

# Cranford Police Department Annual Report 2013





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## 2013 Annual Report Table of Contents

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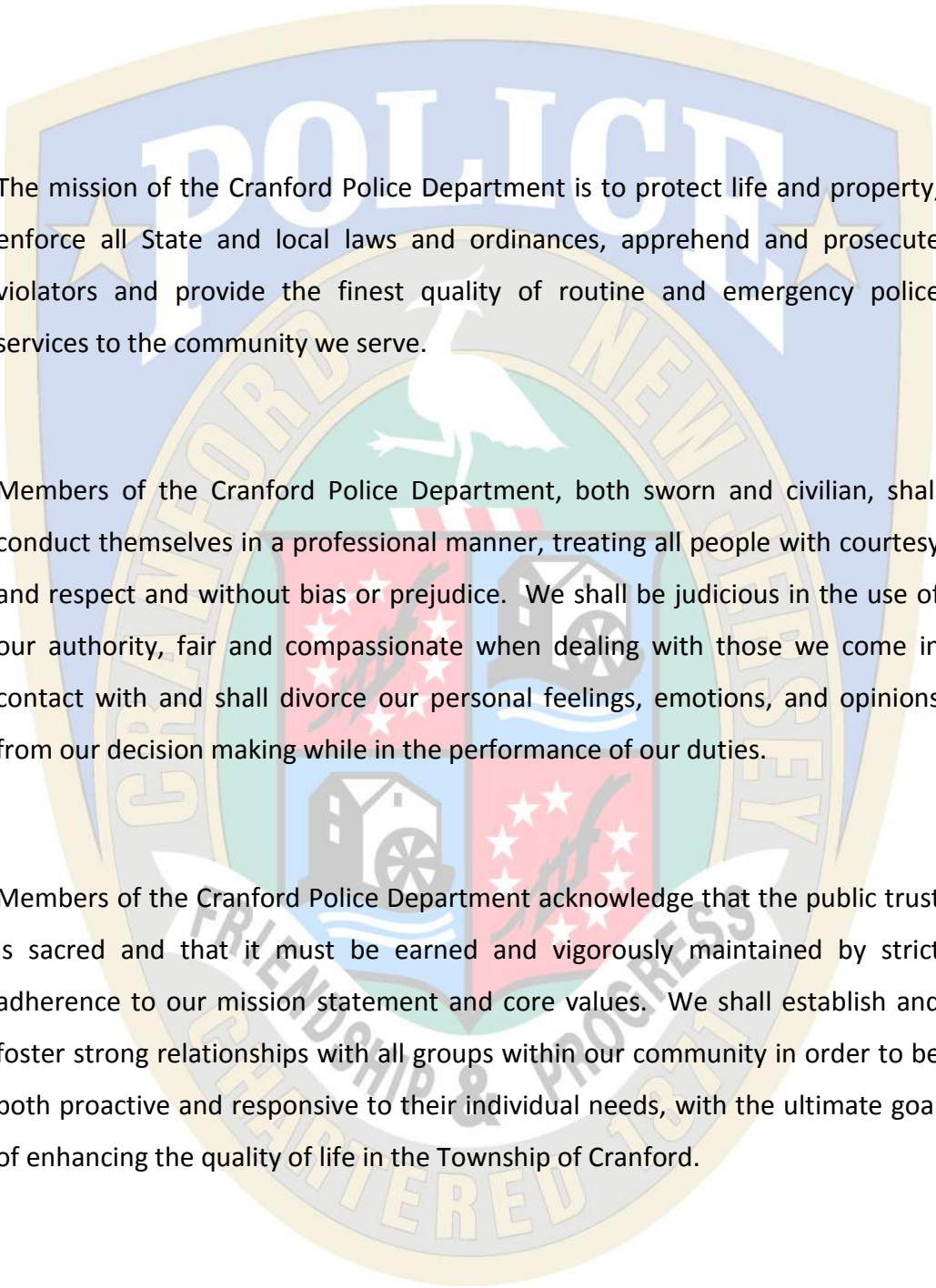
### **Year in Review**

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# Mission Statement

## Cranford Police Department Mission Statement

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The seal of the Cranford Police Department is a large, circular emblem in the background. It features a central shield with a white swan, a red and white striped field, and a blue field with a white house and a wheel. The shield is surrounded by a blue ring with the word 'POLICE' at the top and 'NEW JERSEY' at the bottom. The outermost ring is yellow with the words 'CRANFORD' and 'TOWNSHIP' and the date '1811' and '1894'.

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 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's Letter

Letter from Chief Eric G. Mason

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## CRANFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT

8 SPRINGFIELD AVENUE • CRANFORD, NEW JERSEY 07016-2199  
(908) 272-2222 • FAX (908) 709-7341  
VISIT US ON THE INTERNET • [www.cranford.com/police](http://www.cranford.com/police)

ERIC G. MASON  
CHIEF OF POLICE



Attached is the Cranford Police Department Annual Report for the year 2013. This report summarizes the outstanding efforts of all the members of the police department.

A key accomplishment for the police department in 2013 was receiving reaccreditation from the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police Accreditation Commission. This process recognizes the department's commitment to excellence and professionalism.

This annual report is dedicated to all of the men and women who serve in the police department. Their professionalism, bravery, and sense of duty are immeasurable. It is my honor to serve with them.

The image shows a handwritten signature in black ink. The signature appears to read "Eric G. Mason".

Eric G. Mason  
Chief of Police

*To Protect and Serve*

---

# In Dedication

In Dedication to those who have served as Cranford Police Officers

---

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  
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 Crory  
Edward Csuka  
Donald A. Curry  
Myron Cymbaluk  
Paul R. Cymbaluk  
Samuel W. Cymbaluk  
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 Federici  
Michael Fedroff  
Thomas J. Feeney  
Albert R. Fischer  
**William A. Fischer**  
Steven Gachko  
John T. Gallagher  
Edward J. Galvin  
William G. Gassman  
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  
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  
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.  
Brian M. Lopez  
John E. Lowrey

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# In Dedication

## In Dedication to those who have served as Cranford Police Officers

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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  
Matthew R. Nazzaro  
John G. Neil  
Frank Neilson  
Daniel S. Norton  
Robert I. Nylan  
Timothy W. O'Brien  
John O'Donnell  
William O'Donnell  
Alfred J. Oram  
Gordon J. Ostrowsky  
Harry P. Page, Jr.  
William Parsons  
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.  
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  
William D. Thermann  
Robert C. Thieme

John M. Thimons  
Brian D. Thomas  
Lawrence T. Thomas  
Russell W. Thomas  
Carl Thompson  
Steven R. Toy  
Joseph P. Van Bergen, Jr.  
Vanessa Van Brunt  
Leonard R. Van Saders  
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

**\*Names that appear in bold indicate Chiefs of Police**





# Police Administration

## Cranford Police Department Administration

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**Eric G. Mason**  
Chief of Police



**Joseph P. Van Bergen**  
Captain of Police



**James Wozniak**  
Captain of Police

# Township Committee

## Cranford Township Committee & Administrator

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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.



**Thomas H. Hannen**  
Mayor



**Edward O'Malley**  
Deputy Mayor  
Comm. of Public Works



**Kevin Campbell**  
Commissioner of  
Public Safety



**Lisa Adubato**  
Commissioner of  
Public Affairs



**Andis Kalnins**  
Commissioner of  
Finance

.....  
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.



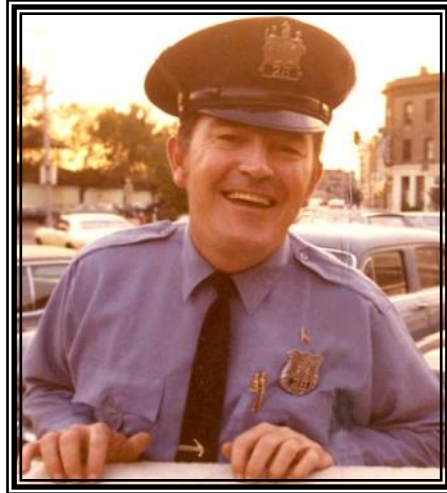
**Joseph M. Hartnett**  
Township Administrator

# In Memoriam

In Memory of Patrolman Robert F. Hand

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## Patrolman Robert F. Hand



This year marked 38 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 Nylen.

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,

# In Memoriam

## In Memory of Patrolman Robert F. Hand

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attaining the rank of Corporal and serving in the Korean Conflict. He received an Honorable Discharge in 1950. Robert was appointed 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.

This year, to honor his memory, members of the Cranford Police Department wore black mourning bands on their badges from Thursday, February 11<sup>th</sup> through Thursday, February 18<sup>th</sup>. In addition, the department designed and installed decals on all police vehicles honouring Patrolman Hand.



“Officer Hand gave his life in service to his community. The sacrifice that he and his family made will never be forgotten. On the anniversary of his death we should all pause for a moment in our day to pay him tribute,” said Cranford Police Chief Eric G. Mason.

# Bureaus & Divisions

## Cranford Police Department Bureaus and Divisions

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### Chief of Police

Eric G. Mason

### Captain

Joseph P. Van Bergen  
James Wozniak

### Lieutenants

Robert A. Colaneri  
Edward R. Davenport  
Stephen D. Wilde  
James Wozniak

### Sergeants

Anthony J. Dobbins  
Thomas J. Feeney  
Craig L. Marino  
Guy E. Patterson  
Eugene J. Perrotta  
Christopher T. Polito  
Gerard P. Quinn  
Richard Vitale  
Frank T. Williams

### Patrol Division

Lt. Stephen D. Wilde  
Lt. Robert Colaneri  
Sgt. Anthony J. Dobbins  
Sgt. Thomas J. Feeney  
Sgt. Frank T. Williams  
Sgt. Guy Patterson  
Sgt. Eugene Perrotta  
Ptl. Peter J. Graczyk  
Ptl. John M. Heesters  
Ptl. Brian M. Lopez  
Ptl. Patrick J. Fay  
Ptl. William K. Pietrucha  
Ptl. Derek M. Farbanec  
Ptl. Brian D. Thomas  
Ptl. Thomas M. Bell  
Ptl. Timothy W. O'Brien  
Ptl. Joseph W. Stulpin  
Ptl. Nadia N. Jones  
Ptl. Nelson W. Hearn, Jr.  
Ptl. Sean T. Holcomb  
Ptl. Matthew R. Nazzaro  
Ptl. Brian J. Wagner  
Ptl. Steven R. D'Ambola  
Ptl. John M. Colineri  
Ptl. Daniel S. Norton  
Ptl. Spencer Durkin  
Ptl. Christopher DiFabio  
Ptl. Thomas C. Stiansen  
Ptl. John J. Rattigan  
Ptl. Kelly A. Rieder  
Ptl. Robert R. Jordan, Jr.  
Ptl. Michael P. Dubitsky  
Ptl. Matthew B. Siessel  
Ptl. Gregory Federici  
Ptl. Daniel J. Donnerstag

### Records Bureau

Det/Sgt. Craig L. Marino  
Clerk Jean H. McComb  
Clerk Suzanne M. Welsh

### Detective Bureau

Det/Lt. James Wozniak  
Det/Sgt. Gerard Quinn  
Det. Robert A. Montague  
Det. Ryan J. Greco

### Juvenile Bureau

D/Sgt. Christopher T. Polito  
Det. John J. Swandrak  
Det. Michael L. Andrews

### Traffic Division

D/Lt. Edward R. Davenport  
Det. Steven R. Toy  
Det. Russell Luedecker

### Traffic Maintenance

Charles E. Fette  
Joseph A. Corbisiero

### Professional Standards

Det/Sgt. Richard Vitale

### Communications Officers

Kathleen A. Ditzel  
Stacy A. Thorn  
Anthony E. Matusawicz  
Jaclyn A. Benkovich  
Ewa Jackson-Feldt  
Michael Urbanski  
Gregory Federici  
Michael O'Neil  
Corey LoForte  
Sandanna Jones  
Megan Berry

### Executive Secretary

Carol Cole



# Personnel Changes

## Cranford Police Department 2013 Personnel Changes

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Michael O'Neil	July 1, 2013	Communication Officer
Robert A. Colaneri	August 1, 2013	Retired Lieutenant
Robert R. Jordan	November 8, 2013	Resigned Patrolman
Corey LoForte	December 1, 2013	Communications Officer
Sandanna Jones	December 1, 2013	Communications Officer
Megan Berry	December 1, 2013	Communications Officer
Matthew B. Siessel	December 19, 2013	Probationary Patrolman
Michael P. Dubitsky	December 31, 2013	Officer 2nd Grade
Gregory Federici	December 31, 2013	Police Academy
Daniel J. Donnerstag	December 31, 2013	Police Academy
Suzanne M. Welsh	December 31, 2013	Resigned Records Clerk



**Photo,** left to right, retired Lieutenant Robert Colaneri and Chief Eric Mason before the December 10, 2013 Township Committee where Lieutenant Colaneri was recognized for his 29 years of law enforcement.

