involving a firearm. Investigation revealed that the caller, Efrain Torres, advised Central Communications that a dispute had occurred. When officers arrived, he advised them that a gunman was inside of a corner bedroom. Officers subsequently entered the bedroom with their firearms drawn, only to find 2 women and a small child. Further investigation revealed that Torres allegedly lied to Central Communications and Hamden Police about the involvement of the firearm. While attempting to arrest Torres, he resisted. Efrain Torres, 52, of 56 First Street, Hamden, was charged with Misuse of a 911 Call, Risk of Injury to a Child and Interfering With a Police Officer. Torres, who was detained at police headquarters on a \$10,000 bond, was scheduled to appear in Meriden Superior Court on November 26, 2012. Officer Eric Hallstrom conducted the investigation.

On November 16, 2012, at approximately 3:15 p.m., members of the Patrol and Traffic Division's responded to a reported 3 vehicle accident on Shepard Avenue. Investigation revealed that Edward Urban, who was operating a Town of Hamden Public Works vehicle, with an attached trailer, was traveling eastbound on Shepard Avenue, when he observed a vehicle, also traveling eastbound, in front of him that was making a left-hand turn. Urban attempted to avoid striking the rear of the vehicle, which was operated by Margaret Yahn, 21, by crossing into the westbound lane. This action caused the Public Works trailer to strike Yahn's vehicle. In addition, the Public Works vehicle collided with a second vehicle, which was traveling in its proper westbound lane on Shepard Avenue. The vehicle that was traveling westbound was operated by Steven Sorrentino, 21, and he was broad-sided, which caused it to roll over on its side. Sorrentino and Urban were both treated at the scene by Hamden Fire Rescue. They were both transported to local hospitals with non-life threatening injuries. Edward Urban, 43, of Hamden was issued an infraction for Failure to Drive in Established Lane. Sergeant Lyle Bennett of the Traffic Division is continuing the investigation.



# Hamden Police Department

## Monthly Report

### November 2012



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

On November 17, 2012, at approximately 9:45 p.m. members of the Patrol Division responded to the report of a pedestrian struck in the area of Whitney Avenue and Home Place. Upon arrival, officers found Manuel Jesus Bonete-Canar, 58, of Meriden, lying in the roadway. Hamden Fire Rescue rendered medical assistance. Bonete-Canar was transported to Yale-New Haven Hospital where he succumbed to his injuries. A preliminary investigation revealed that Bonete-Canar was crossing Whitney Avenue, near the intersection of Home Place, when he was struck by a motor vehicle traveling northbound. The operator of the vehicle was identified as Leonard Wisneski, 73, of Hamden. Officer Kevin Hall of the Traffic Division is continuing the investigation.

On November 19, 2012, at approximately 4:00 p.m., members of the Patrol Division responded to the area of Jones Road on the report of an assault. Upon arrival, Hamden Fire Rescue was treating a 16 year-old New Haven resident, who suffered facial injuries after getting shot in the face with a paintball gun. Officers learned that while she was walking on First Street, a motor vehicle approached her. An individual then emerged from the sunroof and began firing the paintball gun at her. She suffered injuries to her face and mouth. Moments later, officers received additional information with regards to another paintball shooting. Investigation revealed that a 15 year-old Hamden resident and her 18 year-old friend, were walking on Second Street, where they were both shot. She was shot in the neck and shoulder, while her friend was shot in the mouth. The 3 victims did not sustain life threatening injuries. A short time thereafter, Officer Michael Nawrocki observed the vehicle involved in the incident, occupied and parked on Second Street. He, along with Officers Mark Sheppard and Robert O'Neill subsequently arrested 2 of the occupants. Two paintball guns and a bag of paint balls were seized from inside of the vehicle. Avery Deboise, 18, of 1377 Ella Grasso Boulevard, New Haven, was charged with Reckless Endangerment in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree, Conspiracy to Commit Reckless Endangerment in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree, Assault in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree, Conspiracy to Commit Assault in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree and Breach of Peace. Deboise, who was released after posting a \$1,500 bond, was scheduled to appear in Meriden Superior Court on December 4, 2012. A 17 year-old North Haven resident, was also charged with Reckless Endangerment in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree, Conspiracy to Commit Reckless Endangerment in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree, Assault in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree, Conspiracy to Commit Assault in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree and Breach of Peace. He was released to the custody of a family member. He was scheduled to appear in Juvenile Court in New Haven on December 4, 2012.

On November 19, 2012, Kevin Blackman, 23, of last known address 2671 Dixwell Avenue in Hamden, was arrested at Meriden Superior Court on the strength of an active arrest warrant. Blackman, who is currently incarcerated at the Carl Robinson Correctional Center in Enfield on unrelated charges, was charged with Assault in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree and Conspiracy to Commit Assault in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree. Blackman was held on an additional \$250,000 court ordered bond. The arrest warrant was based on an incident that had occurred on July 2, 2010, at approximately 12:15 a.m., when Hamden Police responded to Elliott Drive on the report of a shooting. Upon arrival, officers found John Belcher, then 25 years of age, lying face down in the driveway, with a gunshot wound to the chest and neck. Belcher was subsequently transported to the Hospital of Saint Raphael with serious life threatening injuries. A preliminary investigation at the time revealed that Belcher was confronted by 3 individuals, who were wearing face masks. Witnesses believed that at least 2 of the individuals were in the possession of handguns. In addition, they believed that several gunshots were fired. Immediately after the shooting, Officer Craig Appleby and his K-9 partner "Hunter" conducted a track, which led to the residence of Marquis Winfrey Sr., 28 Fawn Ridge Road. After an extensive 2 year investigation, Detective Angelo DeLieto submitted an arrest warrant application to the court for Marquis Winfrey. The arrest warrant application was subsequently approved. Blackman was also charged in connection with the crime.



