

# 2016 Annual Report



CRANFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT  
8 SPRINGFIELD AVENUE  
CRANFORD, NJ 07016  
(908) 272-2222



## TABLE OF CONTENTS:

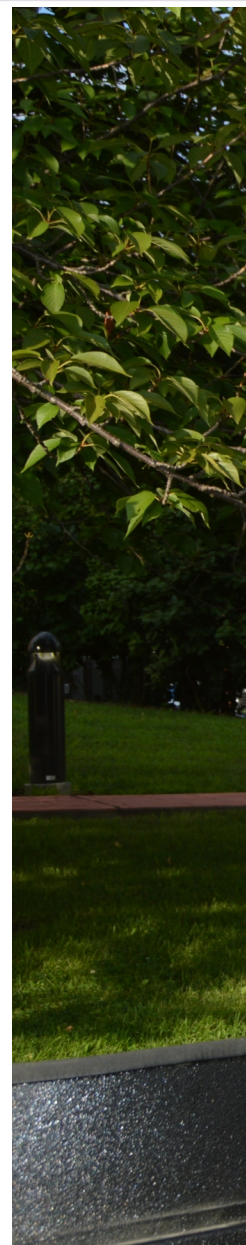
Mission Statement.....	02
Message from the Chief.....	04
Command Staff.....	05
Township Committee.....	06
In Dedication.....	07
In Memoriam.....	09
Bureaus & Divisions.....	11
Personnel Changes.....	12
Patrol Division.....	13
Calls for Service.....	14
Patrol Statistics.....	15
Communications Bureau.....	16
Investigative Division.....	17
Crime Statistics.....	18
School Resource Officer.....	19
ALERT Program.....	24
Police Athletic League.....	27
Office of Professional Standards.....	29
Community Support Services Division.....	32
Traffic Bureau.....	32
School Safety.....	36
Crash & Injuries Summary.....	37
Motor Vehicle Violations.....	38
Parking Violations.....	39
Click It or Ticket.....	40
Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over.....	41
Motorized Equipment.....	42
Driving While Intoxicated - DWI.....	43
Records Bureau.....	45
Training.....	47
Social Media & Internet.....	52
Police Auxiliary.....	54
Police Explorer Post #74.....	56
Special Operations Team.....	57
Honor Guard.....	58
Water Rescue Unit.....	59
Youth Police Academy.....	60
Year in Review.....	62

Cranford Police Department is to protect life and property, enforce all State and local laws and ordinances, apprehend and prosecute violators and provide the finest quality of routine and emergency police services to the community we serve.

Members of the Cranford Police Department, both sworn and civilian, shall conduct themselves in a professional manner, treating all people with courtesy and respect and without bias or prejudice. We shall be judicious in the use of our authority, fair and compassionate when dealing with those we come in contact



**Photo:** left to right, Communications Officer Robert Merrill, Patrolman Ryan Gerrity, and Patrolman James Knight during our National Night Out celebration on August 2, 2016.





# STATEMENT

with and shall divorce our personal feelings, emotions, and opinions from our decision making while in the performance of our duties.

Members of the Cranford Police Department acknowledge that the public trust is sacred and that it must be earned and vigorously maintained by strict adherence to our mission statement and core values. We shall establish and foster strong relationships with all groups within our community in order to be both proactive and responsive to their individual needs, with the ultimate goal of enhancing the quality of life in the Township of Cranford.







# CHIEF OF POLICE

---



**James Wozniak**  
**Chief of Police**



# COMMAND STAFF



**Joseph P. Van Bergen**  
**Administrative Captain**



**Guy Patterson**  
**Operations Captain**



# TOWNSHIP GOVERNMENT

---

Cranford is governed by a five-member executive-legislative Township Committee which is elected at-large for three year terms. The commissioners elect a chairman of the committee who assumes the title of Mayor. Similarly, a Deputy Mayor is elected. Both positions carry one-year terms. Four of the commissioners take on departmental oversight assignments as Commissioners of Finance, Commissioner of Public Safety, Commissioner of Public Works and Engineering, and Commissioner of Public Affairs.



**Andis Kalnins**  
Mayor



**Mary O'Connor**  
Deputy Mayor  
Comm. Of Public Safety



**John Mallon**  
Commissioner of  
Public Works



**Patrick Giblin**  
Commissioner of  
Finance



**Thomas Hannen**  
Commissioner of  
Public Affairs

---

The Township Administrator is appointed to implement the policies established by the Township Committee. The Administrator is also responsible for the overall management of the town's workforce and the development and oversight of the operating and capital budgets, personnel administration, public information, and the development and management of special projects.



**Terence Wall**  
Administrator



# IN DEDICATION



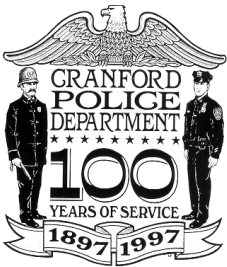
These pages are in dedication of the men and women who have served as Cranford Police Officers since it's founding in 1897.

**\*Names that appear in bold indicate officers that served as Chief of Police.**

Ronald W. Abram  
Nicholas A. Amicucci  
Arthur E. Anderson  
Jerome M. Andrews  
Michael L. Andrews  
Charles H. Archdeacon  
Louis T. Atwood  
John C. Baer  
Thomas M. Bell  
Robert L. Bell  
John P. Benedetto  
Otto Behnert  
Thomas R. Benton  
Phillip H. Bindenberger  
Archie G. Bird  
William Blaney  
Harry A. Bohman  
Lawrence Bonnell, Sr.  
Lawrence T. Bonnell  
Thomas F. Bowne  
Vincent Brinkerhoff  
Alfred Broda  
Harry C. Brown  
Francesco L. Buonocore  
Albert Frank Burr  
William H. Burr  
Frank A. Caruso  
Leo M. Casper  
Michael W. Cavalla  
Robert Chamra  
Christopher R. Chapman  
Bernard F. Clark  
David L. Cochrane

Robert A. Colaneri  
Antonio Colineri  
John M. Colineri  
Edward J. Coleman  
Ronald Coles  
William A. Connell  
Wayne Cooper  
Raymond Cosmas  
Harry A. Craig  
William F. Crissey  
William Croy  
Edward Csuka  
Donald A. Curry  
Myron Cymbaluk  
Paul R. Cymbaluk  
Samuel W. Cymbaluk  
Jason M. D'Agostino  
Steven R. D'Ambola  
Raymond L. Davidson  
Edward R. Davenport  
Michael A. Deane  
Christopher M. DiFabio  
Anthony J. Dobbins  
Clifford W. Dobbins  
Daniel J. Donnerstag  
Michael E. Dow  
Bernard A. Doyle, Jr.  
Gregory J. Drexler  
Nicholas Druzek  
Michael P. Dubitsky  
Spencer J. Durkin  
Edwin F. Eldridge  
George Ennesser  
Larry Erickson  
Derek M. Farbanec  
Patrick J. Fay  
Gregory M. Federici  
Michael Fedroff  
Thomas J. Feeney  
Albert R. Fischer  
**William A. Fischer**  
Steven Gachko  
John T. Gallagher

Lynne Galvez  
Edward J. Galvin  
William G. Gassman  
Ryan W. Gerrity  
Peter J. Graczyk  
Ryan J. Greco  
Jennifer Green  
George Greiss  
Alfred V. Grickowski  
William Griffin  
Louis L. Guertin  
**Robert A. Guertin**  
Lewis H. Halsey  
Brian S. Hand  
Robert F. Hand  
Timothy L. Handy  
Gerard F. Haney  
**Matthew T. Haney**  
Francis Hanley  
Richard C. Harrington  
Henry Harris, Jr.  
Nelson W. Hearn, Jr.  
John M. Heesters, III.  
**James E. Hennesey**  
William Hennesey  
John J. Herzer  
Thomas R. Herzer  
John M. Hicks  
Sean T. Holcomb  
Charles M. Hoeffler  
Roy Irving  
John H. Itzel  
**Williams Jennings**  
Paul S. Johnson  
Nadia N. Jones  
Robert A. Jones  
Robert R. Jordan, Jr.  
George W. Kane, Jr.  
Thomas E. Kane  
Alex King  
Louis M. Kleeman  
Rudolph Klempa  
Edward J. Klubenspies



## IN DEDICATION

James F. Knight  
John P. Korsch  
Joseph R. Koury  
Ralph J. Koury  
Anton Kovacs  
John J. Kovacs  
(Unk.) Krise  
Paul Lampert  
Thomas Leavy  
Edward N. Lee  
Linn M. Lockwood, Jr.  
Corey J. LoForte  
Brian M. Lopez  
John E. Lowrey  
Russell J. Luedecker  
James K. Manning  
Salvatore Manuri, Jr.  
Craig L. Marino  
Patrick J. Martin  
**Eric G. Mason**  
Milton T. Mason  
**Carlangelo Massa**  
Joseph McCaffrey  
James G. McFall  
John J. McNerney  
Robert R. Merrill  
Whitney C. Merrill  
W. E. Merwin  
Edward J. Metzner  
Arthur T. Miles, Jr.  
Leonard Miller  
Peter F. Miller  
Robert R. Moffett  
Robert A. Montague  
Stephen Motyczka  
Ali Muhammad  
Matthew R. Nazzaro  
John G. Neil  
Frank Neilson  
Daniel S. Norton  
Robert I. Nylen  
Timothy W. O'Brien  
John O' Donnell

William O'Donnell  
Michael T. O'Neil  
Alfred J. Oram  
Gordon J. Ostrowsky  
Harry P. Page, Jr.  
William Parsons  
Christian Pasternak  
Guy E. Patterson  
Robert E. Peters  
William G. Peters  
Eugene J. Perrotta  
John J. Pienciak  
Robert E. Pierce  
William K. Pietrucha  
Henry Polidoro  
Christopher T. Polito  
George A. Porcella  
**Lester W. Powell**  
John J. Puglisi  
Gerard P. Quinn  
John G. Ranhofer  
John J. Rattigan  
Herman Redrup  
Kelly A. Rieder  
Frederick G. Roberts  
George L. Rosendale  
Robert J. Ryan  
Leo J. Schaeffer  
Robert Schafer  
Edward A. Schindler  
Stephen D. Schlapak  
Richard H. Schofield  
Leo A. Schultz  
Robert M. Segear  
Andrew J. Sharo, Jr.  
Joseph Sherbo  
Matthew B. Siessel  
Henry Simon  
James F. Sloan  
Kelly M. Sretenovic  
John H. Stanier, Jr.  
Thomas C. Stiansen  
Joseph W. Stulpin

John J. Swandrak  
James P. Switek  
Shayne Temple  
William D. Thermann  
Robert C. Thieme  
John M. Timons  
Brian D. Thomas  
Lawrence T. Thomas  
Russell W. Thomas  
Carl Thompson  
Steven R. Toy  
Brian T. Trotter  
Joseph P. Van Bergen, Jr.  
Vanessa Van Brunt  
Leonard R. Van Sadlers  
John F. Varley, Jr.  
Peter Vergalla  
F. Richard Vitale  
Brian J. Wagner  
George C. Ward  
James E. Washbourne  
Matthew J. Widdows  
**Harry W. Wilde**  
Russell S. Wilde  
Stephen D. Wilde  
Frank T. Williams  
David P. Winans  
Norman Woitkowski  
Thomas W. Woods, Sr.  
Thomas H. Woods, Jr.  
**James Wozniak**  
Edward T. Zarzecki  
William E. Zirkel  
Donald P. Zsak



# IN MEMORIAM



## Patrolman Robert F. Hand

This year marked 41 years since the death of the only Cranford Police Officer to lose his life in the line of duty. Patrolman Robert F. Hand sacrificed his life protecting and serving the citizens of Cranford on February 11, 1975 following a motor vehicle pursuit.

The Cranford Police Department and the community at large have never forgotten Officer Hand's bravery. There are many memorial tributes to him, including a monument stone in front of police headquarters bearing Officer Hand's name and Badge #26. Also dedicated to his memory is a portrait of "The Senator," as he was affectionately known, which hangs in the lobby of the police desk. A photograph of Officer Hand along with his badge is displayed prominently in the police department hallway.

At the time of his death Patrolman Hand was 45 years old. More than 700 police officers and almost 140 police cars made a final tribute to Hand by participating in a procession from Dooley Funeral Home on North Avenue to St. Michael's Church on Alden Street where a funeral mass with full police honors was held. The procession, over a mile long, then went past police headquarters and proceeded to the burial at Graceland Memorial Park Cemetery in Kenilworth.

The Reverend Joseph Derbyshire, Cranford Police Chaplain and former assistant pastor at St. Michael's, was the celebrant of the mass. Monsignor John Davis, pastor of St. Michael's, gave the eulogy and Reverend John Oates assisted in the service. Police Chief Matthew Haney presented the flag from the casket to Patrolman Hand's 17 year old son, Brian. Hand's other children were Margaret, Timothy, and Mary.

The police pallbearers were Lieutenants Myron Cymbaluk and Henry Polidoro, Sergeants Gerard Haney and John Korsch, and Patrolmen John Herzer and Robert Nysten. Fourteen members of the Cranford Police Auxiliary handled traffic control during the funeral and police officers from Garwood, Roselle Park, and Clark were on duty for calls in Cranford.

Patrolman Robert "Bobby" F. Hand was born in 1930 and was a native of Jersey City before moving to Cranford. He attended St. Benedict's High School and in 1947 joined the United States Air Force, attaining the rank of Corporal and serving in the Korean Conflict. He received an Honorable Discharge in 1950. Robert was appointed



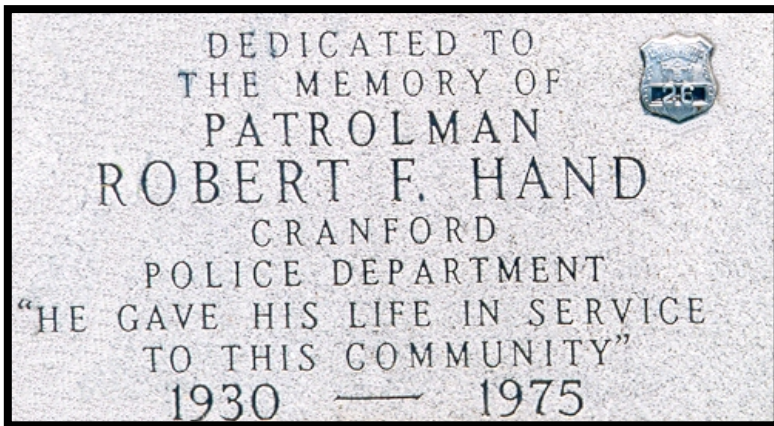
## IN MEMORIAM

to the Cranford Police Department on July 1, 1956 and was assigned to the Patrol Division. Hand received a number of commendations during his career. In August 1968 he was commended for breaking up a narcotics ring where 10 people were arrested. Rahway Police commended him in March 1969 for his help in the arrest of a child molester and Army deserter.

During his time with the police department, Patrolman Hand was affectionately nicknamed “The Senator” by fellow officers because he couldn’t walk more than a few blocks without stopping to greet a dozen people. He always took the time to stop and say hello to people. Bobby always put others needs before his own and was notorious for his willingness to help those in need.

Robert was a member of the local Elk’s Club and of VFW Post No. 335. He was also a very active member of Policemen’s Benevolent Association, Local #52 and had been elected President the prior spring. He was instrumental in establishing the PBA collective bargaining unit which then resulted in the first labor contract between policemen and the township. After his death, the PBA established the Robert F. Hand Memorial Brotherhood Award which is given to the PBA member who best exemplifies the tradition of brotherhood that Officer Hand stood for. The first recipient of the honor was Lieutenant Myron Cymbaluk in 1980. In addition, the PBA announced the award of the first annual scholarship in Hand’s honor to Cranford residents looking to attend college in the fall.

Each year, members of the Cranford Police Department wear black mourning bands on their badges from February 11<sup>th</sup> to February 18<sup>th</sup> in honor of Patrolman Hand.



**Photo,** Cranford Police recruits Muhammad, Galvez, and Chamra honored Cranford Police Officer Robert F. Hand on during the Hero workout at the police academy. Each recruit wore a shirt honoring an officer that died in the line of duty.





# DIVISIONS & BUREAUS



## **Chief of Police**

James Wozniak

## **Captains**

Joseph P. Van Bergen

Guy E. Patterson

## **Patrol Division**

Lt. Craig L. Marino

Lt. Christopher T. Polito

Sgt. Thomas J. Feeney

Sgt. Frank T. Williams

Sgt. Eugene Perrotta

Sgt. John J. Swandrak

Sgt. Steven R. Toy

Sgt. Russell J. Luedecker

Sgt. Joseph Stulpin

Ptl. Brian Lopez

Ptl. Patrick J. Fay

Ptl. Michael Andrews

Ptl. Thomas M. Bell

Ptl. Timothy W. O'Brien

Ptl. Nadia N. Jones

Ptl. Nelson W. Hearn, Jr.

Ptl. Sean T. Holcomb

Ptl. Brian J. Wagner

Ptl. John M. Colineri

Ptl. Daniel S. Norton

Ptl. Christopher DiFabio

Ptl. John J. Rattigan

Ptl. Michael P. Dubitsky

Ptl. Matthew B. Siessel

Ptl. Gregory M. Federici

Ptl. Daniel J. Donnerstag

Ptl. Michael T. O'Neil

Ptl. Corey J. LoForte

Ptl. Brian T. Trotter

Ptl. Ryan W. Gerrity

Ptl. Robert R. Jordan, Jr.

Ptl. Timothy L. Handy

Ptl. James F. Knight

Ptl. Jason M. D'Agostino

Ptl. Christian Pasternak

Ptl. Ali Muhammad

Ptl. Robert Chamra

Ptl. Lynne Galvez

Ptl. Shayne Temple

Ptl. Joseph Sherbo

## **Communications Bureau**

Stacy A. Thorn

Ewa Jackson-Feldt

Sandanna Jones

Megan Berry

Robert Merrill

Amanda Stryker

Nicole Lodato

Olivia DiGiovine

Andrea Azzarello

Ryan Duffy

Julia Adubato

Michael Davis

Matthew Blanck

Kyle McCartney

## **Investigative Division**

Det/Lt. Stephen D. Wilde

Det/Sgt. Ryan Greco

Det/Sgt. Matthew Nazzaro

Det. Spencer Durkin

Det. Brian Lopez, HTF

Det. Derek Farbanec

Det. Kelly Rieder

Det. Joseph Stulpin

Det. Thomas C Stiansen

Det. Timothy W. O'Brien

## **Professional Standards Unit**

Det/Sgt. Richard Vitale

## **Community Support Service**

Det/Lt. Edward R. Davenport

## **Traffic Bureau**

Det. William K. Pietrucha

Det. Steven R. D'Ambola

Det. Brian J. Wagner

## **Traffic Maintenance**

Charles E. Fette

Joseph A. Corbisiero

## **Records Bureau**

Det/Sgt. Gerard P. Quinn

Det/Sgt. Russell Luedecker

Clerk Jean H. McComb

Clerk Janet Spricigo

## **Parking Enforcement**

Ralph E. Gregson

Arthur Kennedy

## **Executive Secretary**

Carol Cole

## **Police Academy**

N/A

## **SLEO II**

Robert Colaneri

Peter Graczyk

John Heestr

*\*Names may appear more than once due to promotions or assignments throughout the year.*



# PERSONNEL CHANGES

Thomas Stiansen	January 1, 2016	Detective
Brian Lopez	January 1, 2016	Homicide Task Force
Nicole Lodato	February 28, 2016	Resigned - Communications
Andrea Azzarello	April 4, 2016	Communications Officer
Brian Wagner	April 11, 2016	Detective - Traffic
Ryan Duffy	April 18, 2016	Communications Officer
Julia Adubato	May 2, 2016	Communications Officer
Olivia DiGiovine	May 12, 2016	Resigned - Communications
Gerard Quinn	May 31, 2016	Retired - Det/Sergeant
Patrick Fay	June 1, 2016	Retired - Patrolman
Michael Davis	June 6, 2016	Communications Officer
Joseph Stulpin	June 14, 2016	Promoted to Sergeant
Timothy O'Brien	June 14, 2016	Detective
Shayne Temple	June 14, 2016	Probationary Patrolman
Joseph Sherbo	June 14, 2016	Probationary Patrolman
Ewa Jackson	June 21, 2016	Resigned - Communications
Megan Berry	July 4, 2016	Resigned - Communications
Michael O'Neil	July 18, 2016	Officer 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade
Corey LoForte	July 18, 2016	Officer 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade
Brian Trotter	July 18, 2016	Officer 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade
Ryan Gerrity	July 18, 2016	Officer 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade
Christian Pasternak	July 20, 2016	Officer 1 <sup>st</sup> Grade
John Heesters	July 12, 2016	SLEO II
Michael Blanck	September 28, 2016	Communications Officer
Charlie Fette	October 1, 2016	Retired - Mechanic
Kyle McCartney	October 4, 2016	Communications Officer
Sean Holcomb	October 17, 2016	Homicide Task Force
Robert Jordan, Jr.	December 1, 2016	Officer 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade
Timothy Handy	December 1, 2016	Officer 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade
James Knight	December 1, 2016	Officer 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade
Matthew Siessel	December 19, 2016	Officer 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade
Richard Vitale	December 31, 2016	Retired - Sergeant
Michael P. Dubitsky	December 31, 2016	Officer 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade
Gregory Federici	December 31, 2016	Officer 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade
Daniel Donnerstag	December 31, 2016	Officer 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade
Jason D'Agostino	December 31, 2016	Officer 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade
Ali Muhammad	December 31, 2016	Officer 1 <sup>st</sup> Grade
Robert Chamra	December 31, 2016	Officer 1 <sup>st</sup> Grade
Lynne Galvez	December 31, 2016	Officer 1 <sup>st</sup> Grade

# PATROL DIVISION



The Patrol Division is the face of the Cranford Police Department. Uniformed officers operate marked radio cars twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week throughout the township. The vast majority of citizen/police encounters involve a patrol officer. They are responsible for responding as a first responder to all calls for service. Whether an in-progress crime, alarm, medical call, fire call, motor vehicle crash, civil dispute, disorderly person, domestic disturbance, after-the-fact crime reporting or EDP/mental health crisis, uniformed patrol officers are sent as the initial resource of the Cranford Police Department. The patrol officers are responsible for assessing the situation, requesting necessary additional resources, controlling and mitigating the immediate emergency and reporting on the incident. In cases of criminal and motor vehicle investigations, the patrol officer will document the initial report for follow up by an investigator from other divisions within the Department.