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# Training

## Cranford Police Department Training

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The Cranford Police Department is dedicated to serving our community with a standard of excellence in the performance of our duties. To that end, Chief Eric G. Mason is committed to the concept of continued training to enhance the skills and broaden the knowledge of all personnel thereby enabling them to handle the wide array of situations they encounter with confident professionalism.

Cranford Police Officers receive their mandatory initial training and certification at the John H. Stamler Police Academy in Scotch Plains, New Jersey. Upon graduation, the new officer enters our Field Training Program wherein they are teamed with a more seasoned, formally trained 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 all New Jersey law enforcement officers receive semi-annual training in **Firearms, Use of Force and Vehicular Pursuit** as well as annual training in **Domestic Violence, Bloodborne Pathogens, Hazardous Materials, and Right to Know**. In addition to these topics all personnel received training in **Gas Pipeline Emergency Response, Understanding Influenza Pandemic, and CBRNE Awareness** during the year.

Moreover, throughout their careers, all personnel attend further training updates, programs, seminars and in-house presentations in a broad spectrum of disciplines to ensure our individual and collective competency is of the highest caliber in the service of our citizens.

In 2013 members of the Cranford Police Department completed training as follows:

**Michael Andrews**

Alcotest 7110 Operator Recertification  
NFL Anti-Counterfeiting Training

**Thomas Bell**

Alcotest 7110 Operator Recertification  
Jail Diversion Training

**Megan Berry**

ECO & EMD Certification

**Carol Cole**

POSS User Conference

**John Colineri**

Alcotest 7110 Operator Certification  
Police Response to Active Shooter—Instructor

**Joseph Corbisiero**

NEMA TS1 Troubleshooting  
NJ Transit Contractor Safety

**Steven D'Ambola**

Pharmaceutical Drug Investigations

**Edward Davenport**

Emotional Survival for Law Enforcement  
DDACTS Implementation Workshop  
Emergency Management Basic Workshop  
9th Annual NJ Safety Forum  
Mobile ALPR Training  
Supervising School Crossing Guards

**Christopher DiFabio**

DWI/SFST Refresher Course

**Kathleen Ditzel**

ECO/EMD Recertification

**Anthony Dobbins**

Alcotest 7110 Operator Recertification  
Retirement Planning  
Rail Security & Safety For Front Line Supervisors



# Training

## Cranford Police Department Training

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**Michael Dubitsky**

Drug Recognition / Under the Influence

**Spencer Durkin**

Alcotest 7110 Operator Recertification  
Basic Crime Scene Processing

**Derek Farbanec**

Alcotest 7110 Operator Recertification  
Criminal & Narcotic Interdiction

**Patrick Fay**

ECO/EMD Recertification

**Thomas Feeney**

Emotional Survival for Law Enforcement  
Alcotest 7110 Operator Recertification  
NFL Anti-Counterfeiting Training  
Autism and Law Enforcement

**Charles Fette**

NEMA TS1 Troubleshooting  
NJ Transit Contractor Safety

**Peter Graczyk**

ECO/EMD Recertification  
Alcotest 7110 Operator Recertification  
Mental Health & Excited Delirium  
Retirement Planning

**Ryan Greco**

Alcotest 7110 Operator Recertification  
Advanced Gang ID and Investigations

**Nelson Hearn**

Beyond the Stop

**John Heesters**

Retirement Planning

**Ewa Jackson**

ECO/EMD Recertification

**Sandanna Jones**

ECO & EMD Certifications

**Robert Jordan**

Narcotics Interdiction

**Corey LoForte**

EMD Certification

**Brian Lopez**

Arrest, Search, & Seizure Update  
Jail Diversion Training

**Russell Luedecker**

Basic Crime Scene Processing  
Criminal & Narcotic Interdiction  
Union County Sky Watch  
Mobile ALPR  
Pipeline Safety  
Radar Instructor/Operator Recertification  
Traffic Incident Management  
YAW Refresher

**Craig Marino**

TAC Seminar  
Alcotest 7110 Operator Recertification  
UCR Seminal  
Advanced Authentication Seminar  
Crime and Traffic Analysis  
Preventing Sexual Harassment

**Anthony Matusawicz**

Disasters and the Dispatcher  
Active Shooter Response for Dispatchers

**Robert Montague**

Alcotest 7110 Operator Recertification  
Active Shooter Workshop  
Police Response to Active Shooter—Instructor  
Symposium on School Safety

**Matthew Nazzaro**

Alcotest 7110 Operator Certification  
Methods of Instruction

**Daniel Norton**

Criminal Interdiction

# Training

## Cranford Police Department Training

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### **Timothy O'Brien**

High in Plain Sight  
DWI/SFST Refresher

### **Michael O-Neil**

ECO & EMD Certificatin

### **Guy Patterson**

DWI Recertification  
Advanced Crisis Intervention Team

### **Eugene Perrotta**

Emotional Survival for Law Enforcement  
Conquering the Challengers of Supervision

### **Christopher Polito**

Emotional Survival for Law Enforcement  
Alcotest 7110 Operator Recertification  
NFL Anti-Counterfeiting Training  
Update on Recent Case Law  
NJ Juvenile Officers Association Conference  
Symposium of School Safety  
Prevention of Sexual Harassment in Law Enf.  
Autism and Law Enforcement

### **Gerard Quinn**

Northeast Nixle Conference  
TAC Seminar  
Alcotest 7110 Operator Recertification  
Fusion Liaison Officer Orientation  
Advanced Crisis Intervention Team  
UCR Seminar  
9th Annual Accreditation Conference  
Advanced Authentication Seminar  
Law Enforcement Media Relations  
NJSACOP Assessor  
NPS/CHDS Educational Briefing  
Union County Sky Watch

### **John Rattigan**

Field Training Officer  
Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enf.

### **Joseph Stulpin**

Drug and Crime Interdiction Stops

### **John Swandrak**

Alcotest 7110 Operator Recertification  
Intro to Cell Phone & Mobile Device Forensics  
Domestic Violence Update  
FBI Identifying Warning Signs of School Violence

### **Steven Toy**

Alcotest 7110 Operator Recertification  
Firearms Instructor Certification  
Collision Reconstruction Update  
Mobile ALPR  
Pipeline Safety  
Share the Keys Instructor  
Supervising School Crossing Guards

### **Michael Urbanski**

Disasters and the Dispatcher  
Active Shooter Response for Dispatchers

### **Joseph Van Bergen**

DDACTS Implementation Workshop  
Emergency Management Basic Workshop  
Preventing Sexual Harassment

### **Richard Vitale**

Alcotest 7110 Operator Recertification  
Mechanics of an Internal Affairs Investigation  
Mental Health & Excited Delirium  
Autism Recognition, Response, & Risk Mgmnt.  
Employee Discipline  
Managing the Police Training Function  
NJ Internal Affairs Investigation Program  
Preventing Sexual Harassment

### **Brian Wagner**

Alcotest 7110 Operator Recertification  
DWI/SFST Refresher  
Advanced Crisis Intervention Team  
Crisis Intervention Team

### **Stephen Wilde**

Emotional Survival for Law Enforcement  
Alcotest 7110 Operator Recertification

# Training

## Cranford Police Department Training

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### Frank Williams

Alcotest 7110 Operator Recertification  
Conquering the Challengers of Supervision

### James Wozniak

POSS User Conference  
Cooperative Contracts Roundtable  
DDACTS Implementation Workshop  
NJ Internal Affairs Investigations Program  
Performance Evaluation Process  
Superstorm Sandy Critical Incident Debriefing  
2013 Basic Workshop



**Photos on Pages 14-15** were taken during an Active Shooter training exercise conducted at Cranford Health and Extended Care in May. Additional information on this exercise can be found in the Firearms Unit section on Page 53.

# Training

## Cranford Police Department Training

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# Patrol Division

## Cranford Police Department Patrol Division

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The Patrol Division is the backbone of the Cranford Police Department. It is manned by more officers than any other division within the department. The Division's preventive and proactive patrol efforts contribute toward safe streets and neighborhoods allowing the residents of Cranford to enjoy walking and cycling in complete confidence. Personal safety and property security are a paramount importance in guiding our efforts to preserve public tranquility.

The Patrol Division is under the command of Captain Joseph Van Bergen. He is assisted by Lieutenants Robert Colaneri and Stephen Wilde, who each command a platoon. They are assisted by Anthony Dobbins, Thomas Feeney, Frank Williams, and Eugene Perrotta who are in charge of the four division squads.

There were a total of **39,179** incidents reported to the Cranford Police Department during 2013.

These total incidents are broken down as follows:

**6,800** calls for criminal related activity, including:

- 1,361 calls reporting burglary/trespass/alarm
- 1,863 calls reporting disorderly conduct
- 352 calls reporting thefts/stolen property
- 191 calls reporting vandalism/damage
- 607 calls reporting warrant arrests

**14,648** calls for traffic related activity, including:

- 1,574 calls reporting motor vehicle accidents
- 4,124 calls reporting selective enforcement
- 6,212 calls reporting motor vehicle violation investigations resulting in warnings/ summonses

**13,694** calls requesting public service, including:

- 1,922 medical assistance requests
- 8,539 building examinations and public transportation inspections
- 272 requests for assistance with vehicle/ house lock-outs

**4,037** administrative assignments, including:

- 305 Police Auxiliary/Explorer details
- 1,305 In-Service/L.E.T.N. training



**Photo Above,** Sergeant Guy Patterson with Car #40

# Communications Bureau

## Cranford Police Department Communications Bureau

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The Communications Bureau works very closely with the Patrol Division. Lieutenant Stephen Wilde was assigned to A & B squads and Lieutenant Robert Colaneri was assigned to C & D squads. The lieutenants generally work from noon until midnight to cover a majority of both the day and night shifts. Duties included but were not limited to overseeing day-to-day operations related to Communications, performing the duties of the patrol Watch Commander, and providing coverage for manpower shortages at the Communications Center and for the patrol supervisors.

Eight full time civilian Communications Officers comprise the workforce. The schedule for these Communications Officers is as follows: two day shift officers and two night shift officers per day. Both the Communications Bureau and Patrol Division adhere to the four-day on, four day off work schedule.

Each employee who works in the Communication Center is required to have at least 8 hours per year of continuing education as it relates to 9-1-1 and Emergency Medical Dispatch. Chief Mason assigned Detective Sergeant Richard Vitale to become a certified State of New Jersey instructor in both of these courses. Vitale coordinates all the required training with the New Jersey Office of Emergency Telecommunications Services.

