

# 2015 Annual Report



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



# MISSION

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

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





# STATEMENT

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

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





## MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

---

Keeping in line with my goals as the Chief of Police continues to be my main priority. A large part of my time has been spent working on a trusting relationship between the administration of this organization and the rank and file. The well being of our officers is, and will continue to be, the most important issue I will face as Chief of Police. I have found that interacting and communicating directly with our officers has allowed for a positive work environment. My door is always open and will remain that way for any officer that cares to come through it.

I have been fortunate to have the support and understanding of the Cranford Township Committee. Working together in 2015 we were able to increase staffing levels from 45, when I took over, to 53 sworn officers. This increase has strengthened morale and allowed the Cranford Police Department to realign our internal culture, provide new and exciting programs to the community, and increase productivity. All in an effort to meet future needs of Cranford as we experience a redevelopment boom.

We have also had great success building relationships with the many stakeholders in Cranford. With the implementation of a School Resource Officer, our relationship with the Cranford School District and the students has never been better. Through collaboration, we work as a team to share ideas, solve problems, and interact with students. The replacement of D.A.R.E. with Project ALERT has provided a new twist with participative learning centered around drugs, alcohol and peer pressure. This relationship has invigorated police and youth relations.

Finally, I have worked personally on opening the lines of communication with our business owners and civic organizations. I was the guest speaker at a Chamber of Commerce meeting, a Rotary Club meeting and a meeting with the Knights of Columbus. I briefly spoke on the many new programs the Cranford Police have initiated and reiterated the importance of communication.

On a more somber note, we lost a close friend with the passing of Father John P. McGovern. Father McGovern has served as the Cranford Police Department Chaplain since 2001. His friendship, comradery and sense of humor will be sorely missed.

James Wozniak  
Chief of Police





# COMMAND STAFF



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



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



# TOWNSHIP GOVERNMENT

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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.



**Andis Kalnins**  
Mayor



**Lisa Adubato**  
Deputy Mayor  
Comm. Of Finance



**Mary O'Connor**  
Commissioner of  
Public Safety



**Robert D'Ambola**  
Commissioner of  
Public Works



**Thomas Hannen**  
Commissioner of  
Public Affairs

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



**Terence Wall**  
Administrator



# IN DEDICATION



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

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

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

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

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



## IN DEDICATION

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

William O'Donnell  
Michael T. O'Neil  
Alfred J. Oram  
Gordon J. Ostrowsky  
Harry P. Page, Jr.  
William Parsons  
Christian Pasternak  
Guy E. Patterson  
Robert E. Peters  
William G. Peters  
Eugene J. Perrotta  
John J. Pienciak  
Robert E. Pierce  
William K. Pietrucha  
Henry Polidoro  
Christopher T. Polito  
George A. Porcella  
**Lester W. Powell**  
John J. Puglisi  
Gerard P. Quinn  
John G. Ranhofer  
John J. Rattigan  
Herman Redrup  
Kelly A. Rieder  
Frederick G. Roberts  
George L. Rosendale  
Robert J. Ryan  
Leo J. Schaeffer  
Robert Schafer  
Edward A. Schindler  
Stephen D. Schlapak  
Richard H. Schofield  
Leo A. Schultz  
Robert M. Segear  
Andrew J. Sharo, Jr.  
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. Timons  
Brian D. Thomas  
Lawrence T. Thomas  
Russell W. Thomas  
Carl Thompson  
Steven R. Toy  
Brian T. Trotter  
Joseph P. Van Bergen, Jr.  
Vanessa Van Brunt  
Leonard R. Van 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



# IN MEMORIAM



## Patrolman Robert F. Hand

This year marked 40 years since the death of the only Cranford Police Officer to lose his life in the line of duty. Patrolman Robert F. Hand sacrificed his life protecting and serving the citizens of Cranford on February 11, 1975 following a motor vehicle pursuit.

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

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

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

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

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



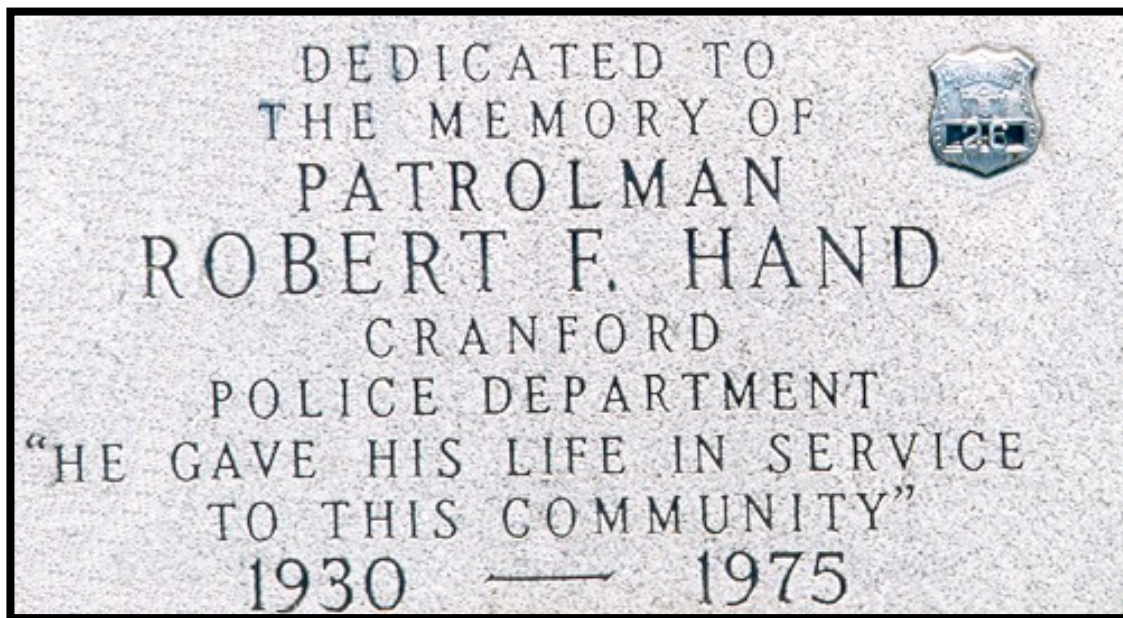
## IN MEMORIAM

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

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

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

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





# DIVISIONS & BUREAUS



## **Chief of Police**

James Wozniak

## **Captains**

Joseph P. Van Bergen

Guy E. Patterson

## **Patrol Division**

Lt. Craig L. Marino

Lt. Christopher T. Polito

Sgt. Thomas J. Feeney

Sgt. Frank T. Williams

Sgt. Eugene Perrotta

Sgt. John J. Swandrak

Sgt. Steven R. Toy

Sgt. Russell J. Luedecker

Ptl. Patrick J. Fay

Ptl. Michael Andrews

Ptl. Thomas M. Bell

Ptl. Timothy W. O'Brien

Ptl. Joseph Stulpin

Ptl. Nadia N. Jones

Ptl. Nelson W. Hearn, Jr.

Ptl. Sean T. Holcomb

Ptl. Brian J. Wagner

Ptl. John M. Colineri

Ptl. Daniel S. Norton

Ptl. Christopher DiFabio

Ptl. Thomas C. Stiansen

Ptl. John J. Rattigan

Ptl. Kelly A. Rieder

Ptl. Michael P. Dubitsky

Ptl. Matthew B. Siessel

Ptl. Gregory M. Federici

Ptl. Daniel J. Donnerstag

Ptl. Michael T. O'Neil

Ptl. Corey J. LoForte

Ptl. Brian T. Trotter

Ptl. Ryan W. Gerrity

Ptl. Robert R. Jordan, Jr.

Ptl. Timothy L. Handy

Ptl. James F. Knight

Ptl. Jason M. D'Agostino

Ptl. Christian Pasternak

## **Communications Bureau**

Stacy A. Thorn

Anthony E. Matusawicz

Jaclyn A. Benkovich

Ewa Jackson-Feldt

Michael Urbanski

Sandanna Jones

Megan Berry

Robert Merrill

Christian Pasternak

Lynne Galvez

Amanda Stryker

Timothy Lisowski

Nicole Lodato

Olivia DiGiovine

## **Investigative Division**

Det/Lt. Stephen D. Wilde

Det/Sgt. Ryan Greco

Det/Sgt. Matthew Nazzaro

Det. Spencer Durkin

Det. Matthew Nazzaro

Det. Brian Lopez

Det. Derek Farbanec

Det. Kelly Rieder

Det. Joseph Stulpin

## **Professional Standards Unit**

Det/Sgt. Richard Vitale

## **Community Support Service**

Det/Lt. Edward R. Davenport

## **Traffic Bureau**

Det. William K. Pietrucha

Det. Steven R. D'Ambola

## **Traffic Maintenance**

Charles E. Fette

Joseph A. Corbisiero

## **Records Bureau**

Det/Sgt. Gerard P. Quinn

Clerk Jean H. McComb

Clerk Janet Spricigo

## **Parking Enforcement**

Ralph E. Gregson

Arthur Kennedy

## **Executive Secretary**

Carol Cole

## **Police Academy**

Ali Muhammad

Robert Chamra

Lynne Galvez

## **SLEO II**

Robert Colaneri

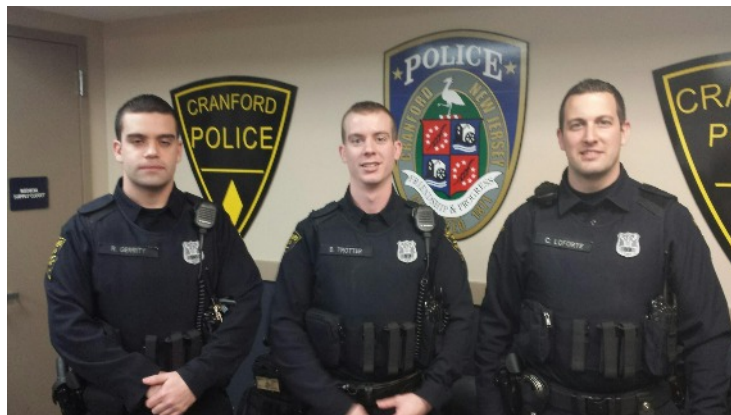
Peter Graczyk

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



# PERSONNEL CHANGES

Kelly Rieder	April 13, 2015	Detective
Robert Colaneri	April 22, 2015	SLEO II
Arthur Kennedy	July 1, 2015	P/T Parking Officer
Timothy Lisowski	July 13, 2015	Communications Officer
Michael O'Neil	July 18, 2015	Officer 1 <sup>st</sup> Grade
Corey LoForte	July 18, 2015	Officer 1 <sup>st</sup> Grade
Brian Trotter	July 18, 2015	Officer 1 <sup>st</sup> Grade
Ryan Gerrity	July 18, 2015	Officer 1 <sup>st</sup> Grade
Christian Pasternak	July 19, 2015	Resigned - Communications
Christian Pasternak	July 20, 2015	Police Academy
Amanda Stryker	August 12, 2015	Communications Officer
Nicole Lodato	August 12, 2015	Communications Officer
Olivia DiGiovine	August 12, 2015	Communications Officer
Joseph Stulpin	September 28, 2015	Detective
Peter Graczyk	September 29, 2015	SLEO II
Matthew Nazzaro	September 29, 2015	Promoted to Sergeant
Robert Jordan, Jr.	December 1, 2015	Officer 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade
Timothy Handy	December 1, 2015	Officer 1 <sup>st</sup> Grade
James Knight	December 1, 2015	Officer 1 <sup>st</sup> Grade
Timothy Lisowski	December 16, 2015	Resigned - Communications
Christian Pasternak	December 16, 2015	Probationary Patrolman
Matthew Siessel	December 19, 2015	Officer 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade
Lynne Galvez	December 30, 2015	Resigned - Communications
Michael P. Dubitsky	December 31, 2015	Officer 4 <sup>th</sup> Grade
Gregory Federici	December 31, 2015	Officer 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade
Daniel Donnerstag	December 31, 2015	Officer 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade
Jason D'Agostino	December 31, 2015	Officer 1 <sup>st</sup> Grade
Ali Muhammad	December 31, 2015	Police Academy
Robert Chamra	December 31, 2015	Police Academy
Lynne Galvez	December 31, 2015	Police Academy





# PATROL DIVISION



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

Equally as important as the Patrol Division response to calls for service are their crime prevention patrol strategies. The Cranford Police Department prides itself as being a proactive municipal law enforcement agency. Over half of all activity conducted by the patrol officer is self initiated, preventative patrol activities. For 2015, that equated to approximately twenty-thousand self initiated, proactive cases generated. This focus on an active patrol strategy directly contributes to the safe neighborhoods and streets enjoyed by the residents of Cranford.