Equally as important as the Patrol Division response to calls for service are their crime prevention patrol strategies. The Cranford Police Department prides itself as being a proactive municipal law enforcement agency. Over half of all activity conducted by the patrol officer is self initiated, preventative patrol activities. For 2016, that equated to approximately thirty-thousand self initiated, proactive cases generated. This focus on an active patrol strategy directly contributes to the safe neighborhoods and streets enjoyed by the residents of Cranford.

The Patrol Division partners with the Traffic Bureau of the Community Support Services Division in emphasizing traffic enforcement throughout the community. Patrol Squads regularly conduct traffic safety and pedestrian safety checkpoints at targeted locations within the township. Additionally, individual patrol officers completed over 1,800 traffic enforcement details on municipal, county and state roadways.

Within the Patrol Division is the Field Training Unit. Coordinated by Lieutenant Craig Marino and Lieutenant Christopher Polito, the Field Training Unit is responsible for conducting a fourteen week coaching and mentoring program for recently graduated officers of the Police Academy. During the Field Training Period, Probationary Officers are assigned to Field Training Officers (FTO). The FTO and Probationary Officer are partnered as a two-man unit. Over the fourteen weeks, the Probationary Officer performs patrol duties while constantly being observed and coached by an experienced officer. At the end of the Field Training Period, the Probationary Officer will have successfully mastered 45 individual training tasks that cover all aspects of patrol responsibilities. In 2016, the Field Training Unit was extremely busy. Patrolmen Christian Pasternak, Ali Muhammad, Robert Chamra, Lynne Galvez, Shayne Temple, and Joseph Sherbo all successfully completed the Field Training Program.

The Patrol Division is the largest Division in the Cranford Police Department, falling under the Command of Captain Guy Patterson. It is comprised of two Platoons, each consisting of two Patrol Squads. Each Platoon is led by a Watch Commander, Lieutenants Craig Marino and Christopher Polito. Each Patrol Squad is led by a Sergeant, Sergeants Thomas Feeney, Frank Williams, John Swandrak, and Joseph Stulpin. A Desk Sergeant works a mid shift on each Platoon, Sergeants Eugene Perrotta and Steven Toy.

In 2016, the Patrol Division was staffed by twenty-seven Patrolmen, ten Communications Officers, six Sergeants and two Lieutenants.





# PATROL DIVISION

## 63,734 Total Calls for Service in 2016

### 19,997 calls for service involving traffic related activity including:

- 11,298 calls for service involving motor vehicle violations resulting in summonses/warnings
- 1,891 calls for service involving selective enforcement
- 885 calls for service involving crash investigations

### 17,491 calls for service for criminal related activity including:

- 7,223 calls involving proactive police patrols
- 2,018 calls involving suspicious persons/acts
- 1,650 calls involving burglary/trespass/alarms
- 528 calls involving disorderly conduct
- 192 calls involving warrant service
- 153 calls involving CDS activity

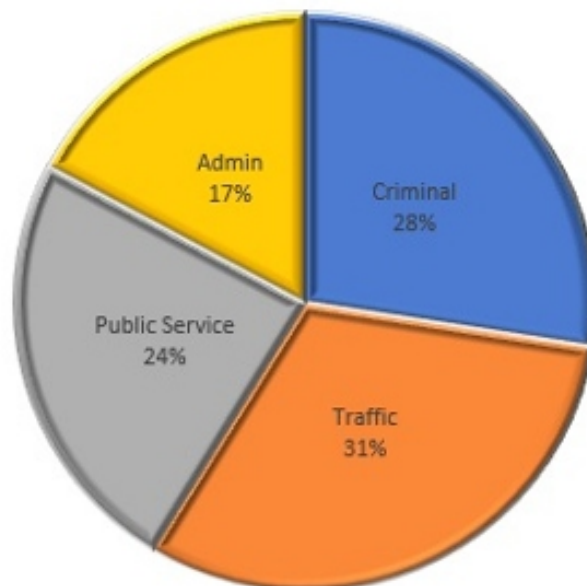
### 15,270 calls for service involving public service activities including:

- 4,323 building and public transportation facility inspections/patrols
- 2,659 calls for service for medical emergencies
- 2,571 school patrols/inspections
- 916 calls for service for fire emergencies
- 801 calls for service for public assists

### 10,976 calls for service involving administrative duties including:

- 9,806 miscellaneous activities
- 943 training assignments
- 227 Auxiliary Police and Police Explorer activities

Calls for Service - 2016



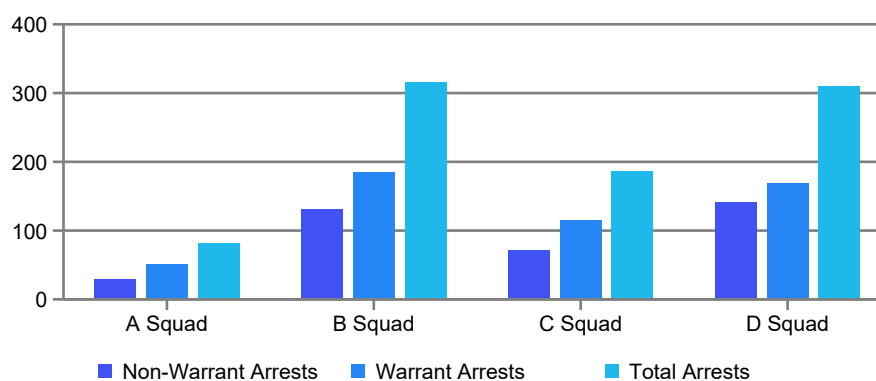
# PATROL DIVISION



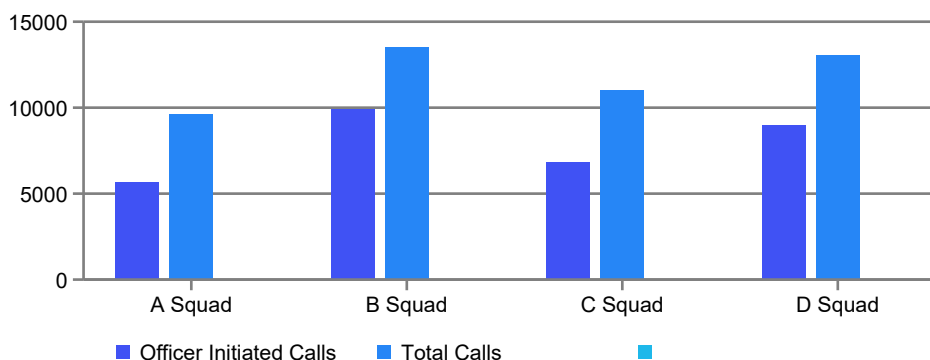
## 2016 Statistical Report by Squads

Squad	Non-Warrant Arrests	Warrant Arrests	Total Arrests	Officer Initiated Calls	Total Calls	% Self Initiated	% Resulting in Arrest
A	30	51	81	5,662	9,631	59%	1%
B	131	185	316	9,924	13,527	73%	2%
C	71	115	186	6,824	11,040	62%	2%
D	141	169	310	9,008	13,074	69%	2%
Total	373	520	893	31,418	47,272	66%	2%

### Arrests by Squad - 2016



### Calls for Service by Squad - 2016





# COMMUNICATIONS BUREAU

The Communications Bureau is part of the Patrol Division. The Communications Bureau provides twenty-four hour coverage of the Cranford Police Department's Communications Center. In 2016, Sergeants Eugene Perrotta and Stephen Toy were assigned as supervisors of the Communications Center. Each supervisor typically works from noon to midnight, providing coverage for both the night and day shifts.

The Communications Bureau is staffed by ten full-time Communications Officers. Communications Officers are specially trained civilian employees certified in Basic Telecommunications and Emergency Medical Dispatch through the NJ Office of Emergency Telecommunications Services (NJOETS). Communications Officers are the initial point of contact for most public interactions with the Cranford Police Department. Non-emergency calls for service typically begin with a phone call to the Communications Center. Communications Officers are tasked with determining the appropriate agency to provide assistance to the specific request and detailing resources. Emergency calls for service are typically received via the 9-1-1 system. The Communications Center has three active 9-1-1 Public Safety Answering Points (PSAP's). Each PSAP is capable of receiving 9-1-1 calls. Communications Officers are trained to provide lifesaving medical intervention instructions via the phone for those in need. In addition to handling telephone and 9-1-1 calls, Communications Officers are responsible for all radio transmissions from Police, Fire and EMS responders within Cranford. Through an existing inter-local agreement, the Cranford Police Communications Center provides these same services to Winfield Township.

A new DVR was purchased in the 2016 Capital Budget to allow better recording of the cameras installed at the Cranford Parking Garage. IN the next few years we will also need to upgrade/replace the cameras at the garage.



**Photo above,** Detective Sergeant Gerard Quinn in the Communications Center during the on-site Accreditation review in February 2016.



# INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION



In 2016 Detective Joseph Stulpin was promoted to Sergeant and assigned to the Patrol Division. Officers Thomas Stiansen and Timothy O'Brien joined the Detective Bureau as Detectives.

The Detective Bureau operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year and is responsible for conducting follow-up criminal investigations for a wide assortment of offenses, including but not limited to, narcotic violations, burglaries, thefts, robberies, sexual assaults, missing persons, child abuse, homicide, financial and identity thefts and other in depth or long term investigations. Detectives work in cooperation with other divisions of the Cranford Police Department, as well as other municipal, county, state and federal law enforcement agencies. Each detective is responsible to cover "on call" hours during weekends, overnight and holidays. This is done on a rotating basis to assure that no emergency occurs without the immediate availability of their specialized training and expertise.

Each member receives specialized training consisting of crime scene processing, evidence handling, interview and interrogation techniques, crime scene photography, gang interdiction, surveillance techniques and intelligence gathering, and other specific topics. Advances in computer technology have created a new realm of criminal activity for modern day law enforcement to deal with. White collar crime is now synonymous with the full range of frauds which are, typically, financially motivated and increasingly performed surreptitiously on the world-wide-web. Continuous training in these technological advancements is imperative and provides law enforcement with the tools needed to investigate crimes and capture modern criminals.

In 2016 the Detective Bureau was assigned 1,726 criminal investigations. These investigations included robberies, burglaries, sexual assaults, frauds, thefts, assaults, motor vehicle thefts, and narcotic distribution.



**Photo above,** Detective Lieutenant Stephen Wilde conducts a safety lecture for senior citizens in January.



# INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

2016 CLASS I OFFENSES BY MONTH													
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Homicide	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rape	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	3
Assault	2	2	2	1	4	2	2	2	1	3	2	5	28
Burglary	1	1	0	2	0	1	2	3	3	3	1	3	20
Theft	17	10	10	4	16	11	13	14	22	12	10	10	149
MV Theft	2	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	7
Arson	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>209</b>

CLASS I OFFENSES		
	2015	2016
Homicide	0	0
Rape	0	0
Robbery	1	3
Assault	34	28
Burglary	13	20
Theft	152	149
MV Theft	2	7
Arson	0	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>209</b>

ARRESTS		
	2015	2016
Adult	489	974
Juvenile	50	43
<b>Total</b>	<b>539</b>	<b>1017</b>

AGGRAVATED ASSAULT ON POLICE		
	2015	2016
	1	4

CASES ASSIGNED TO DETECTIVES		
	2015	2016
	1480	1726

CLASS II OFFENSES		
	2015	2016
Fraud	165	161
Stolen Property	2	1
Criminal Mischief	103	90
Weapons Offenses	10	6
Sex Offenses	2	4
Narcotics Invest.	245	156
Family Offenses	42	66
DWI	67	62
Liquor Offenses	3	4
Disorderly Conduct	695	716
Missing Persons	36	22
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1370</b>	<b>1288</b>



# SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER



## History of the School Resource Officer (SRO) Program

In August of 2014, the Cranford Police Department Administration took an innovative step towards better-engaging with Cranford's youth. With the success of an annual youth police academy, a robust corps of Police Explorers, and a large youth population in Cranford, the need to create a designated Juvenile Officer became evident.

As a result of attrition beginning in 2009, specialized divisions experienced reductions in manpower which directly impacted the former Juvenile Bureau. This led to the merging of the Juvenile Bureau with the Detective Bureau. During this merge, detectives became cross-trained to handle both traditional investigations and juvenile investigations. This reduced the Investigative Division manpower from six (6) detectives and three (3) supervisors to four (4) detectives and two (2) supervisors. When the police department began seeing its ranks restored during 2014, one of the department's top priorities was designating an officer to specifically handle juvenile matters. This led to the creation of a School Resource Officer or SRO. The success of the program largely contributed to the reintroduction of the Police Juvenile Bureau in September of 2015 in advance of the 2015-2016 school year.

In 1998, then-Governor Christie Todd Whitman enacted the "Safe School Resource Officer Program" or NJ-S.S.R.O.P. to better handle juvenile matters. This initiative was intended to combine the efforts of police departments and school districts to have a positive effect on youth, especially regarding acts of juvenile delinquency. Traditionally, juvenile matters were handled reactively, but the implementation of a SRO Program arguably works to reduce juvenile delinquency through the following means:

1. Building relationships
2. Handling minor offenses informally
3. Employing timely case-monitoring
4. Collaborating efforts of school principals, counselors, SAC's, and police
5. Ensuring that information flows evenly and consistently between school officials and police to keep discipline and good order of the schools
6. Informing students and staff of the role of police officers and the function of the legal system
7. Preventing juvenile delinquency through police omnipresence
8. Working towards school safety through emergency management planning and site assessment for vulnerabilities
9. Breaking down barriers between juveniles and police officers (by introducing police to students both in uniform and plainclothes)

## Shared Services Agreement: Cranford Police Department and Cranford BOE

The SRO Program in Cranford first began during the 2014-2015 School Year. This was the first year of a three (3) year "Shared Services" agreement between the Township of Cranford and the Cranford Board of Education. As part of the agreement, the Cranford Police Department will have an officer designated and trained as a "Safe Schools Resource Officer" assigned to the district to act as a liaison between both government agencies. In exchange for this arrangement, the Cranford Police Department SRO has a portion of the salary supported through



# SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER

---

the Cranford Board of Education Budget. As a result of this shared service agreement, cost-saving measures including cooperative purchasing, combined training, and resource pooling will act to save taxpayers money while avoiding financial redundancy.

The Cranford Public School System has eight (8) schools that the SRO covers on a daily basis Monday through Friday during school hours. The partnership between the police department and the Cranford Board of Education is further enhanced with the signing of a detailed Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). This document clearly outlines what police investigative information can be formally shared, informally discussed or acted upon while designating roles and responsibilities of both the police and school officials. This agreement formally allows for the police department to share vital information that reduces delayed police intervention or redundancy while providing consistent police-school responses to events involving juveniles and their families.

## **Achievements of Cranford Police SRO Program**

Since August of 2014, this partnership between the Township of Cranford and Cranford Board of Education fostered achievements in the following four (4) areas: Information Sharing, Providing Training, Implementing Necessary Changes and Improving Community Outreach.

### **In the area of Information Sharing, the SRO has:**

1. Meeting with each Principal prior to the school year to discuss policies, problem areas, and goals for the school year.
2. Being administrators on the district's "PowerSchool" program, allowing emergency access to information instantaneously.
3. Attending faculty meetings at each school to introduce members of the juvenile bureau to the community.
4. Annually attended all eight (8) "Back to School" nights throughout the district, introducing the Cranford Police Department to each schools' parents.
5. Received annual drill schedule for each school in the district. By law, each school must conduct the following drills:
  - a. Bomb threat
  - b. Evacuation
  - c. Active Shooter/Killer
  - d. Lockdown
  - e. Fire Drill
6. Working to update and influence the Emergency Action Plan (EAP) for the district, including each school's rally and reunification points during evacuation and displacement emergencies.
7. Incorporating the Patrol, Traffic, & Investigative Divisions into monthly school drills to demonstrate faculty, staff and student response during Active Shooter, Lockdown, Evacuation, and Bomb Threat incidents.
8. Established direct communication between each school Principal and the Cranford Police Department.
9. Ensured that each officer is outfitted with access keys and key fobs to each school to use during crises.

# SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER



## **Regarding the Training Provided to Principals, Schools, and Staff, the SRO has:**

10. Trained staff on usage of "Safe Schools" radio.
11. Participate in Administrative Council meetings with administrators from each school to discuss the:
  - a. New Jersey Drill Law.
  - b. Best practices on emergency responses to Active Shooter/Lockdown scenarios.
  - c. Project ALERT implementation.
12. Attended Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying (HIB) training to address district-wide policy on how to investigate allegations of bullying.
13. Created a monthly safety and security presentation for the "New Substitute Orientation" on-boarding at the Board of Education office.
14. Perform tabletop exercises at each school.

## **In order to Implement Necessary Changes, the SRO has:**

15. Replaced the D.A.R.E. Program with Project ALERT (Adolescent Learning Experience Resistance Training).
  - a. Program rolled-out to all 6<sup>th</sup> grade students during the 2014-2015 school year.
  - b. Program addresses medical marijuana, prescription pill abuse, inhalant abuse, social norms and self-pressure, and alcohol abuse.
16. Addressed suspected drug and alcohol activity occurring on the outskirts of Hillside Avenue School by issuing Patrol Alerts and working with school staff to breakdown "hang-out" place for teens.
17. Increased positive police presence at all schools, especially at Cranford High School, Orange Avenue School and Hillside Avenue School which host our largest population of students.
18. Appointed to study and recommend considerations for Active Shooter scenarios that encompass plain-speech techniques and components of A.L.I.C.E. (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate).
19. Evaluation of current district Emergency Action Plan (EAP) and emergency flip-chart for each school.
20. Assisted in modification of visitor rules at districts schools during school hours.
21. Became trained in "Site Assessment Evaluation" to determine vulnerabilities of each of the district's eight (8) schools.

## **In the interest of Community Outreach for our Students and Parents, the SRO:**

22. Attended meetings as member of the Joint Action Committee on Underage Substance Abuse, Cranford Municipal Alliance and the Juvenile Officers Association of Union County.
23. Participated in "Diversity Day" at Orange Avenue School, educating students about Bias Crimes and the law enforcement response to criminal acts of hate.
24. Presented cyber-safety presentation to the Captain's Council at Cranford High School, educating them on the pitfalls of social media for youth leaders.





# SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER

25. Worked with the Union County Prosecutor's Office, Union County Sheriff's Office, parents, students, school faculty and administrators to investigate and resolve a bomb threat occurring at Cranford High School within 4 hours. This resulted in no disruption of the school function and the successful prosecution of the accused juvenile.
26. Created and delivered presentations for the Criminal Justice classes at Cranford High School related to crime-scene processing.
27. Presented to students at Brookside Place School, Walnut Avenue School, Livingston Avenue School, and Bloomingdale Avenue School in uniform to build trust between police officers and children.
28. Developed and presented "police use of force" roundtable discussion with students in grades 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 to discuss the events leading to the nationwide protests about police-community relations.
29. Encountered approximately 800 Cranford School District Students in intimate groups of 25 students or less at a time to discuss age-appropriate topics including stranger danger, peer pressure, substance abuse awareness, juvenile law, cyber-safety/responsibility, drunk driving, and citizenship.
30. Developed a positive relationship with the Juvenile Conference Committee of Union County to improve programming for our Cranford youth.
31. Established direct contact and mentorships with juveniles whose parents contacted the School Resource Officer for guidance.