The physical layout of the Communications Bureau provides four separate workstations allowing an environment more conducive to productive work. Three of these stations are for use by the Communications Officers and are a Public Safety Answering Point for

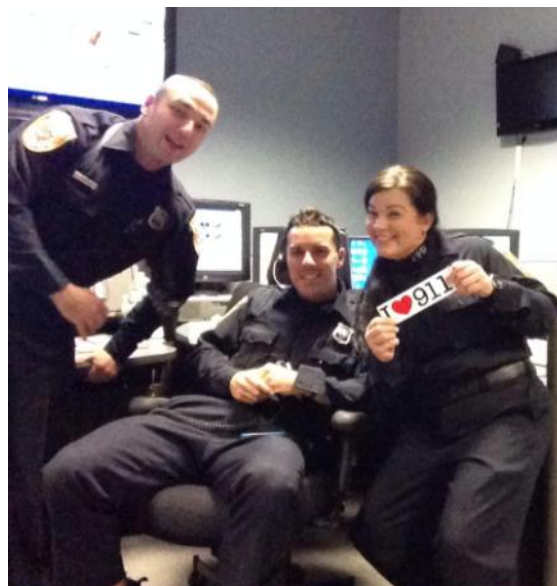
receiving 9-1-1 calls. All radios and paging systems work off of personal computers, which are linked to the Police Department's network. The fourth workstation enables the Supervisor to closely monitor each of the three Communications Officers. The digital and portable radio systems provide encrypted transmissions, emergency alarms on every radio, and individual radio identification.

Due to aging infrastructure we hope to replace the Alarm Monitoring Board in 2014 and get the new 9-1-1 system purchased in late 2013 up and running by January 2014. The door access system was replaced as part of the lower level town hall rebuild. In addition, the radio system is scheduled for replacement in 2014 due to support and hardware changes made by Motorola.

The calls for service for 2013 were **39,179**

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**Photo Below,** *left to right,* Patrolmen D'ambola, Jordan, and Rieder working the police desk.



# Detective Bureau

## Cranford Police Department Investigative Division

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During 2013, Lieutenant James Wozniak served as the Investigative Division Commander until his promotion to Captain in April. Sergeant Gerard Quinn served as Detective Bureau Supervisor and was appointed interim Division Commander in April 2013. Sergeant Christopher Polito served as the supervisor in the Juvenile Bureau. The investigative staff consisted of Detective Robert Montague and Detective Ryan Greco, for the Detective Bureau; and Detective John Swandrak and Detective Michael Andrews for the Juvenile Bureau.

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.

During 2013, Detectives from the Investigative Division responded to numerous crime scenes; interviewed witnesses, victims and suspects; initiated narcotics investigations involving local use and distribution of illegal drugs; solved a series of burglaries and thefts; and followed up on 1723 cases initiated or responded to by patrol officers during the course of the year. Notable cases in 2013 included the February undercover operation and prostitution arrest, the April interception of over 10 pounds of marijuana and the arrest of the intended recipient, the October fraud and theft arrest of a suspect that stole over \$35,000 in Rolex watches. In September 2013, Cranford detectives, in cooperation with the FBI and the Hillside Police, identified and arrested two serial bank robbers. Finally, between January and December 2013, Cranford Detectives conducted numerous narcotics investigations, resulting in multiple arrests, search warrants, and the seizure of marijuana, heroin, prescription medications, MDMA and cocaine, as well as the forfeiture of cash and one automobile.



# Detective Bureau

## Cranford Police Department Investigative Division

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The Cranford Police Department Investigative Division regularly participates in community based programs. In cooperation with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) New Jersey Division, the department participates in “Operation Take Back” on a semi-annual basis. Operation Take Back is a program designed to provide a safe and legal method for the citizens of New Jersey to dispose their unwanted, unused, and expired medicines. The Cranford Police Department, under the direction of Sgt. Gerard Quinn, once again participated in this very successful program. In fact, this program was so successful that in 2013, the Cranford Police collected over 365 pounds of prescription medication.

“National Night Out” has easily become the most popular program the Cranford Police Department is involved with. This program, sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch, is designed to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness, generate support for local anti crime programs, strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-

community relations and send a message to criminals that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back. Detective Robert Montague has been the event organizer since 2005 and its success has grown in popularity with citizens and police officers alike. On display at the event were vehicles and equipment used regularly by the Police Department including police cars, the police motorcycle, our zodiac boats and our emergency command unit. Citizens were entertained by a live DJ, face painting, a magician, and a demonstration presented by the Tae Kwon Do Center of New Jersey. The event was attended by over 500 residents and was a testament to its popularity and success.

The Cranford Police Investigative Division will continue to establish and foster strong relationships with all groups within our community in order to remain both proactive and responsive to their individual and collective needs, with the ultimate goal of enhancing the quality of life in the Township of Cranford.



*Above, Detective Sergeant Christopher Polito instructing at the Cranford Police Youth Academy.*

# Detective Bureau

## Cranford Police Department Investigative Division

2013 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	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	4
Assault	3	8	6	3	6	3	1	6	4	5	0	4	49
Burglary	2	3	2	2	1	2	2	2	0	1	3	6	26
Theft	12	12	7	17	21	16	11	7	11	16	8	12	150
MV Theft	2	1	0	0	0	2	0	1	2	0	2	1	11
Arson	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>241</b>

CLASS I OFFENSES		
	2012	2013
Homicide	0	0
Rape	2	0
Robbery	7	4
Assault	60	49
Burglary	50	26
Theft	152	150
MV Theft	5	11
Arson	1	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>241</b>

ARRESTS		
	2012	2013
Adult	369	427
Juvenile	107	31
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>473</b>	<b>458</b>

AGGRAVATED ASSAULTS ON POLICE	
2012	2013
3	4

CLASS II OFFENSES		
	2012	2013
Fraud	123	110
Stolen Property	14	23
Criminal Mischief	207	114
Weapons Offenses	10	7
Sex Offenses (not Rape)	7	3
Narcotics Investigations	140	191
Family Offenses	61	57
DWI	54	70
Liquor Offenses	5	10
Disorderly Conduct	533	453
Missing Persons	55	39
All Other Offenses	326	396
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,535</b>	<b>1,473</b>

CASES ASSIGNED TO DETECTIVES	
2012	2013
1,606	1,723

# Juvenile Bureau

## Cranford Police Department Investigative Division

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The Juvenile Bureau offers an informal atmosphere conducive to creating a positive interaction between juveniles, parents, and the Cranford Police Department. Parents are critical in fostering positive moral and social character development. Parents need to ask questions, make suggestions, console, comfort, support, encourage, discuss, teach, befriend, communicate, trust and respect their children. A parent who is actively involved their child's life does make a difference. In 2013 the Cranford Police Department Juvenile Bureau was supervised by Det/Sgt. Christopher Polito. Detectives John Swandrak, and Michael Andrews were designated as Juvenile Detectives, however they handled a large quantity of adult cases as well.

The responsibilities and functions relating to juvenile delinquency, deterrence, and enforcement are exercised through the Family Court, Union County Prosecutor's Office and departmental policies.

The goals of the Juvenile Justice System are:

- To ensure that public safety is protected.
- To rehabilitate the juvenile so that he or she can grow into a resourceful and productive person who will contribute positively to society.
- To hold the juvenile accountable for his or her acts.

All cases assigned to the Juvenile Bureau are handled by a follow-up investigation, which may result in the signing of juvenile complaints. Juveniles are taken into custody to protect the health, morals and well being of the juvenile. Juveniles are not arrested.

All investigations and complaints are handled individually and impartially. Many times, formal involvement in the juvenile justice system is unwarranted and may even be counterproductive. Juvenile officers attempt to resolve minor incidents without the need to file a complaint with the court. In these cases, the victim is given the opportunity to have input as to the final resolution of the matter. The officers, in agreement with the victim, juvenile offender, and their families, fashion the juvenile's consequences specifically to the needs of the involved parties. In these instances, the matter is resolved swiftly and to the satisfaction of the victim, the police, and the juvenile and their family.

The purpose of diverting juvenile offenders from appearing before the Family Court in Elizabeth is to seek the help specifically designed to educate and rehabilitate the individual. During the past year, juvenile offenders have been referred to the Fire Setter Program of the Cranford Fire Department, the Trinitas Mental Hygiene Unit, the Carrier Clinic, the High Focus Center, and the S.E.R.V. Center. The Juvenile Bureau has an excellent working relationship with school officials.

The Union County Youth Service Bureau - Crisis Intervention Unit serves as a mediation mechanism designed to preserve the unity of the family, whenever possible, and to secure for each child the appropriate care, guidance and control in the best interest of the child's welfare. The Union County Youth Service Bureau has added several programs that have helped the Juvenile Bureau with Stationhouse Adjustments. These programs include

# Juvenile Bureau

## Cranford Police Department Investigative Division

Community Service, a Shoplifting Seminar, and Anti-Bullying. These programs help the Juvenile Bureau make juveniles accountable for their actions when they break the law as a first time offender. As per the Cranford Police Department's policy all alcohol and drug cases must be handled by with a formal juvenile complaint and submitted to the Family Court.

The Juvenile Conference Committee continued to play an active, integral part in the adjudication of juvenile delinquents. The members of the J.C.C. are volunteers from Cranford who are trained by court staff and appointed by the Presiding Judge of the Family Court to informally hear juvenile complaints that are referred by the court. The J.C.C. is primarily concerned with preventing future misconduct of young people. All matters coming before the Committee are strictly confidential. The JCC usually handles all first time alcohol offenses and are now handling first time CDS cases involving under 50g of marijuana.

The Juvenile Bureau staff members, Det./Sgt. Chris Polito, Det. John Swandrak, and Det. Michael Andrews, have participated in and served on committees for the following organizations: Cranford Municipal Alliance, Cranford Police Athletic League, Union County Juvenile Officers Association, , and the New Jersey Juvenile Officers Association. They have been involved in activities in many school activities such as Project Graduation, The Prom,

Cranford High School Graduation, Cranford High School Criminal Justice Classes, Prom Safety lecture and various other school lectures and programs in the Cranford School System. D/Sgt. Polito teaches the law enforcement block of instruction on Juvenile Law, Policy and Procedures to the Police Recruits, and the Juvenile Update to law enforcement officers at the Union County Police Academy. Detective Montague and Officer D'Ambola conducted the 7th session of the Youth Academy in 2013.

**Photos below,** 2013 season of the PAL Football Team and Cheerleading at Memorial Field.



# D.A.R.E. Program

## Drug Abuse Resistance Education

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The D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) program is sponsored by the Cranford Municipal Alliance. More than 6,000 students have graduated from the DARE program since it was first introduced into the Cranford school system in 1991. Detective Sergeant Richard Vitale taught the DARE program to over three hundred Cranford 5<sup>th</sup> graders at Brookside, Hillside, Livingston and Orange Avenue schools as well as Saint Michael's school, in 2013.

DARE is a collaborative effort by certified law enforcement officers, educators, students, parents and the community to offer an educational program in the classroom to prevent drug abuse and violence among juveniles. All fifth graders receive a structured, 10-week program presented by a certified DARE officer. The goal of the program is to mitigate risk factors and build protective factors related to drug abuse in order to promote healthy lifestyles and prevent alcohol, tobacco and other drug abuse. The program is designed to provide students with the skills, knowledge and attitudes needed for positive development to prevent initiating drug abuse and to keep the school community

drug free.

DARE offers a variety of interactive, group participation, and cooperative-learning activities designed to encourage students to make healthy decisions and avoid the negative consequences resulting from drug abuse. The children are not only taught to say "No" but also how to say "No". This is accomplished through the presentation of ten lessons focused upon:

- Goal Setting
- Decision Making
- Identifying and Managing Emotions
- Effective Communication
- Bonding and Relationships
- Alcohol
- Tobacco
- Marijuana
- Inhalants and Street Drugs
- Course Overview

The DARE program transitioned to the Mendez Foundation's "Too Good for Drugs" evidence based curriculum in the fall of 2013, to meet standards established by the NJ Association of School Administrators and agreed to by DARE NJ.



# P.A.L. Program

## Cranford Police Athletic League

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The Cranford PAL completed its 32nd year of serving the youth of Cranford in 2013. 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 is operated under the direction of Executive Director, Det./Sgt. Chris Polito and the 17 members of the Board of Directors. Members of the PAL Board of Directors are: Honorary Chairman, Chief Eric Mason, Capt. James Wozniak, Retired Lt. Bob Colaneri, Sgt. Frank Williams, Off. Matt Nazzaro (Vice President), Off. Steve D'Ambola (Treasurer), civilians; Gregg Wheatley (President), Kim Capece, Jim Kwiatowski, John Oblachinski, Bob Bruns, Brian McGovern, Michael Plick, Andrea DaSilva, Jocelyn Alfandre, Rich Meola, 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 seven (7) football teams for 3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade athletes. There were two

7<sup>th</sup> grade teams due to the amount of participants. Brian McGovern, program director, 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. 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 five (5) squads this year. The participants are girls in 3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> 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.