The Patrol Division partners with the Traffic Bureau of the Community Support Services Division in emphasizing traffic enforcement throughout the community. Patrol Squads regularly conduct traffic safety and pedestrian safety checkpoints at targeted locations within the township. Additionally, individual patrol officers completed over 1,700 traffic enforcement details on municipal, county and state roadways.

Within the Patrol Division is the Field Training Unit. Coordinated by Lieutenant Craig Marino and Lieutenant Christopher Polito, the Field Training Unit is responsible for conducting a fourteen week coaching and mentoring program for recently graduated officers of the Police Academy. During the Field Training Period, Probationary Officers are assigned to Field Training Officers (FTO). The FTO and Probationary Officer are partnered as a two-man unit. Over the fourteen weeks, the Probationary Officer performs patrol duties while constantly being observed and coached by an experienced officer. At the end of the Field Training Period, the Probationary Officer will have successfully mastered 45 individual training tasks that cover all aspects of patrol responsibilities. In 2015, the Field Training Unit was extremely busy. Patrolmen Michael O'Neil, Corey LoForte, Brian Trotter, Ryan Gerrity, Timothy Handy, James Knight, and Jason D'Agostino all successfully completed the Field Training Program.

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

In 2015, the Patrol Division was staffed by twenty-six Patrolmen, ten Communications Officers, six Sergeants and two Lieutenants.



# PATROL DIVISION

## 43,501 Total Calls for Service in 2015

### 10,765 calls for service involving traffic related activity including:

8,391 calls for service involving motor vehicle violations resulting in summonses/warnings  
1,723 calls for service involving selective enforcement  
651 calls for service involving crash investigations

### 12,520 calls for service for criminal related activity including:

7,758 calls involving proactive police patrols  
1,807 calls involving suspicious persons/acts  
1,503 calls involving burglary/trespass/alarms  
642 calls involving disorderly conduct  
541 calls involving warrant service  
269 calls involving CDS activity

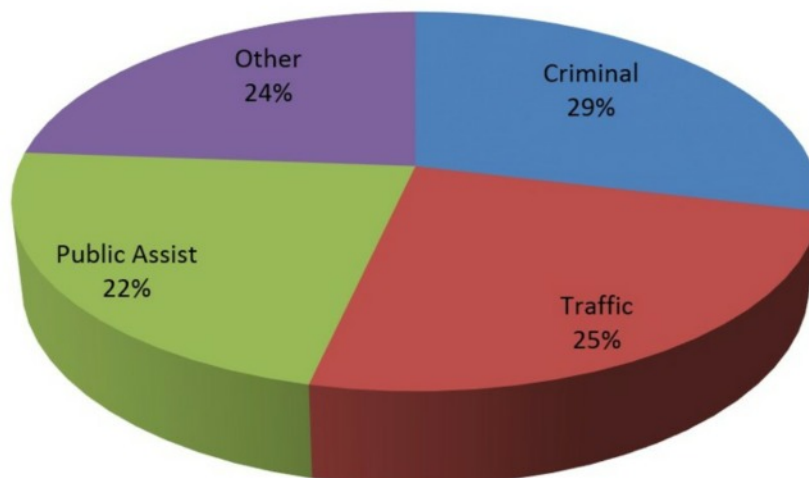
### 9,857 calls for service involving public service activities including:

2,645 school patrols/inspections  
2,635 building and public transportation facility inspections/patrols  
1,809 calls for service for medical emergencies  
1,688 calls for service for public assists  
1,080 calls for service for fire emergencies

### 10,359 calls for service involving administrative duties including:

9,193 miscellaneous activities  
931 training assignments  
235 Auxiliary Police and Police Explorer activities

## Calls for Service



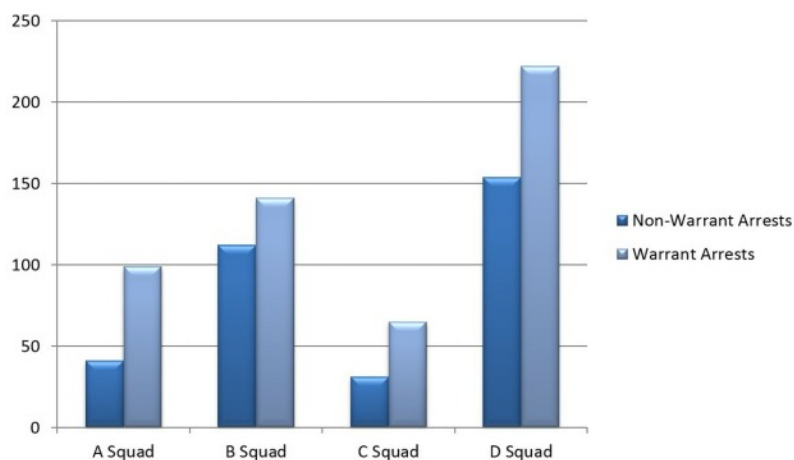




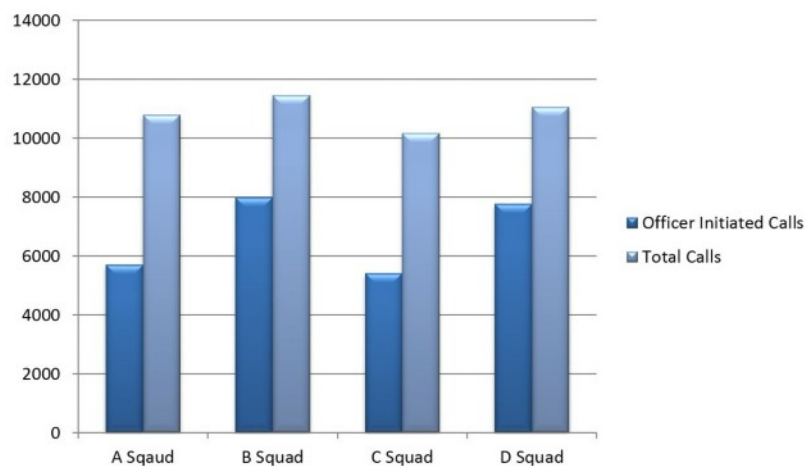
## 2015 Statistical Report by Squads

Squad	Non-Warrant Arrests	Warrant Arrests	Total Arrests	Officer Initiated Calls	Total Calls	% Self Initiated	% Resulting in Arrest
A	41	99	140	5,701	10,801	53%	1%
B	112	141	253	7,987	11,456	70%	2%
C	31	65	96	5,417	10,173	53%	1%
D	154	222	376	7,764	11,071	70%	3%
Total	338	527	865	26,869	43,501	62%	2%

### Arrests by Squad - 2015



### Calls for Service by Squad - 2015



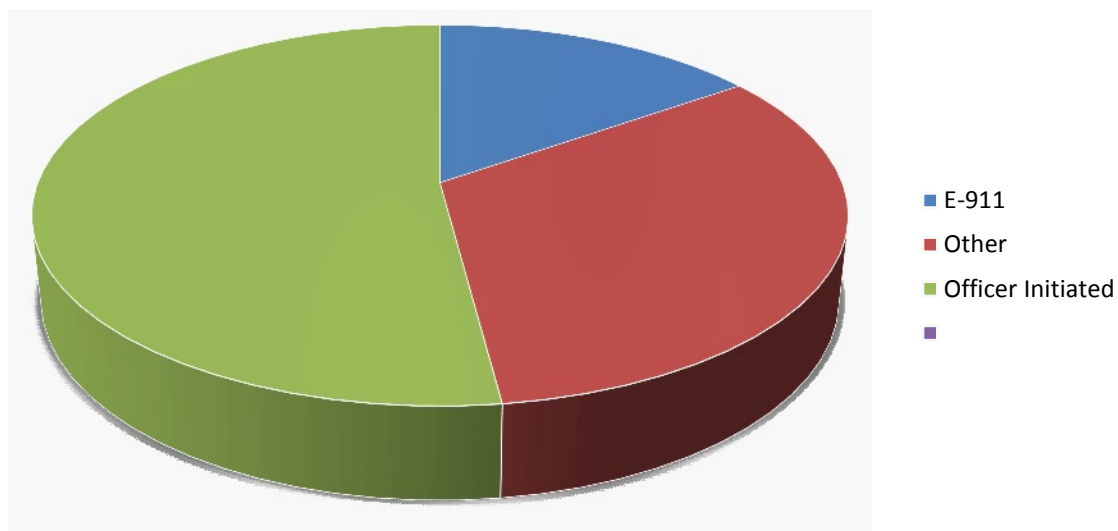


# COMMUNICATIONS BUREAU

The Communications Bureau is part of the Patrol Division. The Communications Bureau provides twenty-four hour coverage of the Cranford Police Department's Communications Center. In 2015, Sergeants Eugene Perrotta and Stephen Toy were assigned as supervisors of the Communications Center. Each supervisor typically works from noon to midnight, providing coverage for both the night and day shifts.

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

**Communications Center Calls For Service**



# INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

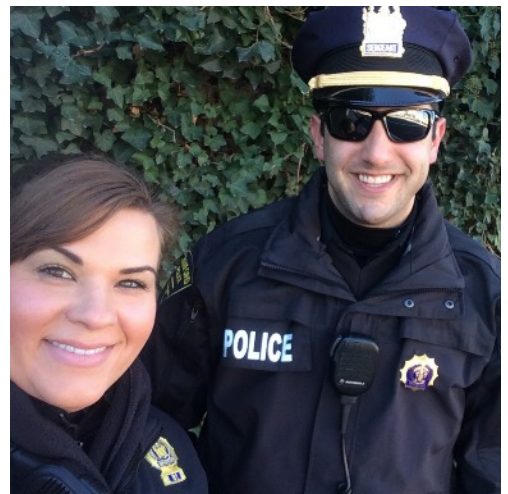


The year 2015 was a transitional year for the Investigative Division. Detective Lieutenant Stephen Wilde was the Division Commander, Detective Sergeant Ryan Greco served as the Detective Bureau Supervisor, and Detective Spencer Durkin, Detective Derek Farbanec, and Detective Brian Lopez were assigned to the Detective Bureau where they were assigned general investigations. They were joined by Detective Joseph Stulpin in October 2015, who had previously served as a Patrolman for thirteen years. In April of 2015 Patrolman Kelly Rieder was promoted to Detective but was quickly reassigned to the Juvenile Bureau in September, where she joined Detective Sergeant Matt Nazzaro.

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

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

In 2015 the Detective Bureau was assigned 1,480 criminal investigations. These investigations included robberies, burglaries, sexual assaults, frauds, thefts, assaults, motor vehicle thefts, and narcotic distribution.