**Photo,** Red Ribbon Day (Drug & Alcohol Awareness) activities at Orange and Hillside Avenue Schools.

# SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER



**Photos,** May 2016 marked the kickoff to the Police and Teens Together (PATT) program at Cranford High School. This four day initiative piloted in Mrs Blau's Criminal Justice class, and allows for a complete, open and honest dialogue between Cranford teens and the officers who serve this township. The goal is to clear up myths, break down barriers, and reverse roles so officers and teens can understand and appreciate each other's perspectives.



The purpose of the Police and Teens Together (P.A.T.T.) program is to give students a voice to express how they feel about law enforcement while allowing for officers to learn their perception of the police. It also may be the first time they have encountered a police officer and the Cranford Police Department wants this experience to be a positive beginning to a healthy juvenile-police relationship. It is critically important to bridge the gap between teens and law enforcement. This four (4) day program was broken down as follows:

Day one (1) consists of an anonymous pre-survey on the teen's personal perspectives of law enforcement. This gives the teens an opportunity to ask questions about previous encounters with law enforcement as well as a police officer's action in certain scenarios.

Day two (2) allows for officers to introduce themselves to the teens by giving a personal summary of who they are as a person, demonstrating that they are more than just a person wearing a uniform and badge. They the teens are shown a dash-camera video of an officer who was on a "routine" traffic stop that quickly escalated and resulted in the officer being fatally shot and killed. This leads to a discussion about who we are as an officer, our experiences in the line of duty, and why officers tactically perform functions of their job a certain way. This day also consists of officers sharing experiences that they have encountered during their careers that paints a better picture of the daily dangers of law enforcement, even in Cranford.

Day three (3) consists of role-reversal motor vehicle stops and crowd control dispersal. The students play the role of the officer after they are given a brief scenario, and they then act on what limited information they were told about the scenario, much like the limited information a police officer receives from a dispatcher during a routine call for service.

Day four (4) is the final day of the P.A.T.T. Program. Students watch a brief video on a young boy speaking at his police officer father's memorial to show the personal after-effect of a law enforcement officer lost in the line of duty. Additionally, TV-35 recorded the role-reversal motor vehicle stops on Day three (3), and students are able to review how they did as the law enforcement officer. Students also watch a video of a day in the life of a police recruit training. Lastly, they take a post survey regarding the program and are given the opportunity on it to provide feedback. Each student was given a certificate of appreciate for their participation in the program.

This program was organized by Detective Kelly Rieder of the Cranford Police Department Juvenile Bureau. Detective Rieder is trained as a P.A.T.T. Instructor and acts as a School Resource Officer for the Cranford Police Department and Cranford Board of Education. Assisting the Cranford Police Department was Karen Positan of the Union County Prosecutor's Office and Sgt. Dennis Carovillano of the New Providence Police Department.





## **Background**

The Cranford Police Department has provided drug abuse resistance education, or D.A.R.E. programming, since the early 1990's. During this time, police officers have engaged in lessons and discussions with 5<sup>th</sup> grade students in the Cranford Public School District about the dangers of drug abuse.

D.A.R.E. was first introduced as a tool for law enforcement to interact with schoolchildren in 1983, more than 32 years ago. During the course of its existence, D.A.R.E. updated its programming to the current "Too Good For Drugs" program, adopted by New Jersey D.A.R.E. This was a ten (10) week program that intended to empower students with drug resistance techniques, while educating them of the consequences of such risky behavior.

According to one piece of research conducted by David Hansen, PhD., "as early as 1994 when analysts from the Research Triangle Institute published their findings, the word was out: On the measure of stemming teenage drug use, D.A.R.E. didn't work. Children who went through D.A.R.E. were no more likely to "say no" as adolescents than their uninstructed counterparts."

The Cranford Police Department has maintained D.A.R.E. programming because its core philosophy serves a purpose: To connect children with Cranford Police Officers in a positive, nurturing environment while combating a social crisis (drug abuse). The members of the Cranford Police Department agree that this is a necessary function of law enforcement, but that the need for programming must be met by a program that addresses current drug trends in our community while utilizing proven teaching methods to best motivate our students. D.A.R.E. and "Too Good For Drugs" does not meet these needs any longer.

## **Needs of the Cranford Community**

Over the course of the past decade, several high-profile local incidents of underage alcohol abuse have occurred, resulting in the arrest(s) and subsequent stationhouse adjustment of Cranford juveniles. The expose of these incidents' frequency indicated to the community and the Cranford Police Department that something shifted in social norms, and that our children began seeing underage consumption of alcohol as a rite of passage. Mandated educational programs for both affected juveniles and their parents were received positively while stakeholders in the community such as the Cranford Municipal Alliance and Prevention Links entered the arena to further educate our community. These efforts have been positive and have introduced our community to the concept of "true social norms".

Marijuana use was on the decline in the 1990's, but suddenly shifted in the mid 2000's. According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse, "Marijuana use by adolescents has been on the increase since then. In 2013, 7.0 percent of 8th graders, 18.0 percent of 10th graders, and 22.7 percent of 12th graders used marijuana in the past month, up from 5.8 percent, 13.8 percent, and 19.4 percent in 2008. Daily use has also increased; 6.5 percent of 12th graders now use marijuana every day, compared to 5 percent in the mid-2000s." Although research is still being conducted, the "acceptability" of using marijuana has been perceived by juveniles in light of states such as Colorado and New York legalizing its consumption and purchase for medicinal and recreational usage.

One of the most significant public health issues facing our community and the nation is the proliferation of Heroin. As a result of this, Cranford Police Officers have encountered calls regarding Heroin in such a steady increase, that its officers have been equipped with life-saving Narcan, a so-called "antidote" to Heroin and opioid



overdose. Most significant in this proliferation is that research has demonstrated most addiction to Heroin stems from individuals originally utilizing prescription opioid-based “pain” pills.

Lastly, the usage of cigarettes in Cranford by juveniles is still a problem, to the extent that the Cranford Health Department still employs its “underage decoy” program which attempts to thwart the sale of tobacco products to underage consumers in Cranford.

## **Scope of Program: Project ALERT at a Glance**

Project ALERT stands for **A**dolescent **L**earning **E**xperiences **R**esistance **T**raining. Its curriculum was created and tested by RAND, the nation’s leading think tank on drug policy. Developed over a ten-year period, Project ALERT addresses the pro-drug mindset of today’s teens and effectively increases their likelihood to remain drug-free. This program is a two (2) part curriculum; the first part is taught to sixth grade students as an eleven (11) week program to address the basics of drug and alcohol prevention, while the second part is taught to eighth grade students (who have already participated in the sixth grade curriculum) as a three (3) week booster program to take that foundation of knowledge and expand the discussion to other current drug trends and peer pressure struggles.

This curriculum transitions from lectures given by a teacher or police officer to participative learning. Students are asked to enter the classroom without heightened barriers in order to foster open, honest, and blunt discussions about drugs, alcohol, and peer pressures. Critical in this effort is setting the tone of a welcoming learning environment where students are asked to respect their classmates’ contributions to the group discussions while keeping discussions confidential.

## **Cost of Program Implementation**

The cost of this program’s implementation, supplies, videos, paperwork is free. All media, handouts, and training materials are provided and updated constantly on the Project ALERT website [www.projectALERT.com](http://www.projectALERT.com). Training for this program is also free and internet-based. This means that if the Cranford Board of Education wanted to have its school social workers, physical education staff, or 6<sup>th</sup> grade teaching staff involved in this process, training may be completed online and without time or cost constraints.

## **Success of Project ALERT**

Project ALERT has been adopted by numerous school districts and police departments nationwide and currently has over 500 trained instructors in New Jersey. In fact, Project ALERT is currently being utilized by the Los Angeles, California School System, which was the birthplace of D.A.R.E. Additionally, Project ALERT offers multiple means of implementation and assessment of its programming to ensure that Cranford’s adoption of this curriculum is seamless. These resources are available online.

While this program was originally intended for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders, Project ALERT staff recommends that program implementation suit the needs of your respective community. Cranford currently offers drug resistance education for 5<sup>th</sup> graders in the form of D.A.R.E., and topics encompassed in the Project ALERT curriculum are trends we have seen locally. These trends include drug and alcohol abuse, smoking cigarettes, and peer pressures. The implementation of this program for graduating 6<sup>th</sup> graders and incoming 8<sup>th</sup> graders ensures that we address two (2) critical age groups BEFORE problems fester. Additionally, this curriculum acts as the foundation for high school programming related to drug and alcohol abuse.

The most impressive part about this program is its focus on connecting gateway drugs to other illicit drug activity. For example, students are asked to detail the reason someone would abuse alcohol. After listing all of the reasons students believe their peers would abuse alcohol, students are asked to list the reasons why someone would use marijuana. The common theme is that underlying reasons exist for why students choose to abuse drugs and alcohol relating to peer pressure, social norms, and misinterpretation of common drug facts and statistics. Breaking down these “norms” through creative programming such as Project ALERT will hopefully shift mindsets of our adolescent students. This program provides an open and honest dialogue between students and law enforcement while encouraging a respectful, thoughtful learning process. The Cranford Police Department is confident that a program such as Project ALERT will positively benefit our community by combating drug and alcohol abuse and increasing awareness of its affects on our children and their future.

**Photos below,** School Resource Officers in the schools throughout 2016.





The Cranford PAL completed its 35th year of serving the youth of Cranford in 2016. The PAL continued to provide many positive activities for the youth, including football, cheerleading, flag football, boys and girls basketball, and wrestling. The PAL also continued to support the Union County Flag Rugby Program. The strength of the PAL is the dedication and support of the volunteers who give selflessly to the children, working to make a difference in their lives. We feel athletic participation instills certain desirable educational, social and personal values. This is just a few of the reasons the volunteers, parents, coaches and Cranford police officers involved with the PAL provide considerable financial, and administrative support to the program. The PAL continues to have a strong community following, having over 700 Cranford youth registered in their programs.

The PAL operated under the direction of Executive Director, D/Sgt. Matthew R. Nazzaro. Members of the PAL Board of Directors are: Honorary Chairman, Chief James Wozniak, Captain Guy Patterson (Treasurer), Lt. Christopher Polito (Vice President), Retired Lt. Bob Colaneri, Sgt. Frank Williams, Det. Steve D'Ambola, Det. Kelly Rieder, Officer Sean Holcomb, civilians Gregg Wheatley (President), Kim Capece, Jim Kwiatowski, John Oblachinski, Bob Bruns, Brian McGovern, Michael Plick, Andrea DaSilva, Jocelyn Alfandre, Kelly Howard, and Darren Torsone. These volunteers spend a tremendous amount of time making decisions and organizing programs that make the PAL a successful non-profit organization.

The PAL had six (6) football teams for 3rd through 8th grade athletes. Andrew Hooey, new football program director for the 2016 season, and Erik Rosenmeier, head football coach at Cranford High School, have maintained a strong working relationship. The Cranford PAL Program has been a key part of the recent success of the Cranford High School Football Team and acts as a feeder-system into the high school sports programs. This was apparent with The Cranford High School Football Team becoming State Champions this season. The CHS Football Staff and PAL football coaches exchanged information regarding offensive, defensive, and special team strategies. The extra time put in by all the coaches was rewarded by another successful season.

The Cheerleading program had four (4) squads this year. The participants are girls in 4th through 8th grade. The cheerleaders, under the guidance of program director, Jennifer Mooney and her coaches, invested many hours of practice during the season. The cheerleading squads provided both vocal and emotional support for the football teams throughout the year. The enthusiastic performance given every Sunday was evidence of their hard work and devotion to their sport. There were 100 girls registered for the program.

The PAL basketball program consisted of nine (9) teams, two of which participated in the Garden State Basketball League, the other seven teams participated in the newly formed JBA League. The boys program consists of five (5) teams, a 4th grade team, a 5th grade team, a 6<sup>th</sup> grade team, 7th grade team and an 8th grade team. The program has four (4) girls basketball teams for 5th through 8th grades. John Frieri, program director, provided valuable technical and strategic information to the coaching staff. He was invaluable in coordinating gym facility use for games and practices for all the basketball teams as well as arranging the tryouts and schedules for each team.

The wrestling program continued to grow in number of participants and in success on the mat. The program has approximately 85 wrestlers participating for the 2016/2017 season. The Program Director, Kevin Murray, and assistants Rob Kanterman and Andrew Hooey led the program, participating in the Central Jersey Wrestling League and the Passaic County Wrestling League, as well as the Middle School Wrestling Program.

The PAL again sponsored teams in the Cranford Baseball/Softball League, as well as supporting the Booster Club, The Cranford Rotary Club, Project Graduation, The St. Michael's Feast, The CAT Fund. The Cranford PAL joined





# POLICE ATHLETIC LEAGUE

forces with the Cranford High School Football Team and raised \$1000.00 for Breast Cancer Awareness and donated the money to the Susan B. Komen Breast Cancer Fund.

The P.A.L. also continued to support the Scholarship Fund it created in 2007. The fund was created in memory of Retired UCPO Lt. and long time Cranford resident/ PAL Board Member Lt. Glenn Owens. The Glenn Owens Scholarship is awarded to a Cranford High School student that participated in a PAL program. The amount of the scholarship is \$500 for each award.

In 2015, the PAL began construction of a new PAL Concession Stand and bathroom facility at the Memorial Field Sports Complex in conjunction with the Cranford Soccer Club (CSC). The facility was completed for the Fall 2016 season. The **photos on this page** show the completed snack stand.





# OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

The Professional Standards Unit manages these programs and responsibilities:

- Investigation of all Internal Affairs complaints involving Cranford Police Officers
- Examination and analysis of all complaints, and all other incidents, involving any discharge of a firearm not related to training, all use of force incidents resulting in injury to the suspect or a third party, all vehicular pursuits undertaken by members of the department, and all collisions involving department vehicles.
- Cranford Police Auxiliary liaison and training
- Management of the department's training programs to ensure compliance with local, county, state and federally-mandated requirements.
- 9-1-1 State-mandated operational and training requirements
- Alcohol Beverage Control (ABC) officer responsible for inspections and investigations related to all licensed establishments
- Domestic Violence liaison officer to the Union County Prosecutor's Office
- Investigation of personal and professional background information for all individuals seeking a position associated with the Cranford Police Department
- Investigation and processing of all firearms related applications
- Investigation of all taxi, limousine, solicitor, peddler, and raffle applications, and licensing
- Public presentations, regarding various aspects of law enforcement, to schools and organizations

The Professional Standards Unit of the Cranford Police Department manages and/or investigates all complaints against police personnel received from the public (external) or from another officer (internal), in accordance with the New Jersey Attorney General's Guidelines. Citizen complaints are accepted from anyone at anytime, including anonymous and third party complaints. While the public perception may be that Internal Affairs complaints against officers generally involve citizen complaints of criminal conduct by officers, in reality many complaints are originated internally by supervisory officers, and are related to infractions of rules, regulations, policies and procedures. Moreover, often the majority of the complaints received from the public are related to a citizen's dissatisfaction with the officer's demeanor during an interaction, such as a motor vehicle stop.

All complaints are examined with the utmost professional integrity and are classified into the following nine categories:

- |                           |                             |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Excessive Force        | 6. Domestic Violence        |
| 2. Improper Arrest        | 7. Demeanor                 |
| 3. Improper Entry         | 8. Other Criminal Violation |
| 4. Improper Search        | 9. Other Rule Violation     |
| 5. Differential Treatment |                             |

All allegations are investigated to their logical conclusion by experienced and specially trained investigators who analyze the incident in question. Completed investigations are forwarded to the Chief of Police for review with one of the following recommended final dispositions:

- Unfounded: The alleged incident did not occur.
- Exonerated: The alleged incident occurred, but the actions of the officer were justified, legal, and proper.
- Not Sustained: Investigation failed to disclose sufficient evidence to clearly prove or disprove the allegation.
- Sustained: The investigation disclosed sufficient evidence to prove the allegation.
- Administratively Closed: The complainant voluntarily requests that a complaint be withdrawn, the subject officer terminates his or her employment prior to final disposition of the complaint, or some other factor precludes investigators from concluding the investigation.

# OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

Allegations determined to be “Sustained” by the Chief of Police may result in one of the following actions or penalties:

- Counseling/Training
- Oral Reprimand
- Written Reprimand
- Suspension
- Loss of time off (i.e.: vacation time, compensatory time, Personal time)
- Transfer/Reassignment
- Monetary fine
- Loss of promotional opportunity
- Demotion
- Dismissal

The chart below depicts all of the complaints received by the Cranford Police Department Professional Standards Unit in 2016.

Type of Complaint	Anonymous Complaints	Citizen Complaints	Agency Complaints	Total Complaints
Excessive Force	0	0	0	0
Improper Arrest	0	0	0	0
Improper Entry	0	1	0	1
Improper Search	0	0	0	0
Other Criminal Violation	0	2	0	2
Differential Treatment	0	1	0	1
Demeanor	0	9	0	9
Domestic Violence	0	0	0	0
Other Rule Violation	2	5	38	45
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>58</b>



The chart below depicts that complaints concluded with a final disposition by the Cranford Police Department in 2016:

Type of Complaint	Sustained	Exonerated	Not Sustained	Unfounded	Admin Closed	Total Dispositions
Excessive Force	0	0	0	0	0	0
Improper Arrest	0	0	0	0	0	0
Improper Entry	0	1	0	0	0	1
Improper Search	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Criminal Violation	0	0	0	2	0	2
Differential Treatment	0	0	0	1	0	1
Demeanor	0	6	1	2	0	9
Domestic Violence	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Rule Violation	38	0	0	4	5	47
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>60</b>

\*\* The number of complaints received and the number of final dispositions may not be equal as investigations may commence before, and continue beyond, or conclude after, the reporting period.

The Professional Standards Unit files all required quarterly and yearly reports related to Internal Affairs complaints with the Union County Prosecutor's Office. Furthermore, the unit investigates and/or completes all required reporting regarding any use of force resulting in an injury to the suspect or a third party, discharge of a weapon not related to training, any vehicle pursuit involving a Cranford Police Officer, and any collision involving a department vehicle.

All complaints, investigations and final dispositions are monitored and evaluated, as part of the agency's early warning system, for indications of any need for additional training, assistance, or modification of existing policy and procedure. Lesson plans and in-service presentations are developed, and mandatory training is assigned, if a need is identified based upon requirements from the Union County Prosecutor's Office, New Jersey Attorney General, and other State and Federal authorities.



# TRAFFIC BUREAU

---

The Traffic Division is comprised of a division commander, three traffic detectives, two traffic maintenance personnel, two parking enforcement officers, and fifteen school crossing guards.

The Cranford Police Department Traffic Division utilizes the three "E's" of traffic safety (Education, Enforcement, and Engineering) to formulate a comprehensive traffic safety plan for the Township.

## **CRASHES**

Traffic personnel review every crash report written by patrol officers and conduct any follow up investigation that may be necessary. Each report is entered into a database program that allows us to identify trends around the township and determine crash causation. In addition, all crashes are pinned on a map of the township located in the Traffic Division office.

## **EDUCATION**

The Cranford Police Department works energetically to ensure safe practices by the users of our roadways through multiple "**education**" initiatives. Educational programs in the schools include such topics as Driving While Under the Influence, Teen Driving, Bicycle Rodeos, Bicycle Safety and Registrations, Pedestrian Safety, Don't Talk To Strangers, and Use of School Crossing Guards.

Other educational programs administered by the Traffic Division include the HERO Designate Driver Campaign, WHALE Child Safety Campaign, PACE Car Program, Keep Kids Alive Drive 25 Campaign and the Alive at 25 Parent Program.

Detective Steven D'Ambola and Detective Brian Wagner are responsible for organizing and conducting bicycle and pedestrian safety lectures as well as bicycle rodeos at every grammar school in Cranford.

Detective William Pietrucha also provides training to the school crossing guards every year.

Detective Lieutenant Edward Davenport, Detective Steven D'Ambola and Detective William Pietrucha provided training to local parents with the "Share the Keys" Teen Driving Program.

## **ENFORCEMENT**

The "**enforcement**" of our laws ensures that the education is carried out.

Detective Brian Wagner conducts selective enforcement assignments as one of his primary assignments within Traffic. The division also issues Traffic Enforcement Bulletins to the Patrol Division so they can focus their own selective enforcement efforts where they are needed most. When crashes occur, it is usually because of a type of careless operation. Due to the severe injuries that occur during high speed crashes, we are constantly enforcing the speed laws.

The department continues to use the Speed Trailer, Speed Dolly, and LED Speed Sentries on township roadways to alert drivers of their speed. After the trailer/dolly is on the roadway for a few days, it is then removed and followed up by radar enforcement. These signs are very effective in bringing speed compliance to neighborhood streets. In fact, studies have shown that use of these speed displays have a better and longer term effect on speeding than strictly enforcement.

The Traffic Division monitors the number of cars using a given roadway, their speeds, and vehicle classification by using its two JAMAR Traffic Counters. This data is used to focus our enforcement on the areas that need it most and during the times of the most frequent violations.

We also enforce bicycle violations and issue both summonses and warnings depending on the severity of the case. We impound bicycles that are unsafe or are being operated in an unsafe manner and also impound skateboards and other human powered devices that are operated in a careless manner.