The PAL basketball program consisted of nine (9) teams, all which participated in the Garden State Basketball League. The boys program consists of five (5) teams, a 4<sup>th</sup> grade team, a 5<sup>th</sup> grade team, a 6<sup>th</sup> grade team, 7<sup>th</sup> grade team and an 8<sup>th</sup> grade team. The program has four (4) girls basketball teams for 5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> 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.

# P.A.L. Program

## Cranford Police Athletic League

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The wrestling program continued to grow in number of participants and in success on the mat. The program has approximately 90 wrestlers participating for the 2013/2014 season. The Program Director, Kevin Murray, and assistants Jerry Capece and Jim Wozniak 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 flag rugby program is co-sponsored by the PAL and the Union County Rugby Football Club. The season runs from June through July with games on Saturdays at Unami Park. There were approximately 100 participants in the 2013 season.

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 American Cancer Society, The St. Michael's Feast, The Cranford First Aid Squad, The Cranford PBA, the Knights of Columbus, The Union County Emerald Society, The Chatham Township Unity Tour and The CAT 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. The 2013 scholarships were awarded to Robert Kessler and Jenna Goehler.



**Photo Above,** PAL Basketball Team.



# Internet & Social Media

Cranford Police Department Website, Facebook, Twitter, Nixle

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## 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 the following information and services...

- It lists the department's address, telephone numbers, and email address ([police@cranfordnj.org](mailto:police@cranfordnj.org)).
- It links to other social media sites used by the police department to communicate with the public.
- It shows pictures of department members, activities and equipment.
- It contains information and application instructions for the Police Auxiliary and Police Explorers Post.
- It presents special announcements, community updates, drunk driving enforcement news, and other current information on a "bulletin board" page.
- It allows the viewing, downloading and printing of common forms, applications, and ordinances online.
- It presents traffic safety tips and program information, including bicycle/

pedestrian safety, child seat information, safe driving campaigns, and links to the municipal court traffic ticket payment system.

- It provides crime prevention tips and advice for workers, seniors, homeowners and children.
- It lists Police Athletic League, DARE, and juvenile justice information.
- It presents a number of links to related police, local, and governmental websites.

In the past fifteen years (since 1998) the Department's Internet home page has logged over 243,000 visits to the site. In 2013, the Cranford Police home page averaged over 1,554 visits per month, totaling 18,652 visits from over 11,200 unique visitors. 4,231 visitors (22%) used a mobile platform such as Apple or Android to access the site. In addition, over 850 visitors in 2013 took advantage of the Department's online form downloads.

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 (page hits were received from 94 distinct countries) have exchanged training and scheduling information, have requested patches or memorabilia, or have just stopped by to say "hi." Retired officers have checked in from as far away as Arizona and Florida.

# Internet & Social Media

Cranford Police Department Website, Facebook, Twitter, Nixle

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## 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, winner of the 2011 award for best Mass Notification System given by the publication Government Security News. Throughout the year the Nixle platform was also used to alert residents to scheduled road work, traffic concerns and delays, public events, weather alerts and other relevant topics. As of December 2013, over 7,300 Internet users were registered for this service—an increase of 800 from 2012.



In March 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 1.2 billion users as of October 2013. 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, 2013 the Cranford Police Department's Facebook page had 1,361 followers, representing a 31% increase over the previous year's total.



Also in March 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. Over 700 Internet users have 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 1,400 messages.

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.

## 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 Detective Sergeant Gerard Quinn (in cooperation with the web design team at [Cranford.com](http://Cranford.com)), Detective Lieutenant Edward Davenport and Captain Joseph Van Bergen. 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 new millennium.

# Auxiliary Police

## Cranford Police Department Auxiliary Police

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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.

The Cranford Auxiliary Police, in 2013, is a service organization composed entirely of volunteer members, and operates under the division of the Cranford Office of Emergency Management. All members are required to be at least 18 years of age, possess a high school diploma or GED, and complete a twelve-week, Basic Auxiliary Police Course, prior to performing active duty with the unit. This training is provided annually at the John H. Stamler Police Academy. Their duties are designed to augment those of full-time, sworn police personnel and include directed foot and vehicular patrols, traffic control, enforcement of laws, ordinances and regulations, apprehension of violators, detaining of suspicious persons, and providing emergency services during times of natural disaster and civil unrest.

2013 membership of the Cranford Auxiliary Police stands at 18 - current members are:

# Auxiliary Police

## Cranford Police Department Auxiliary Police

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Auxiliary Captain Ralph Gregson  
Auxiliary Lieutenant Anthony Matusawicz  
Auxiliary Lieutenant James Nalepa  
Auxiliary Sergeant Russell Albert  
Auxiliary Sergeant Michael Urbanski  
Auxiliary Officer Philip Andrews  
Auxiliary Officer Edward Bernier, Jr.  
Auxiliary Officer Justin Conklin  
Auxiliary Officer Archie DeMartino  
Auxiliary Officer Terance Duane  
Auxiliary Officer James Grogan  
Auxiliary Officer Ewa Jackson-Feldt  
Auxiliary Officer Ken Novak  
Auxiliary Officer Avsar Patel  
Auxiliary Officer Alexander Ruiz  
Auxiliary Officer Jedeon Virata  
Auxiliary Officer Matt Wichelns  
Auxiliary Officer Francis Young

In 2013, the Cranford Police Auxiliary welcomed James Grogan, Avsar Patel, Alexander Ruiz and Matt Wichelns, who graduated from the Auxiliary Police Academy in May of 2013. All four officers are an enthusiastic and dedicated addition to our unit and we wish them all years of successful involvement in the organization. Two officers departed our ranks during 2013; Officer Terance Duane and Matt Wichelns. Officer Terance Duane resigned due to a new job position. Officer Matt Wichelns was hired by the New Jersey Department of Corrections and is currently attending the State Academy. We appreciate their service to Cranford and wish them success in their new endeavors. We have four new Auxiliary Officers, including two women, attending the 2014 Auxiliary Police Academy; Stephanie Cistrelli, Briana Hall, Anthony DeMeo and Timothy Lipsowski. They are scheduled to graduate in

May, 2014 and begin performing actual duties and field training with experienced officers. We proudly recognize and commend Auxiliary Officer Justin Conklin and Officer Ewa Jackson-Feldt on achieving five years of service and Auxiliary Captain Ralph Gregson on achieving 20 dedicated years of service.

The Cranford Auxiliary Police had a 24% increase in hours volunteered in 2013, totaling 2,366 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.



**Photo Above,** Auxiliary Officer Andrews, right, with Patrolman Jordan at Nation Night Out.

# Police Explorer Post

## Cranford Police Explorer Post #74

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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.

The Cranford Police Explorer Post #74 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 Sergeant Christopher Polito, and Patrolman Steven D'Ambola

In 2013 the Post had 17 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 over 250 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 enforcement, CDS investigations, gang recognition, crime scene investigation, first aid, CPR and other basic department procedures.

Some of the activities the Post participated in during 2013 were traffic control at the 4<sup>th</sup> of July fireworks, Spring and Fall Festivals, Memorial Day parade, and firearms qualifications. 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.



**Left Photo,** *left to right,* Cranford Police Explorers Patrick Plummer, Peter Sopranzetti, Dylan McCabe, Erik Moneagudo during firearms training at the range.



# Records Bureau

## Cranford Police Department Records Bureau

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Detective Sergeant Craig Marino commands the Records Division, which has many responsibilities. One of the primary responsibilities is records management. Every report generated within the Cranford Police Department gets processed through the Records Division for data entry 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 access to these reports under the provisions set forth in the Open Public Records Act. Reports are also provided to attorneys under discovery rules for courtroom proceedings. These acts are completed with the help of his experienced administrative staff, Jean McComb and Suzanne Welsh. Both Administrative Clerks are well versed in Gun Permit Rules, Dog and Cat Licensing, Parking Rules, Alarm Registrations, Rules of Discovery, The Open Public Records Act and Criminal Record Expungements. These are just some of the responsibilities that fall under the Records Division.

Most of the services provided by the Records Division generate revenue. The Records Division registered alarms for businesses and residences within the Township and billed for multiple false alarms. This provided for a total revenue of \$33,851.50.

In January of each year, the Records Division teams up with the Cranford Health Department and hold a rabies clinic for both cats and dogs. At this clinic we have a table set up for the issuance of licenses. Residents brave the, usually in climate, weather to obtain two valuable services in one outing. This valuable service is well

received not only by the Township residents, but also their pets. A license for a cat or dog that is spayed or neutered is sold for \$18.00 and a license for a cat or dog that is not spayed or neutered is sold for \$21.00. A total of 199 cats and 1045 dogs were licensed. This generated a total revenue of \$22,453.75.

As a commuter town, parking is a vital resource to the infrastructure. It is what draws many hard working families to Cranford. Easy accessibility to New York City, Newark Liberty Airport and the many prestigious learning institutions in the metro area entices many to our Town. Our parking program allows for a variety of uses in our downtown area. The Records Division issues parking permits for commuters, shoppers, business owners, and residents. The nine (9) hour permit provides business owners and their employees a place to park while providing goods and services to the town. These permits cost \$500.00 for the year. They are issued semi-annual or annual. Twelve (12) hour permits allow the mass transportation commuter flexibility in their workday. Twelve (12) hour parking permits are also issued semi-annual or annual and cost \$600.00 for the year. For those that live in the downtown area we provide overnight parking permits at \$200.00 for the year. The Records Division also issues smart cards to be used at the pay stations. Some roadways in Cranford allow for residential exemptions from parking restrictions. These permits are free of cost. These permits are color-coded for different sections of town. Parking continues to be our largest revenue generator at \$395,483.75.

# Records Bureau

## Cranford Police Department Records Bureau

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The Records Division also collects revenues from Firearms Applications, Fingerprinting, Bicycle Licensing and copies of Police Reports. 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 Department provides this service for a fee of \$5.00 for residents.

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. Adding the parking and animal licensing revenue to the daily revenue from Firearms Applications, Fingerprinting Services, Bicycle Licensing,

and Police Reports brought the **total revenue for 2013 to \$463,626.05.**

Sergeant Marino is also the Terminal Agency Coordinator (TAC Officer) and he is responsible for maintenance, training and review of the NCIC, CJIS, CCH and NCIC2000 systems. Every employee was trained and passed a test on the proper use of these systems. The New Jersey State Police also performed an audit of this function and did not find any deficiencies. The Records Division also has the responsibility of entering data from all motor vehicle summonses and warnings issued into an access database. The Traffic Division uses this database to issue a statistical monthly report on the number and type of summonses issued.



**Photos Above,** Patrolman Matthew Nazzaro gives a tour of the police department January 12th to Den 15 of a local Cub Scout Pack.



# Traffic Division

## Cranford Police Department Traffic Division

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The Traffic Division is comprised of a division commander, two traffic detectives, two traffic maintenance personnel, one meter enforcement officer, 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 insure 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 Toy is responsible for organizing and conducting bicycle and pedestrian safety lectures as well as bicycle rodeos at every grammar school in Cranford.

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

Detective Lieutenant Edward Davenport, Detective Steven Toy and Detective Russell Luedecker 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 Luedecker 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

# Traffic Division

## Cranford Police Department Traffic Division

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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 2013 totaling \$12,800. The first was \$4,000 for “Click It or Ticket” efforts between May 20<sup>th</sup> and June 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Department also received \$4,400 of grant money for the “Over the Limit, Under Arrest” DWI Enforcement program from August 16<sup>th</sup> to September 2<sup>nd</sup> and \$4,400 for “Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over” DWI Enforcement from December 6<sup>th</sup> to January 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### **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.

One engineering project started in 2013 was the addition of a traffic signal at the intersection of Hillside Avenue and Centennial Avenue. This project was completed by the County of Union after a traffic study was completed by the Traffic Division and then recommended to the Union County Engineering Department.