**Photo at left,** Detective Spencer Durkin conducting a drug trends presentation at the Cranford Community Center.

**Photo above,** Detective Kelly Rieder and Detective Sergeant Matt Nazzaro.





# INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

## 2015 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	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Assault	2	1	1	5	7	3	4	7	1	1	1	1	34
Burglary	2	2	1	0	2	0	1	1	0	1	1	2	13
Theft	9	10	5	5	12	10	15	12	19	17	13	25	152
MV Theft	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2
Arson	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>202</b>

### CLASS I OFFENSES

	2014	2015
Homicide	0	0
Rape	0	0
Robbery	3	1
Assault	39	34
Burglary	36	13
Theft	134	152
MV Theft	2	2
Arson	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>214</b>	<b>202</b>

### ARRESTS

	2014	2015
Adult	404	489
Juvenile	45	50
<b>Total</b>	<b>449</b>	<b>539</b>

### AGGRAVATED ASSAULT ON POLICE

2014	2015
4	1

### CASES ASSIGNED TO DETECTIVES

2014	2015
173	1480

### CLASS II OFFENSES

	2014	2015
Fraud	148	165
Stolen Property	18	2
Criminal Mischief	136	103
Weapons Offenses	7	10
Sex Offenses	3	2
Narcotics Invest.	164	245
Family Offenses	86	42
DWI	61	67
Liquor Offenses	12	3
Disorderly Conduct	526	695
Missing Persons	35	36
All Other Offenses	357	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1553</b>	<b>1370</b>

\*Numbers are partially reflective of a change in CAD system and the way cases are assigned.

\*Class II offenses also tracked differently in new CAD system. No longer an all other offenses category.



## **School Resource Officer (SRO) Program leads to Reinstitution of Police Juvenile Bureau**

When the police department began seeing its ranks restored during 2014, one of the department's top priorities was designating an officer to specifically handle juvenile matters. This led to the creation of a School Resource Officer or SRO. This program was initially one officer assigned to the Investigative Division. Due to the success of the School Resource Officer Program, in 2015 the Cranford Police Department reinstituted the Police Juvenile Bureau and assigned one (1) Detective Sergeant and one (1) Detective to this bureau. Today, all juvenile cases are assigned to and handled by the Police Juvenile Bureau. Each of its officers are also certified as SRO's.

Currently, the Police Juvenile Bureau interacts with the following agencies in response to acts of juvenile delinquency, juvenile neglect, juvenile mental hygiene matters, and family in crisis situations:

- Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC)
- Union County Prosecutor's Office Juvenile Unit
- Juvenile Referee
- Family Court, Chancery Division – Family Part
- Division of Child Protection and Permanency (DCPP), formerly DYFS
- Juvenile Conference Committee
- Union County Youth Services Bureau
- Union County Family Crisis Intervention Unit
- Joint Action on Underage Substance Abuse (JAC)
- The Cranford Municipal Alliance
- Prevention Links
- The Cranford Board of Education
- Families and Communities Together (FACT)

Currently, when an act of juvenile delinquency or a crime involving a juvenile defendant is assigned to the Police Juvenile Bureau, there are options for disposing of the matter. The difference means to dispose of juvenile matters depend on the severity of the crime/act, the recidivism rate of the juvenile offender, and the likelihood that a non-punitive action would work in the best interest of the child. The disposition options consist of the following:

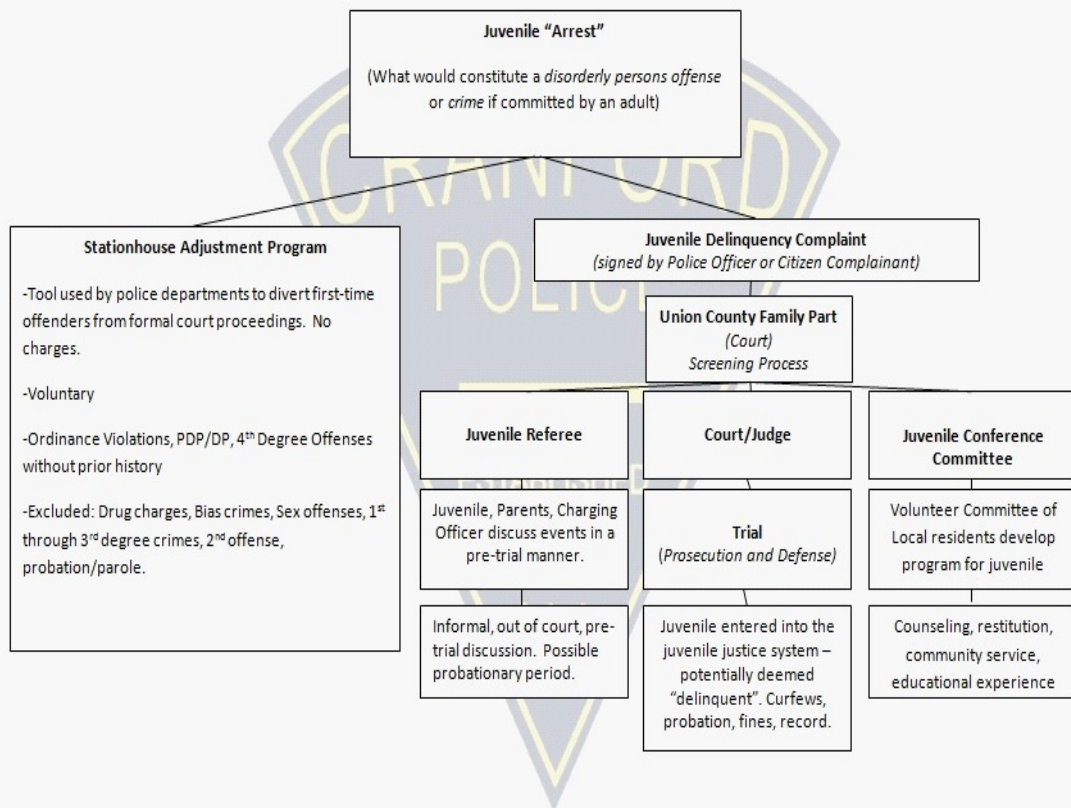
- Curbside Adjustment
- Stationhouse Adjustment Agreement
- Juvenile Referee
- Family Court, Chancery Division
- Juvenile Conference Committee

The following flowchart accurately depicts the different routes a juvenile matter may travel from "arrest" to disposition:



# SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER

Cranford Police Department: Flow-Chart to demonstrate the Juvenile Justice System  
Drafted by D/Sgt. Matthew R. Nazzaro



In most cases, proactive engagements with juveniles are the best means to divert youth from the criminal justice system altogether, which is a pillar of the juvenile justice system. In order to divert juveniles from delinquent behavior that could potentially continue into adulthood, studies have shown that a positive police-juvenile mentorship reduces violence in schools, communities and among youth. Currently the Cranford Police Department has committed to such a mentorship with its Police Juvenile Bureau with its School Resource Officer (SRO) Program.

## The History of the SRO Program in Cranford

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

1. Building relationships
2. Handling minor offenses informally
3. Employing timely case-monitoring
4. Collaborating efforts of school principals, counselors, SAC's, and police
5. Ensuring that information flows evenly and consistently between school officials and police to keep discipline and good order of the schools
6. Informing students and staff of the role of police officers and the function of the legal system



# SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER



7. Preventing juvenile delinquency through police omnipresence
8. Working towards school safety through emergency management planning and site assessment for vulnerabilities
9. Breaking down barriers between juveniles and police officers (by introducing police to students both in uniform and plainclothes)

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

The SRO Program in Cranford first began during the 2014-2015 School Year. This was the first year of a three (3) year "Shared Services" agreement between the Township of Cranford and the Cranford Board of Education. As part of the agreement, the Cranford Police Department will have an officer designated and trained as a "Safe Schools Resource Officer" assigned to the district to act as a liaison between both government agencies. In exchange for this arrangement, the Cranford Police Department SRO has a portion of the salary supported through the Cranford Board of Education Budget. As a result of this shared service agreement, cost-saving measures including cooperative purchasing, combined training, and resource pooling will act to save taxpayers money while avoiding financial redundancy.

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

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

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

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

1. Met with each Principal prior to the school year to discuss policies, problem areas, and goals for the 2014-2015 school year.
2. Became an administrator on the district's "PowerSchool" program, allowing emergency access to information instantaneously.
  - a. Improvements to Photograph feature are proposed for 2015-2016 school year.
3. Attended faculty meetings at each school to introduce myself to faculty and staff.
4. Attended all eight (8) "Back to School" nights throughout the district, introducing the Cranford Police Department to each schools' parents.
5. Received annual drill schedule for each school in the district. By law, each school must conduct the following drills:



# SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER

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- a. Bomb threat
  - b. Evacuation
  - c. Active Shooter/Killer
  - d. Lockdown
  - e. Fire Drill
6. Learned the Emergency Action Plan (EAP) for the district, including each school's rally and reunification points during evacuation and displacement emergencies.
  7. Introduced Patrol Division to monthly school drills to demonstrate faculty, staff and student response during Active Shooter, Lockdown, Evacuation, and Bomb Threat incidents.
  8. Established direct communication between each school Principal and the Cranford Police Department.

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

9. Trained staff on usage of "Safe Schools" radio.
10. Conducted defibrillator familiarization with the school staff, including nursing staff. Inspected all defibrillators.
  - a. Reviewed district-wide "Janet's Law" preparedness.
11. Participated in 3 Administrative Council meetings with administrators from each school to discuss the following:
  - a. The New Jersey Drill Law.
  - b. Best practices on emergency responses to Active Shooter/Lockdown scenarios.
  - c. Project ALERT implementation.
12. Attended Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying (HIB) training to address district-wide policy on how to investigate allegations of bullying.
13. Conducted a CPR recertification course with school faculty at the Board of Education office on Election Day.
14. Created a monthly safety and security presentation for the "New Substitute Orientation" on-boarding at the Board of Education office.
15. Performed tabletop exercise at Orange Avenue School.

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

16. Administered the second year of Project ALERT (Adolescent Learning Experience Resistance Training).
  - a. Program originally rolled-out to all 6<sup>th</sup> grade students during the 2014-2015 school year replacing D.A.R.E.
  - b. Program addresses medical marijuana, prescription pill abuse, inhalant abuse, social norms and self-pressure, and alcohol abuse.
17. Outfitted each patrol post car and supervisors with instantaneous "key-fob" access to each of the 8 public schools.
  - a. Mapped out entry point locations for Cranford Police Department.

# SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER

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18. Addressed vehicular safety concern at Walnut Avenue School where vehicles were creating hazardous pedestrian conditions. Working with facilities management, posted parking provisions that aided traffic congestion along bike and walking routes.
19. Addressed suspected drug and alcohol activity occurring on the outskirts of Hillside Avenue School by issuing Patrol Alerts and working with school staff to breakdown "hang-out" place for teens.
20. Created a "Juvenile Interaction Report" to document one-on-one encounters between police officers and juveniles at risk for delinquency.
21. Increased positive police presence at all schools, especially at Cranford High School, Orange Avenue School and Hillside Avenue School which host our largest population of students.
22. Appointed to study and recommend considerations for Active Shooter scenarios that encompass plain-speech techniques and components of A.L.I.C.E. (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate).
23. Evaluation of current district Emergency Action Plan (EAP) and emergency flip-chart for each school.
24. Assisted in modification of visitor rules at districts schools during school hours.
25. Became trained in "Site Assessment Evaluation" to determine vulnerabilities of each of the district's eight (8) schools, with a site-assessment planned for June/July/August of 2015.

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

26. Attended meetings as members of the Joint Action Committee on Underage Substance Abuse, Cranford Municipal Alliance and the Juvenile Officers Association of Union County.
27. Participated in "Diversity Day" at Orange Avenue School, educating students about Bias Crimes and the law enforcement response to criminal acts of hate.
28. Presented cyber-safety presentation to the Captain's Council at Cranford High School, educating them on the pitfalls of social media for youth leaders.
29. Created and delivered presentations for the Criminal Justice classes at Cranford High School related to crime-scene processing.
30. Presented to students at Brookside Place School, Walnut Avenue School, Livingston Avenue School, and Bloomingdale Avenue School in uniform to build trust between police officers and children.
31. Developed and presented "police use of force" roundtable discussion with students in grades 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 to discuss the events leading to the nationwide protests about police-community relations.
32. Encountered approximately 800 Cranford School District Students in intimate groups of 25 students or less at a time to discuss age-appropriate topics including stranger danger, peer pressure, substance abuse awareness, juvenile law, cyber-safety/responsibility, drunk driving, and citizenship.
33. Developed a positive relationship with the Juvenile Conference Committee of Union County to improve programming for our Cranford youth.
34. Established direct contact and mentorships with juveniles whose parents contacted the School Resource Officer for guidance.