The Department applied for and was awarded a number of enforcement grants from the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety in 2016 totaling \$15,000. The first was \$5,000 for "Click It or Ticket" efforts between May 23<sup>rd</sup> and June 5<sup>th</sup>. The Department also received two \$5,000 of grants money for the "Over the Limit, Under Arrest" DWI Enforcement program from August 19<sup>st</sup> to September 5<sup>th</sup> and December 9<sup>th</sup> and January 1<sup>st</sup> 2017.

## **ENGINEERING**

The Traffic Division is constantly looking for ways to make our roads safer. "*Engineering*" at certain intersections and roadways is found to be a cause of many traffic problems.

Data is collected from traffic counters, crash reports, intersection reviews, and citizen complaints in order to assist the Traffic Division in evaluating roadways or intersections for engineering changes. These changes can be as simple as better signage or pavement markings or can be as complicated as roadway widening or traffic signal installations.

## **Community Programs**

***PACE Car Program:*** This is a citizen based traffic calming program which supplements the department's Keep Kids Alive Drive 25<sup>®</sup> initiative. The goal of the Pace Car Program is to create safer Cranford streets by encouraging residents to proactively promote driver responsibility and roadway safety through an educational and awareness campaign. Residents participate in the Pace Car Program by pledging to drive safely and within the posted speed limits while displaying a KKAD25 vehicle magnet or bumper sticker on the rear of their vehicle. The magnets and stickers are provided free of charge to residents as the police department's thank you for helping to be part of the solution of safer streets and keeping our kids safe.

***Pedestrian Decoy Program:*** The Pedestrian Decoy Program is meant to educate drivers and pedestrians of the state's pedestrian safety laws. In addition to education, enforcement is used to reinforce driver observance of the Stop for Pedestrians law which was enacted on April 1<sup>st</sup> 2010 to replace the old Yield for Pedestrians law.

During details a police officer in plain clothes acts as the pedestrian and the other officers stop vehicles that fail to stop for the pedestrian. The program will ultimately improve driver compliance and pedestrian safety.

## **TRAFFIC COORDINATING COMMITTEE**

On a regular basis, safety meetings are held with members of the **Traffic Coordinating Committee**. This committee is comprised of members from the Police Department, Fire Department, Township Administrator's Office, Engineering Department, Department of Public Works, Board of Education, and the Downtown Management Corporation.

## **SCHOOL GUARDS**

During the 2015-2016 school year the Traffic Division was required to provide coverage at **141** school post assignments due to school guards failing to report for duty for either personal or medical reasons. During this calendar year, a total of **181** public/parochial school days occurred of which **82** did not require members of the police department to fill in for a school guard. These posts were covered by reserve school guards, the parking enforcement officer, and sworn personnel.

## **OTHER DUTIES**

Lieutenant Edward Davenport's responsibilities include assigning selective enforcement details, scheduling, traffic maintenance planning, ordinance development, purchasing bids and quotes, managing the Cranford Police Cooperative Pricing Program, traffic safety grants, site plan reviews, and testifying at township board and committee meetings. One major responsibility that keeps them busy is the filling of extra duty assignments. In 2016 the Traffic Division coordinated and filled **801 off duty jobs**. These jobs include traffic control at township festivals and construction zones, as well as security at private events.





# TRAFFIC BUREAU

---

Lieutenant Davenport maintains the responsibility of Fleet Manager and is in charge of making sure the police vehicle fleet is maintained by Traffic Maintenance personnel. He is also responsible for vehicle equipment and upgrades to the equipment.

Lieutenant Davenport is a member of the Traffic Coordinating Committee, Parking Advisory Committee, Union County Traffic Officers Association, New Jersey Police Traffic Officers Association, New Jersey Association of Accident Reconstructionists, and is a Notary Public.

Detective Pietrucha has the responsibility of vehicle impounds and obtaining junk titles on all vehicles not claimed. New Jersey State Statute requires that any vehicle held for more than 20 business days be auctioned. This requires him to send certified mail to all owners/lien holders requesting they respond to pick up their vehicle otherwise it will be sold at auction. In 2016, **312 vehicles** were towed and one Vehicle Auction was held. Detective Pietrucha is in charge of advertising, setting up, and running the department's car, and equipment auctions and Detective D'Ambola is in charge of the bicycle auction.

Also, Detectives D'Ambola, Pietrucha and Wagner are responsible for the data entry of the daily crash reports and vehicle reports. Detective Pietrucha is responsible for School Crossing Guard training and payroll.

Detective D'Ambola is a members of the Union County Traffic Officers Association, New Jersey Police Traffic Officers Association, Cranford Bicycle Safety Board, and is a Notary Public. He is also responsible for the in car video camera systems, and is a certified Child Passenger Seat Technician.

Detective Pietrucha is responsible for the portable radio maintenance and assists in managing fleet maintenance. In addition, Detective Pietrucha coordinates the purchase, installation, maintenance, and repair of the mobile personal computers (MPC) in the radio cars. He is also a certified Child Passenger Seat Technician. Detective Pietrucha is a member of the Union County Traffic Officers Association, New Jersey Police Traffic Officers Association, and is a Notary Public.

Detective Wagner is responsible as the primary enforcement officer for radar assignments and targeted selective enforcement in areas that have been analyzed and deemed to be in need of extra enforcement. Detective Wagner also is primary contact for outside companies who hire off duty officers for traffic details. He enters the jobs and fills the assignments with officers.

The Traffic Division coordinates all of the maintenance and repair of portable and mobile police radios. All insurance claims related to police vehicles, Victorian street lights, parking garage lights, traffic lights, and traffic signs are handled by Traffic Division personnel as well.

The 58 on-street parking meters and 46 digital pay stations are maintained and collected by Traffic Maintenance personnel. The central pay stations allow for easier maintenance, collection, and security.

A central parking system server allows us to monitor payment, violations, and status at all pay stations. All pay stations connect via a cellular connection to the server and report use as well as any malfunctions as they happen. Parking enforcement personnel carry a tablet with web access that reports real time use of the lots. A quick glance at the tablet displays expired meters as well as meter malfunctions.

Members of the Traffic Division are on call on a rotating basis in order to provide 24 hour a day, 365 days a year coverage in the event of a serious or fatal motor vehicle accident. Each Detective is on call for two weeks at a time with the Lieutenant providing 24/7 coverage as needed.



Cranford hosts dozens of productions for commercials, television shows, and movies in a given year. All coordination between the township and production companies was done by the Traffic Division. This included arranging for extra duty police officers, street closings, special parking, security, and more.

## **TRAFFIC MAINTENANCE**

As is the case every year, Traffic Maintenance personnel were busy in 2016. They are responsible for the maintenance and repair of all vehicles in the police department fleet; vehicle equipment installation; street sign maintenance and installation; maintenance and repair of 16 traffic signal intersections and 5 flashing lights; crosswalk and centerline painting; meter maintenance and collection; maintaining approximately 400 Victorian lights; bicycle rodeo setup; traffic counter placement; Speed Trailer placement; parking garage lighting; and much more. Traffic Maintenance personnel are also on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week in case of storms, power outages, and traffic light damage/ maintenance.

In the 2016 Capital Budget we were able to purchase a new Paint Machine, Tire Changer & Balancer, Defibrilators, and Pick Up Truck (due in 2017) for the Traffic Maintenance section. In addition, with a grant award we were able to purchase three (3) additional light tower trailers, portable generators, and portable lights.

## **Member of the Traffic Division over the last year were:**

Detective Lieutenant Edward R. Davenport  
Detective William Pietrucha  
Detective Steven D'Ambola  
Detective Brian Wagner

## **Civilian Personnel included:**

Ralph Gregson, *Parking Enforcement (retired in January)*  
Arthur Kennedy *Parking Enforcement*  
Charles Fette, *Traffic Maint.*  
Joseph Corbisiero, *Traffic Maint.*  
Liam Duffy, *Summer Traffic Maint.*  
Ryan Fitzpatrick, *Summer Traffic Maint.*



**Top Photo**, motor vehicle roll over on Springfield Avenue, July 1, 2016. **Bottom Photo**, 2016 School Guards.



# SCHOOL SAFETY

---

An important safety measure in our school zones is the use of school crossing guards. We once again, salute them and extend our sincere appreciation for a job well done in protecting our most precious possessions. Rain or shine we can always be assured that these dedicated people will be on the job!

In 2016, we lost a few of our long time Guards. James Desidero, appointed May 2010 and retired June 2016. Lawrence Docimo, appointed September 2013 and retired September 2016. Deborah Saenger, appointed February 2009 and retired June 2016. Deb moved out of state and intends to continue serving as a crossing guard when she settles down. We wish them all the best of luck.

In order to fill the posts of retired guards in September 2016, Dennis Armento was elevated to full time status. Aron Tsin, and Anna Kravetz were hired as reserve guards. Following a training period, both were elevated to full time status.

To meet the need for reserve guards, Phillip Andrews and Vincent Ditta were hired in September 2016. We look forward to working with both of them in the coming years.

As with all programs offered by the Cranford Police Department, the School Safety Program is constantly analyzed and adjusted as needs change. This year no school posts were added or deleted from the roster. As always, we wish all of our former school guards luck in their future endeavors.

Below is a list of guard positions as of the end of 2016.

## SCHOOL CROSSING GUARDS - 2016

Robert Bell	Brookside Place/Spruce Street
Elizabeth Erdody	Hillside Avenue Tunnel
Dennis Armento	Orange Avenue/Wadsworth Terrace
Beatriz Grasso	Denman Road/Culin Drive
Aron Tsin	West End Place/Spruce Street
Richard Maier	Springfield Avenue/West End Place
Nazaire Jennings	Centennial Avenue/Hillside Avenue
Joseph Lopes	Alden Street/Miln Street
Anna Kravetz	Denman Road/Livingston Avenue
Betty Mobley	Walnut Avenue/Blake Avenue
Roy Torrigiani	Bloomington Avenue/Albany Street
Leonard Messner	North Lehigh Tunnel
Tom D'Agostino	Brookside Place / Orchard Street

## RESERVE GUARDS

Caryn Armstrong  
Phillip Andrews  
Vincent Ditta





## Reportable Crashes

Type	2015		2016		% Change
	Crashes	Fatal	Crashes	Fatal	
Motor Vehicle vs. Motor Vehicle	80	0	99	0	24%
Motor Vehicle vs. Fixed Object	6	0	10	0	67%
Motor Vehicle vs. Pedestrian	15	1	10	0	-33%
Motor Vehicle vs. Bicyclist	7	0	4	0	-43%
Motor Vehicle vs. Parked Vehicle	7	0	3	0	-57%
Other	1	0	0	0	-100%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9%</b>

## Non-Reportable Crashes

Type	2015	2016	% Change
Motor Vehicle vs. Motor Vehicle	415	444	7%
Motor Vehicle vs. Fixed Object	51	42	-6%
Motor Vehicle vs. Pedestrian	1	1	0%
Motor Vehicle vs. Bicyclist	2	4	100%
Motor Vehicle vs. Parked Vehicle	164	154	-18%
Other	7	10	43%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>640</b>	<b>655</b>	<b>2%</b>

## Injuries from Crashes

Type	2015	2016	% Change
Transported to Hospital	56	63	13%
Complaint of Pain (RMA)	95	109	15%
Fatality	1	0	-100%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>13%</b>



# MOTOR VEHICLE VIOLATIONS

The following is a comparative classification of motor vehicle violations between the period of January 2016 and December 2016 with the same period in 2015.

VIOLATION	2015	2016
Speeding	135	342
Stop Sign	29	45
Careless Driving	263	316
Reckless Driving	7	12
Driving Under The Influence	66	62
Open Container In Vehicle	29	30
CDS In Motor Vehicle	157	169
Wrong Way on One Way Street	4	4
Traffic Signal	70	86
Improper Passing	46	23
Illegal Turns	140	103
Obstructing Traffic	88	198
Driving While On Cell Phone	62	83
Unlicensed Driver	122	104
Revoked Driver	386	395
Unregistered Vehicle	169	190
Uninsured Motorist	42	20
Failure to Exhibit Documents	536	664
Leaving The Scene Of An Accident	38	35
Fictitious/Obstructed Plates	340	496
Maintenance Of Lamps	653	724
Seatbelt Violations	576	657
Safety Glass Violations	503	495
Inspection Law	137	136
Failure to Stop for Pedestrians	8	42
Other Moving Violations	396	231
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>5,002</b>	<b>5,662</b>

# PARKING VIOLATIONS



The following is a comparative classification of parking violations between the period of January 2016 and December 2016 with the same period in 2015.

VIOLATION	2015	2016
Meter Parking	3,608	5,622
Permit Parking	429	504
Restricted Hours	1006	931
Improper Parking	223	448
Overnight Parking	274	199
Fire Zone	47	34
Handicap Parking	19	29
Meter Feeding	0	2
Failure to Park Off Roadway	0	55
Unattended Vehicle	0	7
Within Intersection	128	154
Parked On A Crosswalk	6	6
Blocking A Driveway	18	9
25' of A Crosswalk	156	161
Parked On A Sidewalk	2	4
Posted "No Parking" Zone	230	16
50' of A Stop Sign	91	88
10" of A Hydrant	8	30
Double Parking	0	0
Other Parking Violations	51	25
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>6,296</b>	<b>8,324</b>



Photos at left, traffic maintenance personnel Charlie Fette and Joseph Corbisiero working on school pedestrian crossing sign in front of Walnut Avenue School.





# CLICK IT OR TICKET

The Cranford Police Department received \$5,000 in grant money from the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety for seatbelt enforcement during the national “Click It or Ticket” campaign. The goal of the program is to increase seatbelt usage rates through education and enforcement.

New Jersey reported 562 fatalities in 2015, and a large percentage of the motor vehicle occupants killed in these traffic crashes were not wearing a safety belt. The use of a safety belt remains the most effective way to avoid death or serious injury in a motor vehicle crash.

This year’s “Click It or Ticket” Mobilization was conducted from May 23, 2016 to June 5, 2016. The department conducted two seat belt checkpoints and additional hours of focused roving patrols utilizing overtime, patrol, and traffic personnel. In addition, we conducted 20 hours of night time enforcement due to statistics pointing to very low seat belt use in the evening. A total of 100 hours of overtime were utilized, which was reimbursed by the grant. Below is a summary of the department’s enforcement efforts.

Total Seatbelt Violations:	59
All Other Violations:	177
<b>TOTAL SUMMONSES DURING THE MOBILIZATION:</b>	<b>236</b>

In addition to the summonses issued arrests included 51 for drug possession and/or felony/warrant arrests. A post survey of seat belt usage showed a 95% compliance rate on Cranford roadways.



Photo above, left to right, Patrolmen Michael Dubitsky and Robert Jordan.

# DRIVE SOBER OR GET PULLED OVER



The Cranford Police Department participated in the national end of summer “Drive Sober, Get Pulled Over” 2016 Statewide Crackdowns. The goal of the program is to decrease incidents of drunk driving through education and enforcement.

From August 19<sup>th</sup> to September 5<sup>th</sup> 2016, the Cranford Police Department stepped up impaired driving enforcement as part of New Jersey’s end of summer *Drive Sober, Get Pulled Over 2016 Statewide Crackdown*. The department received a \$5,000 grant from the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety for 100 hours of overtime enforcement.

The summer driving season, which concludes with the Labor Day holiday, is traditionally a time for social gatherings, which often include alcohol. The goal of the program is to raise awareness about the dangers of drinking and driving through high-visibility enforcement, and to arrest motorists who choose to drive while impaired by drugs or alcohol.

From December 9, 2016 through January 1, 2017 the Department stepped up impaired driving enforcement as part of *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over 2016 Year End Crackdown*. The department also received a \$5,000 grant from the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety for 100 hours of overtime enforcement during this holiday year end period.

The department conducted roving patrols utilizing patrol and overtime personnel during both mobilizations. Below is a summary of the department’s enforcement efforts for each.

## **TOTAL PRODUCTIVITY DURING THE MOBILIZATION:**

	8/19/16 - 9/05/16	12/09/16 - 1/01/17
DWI Arrests	4	6
Drug Arrests	15	17
Indictable/ Warrant Arrests	33	46
Summonses	215	328



# MOTORIZED EQUIPMENT

---

The Cranford Police Department's motorized equipment presently consists of 49 units; eleven cars, fifteen sport utilities, two motorcycles, three traffic trucks, five military surplus vehicles, one command post, one electric vehicle, two trailers, two boats, one trailer -mounted generator, one stage, four light towers, and a variable message board. Below is a list of these vehicles:

2	1988 American General Humvee
1	1990 American General Humvee
2	1991 BMY Harsco 5 Ton Truck
1	2009 BMY Harsco Command Post
1	2010 Harley Davidson Motorcycle
1	1995 Harley Davidson Motorcycle
5	2012 Dodge Charger
1	2013 Ford Utility Police Interceptor 4X4
6	2014 Ford Utility Police Interceptor 4X4
6	2016 Ford Utility Police Interceptor 4X4
1	2010 Lincoln MKX
1	2010 Chevrolet Tahoe 4X4
1	2010 Dodge Charger
1	2010 Ford Police Interceptors
2	2008 Ford Police Interceptors
1	2006 Ford Police Interceptors
1	2015 Ford F-450 Super Duty Bucket Truck
1	2001 Ford F-450 Super Duty Platform Truck
1	1999 Ford F-250 Super Duty Pick-up Truck
1	1998 Toyota Camry
1	2013 T3 Motion
1	2001 Zodiac Boat
1	2015 Zodiac ERB380 Boat
1	2001 Load Rite Boat Trailer
1	2003 Kristi Utility Trailer
1	2009 AMD Portable Light Tower
1	2012 Precision Solar Controls Message Board Trailer
1	1995 Utility Tool & Body Stage
1	1995 Utility Tool & Body Generator
3	2016 Allmand Light Tower

A total of **258,797 miles** were traveled by motorized equipment during the year of 2016. Vehicles were serviced approximately every 3,000 miles and were cleaned and washed on average of once a week.





The number of alcohol related accidents resulting in both fatal and serious injuries continues to be a major focal point for law enforcement throughout the country. Despite the major changes made in New Jersey's DWI laws, the news media continually reminds us of the deadly consequences of driving while under the influence of alcohol and/or illicit drugs. On the local level we are not immune to this problem. During the year 2016 we had in Cranford **thirteen (13) accidents (five (5) involving injury)** directly attributed to drunk drivers. There has been a **decrease** in the number of alcohol related accidents over the **eighteen (18)** we had in 2015. In order to decrease this number, the Cranford Police Department will continue to aggressively seek out and arrest those that would drive through our community while under the influence of alcohol and/or illicit drugs.

Our officers are aware that there are certain medical conditions that mimic the behaviors of a drunk driver. Because of this it becomes necessary to have highly trained officers that are capable of detecting those drivers that are under the influence of alcohol and/or narcotics and those whose actions may be caused by one of several common medical conditions. This is where the use of Standardized Field Sobriety Testing and breath test machines such as the Alcotest 7110 MK III-C play a significant role in aiding the officer in making a determination as to whether or not someone is under the influence of alcohol and/or illicit drugs, or is perhaps suffering from a medical condition.

The Alcotest 7110 MK III-C is an instrument that measures the alcoholic content of a person's blood through analysis of a breath sample. The *Alcotest* is a computerized instrument that uses two different measuring systems to analyze breath alcohol. Infrared spectroscopy and electro-chemical cell technology are both used in conjunction with technologically advanced computer technology to obtain highly accurate breath test readings.

Upon the conclusion of 2016 the department had **twenty-two (22)** officers certified as Alcotest 7110 MK III-C operators, all of whom were trained by the Office of the Attorney General of the State of New Jersey. Instruction on Field Sobriety Testing as well as the Alcotest is conducted solely by the New Jersey State Police Alcohol/Drug Test Unit. Currently the following officers are qualified to administer breath tests:

Det./Lt. Stephen Wilde	Sgt. Eugene Perrotta	Det. Steven D'Ambola
Det./Lt. Edward Davenport	Sgt. John Swandrak	Ptl. Michael Andrews
Lt. Craig Marino	Sgt. Steven Toy	Ptl. Thomas Bell
Lt. Christopher Polito	Sgt. Russell Luedecker	Ptl. Brian Wagner
Det./Sgt. Ryan Greco	Det. Spencer Durkin	Ptl. John Colineri
Det./Sgt. Matthew Nazzaro	Det. William Pietrucha	Ptl. Chris DiFabio
Sgt. Thomas Feeney	Det. Derek Farbanec	Ptl. John Rattigan
Sgt. Frank Williams		

As in previous years this agency stressed to our officers the need to detect and apprehend those driving while intoxicated. During the year **2016** these efforts resulted in **sixty-two (62)** arrests being made for Driving While Intoxicated within the Township of Cranford. Of the **62** arrests, **12** refused to submit to breath testing, **4** gave urine and **4** had blood drawn. This shows a **6%** decrease from the **sixty-six** arrests made in the year **2015**. The Department's Drug Recognition Expert (DRE), Detective Steven D'Ambola, was called out to perform an evaluation for **one (1)** subject.