### **Law Enforcement Challenge**

The Cranford Police Department was honored in May for receiving a second place finish in the 46-75 officer category of the ***New Jersey Law Enforcement Challenge***.

### **Community Programs**

***PACE Car Program:*** This is a citizen based traffic calming program which supplements the department’s Keep Kids Alive Drive 25® 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

# Traffic Division

## Cranford Police Department Traffic Division

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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. During the past year the following projects were handled by the Traffic Division and placed on the agenda of this committee for review:

In 2013, Metric Parking, the vendor which maintains our parking pay stations, announced that our equipment was no longer supported by today's technology and the machines themselves would not communicate once the 2G networks were phased out. Research was completed throughout the first half of the year which led to a bid opening in mid-August for a replacement. Integrated Technical Systems

won the award to sell Digital Payment Technologies' Luke II pay station. In the fall, a proposal was turned over to the Township Committee to replace all the pay station machines in downtown Cranford.

### **SCHOOL GUARDS**

During the 2012-2013 school year the Traffic Division was required to provide coverage at **90** 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 **182** public/parochial school days occurred of which **105** did not require members of the police department to fill in for a school guard. This equated to **.49** school guards out every school day which was a slight decrease over the **.91** the previous year (2011-2012) and from the **1.49** in 2010-2011. 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 2013 the Traffic Division coordinated and filled **601 off duty jobs**. These jobs include traffic control at township festivals and construction zones, as well as security at private events.

# Traffic Division

## Cranford Police Department Traffic Division

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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 Toy 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 2013 about **277 vehicles** were towed and two auctions were held for any vehicles not reclaimed by owners. Detective Toy is in charge of advertising, setting up, and running the department's car, bicycle, and equipment auctions.

Also, Detective Toy is responsible for the data entry of the daily crash reports and vehicle reports. He is responsible for School Crossing Guard training and payroll.

Detective Toy is a member 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 a certified Child Passenger Seat Technician.

Detective Luedecker is responsible for the in-car video camera systems, portable radio maintenance and assists in managing fleet maintenance. In addition, Detective Luedecker 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 and Radar Instructor. Detective Luedecker is a member of the Union County Traffic Officers Association (Secretary), New Jersey Police Traffic Officers Association, and is a Notary Public.

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 425 on-street parking meters and twenty-six central space rental machines 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 smart-phone with web access that reports real time use of the lots. A quick glance at the phone 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

# Traffic Division

## Cranford Police Department Traffic Division

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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 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 2013. 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.

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

Detective Lieutenant Edward R. Davenport

Detective Sergeant Guy Patterson (Jan-Mar)

Detective Steven R. Toy

Detective Russell J. Luedecker

### **Civilian Personnel included:**

Ralph Gregson, *Parking Enforcement*

Charles Fette, *Traffic Maint.*

Joseph Corbisiero, *Traffic Maint.*

Sean Trotter, *Summer Traffic Maint.*

Kurt Rutmeyer, *Summer Traffic Maint.*



**Photo Above,** Detective Toy giving a Bicycle Safety Lecture to local students in October.



# Traffic Division

## Cranford Police Department Traffic Division

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**Top Photo**, a two car crash with roll over at the intersection of Commerce & Jackson Drives in October.

**Bottom Photo**, a five car collision on Cranford Terrace in March.

# Law Enforcement Challenge

## Cranford Police Department: 2012 Law Enforcement Challenge Winners

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The Cranford Police Department was recently honored after receiving a second place finish in the 46-75 officer category of the New Jersey Law Enforcement Challenge. The Law Enforcement Challenge is a competition between similar sizes and types of law enforcement agencies. It recognizes and rewards the best overall traffic safety programs in the United States. The areas of concentration include efforts to enforce laws and educate the public about occupant protection, impaired driving, and speeding. The winning safety programs are those that combine officer training, public information, and enforcement to reduce crashes and injuries within its jurisdiction. The Township of Cranford saw a 14% decrease in overall crashes in 2012.

The Cranford Police Department also finished the competition with the third

highest overall score for all department categories. For placing third overall, the department received a portable Drager Alcotest 6510 screener valued at \$450. In addition to the portable alcotest unit, Drager will also train the entire department on the use of the device at no cost.

The Law Enforcement Challenge is financed through a grant awarded to the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). Both of these organizations believe an increase in traffic enforcement in a community results in a decrease in motor vehicle crashes, injuries, and fatalities. The New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police has established its own state Challenge program along with the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety.



**Above,** Captain Van Bergen and Detective Lieutenant Davenport accepting the department's Law Enforcement Challenge award.

# Crashes and Injuries

## Cranford Police Department Crashes and Injuries Summary

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### **REPORTABLE CRASHES**

	2012		2013		
Type	Crashes	Fatal	Crashes	Fatal	% Change
Motor Vehicle vs. Motor Vehicle	75	0	65	0	-13%
Motor Vehicle vs. Fixed Object	14	1	10	0	-33%
Motor Vehicle vs. Pedestrian	7	0	5	0	-29%
Motor Vehicle vs. Bicyclist	5	0	6	0	+20%
Motor Vehicle vs. Parked Vehicle	5	0	5	0	0%
Other	0	0	2	0	200%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-13%</b>

### **NON-REPORTABLE CRASHES**

Type	2012	2013	% Change
Motor Vehicle vs. Motor Vehicle	353	405	+15%
Motor Vehicle vs. Fixed Object	39	55	+41%
Motor Vehicle vs. Pedestrian	0	2	200%
Motor Vehicle vs. Bicyclist	3	0	-300%
Motor Vehicle vs. Parked Vehicle	131	145	+11%
Other	10	8	-20%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>536</b>	<b>615</b>	<b>+15%</b>

### **INJURIES**

Type	2012	2013	% Change
Transported to Hospital	52	48	-8%
Complaint of Pain (RMA)	85	64	-25%
Fatality	1	0	-100%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>-19%</b>

# Violations

## Cranford Police Department Motor Vehicle Violations

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The following is a comparative classification of motor vehicle violations between the period of January 2013 and December 2013 with the same period in 2012.

VIOLATION	2012	2013
Speeding	102	58
Stop Sign	36	36
Careless Driving	260	261
Reckless Driving	1	5
Driving Under The Influence	54	68
Open Container In Vehicle	13	18
CDS In Motor Vehicle	61	104
Wrong Way on One Way Street	5	3
Traffic Signal	71	78
Improper Passing	33	30
Illegal Turns	84	66
Obstructing Traffic	80	77
Driving While On Cell Phone	63	47
Unlicensed Driver	48	69
Revoked Driver	155	234
Unregistered Vehicle	109	141
Uninsured Motorist	25	29
No License In Possession	68	54
No Registration In Possession	94	69
No Insurance Card In Possession	109	121
Leaving The Scene Of An Accident	19	19
Fictitious/Obstructed Plates	141	131
Maintenance Of Lamps	344	337
Seatbelt Violations	491	495
Safety Glass Violations	312	220
Inspection Law	145	109
Other Hazardous Violations	83	80
Other Non-Hazardous Violations	130	81
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>3,136</b>	<b>3,040</b>

# Violations

## Cranford Police Department Parking Violations

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The following is a comparative classification of parking violations between the period of January 2013 and December 2013 with the same period in 2012.

VIOLATION	2012	2013
Meter Parking	4,316	3,917
4:30 P.M. to 6:00 P.M.	399	370
Restricted Hours	438	254
9 Hour Permit	285	323
12 Hour Permit	100	90
Overnight Parking	421	406
25' Of An Intersection	13	19
25' Of A Crosswalk	225	382
2 Hour Limit	341	262
10' Of A Fire Hydrant	11	11
50' Of A Stop Sign	57	115
Parked On A Crosswalk	1	0
Parked On A Sidewalk	9	9
Blocking A Driveway	20	27
School Zone	16	55
Bus Stop	0	0
Disabled Vehicle	2	1
Fire Zone	31	51
Facing Wrong Direction On Street	47	73
Between Signs	2	4
Head In Only	43	66
Not Within Lines	127	82
Handicapped	26	20
Loading Zone	35	20
Meter Feeding	26	7
No Parking Anytime	185	124
Other Parking Violations	18	34
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>7,194</b>	<b>6,722</b>



# Motorized Equipment

## Cranford Police Department Motorized Equipment

The Cranford Police Department's motorized equipment presently consists of 39 units; 20 cars, six sport utilities, two motorcycles, three traffic trucks, one electric vehicle, five trailers, and two boats with trailers. Below is a list of these vehicles:

- 1 2010 Harley Davidson Motorcycle
- 1 1995 Harley Davidson Motorcycle
- 1 2013 Ford Utility Police Interceptor 4X4
- 1 2010 Chevrolet Tahoe 4X4
- 1 2008 Chevrolet Tahoe 4X4
- 1 2006 Ford Explorer 4X4
- 1 2004 Ford Explorer 4X4
- 1 2004 Ford Excursion 4X4
- 5 2012 Dodge Chargers
- 1 2010 Dodge Charger
- 5 2010 Ford Police Interceptors
- 3 2008 Ford Police Interceptors
- 1 2006 Ford Police Interceptors
- 1 2005 Ford Police Interceptor
- 1 2003 Ford Police Interceptor
- 1 2002 Ford Police Interceptors

- 1 2000 Ford LTD Crown Victorias
- 1 2001 Ford F-450 Super Duty Platform Truck
- 1 2000 Ford F-450 Super Duty Bucket Truck
- 1 1999 Ford F-250 Super Duty Pick-up Truck
- 1 1998 Toyota Camry
- 1 2013 T3 Motion
- 2 2001 Zodiac Boats & Trailers
- 1 2003 Kristi Utility Trailer
- 1 2009 AMD Portable Light Tower
- 1 2012 PSC Speed /Message Board Trailer

A total of **233,324 miles** were traveled by motorized equipment during the year of 2013. Vehicles were serviced approximately every 3,000 miles and were cleaned and washed on average of once a week.

**Photo Below,** Car #54 at Eastman Plaza during a February snow storm.



# School Safety

## Cranford Police Department School Crossing Guards

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An important safety measure in school areas 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!

The year 2013 included one personnel change within the school guard ranks. Daniel Simone retired from his post after completing one year of service. Daniel was assigned to the school post located at the North Lehigh Tunnel. Leonard Messner, a reserve school crossing guard, was reassigned to full time status and took over the post.

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 2013.

### SCHOOL CROSSING GUARDS - 2013

Howard Frost	Brookside Place/Spruce Street
Elizabeth Erdody	Hillside Avenue Tunnel
James Desiderio	Orange Avenue/Wadsworth Terrace
Sam Reynolds	Denman Road/Culin Drive
Charles Haller	West End Place/Spruce Street
Richard Maier	Springfield Avenue/West End Place
Nazaire Jennings	Centennial Avenue/Myrtle Street
Joseph Lopes	Alden Street/Miln Street
Deborah Saenger	Denman Road/Livingston Avenue
Betty Mobley	Walnut Avenue/Blake Avenue
Iris Lopez	Bloomington Avenue/Albany Street
Leonard Messner	North Lehigh Tunnel
Robert Bell	Brookside Place/Orchard Street

### RESERVE GUARDS

Richard Maier  
Robert Serratelli

# Click It or Ticket

## Cranford Police Department Annual Click It or Ticket Mobilization

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The Cranford Police Department received \$4,000 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 589 fatalities in 2012, a large percentage of which were not wearing a seatbelt. Also, seatbelt use is especially important for teens and young adults, as motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for people ages 15 to 34 in the United States.

This year’s “Click It or Ticket” Mobilization was conducted from May 20, 2013 to June 2, 2013. The department conducted two seat belt checkpoints and additional hours of focused roving patrols utilizing overtime, patrol, and traffic personnel. In addition, we conducted 23.5 hours of night time enforcement due to statistics pointing to very low seat belt use in the evening. A total of 80 hours of overtime were utilized, which was reimbursed by the grant. Below is a summary of the department’s enforcement efforts.