## **Background**

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

D.A.R.E. was first introduced as a tool for law enforcement to interact with schoolchildren in 1983, more than 31 years ago. During the course of its existence, D.A.R.E. updated its programming to the current "Too Good For Drugs" program, adopted by New Jersey D.A.R.E. This was a ten (10) week program that intended to empower students with drug resistance techniques, while educating them of the consequences of such risky behavior.

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

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

## **Needs of the Cranford Community**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## **Cost of Program Implementation**

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

## **Success of Project ALERT**

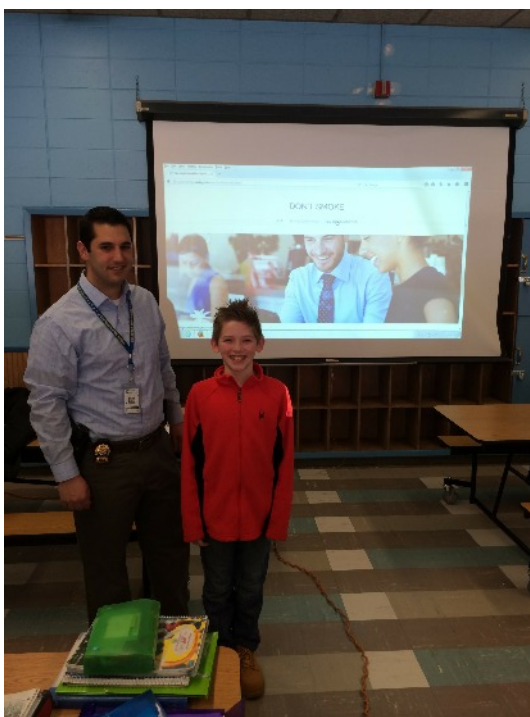
Project ALERT has been adopted by numerous school districts and police departments nationwide and current has over 500 trained instructors in New Jersey. In fact, Project ALERT is currently being utilized by the Los Angeles, California School System, which was the birthplace of D.A.R.E. Additionally,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

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

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

**Photo at Right,** February 27, 2015 the third group of 6th grade students at Hillside Avenue School completed their "Project ALERT" substance abuse training. One of the students, Tyler Hamblin, used the information he learned about smoking cigarettes to make his own web-site called "Don't Smoke". He shared his web-site's features and content with his classmates. Left to right, SRO Detective Matthew Nazzaro and Tyler.

**Photo Below,** students at St. Michael's School during Project ALERT class with School Resource Officer Detective Nazzaro.







The Cranford PAL completed its 34th year of serving the youth of Cranford in 2015. 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 had operated under the direction of Executive Director, Lt. Chris Polito until he turned over his position to D/Sgt. Matthew R. Nazzaro when the Police Juvenile Bureau was reinstituted this year. Members of the PAL Board of Directors are: Honorary Chairman, Chief James Wozniak, Captain Guy Patterson (Treasurer), Lt. Christopher Polito (Vice President), Retired Lt. Bob Colaneri, Sgt. Frank Williams, Det. Steve D'Ambola, Det. Kelly Rieder, Officer Sean Holcomb, civilians Gregg Wheatley (President), Kim Capece, Jim Kwiatowski, John Oblachinski, Bob Bruns, Brian McGovern, Michael Plick, Andrea DaSilva, Jocelyn Alfandre, Kelly Howard, and Darren Torsone. These volunteers spend a tremendous amount of time making decisions and organizing programs that make the PAL a successful non-profit organization.

The PAL had six (6) football teams for 3rd through 8th grade athletes. 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 and acts as a feeder-system into the high school sports programs. This was apparent with The Cranford High School Football Team becoming State Champions this season. The CHS Football Staff and PAL football coaches exchanged information regarding offensive, defensive, and special team strategies. The extra time put in by all the coaches was rewarded by another successful season.

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

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

The wrestling program continued to grow in number of participants and in success on the mat. The program has approximately 85 wrestlers participating for the 2015/2016 season. The Program Director, Kevin Murray, and assistants Rob Kanterman and Andrew Hooey led the program, participating in the Central Jersey Wrestling League and the Passaic County Wrestling League, as well as the Middle School Wrestling Program.



# POLICE ATHLETIC LEAGUE

The PAL again sponsored teams in the Cranford Baseball/Softball League, as well as supporting the Booster Club, The Cranford Rotary Club, Project Graduation, The St. Michael's Feast, The CAT Fund. The Cranford PAL joined forces with the Cranford High School Football Team and raised \$1000.00 for Breast Cancer Awareness and donated the money to the Susan B. Komen Breast Cancer Fund.

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

In 2015, the PAL began construction of a new PAL Concession Stand and bathroom facility at the Memorial Field Sports Complex in conjunction with the Cranford Soccer Club (CSC). Progress of the facility was shown towards the end of 2015 with the ground-breaking and foundation beginning the construction process. The facility is expected to be completed by the Fall 2016 season. Additionally, the Cranford PAL updated its website at [www.cranfordpal.org](http://www.cranfordpal.org) and began accepting electronic registrations and payments for applicants. This stream-lined process allows for the organization to function seamlessly using the most modern and time-saving technology possible.

Lastly, the Cranford PAL Board of Directors established a "Sportsmanship/Zero Tolerance Policy" to encourage positive, healthy competition throughout our various PAL programs.



**Above, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade PAL Football A Team.**

# OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

The Professional Standards Unit manages these programs and responsibilities:

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

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

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

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

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

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

# OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

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

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

The chart below depicts all of the complaints received by the Cranford Police Department Professional Standards Unit in 2015.

Type of Complaint	Anonymous Complaints	Citizen Complaints	Agency Complaints	Total Complaints
Excessive Force	0	2	0	2
Improper Arrest	0	1	0	1
Improper Entry	0	0	0	0
Improper Search	0	1	0	1
Other Criminal Violation	0	4	0	4
Differential Treatment	0	1	0	1
Demeanor	0	6	0	6
Domestic Violence	0	0	0	0
Other Rule Violation	0	4	30	34
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>49</b>



The chart below depicts that complaints concluded with a final disposition by the Cranford Police Department in 2015:

Type of Complaint	Sustained	Exonerated	Not Sustained	Unfounded	Admin Closed	Total Dispositions
Excessive Force	0	0	0	2	0	2
Improper Arrest	0	0	0	1	0	1
Improper Entry	0	0	0	0	0	0
Improper Search	0	1	0	0	0	1
Other Criminal Violation	0	0	0	4	0	4
Differential Treatment	0	0	0	0	0	0
Demeanor	0	3	0	2	0	5
Domestic Violence	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Rule Violation	28	2	1	3	0	34
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>47</b>

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

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

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



# TRAFFIC BUREAU

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The Traffic Division is comprised of a division commander, two traffic detectives, two traffic maintenance personnel, two 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 D’Ambola is responsible for organizing and conducting bicycle and pedestrian safety lectures as well as bicycle rodeos at every grammar school in Cranford.

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

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

## **ENFORCEMENT**

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

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



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

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

The Department applied for and was awarded a number of enforcement grants from the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety in 2015 totaling \$15,000. The first was \$5,000 for "Click It or Ticket" efforts between May 18<sup>th</sup> and May 31<sup>st</sup>. The Department also received two \$5,000 of grants money for the "Over the Limit, Under Arrest" DWI Enforcement program from August 21<sup>st</sup> to September 7<sup>th</sup> and December 11<sup>th</sup> and January 1<sup>st</sup> 2016.

## **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.

## **Law Enforcement Challenge**

The Cranford Police Department participated in the 46-75 officer category of the **New Jersey Law Enforcement Challenge**. As of this date the no winners have been announced, but we are happy to announce that through the Department's increased enforcement efforts we reported a 20% decrease in motor vehicle crashes with injuries in the 2014 Challenge period.

## **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 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 BUREAU

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## 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:

## SCHOOL GUARDS

During the 2014-2015 school year the Traffic Division was required to provide coverage at **128** 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 **177** public/parochial school days occurred of which **82** did not require members of the police department to fill in for a school guard. This equated to **.72** school guards out every school day which was a decrease over the .92 the previous year (2013-2014) and from the .49 in 2012-2013. 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 2015 the Traffic Division coordinated and filled **1,229 off duty jobs**. These jobs include traffic control at township festivals and construction zones, as well as security at private events.

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

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

Detective Pietrucha has the responsibility of vehicle impounds and obtaining junk titles on all vehicles not claimed. New Jersey State Statute requires that any vehicle held for more than 20 business days be auctioned. This requires him to send certified mail to all owners/lien holders requesting they respond to pick up their vehicle otherwise it will be sold at auction. In 2015 about **293 vehicles** were towed. Detective Pietrucha is in charge of advertising, setting up, and running the department's car, and equipment auctions and Detective D'Ambola is in charge of the bicycle auction.

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

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





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

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

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

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

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

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

## **TRAFFIC MAINTENANCE**

As is the case every year, Traffic Maintenance personnel were busy in 2015. 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 William Pietrucha  
Detective Steven D'Ambola  
Ralph Gregson, Parking Enforcement Officer  
Arthur Kennedy, Parking Enforcement Officer  
Charles Fette, Traffic Maintenance  
Joseph Corbisiero, Traffic Maintenance  
Liam Duffy, Summer Traffic Maintenance  
Ryan Fitzpatrick, Summer Traffic Maintenance





# LAW ENFORCEMENT CHALLENGE

## NEW JERSEY LAW ENFORCEMENT CHALLENGE

The Cranford Police Department recently participated in the 26-75 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 20% decrease in injury related crashes in 2014.

The Law Enforcement Challenge is financed through a grant awarded to the International Association of Chief's 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.



**Photo Above,** motor vehicle crash between two trucks on North Avenue East near Arlington Road from July 10<sup>th</sup>.



## Reportable Crashes

2014

2015

Type	Crashes	Fatal	Crashes	Fatal	% Change
Motor Vehicle vs. Motor Vehicle	53	0	80	0	51%
Motor Vehicle vs. Fixed Object	4	0	7	0	75%
Motor Vehicle vs. Pedestrian	7	0	15	1	114%
Motor Vehicle vs. Bicyclist	3	0	7	0	133%
Motor Vehicle vs. Parked Vehicle	6	0	6	0	0%
Other	1	0	1	0	0%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>57%</b>

## Non-Reportable Crashes

Type	2014	2015	% Change
Motor Vehicle vs. Motor Vehicle	412	415	1%
Motor Vehicle vs. Fixed Object	60	51	-15%
Motor Vehicle vs. Pedestrian	1	1	0%
Motor Vehicle vs. Bicyclist	2	2	0%
Motor Vehicle vs. Parked Vehicle	139	164	18%
Other	17	7	-59%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>631</b>	<b>640</b>	<b>1%</b>

## Injuries from Crashes

Type	2014	2015	% Change
Transported to Hospital	28	56	100%
Complaint of Pain (RMA)	61	95	56%
Fatality	0	1	N/A
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>71%</b>



# MOTOR VEHICLE VIOLATIONS

The following is a comparative classification of motor vehicle violations between the period of January 2015 and December 2015 with the same period in 2014.