As we move forward into the year **2016** the citizens of our community can rest assured that we will continue our aggressive enforcement practices. We will continue to send a strong message to those that would violate our drunk driving laws that will be arrested should they drive through our community. A part of New Jersey's DWI laws pertains directly to those drivers under the legal drinking age of 21. This law states that anyone under the legal drinking age of 21 can be charged if their blood alcohol level is anywhere between .01% to .07%. This in essence means that anyone under the legal drinking age who consumes as much as one drink and is caught driving can be charged with DWI. In **2015 one (1)** driver was charged under this law. This number **has remained the same for 2016**.



## DWI PROGRAM

---

Another portion of New Jersey's DWI laws pertains directly to those operating commercial vehicles. Any operator of a commercial vehicle with a weight over 26,001 lbs that has a blood alcohol reading of .04% or more can be charged with driving while under the influence. There has been **one (1)** arrest made within the township under this law in **2016**, up from zero (0) arrests made in 2015.

Despite the lowering of the BAC to .08%, we continue to believe that one of the most important programs in reducing the number of drunk drivers on our roadways has been that of educating the public on the hazards of driving while under the influence. During 2016 the department continued its educational program at Cranford High School in conjunction with the driver education instructor Mr. Gene Millano. This program has been conducted for the past *twenty six* years. The day is dedicated to our officers giving a slide/lecture presentation on alcohol related accidents which have occurred within the township over the past several years. The officers give the students a review of New Jersey Drunk Driving Laws and the consequences they would face if charged for D.W.I. Afterwards the officers have had some very lively discussions with the students on the laws and penalties involved with drinking and driving, especially those related to the underage driver. We also, during these sessions, receive so very positive input from the students on both our enforcement and educational programs.

The department also participated in the township's spring and fall festivals in the downtown area as well as National Night Out. During these events officers displayed photographs of alcohol related accidents within the township and surrounding communities, and handed out literature on traffic safety. The officers also gave away hundreds of pens, pencils, and bumper stickers all with drunk driving awareness slogans on them. These items were all purchased through grant monies received through a special DWI fund set up by the state which is funded through fines levied against those convicted of DWI.

The department used two extra enforcement initiatives to augment patrol efforts in enforcing DWI within the township. The Extra DWI Patrol Programs have been in place since 1988. In 2016 we participated in the Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over program sponsored by the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety. The extra patrol program consists of putting extra patrols out on selected weekends (usually holidays) with the specific assignment of detecting and apprehending drivers who are under the influence. Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over **2016** Statewide Crackdown, is a campaign that ran from **August 19, 2016** through **September 5, 2016**. During this eighteen day period, officers assigned to this campaign made **four (4)** DWI arrest(s) and issued (**215**) summonses for various violations. Driver Sober or Get Pulled Over **2016** Year End Crackdown campaign ran from **December 9, 2016** to **January 1, 2017**. During this **twenty-three** day period, officers assigned to this campaign made **six (6)** DWI arrests and issued (**328**) summonses for various violations.

On September 2, 2016, the Department conducted a DWI Motor Vehicle Checkpoint. The checkpoint was conduct at the intersection of North Avenue and the Garden State Parkway after analyzing historical data of the most frequent dates, times, and locations of DWI arrests within the Township. Staffing the checkpoint were 16 regular officers. The checkpoint resulted in one (1) warrant arrest, one (1) possession of CDS arrest, and two (2) Driving While Intoxicated Arrests. A total of twenty-nine (29) summonses were issued for various violations.

In the coming year we will continue to provide educational programs by way of lectures and demonstrations on the hazards of drunk driving to the various religious, civic, and educational organizations within the community. In conjunction with these educational programs we will continue to vigorously enforce the drunk driving laws of our state utilizing patrol and additional enforcement activities.

The problem of drinking and driving is one that continues to demand constant attention. It is only through the combined efforts of education and enforcement that we will continue to strive for a reduction in the senseless and too often tragic accidents that occur on our roadways. The citizens of our community can be assured that the men and women of the Cranford Police Department will do everything in their power to ensure that the streets of our community remain some of the safest in which to live, play, work, and drive in the nation.



Detective Sergeant Gerard Quinn commanded the Records Bureau until his retirement on May 31, 2016. Detective Sergeant Russell Luedecker was assigned to the Records Bureau on March 1, 2016 and took over command June 1, 2016. They are assisted by two civilian records clerks, Jean McComb and Janet Spricigo. Jean McComb has been assigned to the Records function for over 29 years; Janet Spricigo is in her third year.

The Records Bureau has a number of different responsibilities. One of the primary responsibilities is records management. Every report or document generated within the Cranford Police Department gets processed through the Records Bureau for data entry, filing and quality assurance. By law, the Cranford Police Department is required to maintain each and every record for a specified amount of time and provide for public access to these reports under the provisions set forth in the Open Public Records Act. Reports are also provided to attorneys under the rules of discovery for judicial proceedings, the Family Court in domestic violence cases, and other Township entities when required by law (e.g. dog bite incidents are referred to the Health Department. The Records Bureau also manages criminal record expungements, and the submission of criminal arrest data to the New Jersey State Police and the Federal Bureau of Investigation through monthly Uniform Crime Reports.

The bureau function that generates the largest amount of revenue is the sale and management of parking permits. Cranford's reputation as a commuter town, in close proximity to New York City, Newark Airport and various institutions of higher learning, and with easy access to mass transit, has led to significant demand for parking in the downtown area. The Cranford Police Department sells 12-hour commuter parking permits (\$600/year), 9-hour business parking permits (\$500/year), and overnight downtown resident parking permits(\$200/year). Free permits are also offered to verified residents restricted parking zones throughout the Township.

In addition to permits, the Records Bureau also sells smartcards to local residents and business owners. Purchasers can use credit cards or cash to load a set value on the cards, which are then accepted for payment at the various pay stations in the downtown area. In 2016, the Records Bureau generated \$364,205.95 in parking related revenue.

Another responsibility assigned to the Records Bureau is management and enforcement of the Cranford Police Department's alarm registration and monitoring program. Chapter 55 of the Township Code requires all residents to register their burglar and fire alarm systems with the Cranford Police Department. Residents or businesses utilizing a third party monitoring service pay an initial rate of \$40, followed by an annual \$25 renewal fee. Accounts that are programmed to dial into the Cranford Police Department's direct alarm monitoring system are charged \$95 for residential accounts and \$200 for business accounts. The direct monitoring system was upgraded in 2014, and includes state of the art Security Information Systems Alarm Center software, and two Bosch alarm receivers that provide a redundant system in the event of a technical failure. In 2016, alarm registration was responsible for \$38,357.50 in revenue. False alarm billing resulted in an additional \$415.00.

The Records Division also collects revenues from and manages Firearms Purchaser Identification applications, handgun purchase permits, and permit to carry applications. Firearms permits are processed according to guidelines set forth by the New Jersey State Police, the Division of Criminal Justice and the New Jersey Administrative Code. Firearms related permits generated \$814.00 in revenue.

Firearms Purchaser ID Card Applications	95
Handgun Purchase Permit Applications	281
Permit to Carry Applications	2
Replacement/Duplicate ID Card Applications	31

Fingerprinting of local residents federal background checks, bicycle licensing and the online sale of police accident reports also generate revenue. The Cranford Police Departments Detective Bureau provides fingerprinting services on Tuesdays for persons that need to submit their fingerprints out of state or to the federal government only. The Cranford Police





# RECORDS BUREAU

Department provides this service for a fee of \$5.00 for residents and generated a yearly total of \$127.00. The Cranford Police Department is partnered with the National Bike Registry to offer residents discounted bicycle licenses. These licenses are sold for \$4.00 each and are valid for ten years. In 2016, the total revenue from bike license sales was \$661.00. The sale of police accident reports generated an additional \$2,885.60. Finally, solicitor and peddler permits generated an annual revenue total of \$1,025.00.

The total revenue generated by the Cranford Police Department Records Bureau in 2016 was **\$413,106.63.**

In addition to traditional records management and permitting functions, Sergeant Quinn and then Sergeant Luedecker are also the Information Technology officer and system administrator for the various in-house computer systems used by the police department (computer aided dispatch, GIS mapping, video and audio monitoring systems, police radio equipment, mobile data terminals, etc). He is also the Terminal Agency Coordinator (TAC Officer) and is responsible for maintenance, training and review of the National Crime Information Center, Criminal Justice Information System, Computerized Criminal History and NCIC2000 law enforcement computer systems.



**Photo above,** motor vehicle vs. pedestrian crash at Centennial and South Avenues in November 2016.



Cranford Police Officers receive their initial, mandatory training and certification at the John H. Stamler Police Academy. Upon graduation, the new officer enters our Field Training Program wherein they are teamed with a more seasoned, certified, Field Training Officer (FTO). During the next 14 weeks, the FTO functions as a mentor guiding the new officer through the practical application of policy, procedure, and tactics, accomplishing specific training tasks within the framework of response to actual calls and performance of duties in the community.

The New Jersey Attorney General mandates semi-annual training in firearms, use of force and vehicular pursuit as well as annual training regarding domestic violence, bloodborne pathogens, hazardous materials, and right to know information regarding hazardous materials. Throughout their careers, all personnel attend training updates and programs in a broad spectrum of courses, seminars, and in-house presentations. Cranford Police Department personnel completed the following training in 2016:

## **Julia Aduato**

Basic Telecommunicator Course (BTC)  
Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD)  
Fire Scene Training for Police

## **Michael Andrews**

Active Shooter  
CPR/Defib Recertification  
Fire Scene Training for Police

## **Andrea Azzarello**

CPR/Defib Recertification  
Fire Scene Training for Police

## **Thomas Bell**

Active Shooter  
CPR/Defib Recertification  
M4 Qualifications  
Fire Scene Training for Police

## **Megan Berry**

Stress Management  
CPR/Defib Recertification  
Counter Terrorism Issues for Dispatch

## **Matthew Blanck**

Fire Scene Training for Police

## **Robert Chamra**

Radar Operator Certification  
Fire Scene Training for Police

## **Robert Colaneri**

CPR/Defib Recertification

## **John Colineri**

UTM Certification Course  
Active Shooter Instructor Training  
Active Shooter  
CPR/Defib Recertification  
Fire Scene Training for Police

## **Joseph Corbisiero**

Stress Management  
IMSA Traffic Signal Level II (Field) Certification  
IMSA NEMA TS1 Troubleshooting  
CPR/Defib Recertification

## **Jason D'Agostino**

Active Shooter  
CPR/Defib Recertification  
Criminal Courtroom Procedure & Testimony  
Advanced Street Interviews  
Fire Scene Training for Police  
Intro to Hidden Compartments in Motor Vehicles

## **Steven D'Ambola**

Alcotest 7110 Recertification  
Stress Management  
Active Shooter  
Pro-Active Patrol / Street Smart Cop  
CPR/Defib Recertification  
Cops in Court: Report Writing/Trial Testimony - DRE  
Moving Water Rescue Boat Operations  
Collision Reconstruction  
Work Zone Safety Awareness for Police  
Drug & Toxicology Trends & Updates  
Traffic Incident Management For Emergency Respond  
AAA Roadmap to Safety  
GDL Laws for Law Enforcement  
Fire Scene Training for Police

## **Edward Davenport**

Alcotest 7110 Recertification  
Event Policing  
Stress Management  
Active Shooter  
CPR/Defib Recertification  
New Jersey Police Records Management  
LASER Speed Enforcement Operator - LIDAR  
UCPO InfoShare Training  
AAA Roadmap to Safety  
Fire Scene Training for Police  
Security Awareness & Vigilance for Everyone (SAVE)

## **Michael Davis**

Basic Telecommunicator Course (BTC)  
CPR/Defib Certification  
Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD)  
Non-Emergency Call Handling  
Fire Scene Training for Police

## **Christopher DiFabio**

Alcotest 7110 Recertification  
Active Shooter  
CPR/Defib Recertification  
M4 Qualifications  
OC Instructor Course  
Moving Water Rescue Boat Operations  
Firearms Instructor Certification  
Fire Scene Training for Police

## **Olivia DiGiovine**

Active Shooting Response - Call Taker  
CPR/Defib Recertification

## **Daniel Donnerstag**

Stress Management  
Active Shooter  
CPR/Defib Recertification  
M4 Qualifications  
Narcotics I- Drug ID with Arrest Search & Seizure



# TRAINING

Narcotics II-Investigatory Techniques Patrol & SRO  
Moving Water Rescue Boat Operations  
Fire Scene Training for Police

## **Michael Dubitsky**

Active Shooter  
CPR/Defib Recertification  
Domestic Violence Update  
Drug & Toxicology Trends & Updates  
Blue Courage  
Crisis Intervention Team CIT  
Fire Scene Training for Police  
Field Training Officer - FTO

## **Ryan Duffy**

CPR/Defib Recertification  
Basic Telecommunicator Course (BTC)  
Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD)  
Disasters and the Dispatcher  
Counter Terrorism Issues for Dispatch  
Fire Scene Training for Police

## **Spencer Durkin**

Active Shooter  
RAPID - Regional Automated Property Info Database  
Juvenile Justice Update  
Law Enf. Interaction with Div of Child P&P  
CPR/Defib Recertification  
Search Warrants A-Z: Legal Issues  
Pre-Employment Background Investigations  
Drug & Toxicology Trends & Updates  
UCPO InfoShare Training  
DNA Evidence Submission/Collection/Contamination  
Fire Scene Training for Police

## **Derek Farbanec**

RAPID - Regional Automated Property Info Database  
Mobile Trauma Unit Anti-Terrorism Symposium  
Active Shooter  
CPR/Defib Recertification  
Sexual Assault Investigations  
Property/Evidence Room Custodian Seminar  
Fire Scene Training for Police

## **Gregory Federici**

Courtroom Testimony  
Active Shooter  
CPR/Defib Recertification  
An Officer Involved Shooting: The Gary Spath Story  
Mobile Command Unit Training  
Criminal Courtroom Procedure & Testimony  
Crisis Intervention Team CIT  
Gang Awareness  
Fire Scene Training for Police

## **Thomas Feeney**

Mobile Trauma Unit Anti-Terrorism Symposium  
Active Shooter  
CPR/Defib Recertification  
Performance & Accountability  
Mid Atlantic LEADS  
UCPO InfoShare Training  
Fire Scene Training for Police

## **Charles Fette**

Stress Management

## **Lynne Galvez**

Radar Operator Certification  
Fire Scene Training for Police

## **Ryan Gerrity**

Active Shooter  
CPR/Defib Recertification  
DWI Detection & SFST Course  
M4 Qualifications  
Fire Scene Training for Police

## **Peter Graczyk**

CPR/Defib Recertification

## **Ryan Greco**

Active Shooter  
Security Assessment Seminar  
CPR/Defib Recertification  
Crisis Communications & Media Relations  
Moving Water Rescue Boat Operations  
Agency Spokesperson & Public Information Officer  
FBI LEEDA: Supervisor Leadership Institute  
UCPO InfoShare Training  
Fire Scene Training for Police

## **Timothy Handy**

Vehicle Theft & Staged Accidents  
DWI Detection & SFST Course  
Active Shooter  
CPR/Defib Recertification  
Narcotics I- Drug ID with Arrest Search & Seizure  
Narcotics II-Investigatory Techniques Patrol & SRO  
Child Abduction & Missing Person Investigations  
Update on Recent Case Law  
Fire Scene Training for Police  
Anti-Terrorism / Ant-Smuggling

## **Nelson Hearn**

Active Shooter  
Missing Persons Investigations  
Case Law that Every Cop Needs to Know  
CPR/Defib Recertification  
Fire Scene Training for Police

## **Sean Holcomb**

Active Shooter  
Advanced Opposition Based CQB  
CPR/Defib Recertification  
Domestic Violence Update  
Close Quarters Battle (CQB)  
Gunfighter Pistol Class

## **Ewa Jackson**

CPR/Defib Recertification

## **Nadia Jones**

Active Shooter  
CPR/Defib Recertification  
NJ Women in LE Training Conference  
Mobile Command Unit Training  
Fire Scene Training for Police

## **Sandana Jones**

CPR/Defib Recertification  
Disasters and the Dispatcher  
Counter Terrorism Issues for Dispatch  
Non-Emergency Call Handling





Fire Scene Training for Police  
Domestic Violence Intervention

## **Robert Jordan**

Pro-Active Patrol/Becoming A Street Smart Cop  
Missing Children Dynamics & Response II  
Active Shooter  
CPR/Defib Recertification  
Narcotics I- Drug ID with Arrest Search & Seizure  
Narcotics II-Investigatory Techniques Patrol & SRO  
Fire Scene Training for Police

## **Arthur Kennedy**

Stress Management  
CPR/Defib Recertification

## **James Knight**

Bomb Making Materials Awareness Program  
DWI Detection & SFST Course  
Gang Awareness  
Active Shooter  
CPR/Defib Recertification  
Defensive Driving  
Advanced Street Interviews  
Update on Recent Case Law  
Fire Scene Training for Police  
Anti-Terrorism / Ant-Smuggling

## **Corey LoForte**

DWI Detection & SFST Course  
CPR/Defib Recertification  
Active Shooter  
Case Law that Every Cop Needs to Know  
Police Response to Mental Illness/Excited Delirium  
Fire Scene Training for Police

## **Brian Lopez**

Active Shooter  
CPR/Defib Recertification  
Fire Scene Training for Police

## **Russell Luedecker**

NJ Threats Posed by ISIS & HVES  
Alcotest 7110 Recertification  
JerseyNet: Orientation to Broadband Technology  
Active Shooter  
CPR/Defib Recertification  
New Jersey Police Records Management  
TAC Seminar  
Radar Instructor Recertification  
Defensive Driving  
eCDR Enhancements Training  
Firearms Laws and Application Training Course  
TAC Certification  
UCPO InfoShare Training  
WTH User Training Conference  
UCR Seminar  
Fire Scene Training for Police  
eCDR Enhancements Train the Trainer  
Bail Reform Train the Trainer  
Union County First Alert Update

## **Craig Marino**

Active Shooter  
21st Century Policing: Blueprint for Success  
CPR/Defib Recertification  
TAC Seminar  
eCDR Enhancements Training  
9-1-1 Supervision

UCPO InfoShare Training  
Fire Scene Training for Police

## **Kyle McCartney**

Fire Scene Training for Police

## **Jean McComb**

Stress Management  
Defensive Driving  
UCPO InfoShare Training

## **Robert Merrill**

Active Shooting Response - Call Taker  
Stress Management  
CPR/Defib Recertification  
Disasters and the Dispatcher  
Counter Terrorism Issues for Dispatch  
Fire Scene Training for Police  
Domestic Violence Intervention

## **Ali Muhammad**

Radar Operator Certification  
Fire Scene Training for Police

## **Matthew Nazzaro**

21st Century Drug & Violence Prevention Conference  
American Heart Assoc Instructor Update  
Radar Operator Recertification  
Active Shooter  
Campus Crime Stoppers Train the Trainer  
UCPO InfoShare Training  
Fire Scene Training for Police

## **Daniel Norton**

Active Shooter  
CPR/Defib Recertification  
Fire Scene Training for Police

## **Timothy O'Brien**

Stress Management  
Active Shooter  
Mobile Trauma Unit Anti-Terrorism Symposium  
CPR/Defib Recertification  
Statement Taking  
Interview & Interrogations  
Comprehensive Crime Scene Processing

## **Michael O'Neil**

Police Response to Mental Illness/Excited Delirium  
Courtroom Testimony  
Active Shooter  
CPR/Defib Recertification  
DWI Detection & SFST Course  
Officer's Response to Victims of Crime  
Advanced Street Interviews  
Fire Scene Training for Police

## **Christian Pasternak**

Pro-Active Patrol/Becoming A Street Smart Cop  
Radar Operator Certification  
Effective Pedestrian Stops  
Active Shooter  
CPR/Defib Recertification  
Officer's Response to Victims of Crime  
Document Fraud for Law Enforcement  
Patrol Practices / Motor Vehicle Stops  
Criminal Courtroom Procedure & Testimony  
Fire Scene Training for Police



# TRAINING

## **Guy Patterson**

NJ Current Operating Environment Threats by ISIS  
Below 100 Intensive  
Combating Targeted Violence - The Coming Storm  
Event Policing  
Below 100 - Train the Trainer  
Stress Management  
Active Shooter  
FEMA IS 120 - Exercise Design  
CPR/Defib Recertification  
Fair & Impartial Policing - Train the Trainer  
Crisis Communications & Media Relations  
An Officer Involved Shooting: The Gary Spath Story  
Campus Emergencies, Prevention, Response, Recovery  
Emergency Manager 1  
UCR Seminar  
Fire Scene Training for Police  
NJ National Assoc of Field Training Officer Conf  
Mitigation for Emergency Managers  
LE Response to Special Needs/Mental Illness Train