**Total Seatbelt Violations:** 85

**All Other Violations:** 245

**TOTAL SUMMONSES DURING THE MOBILIZATION:** 330



In addition to the summonses issued arrests included 34 for drug possession and/or felony/warrant arrests. A post survey of seat belt usage showed a 96% compliance rate on Cranford roadways.



**Above,** Patrolman Pietrucha in a photo from the Cranford Chronicle.

# Drive Sober Or Get Pulled Over

## Cranford Police Department Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over Mobilization

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The Cranford Police Department participated in the national end of summer and holiday “Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over” 2013 Statewide Crackdowns. The goal of the program is to decrease incidents of drunk driving through education and enforcement.

From August 16<sup>th</sup> to September 4<sup>th</sup> 2013, the Cranford Police Department stepped up impaired driving enforcement as part of New Jersey’s end of summer *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over 2013 Statewide Crackdown*. The department received a \$4,400 grant from the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety for 88 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 6, 2013 through January 2, 2014, the Department stepped up impaired driving enforcement as part of *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over 2013 Year End Crackdown*. The department also received a \$4,400 grant from the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety for 88 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 MOBILIZATIONS:**

	<b><u>8/16/13—9/2/13</u></b>	<b><u>12/6/13—1/2/14</u></b>
DWI Arrests	3	9
Drug Arrests	5	4
Warrant Arrests	23	11
Summonses	174	170



# Safety ID Program

## Cranford Police Department Safety ID Tag Program

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The department continued it's Safety ID Tag Program which began in 2005. Participants can come to police headquarters to obtain a Safety ID Tag at no cost to them. They will be issued a reflective, waterproof Safety ID Tag which can attach to their sneaker/shoe laces.

The Safety ID Tag contains basic contact information, as well as pertinent medical information such as allergies that will assist first responders in case of a medical emergency. Since many people go for walks or a run without any identification, this small Safety ID Tag can be a lifesaver.

Police Chief Eric G. Mason stated he would encourage all Cranford runners, joggers, and walkers to come to police headquarters and pick up their free Safety ID Tag. The tags have also been picked up by parents for use by their small children.

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**Above,** Detective Toy conducting a bicycle rodeo at Hillside Avenue School on May 30, 2013.

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# DWI

## Cranford Police Department Driving While Intoxicated Program

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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 **2013** we had, in Cranford, **13 accidents** (*Five* involving injury) directly attributed to drunk drivers. There has been **an increase** in the number of alcohol related accidents over the **9** we had in 2012. 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 **2013** the department had twenty-three (**23**) 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:

Capt. James Wozniak  
Lt. Stephen Wilde  
Lt. Robert Colaneri  
Det./Lt. Edward Davenport  
Sgt. Anthony Dobbins  
Sgt. Thomas Feeney  
Det./Sgt. Craig Marino  
Det./Sgt. Gerard Quinn  
Sgt. Frank Williams  
Sgt. Guy Patterson  
Det./Sgt. Christopher Polito  
Sgt. Eugene Perrotta  
Det./Sgt. Richard Vitale  
Det. John Swandrak  
Det. Robert Montague  
Det. Michael Andrews  
Det. Steven R Toy  
Det. Ryan Greco  
Ptl. Peter Graczyk  
Ptl. Derek Farbanec  
Ptl. Thomas Bell

Ptl. Brian Wagner  
Ptl. Steven D'Ambola

As in previous years this agency stressed to our officers the need to detect and apprehend those driving while intoxicated.

During the year **2013** these efforts resulted in Sixty-Eight **(68)** arrests being made for Driving While Intoxicated within the Township of Cranford.

Of the **68** arrests, **16** refused to submit to breath testing and **2** had blood drawn. This shows a **26%** increase from the **54** arrests made in the year **2012**.

As we move forward into the year **2014** 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 they 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 **2012**, one **(1)** driver was charged under this law. This number has remained the same for **2013**.

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. We are happy to state that there have been zero **(0)** arrests made within the township under this law in **2013**.

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 2013 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 four* 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 some 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

# DWI

## Cranford Police Department Driving While Intoxicated Program

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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 **2013** we participated in the **Driver 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 2013 Statewide Crackdown* is a campaign that ran from August 16, 2013 through September 2, 2013. During this eighteen-day period, officers assigned to this campaign made Three **(3)** DWI arrest and issued **(174)** summonses for various violations. *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over 2013 Year End Crackdown* campaign ran from December 6, 2013 to January 2, 2014. During this twenty-eight day period, officers assigned to this campaign made nine **(9)** DWI arrests and issued **(170)** summons 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.

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**Photo Below**, Winter Storm Nemo February 8, 2013 behind police headquarters.



# Honor Guard

## Cranford Police Department Honor Guard

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An *honor guard*, by definition, is ***a group of people serving as an escort or performing drill exhibitions on ceremonial occasions.*** (Wikipedia)

Usually comprised of volunteers who are carefully screened for their ability and physical dexterity, the department wanted members who are highly motivated and maintain exceptional standards of appearance and conduct. As well, members needed to show aptitude for ceremonial duty in order to be considered. The primary purpose of the CPD Honor Guard is to provide funeral honors for fallen comrades.

However, an honor guard may also serve as the "guardians of the colors". They present a nation's colors for various ceremonies and official state functions, both in and around Union County. Additionally, they serve as ambassadors to the public, presenting a positive image of their service, and assisting with the recruiting effort.

Sergeant Anthony J. Dobbins is the commander of the Cranford Police Department Honor Guard. Six other

members are assigned to the unit. The six other members are Detective Steven Toy, Detective Ryan Greco, Officer Thomas Bell, Officer William Pietrucha, Officer Daniel Norton, and Officer John Rattigan. During 2013 Detective Greco resigned his position on the Honor Guard and was replaced by Officer Derek Farbanec.

The Honor Guard participated in the Memorial Day Parade and presentation of the Ceremonial Wreath. With changes in manpower and lack of availability, no trainings were conducted in 2013. We are hoping that money will be budgeted and trainings will become available in 2014.

The Cranford Police Department Honor Guard continues participating 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.

They will continue representing the Cranford Police Department with dignity and pride.



**Photo Above,** Unit #56 during a snow storm on December 14, 2013 on South Avenue near the train station.



# Water Rescue Team

## Cranford Police Department Water Rescue Team

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The Cranford Police Department Water Rescue Team was formed in 1998 in response to a need for specialized equipment and trained officers to respond in times of river flooding in the township's flood zones. Throughout the years the Water Rescue Team has evolved to its current format of eight specially trained officers. These officers serve on an on-call basis and respond when the team is activated during times of emergency. Since 2008, Sgt. Guy Patterson has served as the commander of the team.

### Team Members

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

Sergeant Guy Patterson  
Sergeant Anthony Dobbins  
Sergeant Thomas Feeney  
Det. Ryan Greco  
Officer Timothy O'Brien  
Officer Joseph Stulpin  
Officer Christopher DiFabio  
Officer John Rattigan

### Training

All Water Rescue Team members receive their training through internationally recognized Lifesaving Resources Inc. All officers are trained as Certified Water Rescue Technicians and Certified Swift Water Rescue Technicians. Sgt. Guy Patterson is a Certified Water Rescue and Swift Water Rescue Instructor. Additionally Sergeant Anthony Dobbins, Sergeant Guy Patterson and Officer Joseph Stulpin are Emergency Medical Technicians. Officer John Rattigan is an MICU Paramedic. Team members participate in multiple training sessions throughout the year. These trainings include annual requalification, open water rescue operations and boat operation training. Sixteen hours of requalification training was conducted on June 5, 2013 at the Centennial Avenue Pool and June 6, 2013 at the Round Valley Reservoir.

Open water rescue operations and boat operation training was conducted on October 22, 2013 at Round Valley Reservoir.

### Deployment:

The Cranford Police Department Water Rescue Team was not activated for any emergency incidents during 2013.

### Equipment:

Russell I – 2001 Zodiac Mark II Futura 12'6"  
Inflatable Boat - Mercury Jet 40 Outboard Motor

Russell II – 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 Devices  
Specialty Stretcher With Flotation Collar  
Rope Rescue Equipment

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**Photo below,** Sergeant Feeney of the Water Rescue Team in his rescue suit.





# Firearms Unit

## Cranford Police Department Firearms Unit

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The Cranford Police Department Firearms Training Unit conducted department-wide training in 2013 that included 'Response to Active Shooter' training. The training was conducted at St. Michael's School and included classroom as well as practical drills. After the classroom portion was completed, every member of the department was broken down into teams of 3-4 officers who then tactically approached a simulated active shooter within the school. These skills will enable officers to quickly respond to an active shooter situation, stop the shooter and rescue victims.

On May 21, 2013, officers were able to put their training into practice during a planned active shooter drill that was conducted in cooperation with Cranford Health and Extended Care at their facility on Birchwood Avenue. The entire drill was conducted during business hours to add to the realism and was designed to test the operations, policies and procedures of both organizations and to enhance the level of cooperation and communication between facility staff and police during a real emergency.

In the simulated scenario, a lone gunman entered the facility, injuring one person and killing another. The facility implemented its existing lockdown plan and notified police immediately. Responding police units were able to use recent training from their regular active shooter training curriculum. The response was then critiqued in an 'after action' report by both Cranford Police and staff at Cranford Health and Extended Care. The drill was well received by both the staff and residents alike.

"The key to responding appropriately in a real life emergency is frequent training," said Detective Robert Montague, who is trained by the National Tactical Officers Association as a certified active shooter instructor. "The more opportunities we have to train with realistic scenarios, the better prepared we are when we need to respond to an actual event."

**Photo, left to right, Det. Luedecker, Officers O'Brien, Colineri and Graczyk are shown in a tactical formation approaching the entrance to Cranford Health and Extended Care during an active shooter drill.**



# Youth Academy

## Cranford Police Department Youth Police Academy

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The Cranford Police Department held the sixth session of the Youth Police Academy from July 8 through July 12, 2013. Our largest class to date, with forty-three Cranford juvenile participants, was 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 John H. Stamler Police Academy. The Academy was under the direction of Off. Steven D'Ambola, Det. Robert Montague, and Detective Russell Luedecker. The academy participants, "cadets," started their day with roll call. Following roll call the cadets had military drill lead by Off. Joseph Stulpin and, a physical training session by the lead instructors. 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 surrounding agencies gave lectures and hands on demonstrations on the various career paths within the law enforcement profession on municipal, county, state, and even federal levels. 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 and third 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. Det. Montague gave a presentation on crime scene processing and criminal investigations and Detective Sergeant Christopher Polito explained the Juvenile Justice process in Cranford.

The remainder of the week was held at the John H. Stamler Police Academy in Scotch Plains. The cadets were able to see where Cranford Police Officers receive their basic training. Cadets competed in the obstacle course, ran laps around the EVOC track, and participated in flag raising ceremonies.

Instruction blocks for the remainder of the week included Det. Steven Toy of the 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. A Water Rescue presentation was given by Sgt. Guy

# Youth Academy

## Cranford Police Department Youth Police Academy

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Patterson who brought one of the water rescue zodiac boats. The cadets witnessed the police vehicles capabilities in a demonstration on the EVOC course by Sgt. John Rice of the Summit Police Department. The Emergency Response Unit from NJ Transit demonstrated breaching techniques. The Northstar Helicopter from UMDNJ landed for its own presentation. Detective Gary Webb of the Union County Prosecutors office gave a very informative presentation on street gangs and their impact on Union County and its residents. Members of the Union County SWAT team and Bomb Squad arrived with their department issued trucks and showed the cadets the weapons and tools they use before blowing up a watermelon in the parking lot. Det. Leslie Sanchez, currently assigned to the DEA then gave a remarkable presentation of the DEA's operations in Newark airport and the surrounding communities as well as their combined efforts with local law enforcement.

The Academy ended with a graduation ceremony for the cadets and their families. 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.



**Top Photo**, NJSP Northstar Helicopter landing at the John H. Stamler Police Academy with Cranford Police Car in foreground; **Bottom Photo**, 2013 Youth Academy Class photo.