# Hamden Police Department

## Monthly Report

### November 2012



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

On November 20, 2012, at approximately 1:30 p.m., members of the Patrol Division responded to Stop and Shop, 1245 Dixwell Avenue, on the report of an attempted larceny and an evading responsibility. Investigation revealed that an individual, described as a white female, brown hair, in her late 20's, exited the store without purchasing \$428.93 worth of merchandise. She was subsequently approached by store security, at which time she left her carriage with stolen items and hurriedly entered her motor vehicle, described as a maroon Subaru Impreza. The individual then struck 2 motor vehicles, while fleeing from the parking lot. One of the vehicles was occupied by a mother and her 4 year-old child. There were no reported injuries. Officer Gregg Curran of the Traffic Division is conducting the investigation.

On November 23, 2012, at approximately 1:15 a.m., members of the Patrol Division responded to the parking lot of 2390 State Street on the report of suspicious activity. Upon arrival Officer Eric Hallstrom observed an individual, who was later identified as Anderson Santos, hiding objects inside of his motor vehicle. Further investigation revealed that Santos had stolen the items from a vehicle parked in the parking lot. Officers recovered electronic equipment, tools and jewelry. Santos was promptly arrested and was found to be in the possession of a glass break hammer. Anderson Santos, 29, of 187 Forbes Avenue, New Haven, was charged with Burglary in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree and Criminal Trespass in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree. Santos, who was detained at police headquarters on a \$10,000 bond, was scheduled to appear in Meriden Superior Court on December 7, 2012.

On November 24, 2012, at approximately 12:30 a.m., members of the Patrol Division responded to 18 Cross Street on the report of loud music. Investigation led to the arrest of the resident, Lonna Leak. While inside of the police cruiser, Leak continually kicked the interior cage. Leak, who was handcuffed behind her back, was able to bring her hands to the front of her body. She then gained access to the police radio and began interfering with police communications. As officers intervened, Leak kicked an officer. Upon arrival at Police Headquarters, Leak spit on a Hamden Fire Department member. She was promptly placed in a cell. While inside of the cell, Leak allegedly urinated on the floor, bit the padded walls and then attempted to flood it. She was then placed in a second cell. Leak then damaged the sprinkler system, causing flooding to the cellblock and booking area. Officers subsequently moved Leak to the adult booking area. Leak then allegedly damaged an electronic control panel, biting off the rubber buttons. The Hamden Police Department Detention area suffered damages exceeding \$5,000. Lonna Leak, 37, of 18 Cross Street, Hamden, was charged with Assault on a Police Officer/Safety Personnel (2 counts), Interfering With a Police Officer, Criminal Mischief in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree, Criminal Mischief in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree and Breach of Peace. Leak, who was detained at police headquarters on a \$50,000 bond, was scheduled to appear in Meriden Superior Court on December 7, 2012. Officer Gabriel Garcia conducted the investigation.

On November 25, 2012, at approximately 7:00 p.m., members of the Patrol Division responded to the area of 953 Dixwell Avenue on the report of a street robbery. Investigation revealed that a 16 year-old Hamden resident was approached by 2 juveniles, while dining at a local restaurant. When he left the restaurant, the juveniles stole his cell phone. The juveniles then allegedly threatened to shoot him. Moments later, Officer Mark Sheppard observed the 2 juveniles, walking near Alling Street. After further investigation, they were arrested and the victim's cell phone was recovered. A 17 year-old New Haven resident and a 15 year-old Hamden resident were both charged with Robbery in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree, Conspiracy to Commit Robbery in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree, Larceny in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree and Conspiracy to Commit Larceny in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree. They are both scheduled to appear in Juvenile Court in New Haven on December 11, 2012. Officer Michael DiMaria conducted the investigation.



# Hamden Police Department Monthly Report November 2012



## Incidents of Special Interest (continued)

On November 28, 2012, at approximately 12:30 p.m., while on patrol, Officer Gregg Curran observed 2 individuals acting suspiciously inside of a motor vehicle, which was parked in the rear parking lot of 865 Mix Avenue. Investigation led to the search of the operator of the vehicle, Simon Rodriguez. He was in the possession of a small amount of marijuana. Further search of the passenger, Shelby Spivey, led to the discovery of heroin and 2 syringes. They were both placed under arrest. Simon Rodriguez, 24, of 73 Longmeadow Avenue, Hamden, was charged with Possession of Marijuana. Shelby Spivey, 18, of 29 Lakeview Avenue, Hamden, was charged with Possession of Narcotics, Possession of Marijuana and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. Spivey, who was released after posting a \$1,000 bond, was scheduled to appear in Meriden Superior Court on December 13, 2012.