## **Eugene Perrotta**

NJ Threats Posed by ISIS & HVES  
Firearms Laws & Applicant Investigation Course  
Alcotest 7110 Recertification  
New Accreditation Manager  
NJOHSP Conference: Global Threats. Local Response.  
Radar Operator Recertification  
Internal Affairs Policy & Procedures  
Stress Management  
Active Shooter  
CPR/Defib Recertification  
Domestic Violence Update  
eCDR Enhancements Training  
Firearms Laws and Application Training Course  
Moving Water Rescue Boat Operations  
UCPO InfoShare Training  
12th Annual Excellence in Policing Conference  
Fire Scene Training for Police  
eCDR Enhancements Train the Trainer

## **William Pietrucha**

Stress Management  
Active Shooter  
Methods of Instruction MOI  
CPR/Defib Recertification  
Collision Reconstruction  
Work Zone Safety Awareness for Police  
Excel 1 for Law Enforcement  
UCPO InfoShare Training  
Fire Scene Training for Police

## **Christophe Polito**

Below 100 Intensive  
Combating Targeted Violence - The Coming Storm  
Active Shooter  
Stress Management  
CPR/Defib Recertification  
eCDR Enhancements Training  
Campus Emergencies, Prevention, Response, Recovery  
UCPO InfoShare Training  
Fire Scene Training for Police

## **Gerard Quinn**

Active Shooter

## **John Rattigan**

Active Shooter Instructor Training  
Active Shooter  
M4 Qualifications  
Moving Water Rescue Boat Operations  
Building Clearing  
Paramedic Refresher  
Medical Preparedness & Response for Bomb Incidents

## **Kelly Rieder**

Bullying, Bias, & Racial Disparities in Discipline  
Active Shooter  
Radar Operator Recertification  
Advanced ALICE Training  
Crime Prevention for Community Policing Officers  
Working with Informants  
CPR/Defib Recertification  
Sexual Assault Investigations  
Cell Phone Boot Camp  
NJ Women in LE Training Conference  
Campus Crime Stoppers Train the Trainer  
Fire Scene Training for Police

## **Joseph Sherbo**

Fire Scene Training for Police  
UC Police Academy BCPO Training  
Radar Operator Course

## **Matthew Siessel**

Courtroom Testimony  
Active Shooter  
Effective Pedestrian Stops  
CPR/Defib Recertification  
Officer's Response to Victims of Crime  
Moving Water Rescue Boat Operations  
Document Fraud for Law Enforcement  
Fire Scene Training for Police  
Field Training Officer - FTO

## **Janet Spriggo**

Microsoft Word - Basic  
Microsoft Excel - Basic  
Microsoft Excel - Intermediate  
Defensive Driving  
Microsoft Excel - Advanced  
UCPO InfoShare Training

## **Thomas Stiansen**

Active Shooter Instructor Training  
Social Media Based Gang Investigations  
Statement Taking  
Radar Operator Recertification  
Crime Prevention For Community Policing Officers  
Active Shooter  
CPR/Defib Recertification  
Juvenile Justice Update  
Law Enf. Interaction with Div of Child P&P  
Working with Informants  
M4 Qualifications  
Comprehensive Crime Scene Processing  
Pre-Employment Background Investigations  
LASER - LE Active Shooter Emergency Resp. Trainer  
Reid Technique of Interviewing and Interrogation  
Child Abduction & Missing Persons Investigations  
Fire Scene Training for Police

## **Amanda Stryker**

CPR/Defib Recertification



Counter Terrorism Issues for Dispatch  
Fire Scene Training for Police

## Joseph Stulpin

NJ Current Operating Environment - Threats by ISIS  
Active Shooter  
NJSACOP Front Line Supervision Program  
Missing Children Dynamics & Response  
Child Abduction & Missing Persons Investigations  
CPR/Defib Recertification  
M4 Qualifications  
Moving Up To Supervision  
Moving Water Rescue Boat Operations  
An Officer Involved Shooting: The Gary Spath Story  
UCPO InfoShare Training  
ATC EMT Refresher C- Trauma  
Fire Scene Training for Police  
EMT B Refresher

## John Swandrak

UTM Certification Course  
Active Shooter Instructor Training  
NJOHSP Conference: Global Threats. Local Response.  
Active Shooter  
CPR/Defib Recertification  
M4 Qualifications  
Conducted Energy Device (CED) Instructor  
LASER - LE Active Shooter Emergency Resp. Trainer  
Crisis Intervention Team CIT  
UCPO InfoShare Training  
Fire Scene Training for Police  
eCDR Enhancements Train the Trainer  
Bail Reform Train the Trainer

## Shayne Temple

Advanced Street Interviews  
Fire Scene Training for Police

## Stacy Thorn

Stress Management  
CPR/Defib Recertification  
Fire Scene Training for Police

## Steven Toy

Active Shooter  
CPR/Defib Recertification  
Monadnock PR24 Instructor Course  
OC Instructor Course  
eCDR Enhancements Training  
9-1-1 Supervision  
NJSACOP Command & Leadership Program  
UCPO InfoShare Training  
Bail Reform Train the Trainer  
eCDR Enhancements Train the Trainer

## Brian Trotter

DWI Detection & SFST Course  
Active Shooter  
CPR/Defib Recertification  
An Officer Involved Shooting: The Gary Spath Story  
Fire Scene Training for Police  
Intro to Hidden Compartments in Motor Vehicles

## Joseph Van Bergen

Below 100 Intensive  
Event Policing

Below 100 - Train the Trainer

JerseyNet: Orientation to Broadband Technology  
NJOHSP Conference: Global Threats. Local Response.  
21st Century Policing: Blueprint for Success  
Active Shooter  
CPR/Defib Recertification  
Campus Emergencies, Prevention, Response, Recovery  
Fire Scene Training for Police

## Richard Vitale

Retirement Planning PFRS  
Stress Management  
Powerpoint - Intermediate  
Internal Affairs Policy & Procedures  
Active Shooter  
CPR/Defib Recertification  
Microsoft Excel - Advanced  
UCPO InfoShare Training  
Fire Scene Training for Police

## Brian Wagner

Stress Management  
Active Shooter  
Radar Operator Recertification  
CPR/Defib Recertification  
M4 Qualifications  
Basic Crash Investigation  
LASER Speed Enforcement Operator - LIDAR  
National Child Passenger Safety Recertification  
Firearms Instructor Certification  
Conducted Energy Device (CED) Instructor  
Work Zone Safety Awareness for Police  
Traffic Incident Management For Emergency Respond  
Fire Scene Training for Police

## Stephen Wilde

NJ Current Operating Environment - Threats by ISIS  
Active Shooter  
Stress Management  
CPR/Defib Recertification  
Defensive Driving  
UCPO InfoShare Training  
Fire Scene Training for Police  
Homemade Explosives: Awareness Recognition Respons  
Risk Management for Command Personnel

## Frank Williams

Active Shooter  
CPR/Defib Recertification  
Performance & Accountability  
Crisis Intervention Team CIT  
An Officer Involved Shooting: The Gary Spath Story  
UCPO InfoShare Training  
Fire Scene Training for Police

## James Wozniak

Stress Management  
Active Shooter  
CPR/Defib Recertification  
FBI National Academy  
IACP Conference





# SOCIAL MEDIA & INTERNET



## World Wide Web

In 1997, recognizing the larger role that technology and computers would play in the future, the Cranford Police Department became one of the first police departments in Union County to establish a permanent presence on the Internet's World Wide Web. The creation and maintenance of the police website ([www.cranford.com/police](http://www.cranford.com/police)) was designed to give the public more access to departmental information, and to present a means for people, both local and non-local, to communicate non-emergency concerns.

The department home page provides information and services we provide including: the department's address, telephone numbers, and email address ([police@cranfordnj.org](mailto:police@cranfordnj.org)). The website also links to other social media sites used by the department and shows pictures of department members, activities and equipment. It contains information on all our divisions and specialized units, including Police Auxiliary, Explorers, and PAL. Special announcements and community updates are posted on a "bulletin board" page. Finally, the page allows the viewing, downloading and printing of common forms, applications, and ordinances online.

Email has been received from numerous local residents as well as foreign citizens and law enforcement agencies. Local residents have reported everything from fraud cases to chronic barking dog issues; they have requested information for school reports and have arranged home and business security inspections. Foreign visitors have exchanged training and scheduling information, have requested patches or memorabilia, or have just stopped by to say "hi."

## Social Media

In 2010, the Cranford Police Department was one of Union County's earliest adopters of public safety alert and notification technology offered by Nixle. Throughout the year the Nixle platform was used 273 times to alert residents to scheduled road work, traffic concerns and delays, public events, weather/storm alerts and other relevant topics. As of December 2015, 9,160 Internet users were registered for this service (849 more than in 2015).

In 2011, the Internet presence of the Cranford Police Department was expanded to include a more robust Social Media presence. The agency created a page on Facebook, the social media networking and information sharing service with almost 1.74 billion users as of December 2016. The Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/cranfordpd](http://www.facebook.com/cranfordpd)) is regularly updated to include reports of arrests and reported crimes, links to community access stories and current agency projects, photos and historical information about the Cranford Police Department. As of December 31, 2016 the Cranford Police Department's Facebook page had 6,000 followers, representing a 50% increase over the previous year's total.

Also in 2011, the Cranford Police Department created a Twitter account (@CranfordPD) to broaden the agency's ability to connect on a real time basis with a more media and Internet savvy public. As of December 2016, 1,344 Internet users had signed up to follow the agency's "tweets" and receive focused messages of 140 characters or less regarding a variety of topics. Since inception, the Cranford Police Department has broadcast over 4,000 messages.

In April 2014, the Cranford Police Department expanded its social media presence by adding an Instagram account ([cranfordpolice](http://cranfordpolice)). Instagram is a photo sharing application with appeal to the younger generation. In 2016 the department broadcast 308 images of community events, agency equipment and law enforcement activities to 1,100 followers. Each image is intended to strengthen the bond between the police and the local community.



Finally, in July 2015, the department further increased our social media footprint by adding a Pinterest account (CranfordPD). Pinterest defines themselves as the world's catalog of ideas. Pinterest was only used for 72 posts in 2016 and only had 6 followers.

Each of the Social Media platforms used by the Cranford Police Department is integrally linked to the other available media sites, allowing a message posted on one site to be relayed and/or promoted on another automatically. In this way, the police department has broadened its reach to include the maximum number of followers and ensure that real time messages reach the greatest possible number of recipients.

In an effort to streamline public access to police information, the Cranford Police Department launched a new smart-phone app in May 2015 that includes interactive features and easy access to the department's social media presence.

MyPD, available free to iPhone and Android users via their respective app stores, is a free program that offers a sleek user interface and about 40 potential features. The app features easy to view/use icons which connect users with agency contact information, directions, traffic updates, and weather services. MyPD also provides a vehicle for users to submit crime tips (optionally with GPS or photos), ask questions and commend police officers. Thanks to social media integration, The Cranford Police Facebook Page, Twitter feed, and Instagram posts are viewable from within the MyPD app.

MyPD is just another example of Internet based technology migrating to a two way communications tool for law enforcement. Using MyPD, the public can get push updates directly on their smartphone, but just as importantly, they can respond and send information to the police electronically. While some members of the community routinely interact with law enforcement, others may prefer the anonymity available through MyPD. App users can see the agency's Twitter and Facebook posts without signing up for either of those platforms directly.

No account is necessary to use MyPD and users have control over how much information they choose to share with the department. Users may enable or disable features as needed, including GPS, photo-sharing, and notifications. There are no ads on the app and there are no in-app purchases to make; content is provided free of charge to all users. More information is available by visiting [mypdapp.com](http://mypdapp.com), or by searching for MyPD in the iOS or Android app store.

## **Web Administration**

Design, maintenance and management of the Cranford Police Department's Internet and Social Media presence, as well as responding to and recording email correspondence, is the responsibility of Captain Joseph Van Bergen and Lieutenant Edward Davenport. Each of the Department's division and bureau heads has provided information and regularly contributes to the overall makeup of the site.

Today, and even more so in the near future, the public we serve is making use of Internet technologies; the Cranford Police Department is adapting to meet the challenges of this new medium. Through its Internet and Social Media presence, the department intends to continue its progressive tradition and meet the technological challenges of the future.



# POLICE AUXILIARY

The history of the Cranford Auxiliary Police dates back to 1917 shortly after the United States declared war on Germany. During this time, reports of domestic sabotage were rampant and the need for additional protection from within our own borders became commonplace. Memorialized in the *Cranford Citizen* were references to the **Home Guard**. This organization, comprised strictly of men, would be “detailed to patrol duty under the tutelage of regular patrol officers”. The Home Guard consisted of 16 men; citizens of Cranford whom were trained weekly on Thursday nights. Although the scope of the training was not specific, archived information noted that Robert Crane held the rank of Captain within the organization.

After World War I, there is no documented history of the Home Guard until 1941, when the United States declared war on Japan, after the bombing of Pearl Harbor. Evidence of German U-boats spying on the United States off the coast of New Jersey was revealed, and with the establishment of the Local Defense Council, “dim outs” and “air raid drills” were instituted. Cities and towns established their own emergency policies in accordance with the national and state guidelines. The March 19, 1941 *Cranford Citizen and Chronicle* reported the formalization of the **Civil Defense Emergency Police** under the direction of Chief Lester Powell. This unit consisted of 96 members and required a three month intensive training program. Once the training was complete, the men were presented with police shields, arm bands, whistles, and steel helmets. They were responsible for ensuring that all lights were extinguished during air raid drills.

The post World War II era promulgated the nuclear age with the Cuban missile crisis, war in Vietnam, and the stockpiling of atomic weapons by the Soviet Union, thus compelling the **Civil Emergency Police** to continue to function as a branch of the police. Upon receipt of the sounding of the Red Air Raid warning, members would respond to their predetermined “Shelter Area” or “First Aid Station” and provide the required services for that station.

Eventually, as these threats within the world diminished, activities for the **Cranford Police Reserves** transitioned to traffic duty at local events, Election Day polling duty, natural disaster emergency response, child searches, oil spills, and other duties, whenever extra assistance was needed.

In 2016, the Cranford Police Auxiliary welcomed three (4) new officers to the unit, Michael Adubato, John Daly, Troy Kettler and Deanna Stirk who graduated from the Auxiliary Police Academy in May of 2015. All four officers are an enthusiastic and dedicated addition to our unit and we wish them all years of successful involvement in the organization. Six (6) officers departed our ranks during 2015. Officers Adubato, Grogan, Hall Komar and Patel left for personal reasons or have moved on in the hierarchy of law enforcement. Captain Ralph Gregson retired with over 30 years of service with the Cranford Police Auxiliary Police. We wished him the best in his retirement. Captain Gregson also was awarded the Meritorious Service Award for his 30 years of service with the Auxiliary Police. Lieutenant James Nalepa was promoted to Captain to take the place of Captain Gregson.

We Proudly recognize Officer Andrews, Lisowski and Kettler were awarded honorable mention for their service. Captain Nalepa, Lieutenant DeMeo, Officer Kettler and Andrews were awarded the Training Citations. Newly Promoted Captain Nalepa was awarded the Firearms Award while Lieutenant Demeo and Officer Lisowski were awarded the Chiefs award for outstanding work on a CDS arrest while on patrol. Administrative awards were given to Officer Young, Lisowski, Gregson and Demeo. Three Years of Service Awards were given to Officer Andrews for 15 years of service, Officer Virata for 10 years of service and Newly Promoted Lieutenant Urbanski for 10 years of service.



The Cranford Auxiliary Police had volunteer hours in 2016 totaling 2,321 hours of service to our community. The Auxiliary presence during the year freed full-time officers from fixed posts, enabling them to respond to urgent situations and higher priority emergency calls. The Auxiliary Police demonstrated their value as a force multiplier by providing Cranford with staffing levels and coverage that, otherwise, would have been absent. The benefit provided by the Auxiliary Police to both the Police Department and the community is extraordinary and cannot be solely measured by dollars and cents.

The 2016 membership of the Cranford Auxiliary Police stands at 17. The current members are:

Auxiliary Captain Ralph Gregson (Retired)

Auxiliary Captain James Nalepa

Auxiliary Lieutenant Anthony DeMeo

Auxiliary Lieutenant Michael Urbanski

Auxiliary Officer Philip Andrews

Auxiliary John Daly

Auxiliary Officer James Grogan

Auxiliary Officer Archie DeMartino

Auxiliary Officer Justin Conklin

Auxiliary Officer James Grogan

Auxiliary Officer Troy Kettler

Auxiliary Officer Leonard Komar

Auxiliary Officer Briana Hall

Auxiliary Officer Timothy Lisowski

Auxiliary Officer Avsar Patel

Auxiliary Officer Jedeon Virata

Auxiliary Officer Francis Young



**Photo above,** Auxiliary Police Captain Ralph Gregson was presented the Union County Unity Achievement Award

May 9th for his long distinguished career with the Cranford Auxiliary Police. **Photo top right,** May 12<sup>th</sup> was the Union County Police Auxiliary Class # 20 graduation. Cranford auxiliary recruit Leonard Komar successfully completed all requirements. *Left to right:* Aux Lt Demeo, Aux Lt Nalepa, Aux Ptl Komar, D/Sgt Vitale, Aux Capt Gregson, Aux Ptl Lisowski. **Photo bottom,** Auxiliary officers CPR/First Aid Training session from April 2016.





# POLICE EXPLORERS

Law Enforcement Exploring is run through the Boy Scouts of America. Exploring is a program designed to educate and involve youth in police operations and to expose them to law enforcement functions. Members are between 14 to 21 years old and must be at least a freshman in high school.

The Cranford Police Explorer Post #2074 was established in 1982 and has served hundreds of children in those years. Numerous members of the Cranford Police Department were previously Explorers. The current advisors to the post are Captain Joseph Van Bergen, Detective Steven D'Ambola, and Detective Sergeant Matthew Nazzaro.

In 2016 the Post had 25 members. That number is continually growing due to the recruitment efforts of the members of the Post.

We are proud to report that the Post performed more than 200 hours of volunteer service for the department and township. The Post continued to hold training sessions at the monthly meetings. These sessions included discussions and training videos on current police topics and hands on practical scenarios. Post advisors taught "10" codes and phonetic alphabet, traffic control, crowd control, traffic accident report and traffic summons writing, DWI/DRE enforcement, CDS investigations, crime scene investigation, first aid, CPR, Pursuit Policy, Use of Force, Radar, Share the Keys Graduated Drivers Licenses, and other basic department procedures.

Some of the activities the Post participated in during 2016 were traffic control at the 4th of July fireworks, Firecracker 4-miler, Spring and Fall Festivals, National Night Out, and Memorial Day parade. Senior Explorers Gina Cuzzo, Allen Davies, David Lugara, Erik Monteagudo, Ben Romero, Liam Shaw, and Thomas Siliato also donated a week out of their summer to help as assistant instructors in the 2016 Cranford Police Youth Academy. Explorers received hands on firearms safety and qualification training at the Linden Police Firearms Range. One of the highlights of the Explorer experience is participating in the Police Department's Ride-Along Program. In this program the Explorer goes on patrol with an experienced police officer and receives first hand view of their roles and responsibilities. In this way, the basic idea of civic responsibility can be instilled. Many of the Explorers are interested in pursuing careers in law enforcement and are grateful for the mentorship from seasoned officers.

**Top Photo**, Police Explorer Ben Romero on Senior Night October 21, 2016.

**Bottom Photo**, June 11th members of the Explorers were instructed by our Firearms Training Unit about firearms safety at the range.





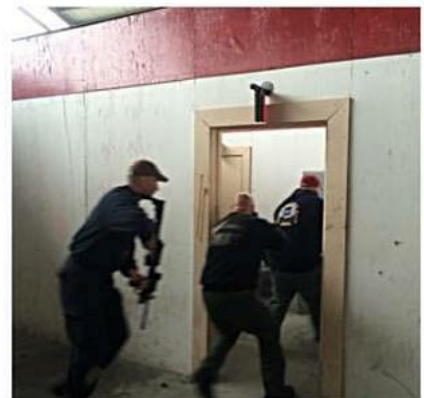
# SPECIAL OPERATIONS TEAM



It is recognized that the presence of a highly trained, highly skilled police tactical unit has shown to substantially reduce the risk of injury or loss of life to citizens, police officers and suspects. The Cranford Police Special Operations Team provides the Cranford Police Department with the resource of a skilled team with advanced training in the containment of critical incidents. It is the policy of the Cranford Police Department Special Operations Team to respond to critical incidents and serve as a containment team unless otherwise specified by the on duty supervisor or incident.

The following officers are members of the Special Operations Team: Patrolman John Rattigan—Commander of the Team, Detective Spencer Durkin, Patrolman Thomas Bell, Detective Brian Wagner, Patrolman John Colineri, Patrolman Christopher DiFabio, Patrolman Thomas Stiansen, Patrolman Daniel Donnerstag, Patrolman Michael O'Neil, Patrolman Ryan Gerrity, and Patrolman Jason D'Agostino. Photos below are from training at Fort Dix.

**Photos below,** Our Special Operations Team conducted a training session at Fort Dix on May 4<sup>th</sup> along with members of the FBI.