# Professional Standards Unit

## Cranford Police Department Office of Professional Standards

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The Professional Standards Unit manages numerous programs and responsibilities, including:

- Investigation of all Internal Affairs complaints involving Cranford Police Officers
- Administration and presentation of the DARE program to the entire Cranford school system
- Cranford Police Auxiliary liaison and training officer
- Management of the department's training program, including the Field Training Officer (FTO) program for sworn and communications officers
- 9-1-1 system training and operational requirements
- Alcohol Beverage Control (ABC) officer responsible for inspections and investigations related to all licensed establishments within the Township of Cranford
- 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 or Cranford Police Auxiliary.
- Investigation and processing of all firearms related applications within the Township of Cranford
- Investigation and processing of all taxi, limousine, solicitor, peddler and raffle applications and licensing within the Township of Cranford
- Public presentations, regarding various aspects of law enforcement, to schools and organizations at the direction of the Chief of Police

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.

# Professional Standards Unit

## Cranford Police Department Office of Professional Standards

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

Excessive Force  
Improper Arrest  
Improper Entry  
Improper Search  
Differential Treatment  
Domestic Violence  
Demeanor  
Other Criminal Violation  
Other Rule Violation

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: The 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.

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 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 completes all required reporting regarding any event resulting in the use of force, discharge of a weapon or vehicle pursuit involving a Cranford Police Officer.

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, as a need is determined based upon requirements from the New Jersey Attorney General, Union County Prosecutor’s Office, and other State and Federal authorities.



# Professional Standards Unit

## Cranford Police Department Office of Professional Standards

The chart below depicts all of the complaints received by the Professional Standards Unit in 2013.

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	0	0	0
Improper Search	0	2	0	2
Other Criminal Violation	0	3	0	3
Differential Treatment	0	1	0	1
Demeanor	1	5	0	6
Domestic Violence	0	0	0	0
Other Rule Violation	0	0	21	21
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>33</b>

The chart below depicts the complaints concluded with a final disposition by the Professional Standards Unit in 2012.

	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	0	0	0	0	0
Improper Search	0	1	0	1	0	2
Other Criminal	1	0	0	1	2	4
Differential Treatment	0	0	0	1	0	1
Demeanor	0	3	1	1	0	5
Domestic Violence	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Rule Violation	18	0	1	0	0	19
<b>Total</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>31**</b>

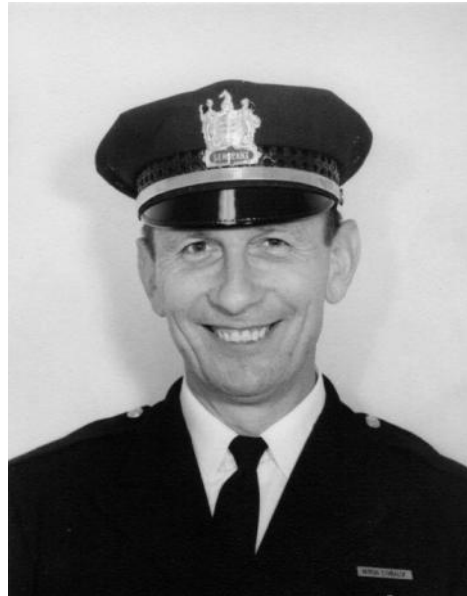
**\*\*The number of complaints received and the number of final dispositions may not equal as investigations may commence before, continue beyond, or conclude after the reporting period.**

# 2013 In Review

## Cranford Police Department 2013 Events

### Municipal Building Completed

Construction to the first floor of the municipal building was completed in February. Offices were opened for the first time since Hurricane Irene flooded the first floor in August of 2011. Temporary trailers had been used as office space for TV35, the Health Department, DMC, Municipal Court, and Police Squad Room. Below photos show trailer removal, new Juvenile Bureau offices, and the new police locker room.



### Lieutenant Myron Cymbaluk

Myron Cymbaluk, 94, of Cranford died peacefully at home on January 19, 2013 with his family by his side. Although born in Bayonne, Mr. Cymbaluk considered himself a lifelong resident of Cranford and lived on the same block in that town for almost all of his 94 years. He served in the army during World War II and was stationed in the South Pacific where he attained the rank of sergeant; he proudly served as a police officer in Cranford for 30 years, retiring as a lieutenant in 1980. Mr. Cymbaluk was a member of the VFW Post 335 of Cranford, and a Member of PBA Local 52 of Cranford. He was an accomplished gardener and an avid fisherman.

Mr. Cymbaluk is survived by his beloved wife of 66 years Marion Nordstrom Cymbaluk, his son Thomas Cymbaluk of Piscataway, daughters Suzanne Bibbo of Kissimmee, FL, and Janet Ashnault of Liberty Corner, his brothers Samuel Cymbaluk of Sebastian, FL, and William Cymbaluk of Cranford. Mr. Cymbaluk is also survived by his four cherished grandchildren Joseph, Brian, Stef, and Michelle.

Photo was taken on June 1, 1961 as a sergeant.

# 2013 In Review

## Cranford Police Department 2013 Events

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### **Detective Lieutenant Gerard F. Haney**

Gerard (Jerry) Haney, 84, a longtime resident of Cranford and Florida passed away at his home in Florida. He is predeceased by his granddaughter, Stephanie Jude Kuleba, his wife of 29.5 years Stephanie Haney, as well as all of his siblings, Vincent, Bernadette, Rita, Matt, and William.

He is survived by his three children, Joseph, Gerard, and Joanne Barbour and three grandsons, Christopher Kuleba, Jerry Haney, and Timothy Haney.

Gerard graduated St. Mary's High School in Elizabeth, in 1948. He was a U.S. Army veteran of the Korean War and joined the Cranford Police Department in 1953. He retired December 31, 1979 as a Detective Lieutenant after over 26 years of service. After retiring from the police force, he became an Insurance Investigator for Travelers Insurance Company where he worked for 10 years prior to full retirement.

Photo shows Gerard Haney as a Patrolman in 1953.



### **Sergeant Gregory Drexler**

Gregory Drexler passed away on April 6, 2013. He was born in Bayonne, N.J., on Sept. 3, 1950, but was a longtime resident of Cranford, graduating from Cranford High School in 1968. He earned his associate's degree in criminal justice from Union County College.

Gregory served in the Coast Guard from 1968 to 1972 as a yeoman in Brooklyn, N.Y., then served with the Cranford police from 1972 to 2002. He was awarded many honors, including the Valor Award of the Union County Police Chiefs Association in 1977, and the Cranford PBA Silver Award in 1988 for his actions in the line of duty. During his time as an officer, he volunteered as a football coach for the Cranford PAL from 1984 to 1996. He was a lifelong proud supporter of the Cranford Cougar varsity football team.

Gregory retired to Brigantine, N.J., in 2002 with his wife of 40 years, Pamela (nee Schaner), where he enjoyed a job as an ambassador on the Atlantic City boardwalk in which he could converse with all the passersby. Gregory is survived by his wife, Pamela; son, Casey and his wife, Julie; son, Kerry and his wife, Michelle; his grandchildren, Alissa, Aubrey, Tyler, and Braeden; his sisters, Florence Sherman, Marilyn O'Brien, and Maribeth Flatley; sister-in-law, Mary Lynn, and many nieces and nephews.

# 2013 In Review

## Cranford Police Department 2013 Events

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### CRANFORD OFFICERS HONOR FALLEN HEROES IN POLICE UNITY TOUR



Two Cranford Police officers will represent the township's police force on the upcoming Police Unity Tour bicycle ride to honor the sacrifices of police officers killed in the line of duty. Officers from around the United States will converge on the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington D.C. on May 12, 2013. Sgt. Guy Patterson and Officer Derek Farbanec will be the first Cranford officers to participate in the annual event, traveling over 300 miles by bicycle. They will depart New Jersey on May 9, 2013.

The Police Unity Tour was organized in May 1997 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 eight chapter organizations consisting of nearly 1600 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). The May 2012 event resulted in over 1.65 Million Dollars being donated to the NLEOMF, bringing total donations to the fund since inception to nearly 12 Million Dollars. Sgt. Patterson and Officer Farbanec have committed to raising over \$2000.00 each through their participation in the tour.

According to Sgt. Patterson, the tour represents an opportunity to challenge himself for a good cause. "It's hard work and it's a challenge, but it's definitely worth the effort. I think this ride is an excellent way to honor these fallen officers and their families." Both officers have been training weekly since October 2012.

Cranford Police Chief Eric G. Mason commends his officers' participation in the Police Unity Tour. "Any time you witness officers seizing an opportunity to join with other agencies and support a worthwhile cause such as honoring fallen police officers, you have to respect that," he said. "I support them wholeheartedly and I wish them success in their endeavor."

# 2013 In Review

## Cranford Police Department 2013 Events

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### **CRANFORD POLICE OFFICER RECOGNIZED FOR DWI ENFORCEMENT**

On June 6, 2013, Cranford Patrolman Steven D'Ambola was honored by the New Jersey Chapter of Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) for his distinguished service to the Township of Cranford and for his outstanding Driving While Intoxicated (DWI) enforcement record during 2012. Ptl. D'Ambola led the Cranford Police Department with thirteen DWI arrests during the year. This is the second consecutive year that Ptl. D'Ambola has been recognized for his efforts by MADD.

Patrolman D'Ambola is a nine year veteran of the Cranford Police Department and is currently assigned to the Patrol Division. He has consistently paced the agency in DWI enforcement. In 2011, in addition to being honored by MADD, he received the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety's "Top Gun" award for his efforts. During that year, Ptl. D'Ambola led all Union County police officers with 26 impaired driver arrests.

Cranford Police Chief Eric Mason indicated that impaired driver enforcement is taken seriously by the entire department, and noted that the agency frequently participates in statewide enforcement crackdowns such as the Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over campaign. "We know that drunk driving needlessly and recklessly endangers innocent lives," he stated. "I applaud Officer D'Ambola and all of those officers in Cranford and statewide who are working day and night to keep New Jersey's roads safe." The Chief further noted that over 30% of all fatal crashes can be attributed in some way to alcohol.



# 2013 In Review

## Cranford Police Department 2013 Events

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### Arrest for Burglary and Assault

A local man has been arrested and charged with multiple offenses by police following a 9-1-1 call reporting a burglary to a parked motor vehicle and an assault on the vehicle owner. At approximately 01:05am on May 18, 2013, Cranford Police were contacted by a Holly Street resident who witnessed his vehicle being ransacked by a white male suspect in his 20s. The vehicle owner had confronted the suspect and engaged in a scuffle with him outside the car prior to calling police. The suspect fled the scene on foot after breaking away from the victim. The victim provided a description and turned over to police a cellular telephone dropped at the scene by the suspect.

Moments later Patrolman Derek Farbanec located James Mattis, Age 22 of Cranford NJ, running through a municipal parking lot two blocks from the scene. Mattis was positively identified by the victim and was found to be the owner of the dropped phone. Police also recovered a black backpack, described by the victim, which contained Mattis' identification and property from the burglarized vehicle.

Mattis was arrested and charged with Burglary, a second degree crime, as well as Simple Assault, Theft and Receiving Stolen Property, all disorderly persons offenses. He was processed and committed to the Union County Jail in lieu of \$35,000 bail.

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### Carjacking Investigation

On Monday, May 6, 2013 at 10:10 pm the Cranford Police Department responded to the parking lot of the Dunkin Donuts located at Raritan Road and Walnut Avenue on the report of a carjacking which had just occurred.

A Clark man exited his 2010 Range Rover and entered the Dunkin Donuts. While in the Dunkin Donuts, a black Mercedes occupied by two black males entered the parking lot and backed into a parking spot next to the Range Rover. The passenger of the Mercedes exited his vehicle and got in the driver's side of the Range Rover. He confronted the female passenger, also of Clark, and forced her out of the vehicle by knifepoint. Both vehicles then fled southbound on Walnut Avenue towards Clark. The female victim was not hurt. It was determined that the 2008 Mercedes was carjacked on May 1, 2013 in Elizabeth where a 25 year old East Orange man was stabbed during the incident.



**Photo Above,** On April 18th the police department took part in the annual Public Safety Day on Holly Street. This event is held each year during the national "Week of the Young Child." Students from Calvary Nursery School and Helen K. Baldwin Nursery School attend the event and are able to interact with members of the police and fire departments, as well as the US Postal Service.