VIOLATION	2014	2015
Speeding	103	135
Stop Sign	30	29
Careless Driving	285	263
Reckless Driving	8	7
Driving Under The Influence	61	66
Open Container In Vehicle	14	29
CDS In Motor Vehicle	103	157
Wrong Way on One Way Street	1	4
Traffic Signal	53	70
Improper Passing	46	46
Illegal Turns	84	140
Obstructing Traffic	72	88
Driving While On Cell Phone	74	62
Unlicensed Driver	74	122
Revoked Driver	305	386
Unregistered Vehicle	225	169
Uninsured Motorist	53	42
Failure to Exhibit Documents	378	536
Leaving The Scene Of An Accident	43	38
Fictitious/Obstructed Plates	212	340
Maintenance Of Lamps	445	653
Seatbelt Violations	432	576
Safety Glass Violations	357	503
Inspection Law	129	137
Failure to Stop for Pedestrians	29	8
Other Moving Violations	140	396
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>3,756</b>	<b>5,002</b>



# PARKING VIOLATIONS



The following is a comparative classification of parking violations between the period of January 2015 and December 2015 with the same period in 2014.

VIOLATION	2014	2015
Meter Parking	2,976	3,608
4:30 P.M. to 6:00 P.M.	236	140
Restricted Hours	517	510
9 Hour Permit	381	208
12 Hour Permit	68	226
Overnight Parking	273	274
25' Of An Intersection	39	128
25' Of A Crosswalk	267	156
2 Hour Limit	124	317
10' Of A Fire Hydrant	17	8
50' Of A Stop Sign	92	91
Parked On A Crosswalk	1	6
Parked On A Sidewalk	13	2
Blocking A Driveway	26	18
School Zone	168	92
Bus Stop	1	0
Disabled Vehicle	0	19
Fire Zone	53	52
Facing Wrong Direction On Street	35	47
Between Signs	9	13
Head In Only	55	41
Not Within Lines	106	49
Handicapped	6	19
Loading Zone	12	16
Meter Feeding	5	0
No Parking Anytime	172	230
Other Parking Violations	22	26
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>5,674</b>	<b>6,296</b>



# MOTORIZED EQUIPMENT

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The Cranford Police Department's motorized equipment presently consists of 46 units; fifteen cars, eleven sport utilities, two motorcycles, three traffic trucks, five military surplus vehicles, one command post, one electric vehicle, two trailers, two boats, one trailer -mounted generator, one stage, one light tower, and a variable message board. Below is a list of these vehicles:

2	1988 American General Humvee
1	1990 American General Humvee
2	1991 BMY Harsco 5 Ton Truck
1	2009 BMY Harsco Command Post
1	2010 Harley Davidson Motorcycle
1	1995 Harley Davidson Motorcycle
5	2012 Dodge Charger
1	2013 Ford Utility Police Interceptor 4X4
6	2014 Ford Utility Police Interceptor 4X4
1	2004 Ford Excursion 4X4
1	2006 Ford Explorer 4X4
1	2008 Chevrolet Tahoe 4X4
1	2010 Chevrolet Tahoe 4X4
1	2010 Dodge Charger
3	2010 Ford Police Interceptors
2	2008 Ford Police Interceptors
1	2006 Ford Police Interceptors
1	2005 Ford Police Interceptor
1	2002 Ford Police Interceptor
1	2015 Ford F-450 Super Duty Bucket Truck
1	2001 Ford F-450 Super Duty Platform Truck
1	1999 Ford F-250 Super Duty Pick-up Truck
1	1998 Toyota Camry
1	2013 T3 Motion
1	2001 Zodiac Boat & Load Rite Trailer
1	2015 Zodiac ERB380 Boat
1	2003 Kristi Utility Trailer
1	2009 AMD Portable Light Tower
1	2012 Precision Solar Controls Message Board Trailer
1	1995 Utility Tool & Body Stage Trailer
1	1995 Utility Tool & Body Generator Trailer

A total of **258,789 miles** were traveled by motorized equipment during the year of 2015. Vehicles were serviced approximately every 3,000 miles and were cleaned and washed on average of once a week.



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

In 2015, we regrettable lost one of our longtime school crossing guards, Sam Reynolds. Sam, who completed almost 8 years with the department, passed away in April 2015. Sam worked several posts during his career but finished the last couple years at the intersection of Denman Road and Culin Drive. He will be remembered for his dedication to the township and how much he enjoyed crossing our children.

As a result of Sam Reynolds' demise, reserve school crossing guard Beatriz Grasso was elevated to full-time status. Beatriz fits in well with our current system. We wish her success in her new position and look forward to working with Beatriz in upcoming school years.

In addition to these changes we hired three new reserve school crossing guard, they include Tom D'Agostino, Dennis Armento, and Caryn Armstrong. Tom was hired in September 2015 to replace school guard Howard Frost. Howard left the position in 2015 after completing six years of service. Reserve Guard Roy Torrigiani was elevated to full-time status to replace school guard Iris Lopez. Iris left the position in 2015 after completing eight years of service.

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 2015.

## SCHOOL CROSSING GUARDS - 2015

Robert Bell	Brookside Place/Spruce Street
Elizabeth Erdody	Hillside Avenue Tunnel
James Desiderio	Orange Avenue/Wadsworth Terrace
Beatriz Grasso	Denman Road/Culin Drive
Lawrence Docimo	West End Place/Spruce Street
Richard Maier	Springfield Avenue/West End Place
Nazaire Jennings	Centennial Avenue/Hillside Avenue
Joseph Lopes	Alden Street/Miln Street
Deborah Saenger	Denman Road/Livingston Avenue
Betty Mobley	Walnut Avenue/Blake Avenue
Roy Torrigiani	Bloomingdale Avenue/Albany Street
Leonard Messner	North Lehigh Tunnel
Tom D'Agostino	Brookside Place / Orchard Street

## RESERVE GUARDS

Dennis Armento  
Caryn Armstrong



# CLICK IT OR TICKET

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 556 fatalities in 2014, and a large percentage of the motor vehicle occupants killed in these traffic crashes were not wearing a safety belt. The use of a safety belt remains the most effective way to avoid death or serious injury in a motor vehicle crash.

This year’s “Click It or Ticket” Mobilization was conducted from May 18, 2015 to May 31, 2015. The department conducted two seat belt checkpoints and additional hours of focused roving patrols utilizing overtime, patrol, and traffic personnel. In addition, we conducted 20 hours of night time enforcement due to statistics pointing to very low seat belt use in the evening. A total of 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:	72
All Other Violations:	259

<b>TOTAL SUMMONSES DURING THE MOBILIZATION:</b>	<b>331</b>
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In addition to the summonses issued arrests included 42 for drug possession and/or felony/warrant arrests. A post survey of seat belt usage showed a 95% compliance rate on Cranford roadways.



**Photo above,** single car crash at North Avenue and Orchard Street from October 13, 2015.  
**Photo on Page 43,** single car crash at North Avenue and Alden Street on December 25, 2015.



# DRIVE SOBER OR GET PULLED OVER



The Cranford Police Department participated in the national end of summer "Drive Sober, Get Pulled Over" 2015 Statewide Crackdowns. The goal of the program is to decrease incidents of drunk driving through education and enforcement.

From August 21<sup>st</sup> to September 7<sup>th</sup> 2015, the Cranford Police Department stepped up impaired driving enforcement as part of New Jersey's end of summer *Drive Sober, Get Pulled Over 2015 Statewide Crackdown*. The department received a \$5,000 grant from the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety for 100 hours of overtime enforcement.

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

From December 11, 2015 through January 1, 2016 the Department stepped up impaired driving enforcement as part of *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over 2015 Year End Crackdown*. The department also received a \$5,000 grant from the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety for 100 hours of overtime enforcement during this holiday year end period.

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

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

	8/21-9/07/15	12/11/15-1/01/16
DWI Arrests	6	7
Drug Arrests	10	32
Indictable/ Warrant Arrests	11	32
Summonses	266	293





# DWI PROGRAM

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 2015 we had in Cranford **eighteen (18) accidents (four (4) involving injury)** directly attributed to drunk drivers. There has been a **decrease** in the number of alcohol related accidents over the **twenty-one (21)** we had in 2014. 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 2015 the department had **twenty-five (25)** 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. Guy Patterson  
Det./Lt. Stephen Wilde  
Det./Lt. Edward Davenport  
Lt. Craig Marino  
Lt. Christopher Polito  
Sgt. Russell Luedecker  
Ptl. Chris DiFabio  
Det./Sgt. Gerard Quinn  
Det. Derek Farbanec

Det. Steven D'Ambola  
Det./Sgt. Richard Vitale  
Sgt. John Swandrak  
Sgt. Steven Toy  
Det./Sgt. Ryan Greco  
Ptl. John Colineri  
Sgt. Thomas Feeney  
Det. Matthew Nazzaro

Det. William Pietrucha  
Ptl. John Rattigan  
Ptl. Michael Andrews  
Ptl. Thomas Bell  
Ptl. Brian Wagner  
Sgt. Eugene Perrotta  
Det. Spencer Durkin  
Sgt. Frank Williams

As in previous years this agency stressed to our officers the need to detect and apprehend those driving while intoxicated. During the year **2015** these efforts resulted in **sixty-six (66)** arrests being made for Driving While Intoxicated within the Township of Cranford. Of the **66** arrests, **8** refused to submit to breath testing, **6** gave urine and **1** had blood drawn. This shows an **8%** increase from the **sixty-one** arrests made in the year **2014**. The Department's Drug Recognition Expert (DRE), Detective Steven D'Ambola, was called out to perform evaluations for **six (6)** subjects.

As we move forward into the year **2016** the citizens of our community can rest assured that we will continue our aggressive enforcement practices. We will continue to send a strong message to those that would violate our drunk driving laws that will be arrested should they drive through our community. A part of New Jersey's DWI laws pertains directly to those drivers under the legal drinking age of 21. This law states that anyone under the legal drinking age of 21 can be charged if their blood alcohol level is anywhere between .01% to .07%. This in essence means that anyone under the legal drinking age who consumes as much as one drink and is caught driving can be charged with DWI. In **2014 one (1)** driver was charged under this law. This number **has remained the same for 2015**.



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 **2015**.

Despite the lowering of the BAC to .08%, we continue to believe that one of the most important programs in reducing the number of drunk drivers on our roadways has been that of educating the public on the hazards of driving while under the influence. During 2015 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 five* years. The day is dedicated to our officers giving a slide/lecture presentation on alcohol related accidents which have occurred within the township over the past several years. The officers give the students a review of New Jersey Drunk Driving Laws and the consequences they would face if charged for D.W.I. Afterwards the officers have had some very lively discussions with the students on the laws and penalties involved with drinking and driving, especially those related to the underage driver. We also, during these sessions, receive so very positive input from the students on both our enforcement and educational programs.

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

The department used two extra enforcement initiatives to augment patrol efforts in enforcing DWI within the township. The Extra DWI Patrol Programs have been in place since 1988. In 2015 we participated in the Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over program sponsored by the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety. The extra patrol program consists of putting extra patrols out on selected weekends (usually holidays) with the specific assignment of detecting and apprehending drivers who are under the influence. Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over **2015** Statewide Crackdown, is a campaign that ran from **August 21, 2015** through **September 7, 2015**. During this eighteen day period, officers assigned to this campaign made **six(6)** DWI arrest(s) and issued (**266**) summonses for various violations. Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over **2015** Year End Crackdown campaign ran from **December 11, 2015** to **January 1, 2016**. During this **twenty-two** day period, officers assigned to this campaign made **seven (7)** DWI arrests and issued (**293**) summonses for various violations.

On November 20, 2015, the Department conducted a DWI Motor Vehicle Checkpoint. The checkpoint was conducted at the intersection of Centennial Avenue and Hayes Street after analyzing historical data of the most frequent dates, times, and locations of DWI arrests within the Township. Staffing the checkpoint were 17 regular officers and 3 Auxiliary officers. The checkpoint resulted in six (6) warrant arrests, five (5) possession of CDS arrests, and two (2) Driving While Intoxicated Arrests. A total of seventy (70) summonses were issued for various violations.