# HONOR GUARD

In May of 2007 the Cranford Police Department initiated an Honor Guard unit comprising of seven volunteers. Each volunteer undergoes careful screening of their abilities, physical dexterity, motivation and professionalism. Each of the selected Officers have also shown an exceptionally high standard in both conduct and appearance with a strong attention to detail.

Once selected, these Officers undergo a one week training program in ceremonial conduct and practices for the various functions they will serve. In most of these functions the Honor Guard is required to move as one single unit, often times requiring little, if any, command direction. Each Officer is responsible for learning their respected position assignment as well as the other members so they can maintain unit integrity throughout a ceremony. The Honor Guard strengthens this knowledge through continued training and practice.

The Honor Guard is distinguished by the uniform they wear. The uniforms are tailored to each specific Officer and designed to stand out from the rest. These tailored uniforms also take into account the maneuvering of the Officer with regards to marching, rifle movements and the flying of the colors. The most notable functions of the Honor Guard are to represent the Police Department in ceremonies and parades.

The Honor Guard members are Sergeant Steven Toy (Commander), Detective William Pietrucha (Coordinator), Detective Derek Farbanec, Patrolman Thomas Bell, Patrolman Daniel Norton, Patrolman John Rattigan, Detective Kelly Rieder and Patrolman Michael O'Niel.

The Cranford Police Department Honor Guard continues to represent our agency in Funeral Services for Retired Cranford Police Officers, officers killed in the line of duty, and officers who passed away while in active service to their respective Police Departments around the State. We also participate in parades and various ceremonies. The primary purpose of the CPD Honor Guard is to provide funeral honors for fallen Officers.

The Honor Guard has always, and will continue, to represent the Cranford Police Department with dignity, honor and pride.





Formed in 1998, The Cranford Police Department Water Rescue Team was initially tasked with responding to flooding incidents, adjacent to Flood Prone areas of the Rahway River. With the increase of major weather events of the past two decades, there has been a necessity to increase Manpower, Training, and Equipment for the Water Rescue Unit. Currently the Unit is comprised of ten specially trained Officers from various Divisions within the Cranford Police Department. These Officers serve on an on-call basis to respond to weather related events within the Township. Since 2014, D/Sgt. Ryan Greco has served as the commander of the Unit.

## **Team Members**

The Cranford Police Water Rescue Team is comprised of the following personnel:

D/Sergeant Ryan Greco	Patrolman Christopher DiFabio
Sergeant Eugene Perrotta	Patrolman John Rattigan
Detective Steven D'Ambola	Patrolman Matthew Siessel
Detective Joseph Stulpin	Patrolman Daniel Donnerstag
Patrolman Timothy O'Brien	Patrolman Robert Jordan

## **Training**

Members of the Water Rescue Unit are initially trained as Certified Water Rescue Technicians and Certified Swift Water Rescue Technicians. This training is received through the internationally recognized Life Savings Resources Incorporated. As a Certified Water Rescue and Swift Water Rescue Instructor, Captain Guy Patterson conducts the initial and recertification process when necessary.

In addition to their Water Rescue and Swift Water Rescue Certifications, Det. Joseph Stulpin is trained as an Emergency Medical Technician, and Patrolman John Rattigan is a MICU Paramedic.

Semi-Annually members of the Team conduct both practical and classroom training, which includes but is not limited to requalification, open water rescue operations, and boat operation. In 2016 two trainings were conducted at the Round Valley Reservoir.

## **Deployment**

The Cranford Police Department Water Rescue Team was not activated for any emergency incidents in 2016.

## **Equipment**

- 2015 Zodiac ERB 380 12'9" Inflatable Boat-Evinrude 25hp Motor
- 2001 Zodiac Mark II Futura 12'6 Inflatable Boat- Mercury Jet 40 Outboard Motor
- Cold Water Rescue Suits
- Gortex "Dry" Rescue Suits
- Search and Rescue Personal Flotation Device
- Specialty Stretcher with Flotation Collar
- Rope Equipment
- 4 Humvees
- 2 Five Ton Trucks





# YOUTH POLICE ACADEMY

The Cranford Police Department held the tenth session of the Youth Police Academy from June 27 through July 1, 2016. A record 60 Cranford juvenile participants, were given the opportunity to be introduced to law enforcement through a simulated police academy environment. The Youth Police Academy was started in June of 2007 to provide the youth of Cranford with a firsthand introduction to many aspects of law enforcement.

This year, the Youth Academy was held at the Cranford Police Department, the Cranford Community Center and the Centennial Avenue Pool. The Academy was under the direction of Detective Steven D'Ambola and Detective Matthew Nazzaro. The academy participants, "cadets," started their day with roll call. Following roll call the cadets had military drill and physical fitness training lead by Patrolman Daniel Donnerstag. Physical training consisted of running, pushups, sit-ups, an obstacle course and various other exercises. During the military drill portion of the day, the cadets learned how to stand at attention, complete facing movements, properly salute and march as a unit. Following PT and drill, the cadets had classroom activities.

Throughout the week, the lead instructors, and guest instructors from the Cranford Police Department and local, county, state, and federal agencies gave lectures and hands on demonstrations on the various career paths within the law enforcement profession. The first day of the Academy the cadets had a tour of the Cranford Police Department and radio cars. They then received an introduction to the structure of the Cranford Police Department, patrol operations and basic law. The cadets were brought outside and had the opportunity to conduct mock motor vehicle stops.

The second, fourth, and fifth day of the Academy were held at the Cranford Community Center. The Union County Sheriff's K-9 unit gave a demonstration using both bomb and drug sniffing dogs. The Cranford Fire Department responded with an engine, rescue truck, and ambulance to show and explain how they compliment the police department in responding to emergencies. Detectives O'Brien and Durkin gave a presentation on crime scene processing and criminal investigations. Detective Danika Ramos detailed the thorough and tedious process of a murder investigation as she recounted her expertise in the Union County Homicide Task Force. Detective Nazzaro instructed the cadets on safe ways to use social media to avoid bullying and identity theft. The Union County SWAT Team brought the "Terminator" armored vehicle and displayed their equipment and weaponry.

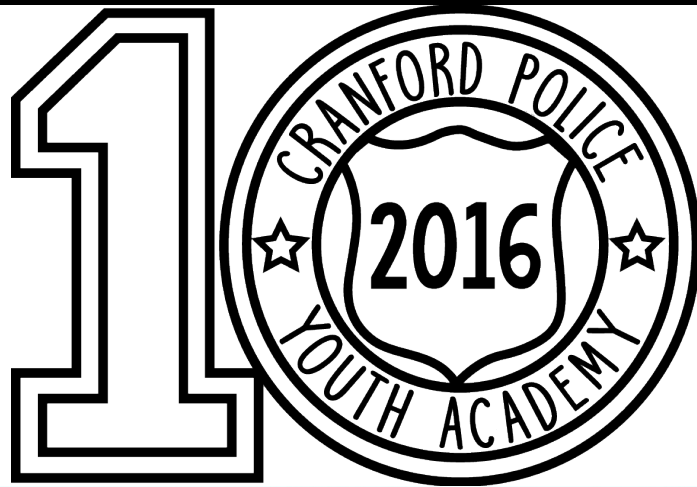
On the third day the cadets met at the Centennial Avenue Pool. Detectives O'Brien and D'Ambola gave a lecture on our Water Rescue Team and gave a demonstration saving "victim," Junior Instructor, Explorer Erik Monteagudo, in mock scenarios in the deep end of the pool. The class then made their way to the Hillside Avenue School Landing Zone where members of the New Jersey State Police Northstar helicopter landed.

Instruction blocks for the remainder of the week included our Traffic Bureau gave a lecture on DWI enforcement. Cadets were then able to try and negotiate a coned obstacle course on a mini cart while wearing Fatal Vision Goggles for hands on experience on how dangerous it is to drink and drive. The United States Marine Corps led PT on Tuesday morning. Additional presenters included New Jersey Homeland Security, United States Secret Service, ICE: Homeland Security Investigations, Union County Bomb Squad and HAZMAT, Union County Prosecutor's Office, and New Jersey Transit ESU, who brought their remote controlled robot that took one of the cadets for a ride.

The Academy ended with a graduation ceremony for the cadets and over 100 family members. The cadets marched in and viewed a presentation on what they had accomplished during the week. All of the cadets received certificates for completing the Academy. The cadets left the Academy with a unique insight into the field of law enforcement and the Cranford Police Department.



# YOUTH POLICE ACADEMY







# 2016 - YEAR IN REVIEW

**Photos,** a blizzard on January 23, 2016 delivered approximately 24" of snow and required the use of our military surplus vehicles to continue to provide emergency services. Police and Fire/EMS personnel were assigned together in multiple humvees.





## Juvenile charged in car burglary investigation

A 17 year old male from Roselle was charged in connection with an incident that occurred on January 10, 2016. On that date a Stoughton Avenue resident contacted police to report a possible vehicle burglary in progress. Responding units located a vehicle on Culin Drive matching a description given by the caller. As Officer Dan Donnerstag approached the vehicle on foot it pulled away, struck him, and fled the scene. The vehicle was located abandoned a short distance away. Officer Donnerstag was not seriously injured in the incident.

The vehicle was impounded and a subsequent search warrant execution revealed property from multiple car burglaries previously reported in Cranford and nearby towns.

After a follow-up investigation by Detective Derek Farbanec, the 17 year old driver was positively identified and charged with aggravated assault on a police officer, eluding, unlawful possession of two (2) bb/pellet handguns, and receiving stolen property.

Cranford detectives also are investigating possible connections between the male suspect and additional open car burglary investigations in Cranford and surrounding communities.



**Photo,** Patrol units were Sent to a call for loud screaming in the area of Riverside Drive this afternoon. Upon arrival units found six juveniles playing football so Patrolman Robert Jordan decided to show them a few pointers.



**Photos Above,** various Boy Scout visits to the police station.





# 2016 - YEAR IN REVIEW

## Reaccreditation

On February 7-8, 2016 the department took part in the final phases of the NJSACOP Law Enforcement Accreditation Program. The assessment team included Captain Thomas Reinholt (Evesham PD) and Lieutenant Dennis Van Natta (Summit PD, retired). The assessors reviewed our facility, equipment, personnel, policies, and proofs of compliance over the two days. They also conducted ride-alongs and were available for public discussion via a telephone call in session.

The Cranford Police Department initially received accredited agency status from the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police in 2006. In order to retain accreditation, the department is required to pass Accreditation Commission review every three years. This was our fourth successful reaccreditation.



**Photos, top left page 65, Harry Delgado, NJSACOP, presented the Department with our reaccreditation certificate at the May 24th Township Committee meeting. Shown, left to right, Captain Guy Patterson, Sergeant Eugene Perrotta, Harry Delgado, Chief James Wozniak, Detective Sergeant Gerard Quinn, & Captain Joseph Van Bergen. Other photos on pages 64-65 show some of the personnel that turned out to meet with the assessment team.**



# 2016 - YEAR IN REVIEW







## 2016 - YEAR IN REVIEW



### **Detective Lieutenant William J. O'Donnell**

William J. O'Donnell, 74, passed away March 8, 2016 at Overlook Hospital. He was a life-long, 4th generation, resident of Cranford.

William O'Donnell was a 25 year veteran of the Cranford Police Department, retiring in 1995 as a detective lieutenant and Investigative Division Commander. After retirement from the Cranford Police Department, he became an insurance fraud investigator for the State of New Jersey.

An Army veteran of the Vietnam War, he was a 3rd Degree member of the Knights of Columbus, Council 6226 in Cranford, the corresponding secretary for the Union County Emerald Society, a volunteer with the Cranford First Aid Squad, and a Eucharistic minister at St. Michael's Church in Cranford.



### **Detective Lieutenant Milton T. Mason**

Milton T. Mason, 84, passed away March 12, 2016. Mr. Mason was a military veteran who saw service with the 82nd Airborne Division and was a 28 year veteran of the Cranford Police Department, retiring in 1997 as a detective lieutenant in command of the Juvenile Bureau.

He was the New Jersey Golden Gloves light heavy-weight boxing champion in 1959, the Cranford Jaycees Outstanding Man of the Year in 1967, the Cranford Junior Achievement's Outstanding Man of the Year in 1987, and in 1984 was presented the Martin Luther King Distinguished Service Award by the Cranford Clergy Council.

Mr. Mason was an Associate Pastor of St. Marks AME Church in Cranford.





## Public Safety Day

The Cranford Police Department was happy to take part in the Week of the Young Child Celebration held by the Calvary Lutheran Nursery School, Helen K. Baldwin Nursery School, and St. Michael's School on Holly Street on April 7th. We look forward to this event every year.

Displays were set up by the police department, fire department, US Postal Service, and an ice cream truck.







# 2016 - YEAR IN REVIEW



**Photos,** On April 14<sup>th</sup> we had two tours from Helen K. Baldwin Nursery School. **Top,** Patrolman Pasternak conducted his first tour. **Bottom,** Patrolman Norton with his group of eager learners.



## Cranford Police Arrest Burglary Suspect, Recover Jewelry

Cranford Police arrested a 48 year old Elizabeth man following a reported residential burglary on Wednesday, April 27, 2016.

Police were called to a single family home on the 900 block of Lincoln Avenue East shortly before 1:00 pm. The resident had returned home and observed a male suspect leaving his property and fleeing on Myrtle Street. After seeing that entry was made to his home the resident called 9-1-1. A description of the fleeing suspect was broadcast to responding units.

During a check of the surrounding area, Ptl. John Colineri observed a male matching the suspect's physical and clothing description in a residential Roselle neighborhood adjacent to the Cranford border. The male fled on foot and was apprehended by Ptl. Colineri on Grove Street in Roselle. An alert Roselle resident called 9-1-1 and directed Roselle Police units to the exact location of the arrest.

During the arrest of the male, identified as Dimetri Shell of Mary Street, Elizabeth, police recovered approximately \$5000 in jewelry taken from the Lincoln Avenue address.

Shell was charged with burglary, receiving stolen property and resisting arrest. He was processed and committed to the Union County Jail pending an appearance in Superior Court. Bail was set at \$15,000.

Cranford Police Chief James Wozniak was elated at the quick resolution of the case. "National statistics tell us that less than 15% of residential burglaries are cleared by arrest," he stated. "I'm proud to say that we routinely defy that statistic. I have nothing but praise for the officers and detectives that brought this case to a successful conclusion. I also want to commend the alert Roselle resident who didn't hesitate to contact the Roselle Police Department to make sure Officer Colineri had almost immediate assistance."



## CRANFORD POLICE OFFICERS HONOR FALLEN HEROES IN 20th ANNIVERSARY POLICE UNITY TOUR



Cranford Police officers once again represented the township's police force on the Police Unity Tour bicycle ride to honor the sacrifices of police officers killed in the line of duty. Officers from around the United States converged on the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington D.C. on May 12, 2016. Five officers participated in this year's ride. Captain Guy Patterson, Detective Derek Farbanec and Detective Joseph Stulpin were joined by first year rider, Patrolman Daniel Donnerstag. Patrolman Matthew Siessel provided support for the four riders along their 300 mile trip. They departed New Jersey on May 9, 2016.

This year marked the 20th Anniversary of the Police Unity Tour. The Police Unity Tour was started by Chief Patrick P. Montuore of

the Florham Park Police Department, with the hope of bringing public awareness of Police Officers who died in the line of duty and to honor their sacrifices. The first event included 18 riders on a four day fund-raising bicycle ride from Florham Park, NJ to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C. Over time, the event has grown to encompass nine chapter organizations consisting of nearly 1800 members nationwide. In addition to officers representing 40 different states, participants have traveled to the event from Australia, Canada, England, India, Israel and Italy.

Through obtaining sponsorship and donations, officers participating in the Police Unity Tour raise funds that are donated to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund (NLEOMF). All five Cranford Officers have committed to raising over \$2,000.00 each through their participation in the tour. The officers would like to thank Barry O'Donovan and Kilkenny House, Dottie Baniewicz and Barbara Bilger of the Cranford Chamber of Commerce, Mr. J's Deli, Rock n Joe, Cranford Jaycees, Cranford PBA Local # 52, Westfield Collision, and the Cranford PAL for their support.

According to Captain Patterson, participating in the Police Unity Tour is a great way to raise awareness for the officers who have died in the line of duty and their families. "As we ride towards DC, we're escorted by police motorcycles the entire way. Anyone who sees the line of bicycles passing by is taken aback by the amount of officers making the ride. Our chapter is just one of nine converging on DC and we're over 400 riders strong. Everywhere we pass we leave quite an impression." Cranford Police Chief James Wozniak is a strong supporter of his officers' participation in the Police Unity Tour. "These officers spend a great deal of time training and raising money for this great cause. They are great representatives of Cranford and the Cranford Police Department. I'm proud to have them wearing the Cranford Police Department patch as they arrive at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial."

**Top Photo, left to right,** Ptl. Donnerstag, Det. Farbanec, Ptl. Siessel, Det. Stulpin, Capt. Patterson, & Chief Wozniak.

**Bottom Photo, left to right,** Stulpin, Patterson, Farbanec, and Donnerstag arriving in Washington, DC.





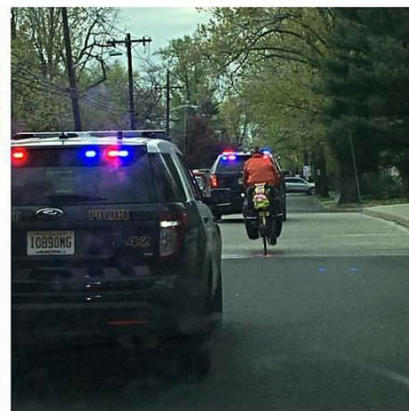


# 2016 - YEAR IN REVIEW

## Bicycle Around America Visit

Our officers were lucky to meet Brian D'Apice of Bicycle Around America during his stop in Cranford on his trip around the entire United States. Brian had been on the road for 366 days, traveled 12,000 miles, and raised close to \$50,000. He slept in Cranford on April 28th with a local resident and left the following morning for Jersey City where he caught a ferry to NYC to complete his trip. We were honored to escort him on his last leg of the trip and coordinated police escorts for him all the way to NYC..

Brian is a combat veteran of the US Army 82nd Airborne Division, having served two tours in Iraq before becoming an English teacher in Thailand and Admin Assistant in Jakarta. He is raising money for Pencils Of Promise and the National Military Family Association. You can read more about Brian's amazing journey at [www.bicyclearoundamerica.com](http://www.bicyclearoundamerica.com)



## Active Shooter Training

The photos at right are from the April 21<sup>st</sup> Active Shooter training session. All sworn members of the police department received four hour training sessions where a mix of classroom and role playing with simunitions were used to help prepare for an active shooter response. Active Shooter training was also given to township employees as shown in picture below.





## Take Your Child To Work Day

On April 28th the Cranford Police Department participated in the National Take Your Child to Work Day by allowing staff to bring their children to work for a day of activities. Children got a tour of the police department and related equipment. They also got to see the TV-35 studio.







## 2016 - YEAR IN REVIEW

### AWARDS, NEW HIRES, & PROMOTION



*Photos, clockwise from above,*

Department members after new hires and promotional ceremony on June 14th;

Joseph Stulpin with his family after his promotion to the rank of Sergeant on June 14th;

The police department held an annual awards ceremony in May at the Township Committee meeting. Those receiving awards are shown, *left to right*, Patrolman Gregory Federici, Detective Brian Wagner, Patrolman Michael Dubitsky, Chief James Wozniak, Patrolman James Knight, Patrolman Matthew Siessel, and Patrolman Jason D'Agostino;

Patrolmen Shayne Temple and Joseph Sherbo were sworn in as probationary patrolman at the June 14th township meeting. Pictured, *left to right*, Patrolman Shayne Temple, Sergeant Joseph Stulpin, Chief James Wozniak, and Patrolman Joseph Sherbo.





# 2016 - YEAR IN REVIEW



**Photos, clockwise from top right,** On June 10th members of the department took part in the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics of New Jersey; Members of our Juvenile & Traffic Bureaus spent the day at Cranford High School on May 24th with the seniors to teach them about the dangers of drinking and driving. Simulation goggles with a pedal cart were used as well as a DUI Simulator trailer sponsored by the Cranford Municipal Alliance; Detectives Pietrucha and D'Ambola met up with former President Bill Clinton during his stop at Union County College in June; our Water Rescue Team received classroom & hand-on training in June.





## 2016 - YEAR IN REVIEW

### Arrest Made in Eluding Case

On July 10, 2016 at 1836hrs., Officer Gregory Federici of the Cranford Police Department attempted to conduct a motor vehicle stop of a 2014 Mini Cooper in the area of Raritan Road and Centennial Avenue, after the officer witnessed numerous motor vehicle violations.