# 2013 In Review

## Cranford Police Department 2013 Events

### June 18th Department Awards Ceremony





# 2013 In Review

## Cranford Police Department 2013 Events

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### Torch Run 2013

Members of the Cranford Police Department participated in the 30th Annual Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics of New Jersey on June 7, 2013. The Torch Run is a statewide campaign coordinated and managed by all divisions of Law Enforcement officers and officials from throughout the state. Through their efforts, events are conducted year round by the Law Enforcement Community to raise funds for the Special Olympics Movement, serving the athletes of New Jersey.

Members of Cranford Policemen's Benevolent Association Local #52 took the Torch from members of the Roselle Park Police Department at the corner of North Avenue East and Carpenter Place and carried it to North Avenue West and Lincoln Avenue, where it was turned over to members of the Garwood Police Department. In a show of solidarity among law enforcement officers, the Cranford officers continued with Garwood's runners straight through to the Westfield border.

**Bottom, left to right,** Cranford Police Officers Tony Dobbins, Derek Farbanec, Gerard Quinn, Joseph Stulpin, Tom Bell, John Swandrak, Guy Patterson, Robert Jordan, Steve D'Ambola, Chris Polito, and Matthew Nazzaro join Tom Wisniewski of Cranford on the Torch Run. Tom then went on to compete in the NJ Special Olympics.

# 2013 In Review

## Cranford Police Department 2013 Events



### National Night Out

Cranford Police took part in the 30th Annual National Night Out on August 6th from 6—9 p.m. at the Gazebo at the corner of North Union Avenue and Springfield Avenue. The free event is intended to promote crime prevention awareness and allows the public to interact with members of the police department in order to obtain information about our many programs. In addition to the emergency vehicle displays, there was a DJ, face painter, magician, and more.





# 2013 In Review

## Cranford Police Department 2013 Events

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### **Detective Leonard Miller**

Leonard "Lenny" Miller, 76, passed away in Florida on June 9th. Surviving are his wife of 56 years, Rosemary, with whom he built an amazing family including their 6 children, 11 grandchildren, and 5 great-grandchildren (with one on the way). He is also survived by two brothers.

Lenny served in the United States Coast Guard from 1954-1958 and served with the Cranford Police Department from 1965 to 1977. He worked in the Patrol Division before being made a Detective in the Juvenile Bureau in 1972. He was then made a Detective in the Detective Bureau in 1974 where he remained until moving to Florida.

During his time in Cranford he was very involved in Little League Baseball, Pop Warner Football, and the Law Enforcement Explorers program.

### **Arrests in Multiple Vehicle Burglaries**

An investigation into a string of overnight vehicle burglaries on June 17, 2013 resulted in multiple criminal charges being filed against a Cranford resident.

While on routine patrol in the area of Ramapo Road and Cayuga Road at approximately 3:05am, Ptl. Michael Dubitsky located several parked cars that appeared to have been entered and possibly burglarized. Within moments, Dubitsky and other officers located Patrick J. Lyman, age 20, on foot in the area. Lyman was arrested on an unrelated criminal warrant and was found to be in possession of suspected burglary proceeds. While checking surrounding streets, officers identified additional vehicles that may have been entered. All of the targeted vehicles were unlocked.

Sergeant Christopher Polito was able to positively link Lyman to seven vehicle burglaries and was able to return stolen property, including credit cards, a cellular telephone, cigarette packs, a knife, and sunglasses to the victims. In addition, police recovered over \$100 dollars in suspected burglary proceeds, which included over \$25 in loose change.

As a result of the investigation, Lyman was charged with seven counts each of burglary (third degree crime), theft, and receiving stolen property (disorderly persons offenses). Cranford Police Chief Eric Mason expressed satisfaction that the case was resolved quickly. "Left unchecked, these crimes of opportunity will have a negative impact on any community," he stated. "Our officers will continue to conduct deterrent patrols in our neighborhoods and our detectives will work diligently to solve those crimes that do occur."

Lyman was transferred to the Warren County Jail due to an outstanding bench warrant from that county. Bail on the Cranford charges was set at \$25,000 pending a scheduled court appearance in Superior Court (Union County).



# 2013 In Review

## Cranford Police Department 2013 Events



**Photo,** On August 5th Mayor Shunichi Ono of Nakadomari, Japan and his contingent were given a tour of the police department during their visit to Cranford. Nakadomari has become the sister city of Cranford since their first visit in 2012.



**Photo,** Lieutenant Robert Colaneri retired on August 1st after 29 years in law enforcement. He is shown here on his last tour with, *left to right*, Ptl. Steven D'Ambola, Ptl. Christopher DiFabio, Lt. Robert Colaneri, C/O Michael Urbanski, Ptl. Derek Farbanec, Ptl. Robert Jordan, and Ptl. Kelly Rieder.

**Photo , top left,** the municipal building generator was raised on June 6th to put it out of the flood zone for future storms. During Hurricane Irene the generator was compromised by flood waters.

**Photo, bottom left,** part of a seven vehicle crash at the intersection of South and Lincoln Avenues West.

# 2013 In Review

## Cranford Police Department 2013 Events

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### Sgt. Arthur E. Anderson, Sr.

Sergeant Anderson, 81, passed away on September 1, 2013 after a long illness. Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., Arthur joined the United States Navy during the Korean War and was assigned to the USS Navarro as a radio man. Upon completion of military service, he moved to Cranford and joined the Cranford Police Department in 1957. During his career he worked foot patrol, traffic safety, and was a firearms instructor. He served as PBA president for one term. He retired from the Cranford Police Department in 1985 as a shift commander with the rank of Sergeant.

Arthur spent most of his retirement enjoying his grandkids; driving them to hockey practices and attending their games. He also enjoyed trips to Atlantic City, N.J. He was a communicant of the Church of St. Anne in Garwood.

Surviving are his wife of 55 years, Patricia; sons, Michael (Patti) and Arthur Jr. "Chip" (Jessica); daughter, Cindy Della Serra; brothers-in-law, Steve Ozi and Robert Javornicky. He is also survived by grandchildren, Michael (Erin), Jeffrey, Christopher, Joseph, Jake and Kelly.

### ALPR Leads To Arrest

On October 3rd, Cranford Police arrested Shawn Love Jr., of East Orange, New Jersey and charged him with Burglary, Theft and Receiving Stolen Property after an automated license plate reader (ALPR) on a marked patrol car alerted officers to a stolen vehicle on North Avenue East.

Patrolman Derek Farbanec initially detected the vehicle, a 2007 Toyota Prius, eastbound on North Avenue at approximately 12:16am. According to computerized records, the car had been reported stolen in Montclair, New Jersey, on September 28, 2013. It was stopped by officers after crossing the Gordon Street Bridge into Roselle and the driver, Love, was arrested at the scene. Officers also recovered numerous portable Global Positioning Systems and a cellular telephone in the vehicle.

At headquarters, Cranford Detectives Robert Montague and Ryan Greco were able to link Love to multiple vehicle burglaries in Cranford, including several on Beech Street and at least one in Municipal Lot #7 behind Sofi's Color Lounge. In addition, detectives were able to connect the recovered property to additional burglaries in Linden, New Jersey on September 28, 2013.



# 2013 In Review

## Cranford Police Department 2013 Events

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### **Bank Robbery Investigation Leads to**

#### **Arrest of Serial Bank Robbers**



At 1:42pm on August 10, 2013, Cranford Police responded to an activated alarm at the Garden State Community Bank, 310 North Avenue East, and discovered that the bank had been robbed minutes earlier. The suspect, a black male wearing a black ball cap and a long sleeve blue button down shirt, approached a teller, displayed a black semi-automatic firearm and demanded cash before fleeing the bank on foot with almost \$10,000. The robbery was captured on bank surveillance video and matched the modus operandi of several previous bank robberies, including ones in Watchung and Clark, New Jersey.

Over several days, Cranford detectives went door to door through the neighborhood of the bank, eventually locating video system that identified the suspect vehicle as a silver or gray 2005-2009 Chevrolet Equinox with possible front end damage operated by a white female. As a result of their investigation, Detectives Robert Montague and Ryan Greco were able to determine that the suspect entered the rear of the vehicle on Forest Avenue, after which the Equinox fled to the Garden State Parkway northbound before exiting on Route 22. They spent countless hours reviewing video, speaking with witnesses, accessing toll records and sifting through over 6,000 NJ DMV records in an effort to further identify the suspect(s).

On September 11, 2013, the same suspect committed an armed robbery of the Lusitania Savings Bank on Liberty Street in Hillside. The suspect vehicle information developed by Cranford detectives was immediately relayed to Hillside units at the scene of the robbery. Cranford Sergeant Christopher Polito and Detective John Swandrak, assisted by Traffic Division Detective Lieutenant Edward Davenport, accessed the automated license plate reader network and within minutes had determined that a Chevrolet Equinox had been present within one block of the Hillside bank at the time of the robbery. Detective Greco further determined that the registered owner of that vehicle owned a second car, possibly matching the vehicle description from Clark's May 2013 bank robbery. The license plate and description were communicated to Hillside detectives and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Those agencies were able to pinpoint the suspect vehicle on recorded video from a nearby surveillance camera.

Based on this information, the Federal Bureau of Investigation was able to locate the vehicle and a female driver several hours later in Saddle Brook NJ. Additional investigation conducted jointly by the FBI, Hillside Police detectives, Detective Montague, and Clark Detective George Marmarou led to the arrest of the female driver (Jennifer Pinto, Age 32, Newark NJ) and the robbery suspect (Andrew Thomas, Age 32, Newark NJ). A search of the couple's apartment by Hillside Police detectives, FBI agents and Cranford Police detectives led to the recovery of an imitation firearm, suspected robbery proceeds and clothing used in various robberies.

As a direct result of information developed and shared by Cranford Police detectives, eight (8) armed robberies were solved and the suspects were arrested and charged in federal court.



# 2013 In Review

## Cranford Police Department 2013 Events

### CPD Provides Internet Safety Training to Girl Scout Leaders



On December 9, 2013, approximately 40 troop leaders and staff of the Cranford Service Unit of the Girl Scouts

Heart of New Jersey Council received social media awareness and Internet safety training as part of their ongoing continuing education efforts. The training, at the Cranford Community Center, was organized by service unit manager Kristin Santos on behalf of the Girl Scouts, and the material was presented by Cranford Police Department Detective Robert Montague, a veteran investigator with 20 years of police experience and 8 years in adult and juvenile criminal investigations.

Det. Montague briefed the assembled troop leaders on developing trends in teen and child Internet use, focusing on the most common social media and information sharing platforms such as Instagram, SnapChat, [Ask.fm](http://Ask.fm) and others. While reminding attendees that most children today have never lived in a world without pervasive technology use, Det. Montague addressed potential safety issues with the various programs and provided the adults with available resource information for additional self-paced learning.

“We can’t avoid technology in our society today,” stated Montague, “but we can arm ourselves with the information we need to use it safely and we can pass on good habits and awareness to our children.” Finally, a question and answer session was held to clarify many of the misconceptions held about child use of technology and media.



### 14th Annual CPD Santa Deliveries

The Cranford Police Department was assisted again this year by the Cranford Jaycees and Cranford Fire Department for the annual Santa Deliveries. Santa delivers gifts to children and arrives via police car or fire truck.

**Top Photo, left to right,** Patrolman Steven D’Ambola, Patrolman Christopher DiFabio, Sergeant Guy Patterson, and Santa getting ready to make deliveries.

**Bottom Photo,** Patrolman Tom Bell with Santa while making deliveries.

# 2013 In Review

## Cranford Police Department 2013 Events

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**Photo,** *left to right,* Matthew Siessel, Daniel Donnerstag, Gregory Federici, and Chief Eric Mason at the swearing in ceremony for the three officers on December 10, 2013. Patrolman Siessel began his Field Training Program on December 19th after graduating the John H. Stamler Police Academy. Patrolmen Donnerstag and Federici will start the police academy in January, 2014.