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

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



# RECORDS BUREAU

Detective Sergeant Gerard Quinn commands the Records Bureau. He is assisted by two civilian records clerks, Jean McComb and Janet Spricigo. Jean McComb has been assigned to the Records function for over 28 years; Janet Spricigo was hired in March 2014.

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

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

<b>Fee Structure – Parking Permits</b>	<b>Semi-Annual</b>	<b>Annual</b>
12-Hour Commuter Parking	\$300	\$600
9-Hour Downtown Business Parking	\$250	\$500
Overnight Downtown Resident Parking	--	\$200

In addition to permits, the Records Bureau also sells smartcards to local residents and business owners. Purchasers can use credit cards or cash to load a set value on the cards, which are then accepted for payment at the various pay stations in the downtown area. In 2015, the Records Bureau generated \$388,373.17 in parking related revenue.

Another responsibility assigned to the Records Bureau is management and enforcement of the Cranford Police Department's alarm registration and monitoring program. Chapter 55 of the Township Code requires all residents to register their burglar and fire alarm systems with the Cranford Police Department. Residents or businesses utilizing a third party monitoring service pay an initial rate of \$40, followed by an annual \$25 renewal fee. Accounts that are programmed to dial into the Cranford Police Department's direct alarm monitoring system are charged \$95 for residential accounts and \$200 for business accounts. The direct monitoring system was upgraded in 2014, and includes state of the art Security Information Systems Alarm Center software, and two Bosch alarm receivers that provide a redundant system in the event of a technical failure. In 2015, alarm registration was responsible for \$36,763 in revenue. False alarm billing resulted in an additional \$1,790.

The Records Division also collects revenues from and manages Firearms Purchaser Identification applications, handgun purchase permits, and permit to carry applications. Firearms permits are processed according to



guidelines set forth by the New Jersey State Police, the Division of Criminal Justice and the New Jersey Administrative Code. Firearms related permits generated \$414.00 in revenue.

Firearms Purchaser ID Card Applications	68
Handgun Purchase Permit Applications	48
Permit to Carry Applications	4
Replacement/Duplicate ID Card Applications	22

Fingerprinting of local residents federal background checks, bicycle licensing and the online sale of police accident reports also generate revenue. The Cranford Police Departments Detective Bureau provides fingerprinting services on Tuesdays for persons that need to submit their fingerprints out of state or to the federal government only. The Cranford Police Department provides this service for a fee of \$5.00 for residents and generated a yearly total of \$136.50. The Cranford Police Department is partnered with the National Bike Registry to offer residents discounted bicycle licenses. These licenses are sold for \$4.00 each and are valid for ten years. In 2015, the total revenue from bike license sales was \$936.50. The sale of police accident reports generated an additional \$2,665.00. Finally, solicitor and peddler permits generated an annual revenue total of \$679.00.

The total revenue generated by the Cranford Police Department Records Bureau in 2015 was **\$435,053.27.**

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

Sergeant Quinn serves as the Cranford Police Department's Press Information Officer (PIO) and is responsible for liaising with print, online and television media to coordinate the timely and accurate release of information to the various news sources via press release, telephone, or the social media platforms used by the Cranford Police Department (e.g. Twitter, Facebook, Nixle).



Sergeant Quinn is also the property and evidence custodian. In 2015, the department took custody of or processed 1,048 individual items of evidence, including over 430 narcotics items and 20 handguns.

Finally, Sergeant Quinn serves as the agency's Accreditation Manager and is responsible for maintaining compliance with the standards set forth by the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police Law Enforcement Accreditation Program (LEAP).

**Photo,** Det/Sgt. Quinn conducting an Internet safety class at the community center in November.



# TRAINING

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

The New Jersey Attorney General mandates semi-annual training in firearms, use of force and vehicular pursuit as well as annual training regarding domestic violence, bloodborne pathogens, hazardous materials, and right to know information regarding hazardous materials. Throughout their careers, all personnel attend training updates and programs in a broad spectrum of courses, seminars, and in-house presentations. Cranford Police Department personnel completed the following training in 2015:

**Michael Andrews**

Alcotest 7110 Recertification

Methods of Instruction

Proper Use & Operation of CPD Humvees

**Thomas Bell**

Field Training Officer

Alcotest 7110 Recertification

TCCC - Tactical Combat Casualty Care

Proper Use & Operation of CPD Humvees

**Daniel Donnerstag**

Intro to Hidden Compartments in Motor Vehicles

Patrol Practices - Motor Vehicle Stops

DWI Detection & Standardized Field Sobriety Tests

The Islamic State of Iraq & the Levant (ISIL)

Physical Conditioning Instructor

Proper Use & Operation of CPD Humvees

Prescription Drug Crimes

Methods of Instruction

**John Colineri**

Alcotest 7110 Recertification

Proper Use & Operation of CPD Humvees

Body Language & Pre-Indicators of Violence

Mobile Field Force Commander

Mobile Field Force Extrication

Force on Force Simulation Instructor

**Michael Dubitsky**

Concealed Compartments

Body Language & Pre-Indicators of Violence

Suburban Drug Interdiction Patrol Tactics

Top Gun Class #48

Radar Operator Recertification

**Joseph Corbisiero**

Flagger Training

**Jason D'Agostino**

Radar Operator Certification

Traits of an Armed Suspect

Pro-Active Patrol / Street Smart Cop

**Spencer Durkin**

Sexual Assault Investigations

Statement Taking

Alcotest 7110 Recertification

Intro to Gang Identification & Investigations

Intro to Crime Scene Investigation

Intro to Hidden Compartments in Motor Vehicles

Proper Use & Operation of CPD Humvees

NJSP Office of Forensic Sciences Drug Symposium

Strict Liability/Overdose Prevention Act Training

**Steven D'Ambola**

Crash Investigation I

Crash Investigation II

Share the Keys

VALOR Training

LIDAR Operator Certification

Prescription Drug Crimes

Child Safety Seat Technician Certification

NJSP Office of Forensic Sciences Drug Symposium

Prescription Drug Crimes

**Derek Farbanec**

Child Abductions & Missing Persons Investigations

Statement Taking

Search Warrants - Policy & Procedures

Alcotest 7110 Recertification

Intro to Crime Scene Investigation

Mobile Trauma Unit Anti-Terrorism Seminar

Writing Search Warrants & Affidavits

Body Fluids & Trace Evidence

Strict Liability/Overdose Prevention Act Training

**Edward Davenport**

Radar Instructor Recertification

Arrest, Search, & Seizure

NJSACOP Mid Year Meeting

**Christopher DiFabio**

Crisis Intervention Team

Child Abductions & Missing Persons Investigations

Search Warrants - Policy & Procedures

Rapid Response to Active Shooter

Gang Awareness

**Gregory Federici**

DWI Detection & Standardized Field Sobriety Tests

Narcotics I - Drug Identification

Vehicle Born IED & Contraband Concealment

Pro-Active Patrol / Street Smart Cop



Proper Use & Operation of CPD Humvees  
Narcotics II - Investigatory Techniques for Patrol

**Thomas Feeney**

Alcotest 7110 Recertification  
Radar Operator Recertification  
Arrest, Search, & Seizure  
Proper Use & Operation of CPD Humvees  
Defensive Driving  
Incident Response to Terrorist Bombings

**Ryan Gerrity**

Radar Operator Certification  
Proper Use & Operation of CPD Humvees  
Emergency Communications Operator - BTC  
Emergency Medical Dispatch - EMD  
Advanced Street Interviews  
Pro-Active Patrol / Street Smart Cop

**Ryan Greco**

Internal Affairs - Current Trends  
OPRA for Law Enforcement Agencies  
Updates on Recent Case Law  
Alcotest 7110 Recertification  
Arrest, Search, & Seizure  
FBI First Responder Weapons of Mass Destruction  
Strict Liability/Overdose Prevention Act Training  
Drug Monitoring Initiative - DMI

**Timothy Handy**

Union County Police Academy Waiver Training  
Pro-Active Patrol / Street Smart Cop  
Patrol Practices - Motor Vehicle Stops  
Verbal Judo  
Radar Operator Certification  
Proper Use & Operation of CPD Humvees  
Defensive Driving  
Emergency Communications Operator - BTC  
Emergency Medical Dispatch - EMD  
Mental Health Jail Diversion Training

**Nelson Hearn**

Arrest, Search, & Seizure  
Search Warrants - Policy & Procedures  
Radar Operator Recertification  
Proper Use & Operation of CPD Humvees

**Sean Holcomb**

Crisis Negotiations for First Responders  
Radar Operator Recertification  
Proper Use & Operation of CPD Humvees  
Mobile Field Force Commander  
Mobile Field Force Extrication

**Robert Jordan**

Comprehensive Investigative Training  
Field Training Officer  
DWI Detection & Standardized Field Sobriety Tests  
Intro to Gang Identification & Investigations  
Radar Operator Certification

Proper Use & Operation of CPD Humvees  
Information Management for Effective Prosecution  
Prescription Drug Crimes  
Blue Courage

**Nadia Jones**

Gang Awareness  
Proper Use & Operation of CPD Humvees  
Radar Operator Recertification

**Sandana Jones**

TC Operators Role In Active Shooter Events  
TC Operators Critical Incident Response Workshop

**Arthur Kennedy**

CEVO III - Evasive Driving  
Flagger Training

**James Knight**

Radar Operator Certification  
Proper Use & Operation of CPD Humvees  
Narcotics I - Drug Identification

**Corey LoForte**

Radar Operator Certification  
Proper Use & Operation of CPD Humvees  
Prescription Drug Crimes  
Conducting Complete Traffic Stops  
Body Language & Pre-Indicators of Violence  
Pro-Active Patrol / Street Smart Cop  
Intro to Gang Identification & Investigations  
Tactical Handgun Training

**Brian Lopez**

Child Abductions & Missing Persons Investigations  
Statement Taking  
Police Photography  
Search Warrants - Policy & Procedures  
Strict Liability/Overdose Prevention Act Training  
Cell Phone Boot Camp  
Intro to Crime Scene Investigation  
Writing Search Warrants & Affidavits  
Body Fluids & Trace Evidence  
Radar Operator Recertification  
Proper Use & Operation of CPD Humvees  
Prescription Drug Crimes

**Russell Luedecker**

Child Abductions & Missing Persons Investigations  
Crisis Intervention Team  
Walking the Narrow Road of Leadership  
OPRA for Law Enforcement Agencies  
Police & Press Relations  
High Impact Supervision  
Arrest, Search, & Seizure  
Records Management for Law Enforcement Agencies  
NJSP LASO Seminar  
Cyber Crime Scene and Internet Investigations



# TRAINING

## **Craig Marino**

Alcotest 7110 Recertification  
Arrest, Search, & Seizure  
Proper Use & Operation of CPD Humvees

## **Jean McComb**

Records Management for Law Enforcement Agencies  
UCR Update

## **Matthew Nazzaro**

Alcotest 7110 Recertification  
Juvenile Investigations  
Statement Taking  
Sexual Assault Investigations  
Juvenile Justice Update  
Police & Press Relations  
Writing Search Warrants & Affidavits  
2015 Safe Schools Symposium  
Planning the Active Shooter Drill

## **Daniel Norton**

Document Fraud for Law Enforcement  
UCPO Mental health Jail Diversion Training  
Pro-Active Patrol / Street Smart Cop  
Crisis Intervention Team  
Proper Use & Operation of CPD Humvees  
Defensive Driving  
Police Verbal De-Escalation

## **Timothy O'Brien**

Crisis Intervention Team  
Narcotics I - Drug Identification  
Radar Operator Recertification  
Cell Phone Boot Camp

## **Michael O'Neil**

Pro-Active Patrol / Street Smart Cop  
Patrol Practices - Motor Vehicle Stops  
Verbal Judo  
Radar Operator Certification  
Proper Use & Operation of CPD Humvees