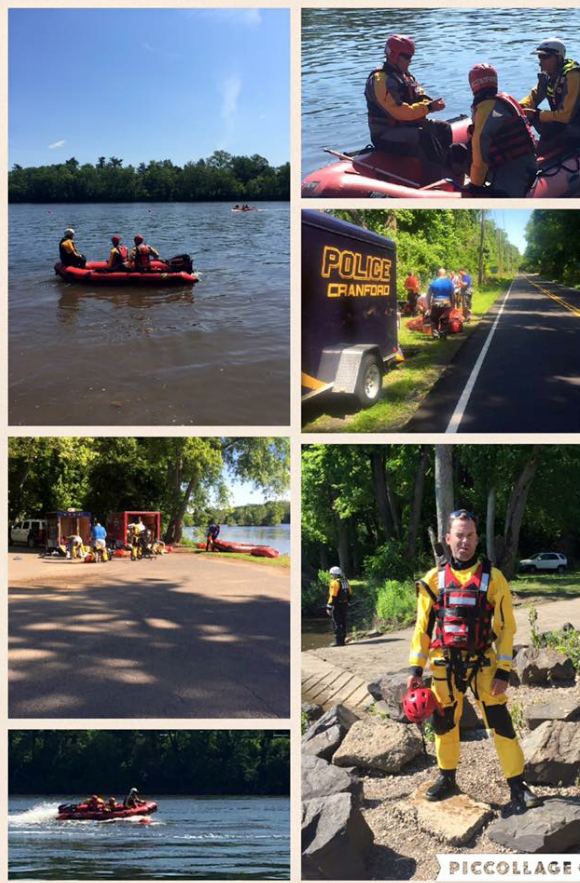
Upon Officer Gregory Federici activating the emergency lights of his marked patrol vehicle, the operator of the Mini Cooper accelerated away from the patrol vehicle. The Mini Cooper traveled eastbound on Raritan Road, dangerously swerving in and out of traffic at extremely high speeds. Due to the reckless manner in which the driver was operating the motor vehicle, and heavy congestion of civilian traffic, Officer Federici made the decision to terminate pursuit. The vehicle was last observed on Raritan Road and Wood Avenue in Linden.

A subsequent follow up investigation led by Detective Derek Farbanec, identified Eddie A. Salas Jr., 30, of Linden as the operator the motor vehicle. Cranford Police Detectives took Salas Jr. into custody, without incident, at a Scotch Plains address on July 12.

Salas Jr. was charged with 2nd Degree Eluding, and committed to the Union County Jail on \$50,000 Bail.



**Photos,** retired Cranford Police officers Mike Cavalla and Peter Vergalla stopped by for a visit in July; Water Rescue Team training in June; Cranford Police Officers Muhammad, Galvez, & Chamra after their graduation on June 14th from the John H. Stamler Police Academy.



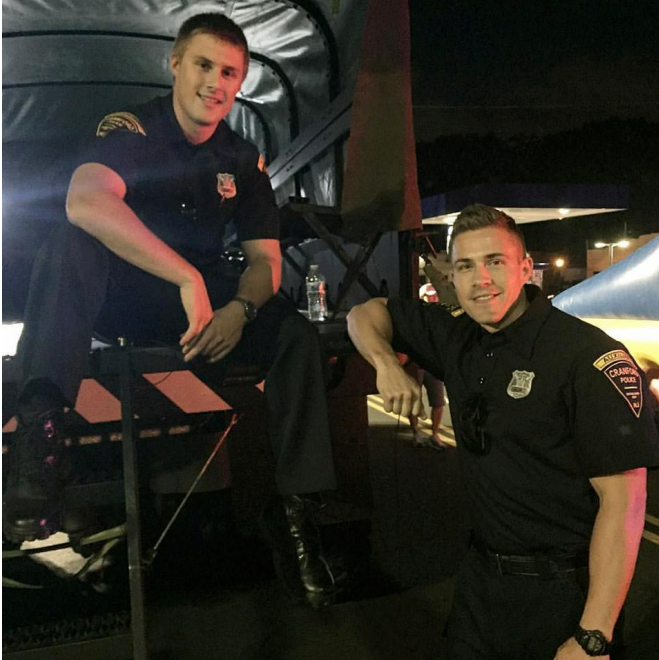


# 2016 - YEAR IN REVIEW



## National Night Out

The CPD took part in the 33rd Annual event on August 2nd from 6-9 pm at Patrolman Robert F. Hand Plaza. Its coordinated by Det. Rieder and Capt. Van Bergen.







# 2016 - YEAR IN REVIEW



## Patrolman Leo Casper

Leo M. Casper died on Wednesday, September 7, 2016 at Raritan Bay Medical Center, Old Bridge Division. He was 78 years old.

Mr. Casper was born in Elizabeth, NJ. He lived in Cranford and, later Hazel Twp., PA for 22 years. He has resided in Rossmoor, Monroe Twp. since 2012. He served in the United States Army and served as a patrolman with the Cranford Police Department for 25 years, 1/1/1963-12/31/1987.



## Patrolman Henry Simon

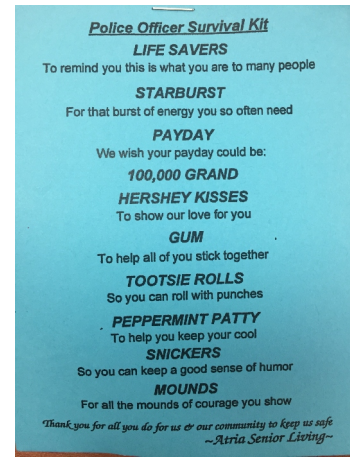
Henry Simon who served with the Cranford Police Department and United States Air Force passed away on October 9, 2016 at the age of 95.

Henry Simon was appointed to the Cranford Police Department on December 29, 1945 and resigned on July 31, 1947 in order to accept a regular military commission as a Lieutenant. Simon went on to be a 2 star Major General in the United States Air Force.

This photo shows Henry Simon as a Patrolman with the CPD in February of 1946.



# 2016 - YEAR IN REVIEW



**Top Photos,** On September 22nd residents of Atria Cranford stopped by to give us the "Police Officer Survival Kits" they made for World Gratitude Day!

**Photo at left,** On September 9th Atria Cranford honored Cranford's 1st Responders with a brunch and tree planting in our honor. The Cranford Police and Fire Departments and EMT's took part. The Linden High School ROTC were the Color Guard.





## 2016 - YEAR IN REVIEW



### **Chief James Wozniak Graduates the FBI National Academy**

Chief James Wozniak graduated from the prestigious FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia on Friday, September 16, 2016. The 265th Session of the National Academy consisted of leaders in law enforcement from 47 states and 24 countries. The two hundred and thirty graduates represented law enforcement agencies ranging from cities to small towns, from colleges to military organizations. Collectively the group had over 4,600 years of law enforcement experience.

For 10 weeks Chief Wozniak underwent intensive professional development course work under the guidance of FBI leadership. At the Academy, he integrated with other law enforcement leaders, living in academy dorms, undergoing strenuous physical training and classroom instruction by seasoned special agents and subject matter experts through the University of Virginia.

The NA has been around since 1935. Prompted by twenty-first century challenges, FBI leadership has adjusted the NA's curriculum to address a host of issues ranging from threats posed by homegrown extremists to tensions between police departments and the communities they serve. One of the bedrock principles of the NA since its inception has been to build strong relationships amongst local, state, federal, and international agencies in order to enhance the flow of critical information and intelligence. And in the current terrorism threat environment and age of Internet radicalization, those bonds are more important than ever before.

All candidates of the academy must be recommended by a leader in law enforcement and then invited by administrators with the academy. There is a waiting list and candidates can sometimes wait years to receive their appointment. Fewer than one percent of American law enforcement is chosen to attend the NA. Graduating the NA is one of the highest achievements for law enforcement worldwide.

FBI Director James Comey was the principal speaker at the ceremony. He spoke of the challenges facing law enforcement and the threats ahead. He praised the graduates for their commitment to the law enforcement profession and willingness to take on the challenges ahead.

A total of 49,464 law enforcement leaders has graduated the NA since its inception. It is the largest law enforcement network in the world.



# 2016 - YEAR IN REVIEW



**Top Photo**, 23 members of the CPD participated in "No-Shave November." This event supports Cancer Research and Education. In 2016, the members of the CPD, nicknamed "The Fuzz", utilized Social Media to raise over \$6,000 for Cancer Research.

**Middle Left Photo**, retired Police Chief Harry Wilde stopped by police headquarters on October 27ths.

**Middle Right Photo**, Detective Kelly Rieder sang the National Anthem at the Union County POW/MIA Remembrance Day ceremony outside the Union County Courthouse in Elizabeth on September 16th.

**Left Photo**, Traffic Maintenance personnel assist with the senior class photo at Cranford High School.





# 2016 - YEAR IN REVIEW

## MOTOR VEHICLE BURGLARY ARREST

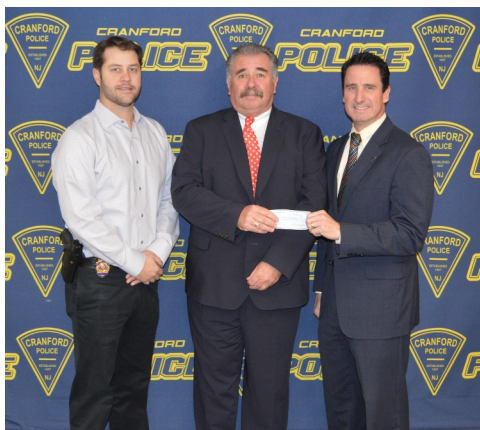
Following a nearly two month long investigation, a Roselle man was arrested and charged with Burglary to a motor vehicle, stemming from a September 20th incident. Christopher Bryant, 19, was arrested at a Roselle residence on November 3, 2016 by Cranford and Clark Police Detectives.

On September 20, 2016, the Cranford Police Department received numerous reports of motor vehicle burglaries in the area of Buchanan Street. An initial investigation headed by Detective Spencer Durkin, led to the recovery of latent fingerprint evidence at the scene of one of the burglaries.

With the assistance of the Bergen County Sheriff's Department Bureau of Criminal Investigation, Bryant was identified as suspect in this incident.

Chief James Wozniak applauded the effort of the Detectives in this investigation. "In the ever evolving technological advances in Law Enforcement, techniques utilized for over a 100 years still play a vital role in solving these type of cases."

Detective Durkin also worked with area Law Enforcement agencies to link Bryant to similar incidents in, and around Union County.



## CPD RECEIVES DONATION FOR BODY ARMOR FROM CRANFORD KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The Cranford Police Department received a donation of \$5,000.00 from the Cranford Knights of Columbus Council 6226. The entire donation will be used to offset the costs of body armor for Cranford Officers. All sworn officers are issued body armor at an expense of close to \$1,000.00 per officer. The body armor needs to be replaced at regular intervals due to manufacturer guidelines.

"The Cranford Knights of Columbus has been a devoted supporter of the men and women of the Cranford Police Department. As an organization we are committed to the safety of all of our officers. In these times, far too many officers in this country are being killed on almost a daily basis. We have to take every precaution to make sure our members go home at the end of their shifts. The cost of equipping our members with body armor is sizeable, but as far as I'm concerned, a small price to pay to help ensure their safety. The generous donation by the Cranford Knights of Columbus will help us keep five of our officers safe for years to come," said Chief Wozniak.

**Pictured, left to right, Captain Guy Patterson, Knights of Columbus Member John Doolan, and Chief James Wozniak.**



## **CPD Upgrades School Resource Vehicle with Generosity of Eii**

In the spirit of showing Cranford-Pride and continuing to build on community relations with our youth, the Cranford Police Department recently upgraded its juvenile bureau police car as a result of the generosity of a local businessman. Mr. John Guempel of Eii Electrical & Mechanical Contractors spearheaded the effort to modify a traditional black and white radio car into to a blue and gold school resource officer vehicle. Currently the car is assigned to the department's school resource officer and can be seen at district schools on a daily basis.

The Township of Cranford and Cranford Board of Education began its school resource officer program in 2014. The initiative aims to bridge the gap between the township's younger generation and local law enforcement. This blended partnership between the police department and schools is symbolically displayed through this unique upgrade in the school resource officer vehicle.

Chief Wozniak thanked both Eii and John Guempel for its generosity in making this upgrade possible. "My goal as Chief has been to continue to bring our community together," said Chief Wozniak. "When we can positively combine efforts of our township, school district and generous local businesses such as Eii, it speaks to the spirit of our community and the caliber of its people."

## **NARCOTICS ARREST**

On November 30, 2016 members of the Cranford Police Department Investigative Division executed a Search Warrant on a Bloomingdale Avenue address. The month long investigation led by Detective Spencer Durkin culminated in the arrest of a township man on multiple narcotics related offenses.

Anthony S. Merola, 19, of Cranford was arrested after Detectives entered the residence, and located a quantity of marijuana, prescription pills, sums of cash, and narcotic related paraphernalia. Merola was charged with Possession with the intent to Distribute(Marijuana), Possession of Marijuana over 50 grams, Possession with intent to Distribute within a 1000 feet of a school, and Possession of Prescription Pills.

Chief James Wozniak praised the persistence of the detectives in this investigation. "The Cranford Police Department will not stand for any level of narcotics activity in the Cranford, especially an operation which is in eye-sight of a Grammar School."





# 2016 - YEAR IN REVIEW

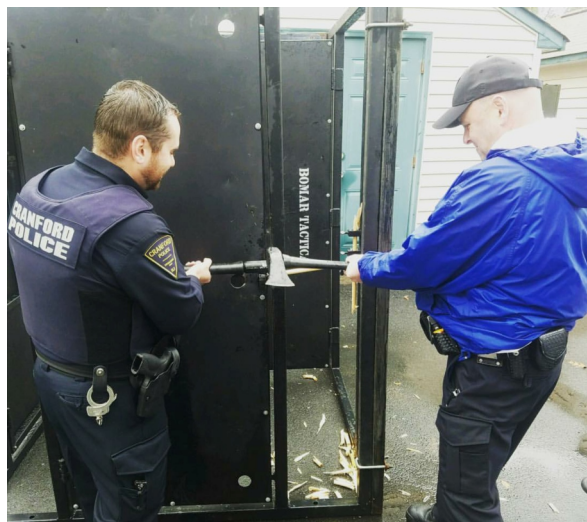


## Investigation Leads to Robbery Arrests

On Saturday November 26th at 2:19 AM a twenty two year old Garwood resident reported that he was beaten and robbed by a group of male suspects while walking on Lincoln Avenue West near Benjamin Street. The group approached the victim as he was walking on the sidewalk , struck the victim in his face causing him to fall, and then one of the actors removed his wallet from his pocket prior to fleeing on foot.

Subsequent to a week long investigation five suspects were identified by Detective Sergeant Ryan Greco and Detective Timothy O'Brien and charged with Second Degree Robbery.

Arrested were John Chinchar, 18, of Cranford, Brian Gioioso, 20, of Cranford, Sean Leonard, 18, of Cranford, John Lobue, 19, of Cranford, and Ahmad Davis, 19, of Cranford. Chinchar, Gioioso, Leonard, and Lobue were arrested on Thursday, December 8th and Davis turned himself in to the Cranford Police on Friday afternoon, December 9th. All five suspects were released on \$10,000.00 bail.



## Investigation Leads to Commercial Burglary Arrest

A nine-month long investigation led to the filing of charges against a trio of individuals following a Commercial Burglary.

On April 17, 2016, the Cranford Police Department responded to an E. North Avenue business following a report of a Burglary and Theft. Upon arriving on the scene, Officers determined that a storage garage had been entered, and a 20 foot landscape trailer had been stolen. Contained within the trailer was an estimated \$45,000 in landscaping equipment.

Utilizing video surveillance, license plate readers, and phone records, Detective Derek Farbanec was able identify the suspects in this intensive investigation.

Costas Constantinou, 41, of Edison and Saverio Macro, 36 of Hillsborough, were each charged with Burglary in the 3rd Degree, Theft in the 3rd Degree, and Criminal Mischief of the 4th Degree. Nunziatina Cucaro, 33 of Edison, was charged with Complicity to Commit Theft of the 3rd Degree. All three were issued complaint summonses pending a Union County Superior Court Appearance.

Chief James Wozniak recognized the efforts of the detective in this incident. "This case shows how methodical investigative techniques and persistence can lead to a successful outcome in this lengthy investigation."



**Top Photo**, motor vehicle crash fronting Union County College on February 25th.

**Middle Photo**, officers Temple and Feeney practicing breaching techniques at the range in November.

**Bottom Photo**, Ptl. Knight with Cub Scout tour.



## Margaret "Peggy" Thermann Administrative Secretary

Margaret R. "Peggy" Thermann, 91, of Brick, N.J., passed away on Wednesday, December 21, 2016. Peggy was a longtime resident of Cranford and lived in Palm Coast, Florida., before returning to Brick 10 years ago. She began working as a clerk in the Cranford Municipal Court in 1967 and became Deputy Court Clerk in 1968. In 1973 she transferred to the Police Department where she served as administrative secretary to the Chief until her retirement in 1988.



**Top Photo,** we were happy to be out escorting Santa and his elves from the Jaycees again this year. This is the 17th year of Santa Deliveries!!

**Bottom Photo,** Officers were once again assigned to foot patrol in the downtown as part of our holiday traffic detail. We want to ensure everyone has a safe and happy holiday when visiting our many stores and restaurants. Mr. Hynes of Hynes Jewelers knows we are out there every year and invited our officers in and offered this caption, "Sharing goodies with Cranford's finest." Thank you to Mr. Hynes for his many years of support and we wish you well in your retirement!





# 2016 - YEAR IN REVIEW

Photos, various lemonade stand visits in 2016.



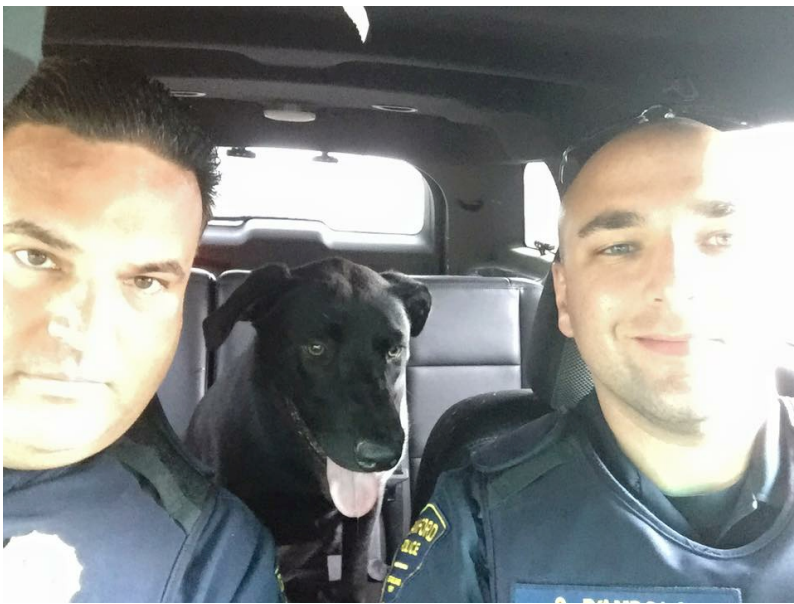
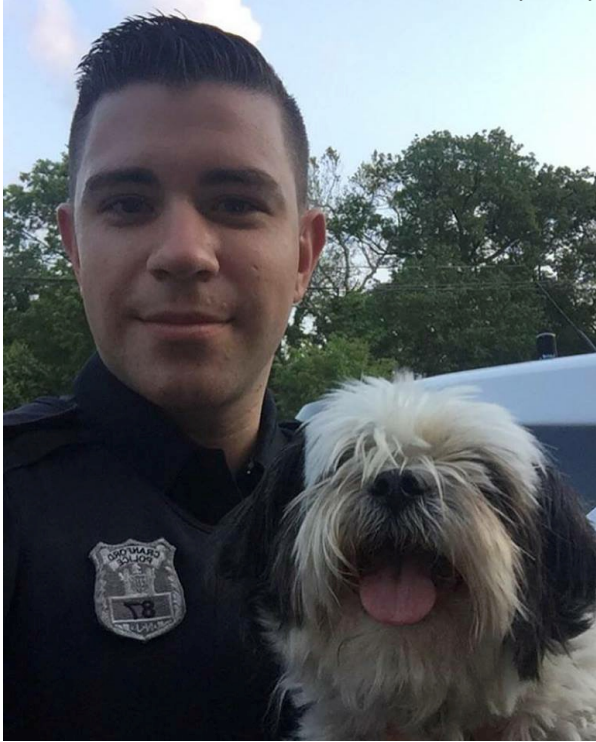
# CRANFORD



# 2016 - YEAR IN REVIEW



**Photos,** During 2016 we continued to find many lost dogs and were able to get them back to their homes thanks to the use of social media. Below are just a few of the dogs we helped get back home. In addition, on Halloween we even rescued a cat from a tree. Who says only fireman save cats from trees?







# 2016 - YEAR IN REVIEW





# 2016 - YEAR IN REVIEW



Photos on Pages 86-87 are a sample of just some of the everyday interactions our officers have with members of the community.







Photos, additional photos of community interaction by our officers as well as some candid pics from 2016.