## **Guy Patterson**

Internal Affairs - Current Trends  
Internal Affairs - Fitness for Duty Exams  
Emergency Management Basic Workshop  
Creating & Maintaining Drug Free Workplace  
FBI Strategic Guide to Media  
Mid- Atlantic LEEDS  
FBI First Responder Weapons of Mass Destruction  
Active Shooter Workshop  
Sports Event Risk Management  
NJSACOP Mid Year Meeting  
Incident Response to Terrorist Bombings  
Force on Force Simulation Instructor

## **William Pietrucha**

Crash Investigation I  
Crash Investigation II  
Police Motorcycle Instructor Certification  
Alcotest 7110 Initial Operator Certification  
Child Safety Seat Technician Certification  
Radar Operator Recertification  
Police Photography

## **Eugene Perrotta**

NJSACOP Command & Leadership Academy  
Child Abductions & Missing Persons Investigations  
Performance & Accountability  
Managing the Police Training Function  
Excellence in Policing Accreditation Conference  
Arrest, Search, & Seizure  
Proper Use & Operation of CPD Humvees  
OPRA for Practitioners

## **Christophe Polito**

Police & Press Relations  
Alcotest 7110 Recertification  
Arrest, Search, & Seizure  
Proper Use & Operation of CPD Humvees  
FBI First Responder Weapons of Mass Destruction

## **Gerard Quinn**

Excellence in Policing Accreditation Conference  
Alcotest 7110 Operator Recertification  
Arrest, Search, & Seizure  
FBI Strategic Guide to Media  
Blue Courage  
UCR Update  
NJSP LASO Seminar  
Accreditation Manager Training

## **John Rattigan**

Alcotest 7110 Initial Operator Certification  
Active Shooter & Mass Killer Response Instructor  
Colt M16 AR15 Armorers School  
Beretta CX4 Armorers Course  
E-CDR Training  
Proper Use & Operation of CPD Humvees  
Radar Operator Recertification  
Body Language & Pre-Indicators of Violence  
Preventing Sexual Harassment in the Workplace  
Force on Force Simulation Instructor  
Tactical Handgun Training

## **Kelly Rieder**

Community Policing Train the Trainer Police & Teens  
Sexual Assault Investigations  
Writing Search Warrants & Affidavits  
Comprehensive Crime Scene Processing/Photography  
NJ Women in Law Enforcement Training Conference  
Proper Use & Operation of CPD Humvees  
REID Techniques of Interview & Interrogation





2015 Safe Schools Symposium  
Safe Schools Resource Officer Training  
Planning the Active Shooter Drill  
Juvenile Investigations  
Tactical Handgun Training

## **Matthew Siessel**

Narcotics I - Drug Identification  
Narcotics II - Investigatory Techniques for Patrol  
Search Warrants - Policy & Procedures  
DWI Detection & Standardized Field Sobriety Tests  
Gang Awareness  
Proper Use & Operation of CPD Humvees  
Prescription Drug Crimes  
Defensive Driving  
Mental Health Jail Diversion Training  
Crisis Intervention Team  
Incident Response to Terrorist Bombings

## **Janet Spricigo**

OPRA for Law Enforcement Agencies  
Records Management for Law Enforcement Agencies

## **Thomas Stiansen**

Search Warrants - Policy & Procedures  
Interview & Interrogation  
Ballistic Shield Instructor  
TCCC - Tactical Combat Casualty Care  
Active Shooter & Mass Killer Response Instructor  
Intro to Hidden Compartments in Motor Vehicles  
Force on Force Simulation Instructor

## **Amanda Stryker**

Emergency Communications Operator - BTC  
Emergency Medical Dispatch - EMD  
CPR Certification

## **Joseph Stulpin**

Immigration Enforcement & Identity Documents  
Crisis Negotiation for First Responders  
TCCC - Tactical Combat Casualty Care  
Proper Use & Operation of CPD Humvees  
Radar Operator Recertification  
LIDAR Operator Certification  
NJSP Office of Forensic Sciences Drug Symposium  
REID Technique of Interview & Interrogation  
Criminal Investigations  
Juvenile Investigations  
DNA for First Responders & Investigators

## **John Swandrak**

Alcotest 7110 Recertification  
E-CDR Training  
Arrest, Search, & Seizure  
Proper Use & Operation of CPD Humvees  
Active Shooter & Mass Killer Response Instructor  
Beretta CX4 Armorers Course  
Preventing Sexual Harassment in the Workplace  
Force on Force Simulation Instructor

## **Brian Trotter**

Radar Operator Certification  
Proper Use & Operation of CPD Humvees

Emergency Communications Operator - BTC  
Emergency Medical Dispatch - EMD  
Traits of an Armed Suspect  
Pro-Active Patrol / Street Smart Cop  
Tactical Handgun Training

## **Steven Toy**

Child Abductions & Missing Persons Investigations  
Crisis Intervention Team  
Alcotest 7110 Recertification  
UCPO Mental health Jail Diversion Training  
Arrest, Search, & Seizure  
Challenges in Investigating Domestic Violence Cases  
FBI First Responder Weapons of Mass Destruction  
Proper Use & Operation of CPD Humvees  
Preventing Sexual Harassment in the Workplace

## **Joseph Van Bergen**

Creating & Maintaining Drug Free Workplace  
Managing the Police Training Function  
Internal Affairs - Fitness for Duty Exams  
Strategies to Strengthen Police/Community Relationships  
Proper Use & Operation of CPD Humvees  
NJSACOP Mid Year Meeting

## **Richard Vitale**

Retirement Planning - PFRS  
Update on Recent Case Law  
Alcotest 7110 Operator Recertification  
Arrest, Search, & Seizure  
Law Enforcement & Cyber Defense

## **Brian Wagner**

Intro To Gang Identification & Investigations  
Autism Spectrum Disorder  
Alcotest 7110 Recertification  
DNA for First Responders & Investigators  
Cyber Crime Scene & Internet Investigations  
Forensic Anthropology & The Unidentified Body  
Verbal Judo  
Proper Use & Operation of CPD Humvees  
Conducting Complete Traffic Stops  
Traits of an Armed Suspect  
Preventing Sexual Harassment in the Workplace  
Police Verbal De-Escalation  
Blue Courage

## **Stephen Wilde**

Child Abductions & Missing Persons Investigations  
Arrest, Search, & Seizure  
Alcotest 7110 Operator Recertification

## **Frank Williams**

Arrest, Search, & Seizure  
Proper Use & Operation of CPD Humvees  
Alcotest 7110 Recertification  
Defensive Driving

## **James Wozniak**

NJSACOP Mid Year Meeting  
IACP Conference  
Strategies to Strengthen Police/Community Relationships



# SOCIAL MEDIA & INTERNET



## World Wide Web

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

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

In the past 17 years (since 1998) the Department's Internet home page has logged over 279,000 visits to the site. In 2015, the Cranford Police home page averaged 1,407 visits per month, totaling 16,889 (down 18% from 2014) visits from over 10,300 unique visitors. 57% of visitors were first time visitors. 7,658 visitors (45%) used a mobile platform such as Apple or Android to access the site. In addition, over 1,500 visitors in 2015 took advantage of the Department's online form downloads. This was a 400% increase from last year.

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 83 distinct countries) have exchanged training and scheduling information, have requested patches or memorabilia, or have just stopped by to say "hi."

## Social Media

In 2010, the Cranford Police Department was one of Union County's earliest adopters of public safety alert and notification technology offered by Nixle, winner of the 2011 award for best Mass Notification System given by the publication Government Security News. Throughout the year the Nixle platform was used 288 times to alert residents to scheduled road work, traffic concerns and delays, public events, weather/storm alerts and other relevant topics. As of December 2015, 8,311 Internet users were registered for this service (405 more than in 2014).

In 2011, the Internet presence of the Cranford Police Department was expanded to include a more robust Social Media presence. The agency created a page on Facebook, the social media networking and information sharing service with almost 1.59 billion users as of December 2015. 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, 2015 the Cranford Police Department's Facebook page had 3,987 followers, representing a 65% increase over the previous year's total. One particular post in December reached over 90,000 individual Facebook users.

Also in 2011, the Cranford Police Department created a Twitter account (@CranfordPD) to broaden the agency's ability to connect on a real time basis with a more media and Internet savvy public. As of December 2015, over 1,200 Internet users had signed up to follow the agency's "tweets" and receive focused messages of 140 characters or less regarding a variety of topics. Since inception, the Cranford Police Department has broadcast over 3,400 messages.



In April 2014, the Cranford Police Department expanded its social media presence by adding an Instagram account (cranfordpolice). Instagram is a photo sharing application with appeal to the younger generation. In 2015 the department broadcast 254 images of community events, agency equipment and law enforcement activities to 650 followers. Each image is intended to strengthen the bond between the police and the local community.

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

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

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

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

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

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

## **Web Administration**

Design, maintenance and management of the Cranford Police Department's Internet and Social Media presence, as well as responding to and recording email correspondence, is the responsibility of Detective Sergeant Gerard Quinn (in cooperation with the web design team at Cranford.com), 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.



# POLICE AUXILIARY

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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.

In 2015, the Cranford Police Auxiliary welcomed three new officers to the unit, who graduated from the Auxiliary Police Academy in May of 2015. All three 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 2015. The officers resigned due to a new job position and personal reasons. We proudly recognize and commend Auxiliary Officer Francis Young on his 10 years of service award. Captain Gregson received the 2015 Training Citation for attending the most hours of continuing education Training. Captain Gregson along with Sergeant Anthony DeMeo, Officer Francis Young and Officer Timothy Lisowski received Administrative Awards.

The Cranford Auxiliary Police had an almost 6% increase of volunteer hours in 2015 totaling 3,133 hours of service to our community. The Auxiliary presence during the year freed full-time officers from fixed posts, enabling them to respond to urgent situations and higher priority emergency calls. The Auxiliary Police demonstrated their value as a force multiplier by providing Cranford with staffing levels and coverage that, otherwise, would have been absent. The benefit provided by the Auxiliary Police to both the Police Department and the community is extraordinary and cannot be solely measured by dollars and cents.



The 2015 membership of the Cranford Auxiliary Police stands at 18. The current members are:

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 John Daly  
Auxiliary Officer Justin Conklin  
Auxiliary Anthony DeMeo  
Auxiliary Officer Archie DeMartino  
Auxiliary Officer James Grogan  
Auxiliary Briana Hall  
Auxiliary Troy Kettler  
Auxiliary Officer Timothy Lisowski  
Auxiliary Officer Ken Novak  
Auxiliary Officer Avsar Patel  
Auxiliary Officer Jedeon Virata  
Auxiliary Officer Francis Young





# POLICE EXPLORERS

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

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

In 2015 the Post had 28 members. That number is continually growing due to the recruitment efforts of the members of the Post. This year six new members joined, five of which participated in the 2015 Cranford Police Youth Academy.

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

Some of the activities the Post participated in during 2015 were traffic control at the 4<sup>th</sup> of July fireworks, Firecracker 4-miler, Spring and Fall Festivals, National Night Out, and Memorial Day parade. Explorers Gina Cuzzo, Erik Monteagudo, Grace O'Brien, Peter Sopranzetti, Tom Siliato, Ben Romero, David Lugara, and Allen Davies donated a week out of their summer to help as assistant instructors in the 2015 Cranford Police Youth Academy. Explorers received hands on firearms safety and qualification training at the Linden Police Firearms Range. One of the highlights of the Explorer experience is participating in the Police Department's Ride-Along Program. In this program the Explorer goes on patrol with an experienced police officer and receives first hand view of their roles and responsibilities. In this way, the basic idea of civic responsibility can be instilled. Many of the Explorers are

interested in pursuing careers in law enforcement and are grateful for the mentorship from seasoned officers.



We lost several explorers to college this year. Brendan McSharry, who has dedicated the last four years to the post and participated as a junior instructor for the Youth Academy, attended the Union County Sheriff's Youth Academy, and NJ State Police Trooper Youth Week, was awarded the Robert Hand Memorial Scholarship by the Cranford PBA to assist him with his tuition as he attends The College of New Jersey.

**Photo,** Explorers at range in June, 2015.



# SPECIAL OPERATIONS TEAM



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

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





## HONOR GUARD

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

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

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

In 2015 we saw a few personnel changes to the Honor Guard. Patrolman Michael O'Niel replaced Patrolman Gregory Federici whom resigned from the Honor Guard. With the addition of Detective Kelly Rieder, the Honor Guard has been able to increase its ability and functions into areas once requiring outside assistance.

With the changes and the close of 2015, the Honor Guard members are Sergeant Steven Toy (Commander), Detective William Pietrucha (Coordinator), Patrolman Thomas Bell, Daniel Norton, Patrolman John Rattigan, Detective Kelly Rieder and Patrolman Michael O'Niel.

In 2015 the Honor Guard conducted several in-service trainings where they reviewed dress drills, line formations, command structure for large formations and silent drill.

The Cranford Police Department Honor Guard continues to represent our agency in Funeral Services for Retired Cranford Police Officers, officers killed in the line of duty, and officers who passed away while in active service to their respective Police Departments around the State. We also participate in parades and various ceremonies. The primary purpose of the CPD Honor Guard is to provide funeral honors for fallen Officers. Sadly, The Honor Guard has attended far too many funerals for officers in the tri-state area in 2015.

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

**Photo,** Honor Guard at Memorial Day Parade.





# WATER RESCUE UNIT



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

## **Team Members**

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

D/Sergeant Ryan Greco

Sergeant Eugene Perrotta

Sergeant Russell Luedecker

Detective Steven D'Ambola

Detective Joseph Stulpin

Patrolman Timothy O'Brien

Patrolman Christopher DiFabio

Patrolman John Rattigan

Patrolman Matthew Siessel

Patrolman Daniel Donnerstag



## **Training**

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

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

Semi-Annually members of the Team conduct both practical and classroom training, which includes but is not limited to requalification, open water rescue operations, and boat operation. In 2015 two trainings were conducted at the Round Valley Reservoir. Due to an unprecedented turnover in Manpower, these trainings were used to familiarize five new members of the Team, with equipment handling, knot tying, and basic rescue techniques.

## **Deployment**

The Cranford Police Department Water Rescue Team was not activated for any emergency incidents in 2015.

## **Equipment**

2015 marked a major improvement for the Water Rescue Team. An original 2001 Zodiac Mark II Futura Inflatable Boat was decommissioned, and replaced with a state of the art Zodiac ERB 380 fully inflatable boat equipped with an Evinrude 25hp Rescue Motor. The Zodiac ERB allows for great flexibility, as it inflates in seconds using SCOTT Air Tanks. This will provide for great efficiency and effectiveness in future weather events.

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



# YOUTH POLICE ACADEMY

The Cranford Police Department held the ninth session of the Youth Police Academy from July 13 through July 17, 2015. Thirty-nine 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 Centennial Avenue Pool. The Academy was under the direction of Detective Steven D'Ambola and Detective Matthew Nazzaro. The academy participants, "cadets," started their day with roll call. Following roll call the cadets had military drill lead by Officer Joseph Stulpin, and a physical training session by Officer Daniel Donnerstag. Physical training consisted of running, pushups, sit-ups, an obstacle course and various other exercises. During the military drill portion of the day, the cadets learned how to stand at attention, complete facing movements, properly salute and march as a unit. Following PT and drill, the cadets had classroom activities.

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

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

On the fourth day the cadets met at the Centennial Avenue Pool. Det/Sgt. Greco and Off. Stulpin gave a lecture on the Cranford Water Rescue Team. They then gave a practical demonstration saving "victim," Junior Instructor, Explorer Erik Monteagudo, in mock life saving scenarios in the deep end of the pool. The class then made their way to the Hillside Avenue School Landing Zone where members of the New Jersey State Police TEAMS unit repelled out of a helicopter. Union County HAZMAT adorned their hot protective suits in the sweltering summer heat. The day ended with a bang when members of the Union County Bomb Squad showed off their mobile command unit and remote control robot.

Instruction blocks for the remainder of the week included Detective D'Ambola 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. Detective Felipe Alfonso of the Union County Prosecutors office gave a very informative presentation on street gangs and their impact on Union County and its residents. He highlighted how narcotics sales and use contribute to a majority of violent crimes in Union County. Additional presenters included New Jersey Homeland Security, ICE, and NJ Transit ESU, who bought their remote controlled robot that took one of the cadets for a ride.

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.

In the Fall of 2015 The Cranford Police Department ran the 6th Session of the Citizen's Police Academy. The Citizen's Academy was administered by Detective Lieutenant Stephen Wilde and it spanned seven consecutive weeks beginning in the middle of September. The goal of the Citizen's Academy is to educate the members of our community in police department policies, procedures, and programs. Applicants must live or work in Cranford and must be 21 years of age or older. The Citizen's Academy is offered free of charge and at the end of the seven week program students are invited to attend a graduation ceremony that is held during a regularly scheduled township council meeting. Each weekly block of instruction is between 2-3 hours, and the instructors are all Cranford Police officers.

In addition to classroom instruction, students are invited to participate in our ride along program, where participants are assigned to an on duty patrol officer and respond with them to calls for service, including burglar alarms, medical calls, car accidents, disturbances, and motor vehicle stops. Students are also given an opportunity to spend a day at the firing range where they are permitted to shoot departmental weapons. Cranford Citizen's Academy Students receive classroom instruction in the following areas of instruction:

*The History of the Cranford Police Department*

*The Patrol Function*

*The Field Training Program*

*First Aid*

*The Water Rescue Program*

*Cyber Crimes*

*Firearms Permitting Process*

*Motor Vehicle Stops*

*Role of the Police Auxiliary*

*The School Resource Officer Function*

*Social Media*

*Weapons Familiarization*

*Search and Seizure/Use of Force*

*Driving While Intoxicated*

*Community Support Services/Traffic Bureau*

*Investigative Division Function*

*The Communications Bureau*



In November 2015 the following Cranford residents graduated from the Citizens Academy before the Township Council at a regularly scheduled Township Meeting: Nancy Kelner, Maureen Costello, Paul Gallo, Kevin Illing, William Moretti, Gayle Hunt, Robert Salvatore, Richard Adubato, Maryann Skalski, Christopher Isaac, Jamie Anderson, Elizabeth Dalli, Nicholas Golden, Carolyn Saladino, and Amy Wischusen.





## 2015 - YEAR IN REVIEW

### Cranford First Responders CPR Save

February 5, 2015 was a happy occasion for public safety personnel in Cranford when cardiac arrest survivor Catherine Hallax met with the responders who performed cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) when she suffered a heart attack on January 22, 2015. The incident occurred at approximately 12:15am, when Hallax, 56, began feeling a pain in her chest while watching television. She was able to call out her son's name once before she collapsed. Charles Hallax was in a nearby room and wasted no time in calling 9-1-1 and beginning CPR. Charles is an experienced emergency medical technician and serves as a Lieutenant on the Cranford First Aid Squad; he never dreamed he would need to use his skills to save the life of a family member.

First to arrive on scene were Cranford police officers Nadia Jones, Greg Federici and Michael Dubitsky. Two officers continued to provide CPR while Federici applied a semi-automatic external defibrillator and attempted to shock Hallax's heart back to a normal rhythm. The Cranford First Aid Squad ambulance crew arrived within minutes and continued performing basic life support skills until a pulse returned. Squad Captain Jason Cruz, as well as team members Andrew Judka, Daniel Ho, Christian Berrios and Javeria Ansari managed Hallax's airway, assisted her breathing with oxygen, and prepared to transport her to Trinitas Hospital. MONOC Paramedics Jim DeVico and Susan DiMartini arrived to provide advanced care and stabilization while accompanying the Cranford squad to the emergency room. Hallax was rushed to surgery within minutes of arriving at the hospital.

Today, Catherine Hallax is feeling fine and remembers little of events that evening. She knows, however, that too few people survive an episode of cardiac arrest and she is grateful to the responders that made tonight's visit possible. When everyone was assembled, she had one message to give. "Just thank you – every last one of you – thank you." According to police Captain Guy Patterson, "the emergency system worked on every level. This is a great example of everyone, from three public safety agencies, working as one team to achieve a positive outcome."

Paramedic Jim DeVico pointed to the immediate CPR as a critical factor. "These guys [indicating Charles Hallax and Officers Federici and Dubitsky], their getting there, starting CPR right away and using that defibrillator really made a difference," he stated.

According to the American Heart Association, less than 8% of people who experience cardiac arrest outside of a hospital will survive. Catherine Hallax believes that without her son's quick reaction, and the efforts of each of those responders that came to her house, she would be another victim of that statistic.

**Photo, left to right, Patrolman Michael Dubitsky, Catherine Hallax, and Patrolman Greg Federici.**







**Father John P. McGovern**  
**Police Chaplain**

Father John P. McGovern died January 21, 2015, having served as the Chaplain for the Cranford Police Department since 2001. While actively serving as Pastor for St. Michael's Church, Father McGovern was a fixture at local police ceremonies and events. He took great pride in serving the men and women of the Cranford Police Department and continued to do so even after his time at St. Michael's had concluded.

John Patrick McGovern was born on February 11, 1940 in Jersey City, New Jersey. The son of Irish immigrants, he was the youngest of two boys. His parents met each other in this country, they were both raised in Swanlinbar, Ireland. He is a graduate of St. Peter's Prep High School in Jersey City. He attended Seton Hall University and Immaculate Conception Seminary where he received his master's degree in Divinity. He also earned a master's degree in education from Fordham University.

Ordained in 1965, Father McGovern's first assignment was to St. Theresa's in Summit, during which time he also served as chaplain of Overlook Hospital, where he served for 13 years. Next he was Chair of the Religion Department at Mother Seton

High School in Clark. His third and fourth assignments were as Pastor of the Church of the Little Flower in Berkeley Heights and then as Pastor of the Church of the Ascension in New Milford before coming to St. Michael's as Pastor in 2001. After serving as Pastor for ten years, during which he also served as Chaplain for Cranford's Police and Fire Departments, he retired in 2011 with the title Pastor Emeritus. He continued to serve as our Chaplain even after his time at St. Michael's had concluded. He would always say his favorite thing about St. Michael's and the Cranford community was the friendly people.





## 2015 - YEAR IN REVIEW



**Photo Above,** In February the Police Department accepted delivery of a new 2015 Ford F450 Bucket Truck for Traffic Maintenance. The truck displays a new black and white marking scheme.

**Photos Below,** Charlie Fette cleaning a car from a February 2015 snow storm.



### **Burglary / Attempted ATM Theft**

On March 11, 2015 at approximately 4:36am the Cranford Police Department was notified of an attempted ATM (automated teller machine) theft at TD Bank (465 E South Ave). TD Bank security personnel reported multiple suspects on scene attempting to pull the ATM from the building using chains and a pick-up truck.

As police units converged on the scene, the suspects abandoned the pick-up truck and fled in a dark colored Jeep which was parked nearby. Cranford police units pursued the Jeep on Centennial and North Avenues to the Garden State Parkway northbound. Due to safety concerns, fog, and wet road conditions, the pursuit was terminated in the area of the Union toll plaza.

Recovered in the bank parking lot was a 2002 Dodge Dakota pick-up truck that had been reported stolen in Old Bridge NJ, as well as the TD Bank ATM which had been pulled away from the front vestibule of the bank. The scene was processed by members of the Cranford Police Department Detective Bureau and the Union County Sheriff's Department.

### **Motor Vehicle Stop Leads to Handgun Arrest**

Following a motor vehicle stop, an 18 year old Linden man was arrested by Cranford Police and charged with multiple weapons offenses after officers located a loaded 9mm handgun.

At approximately 11:55pm on April 5, 2015, Patrolman Timothy Handy stopped a 2003 gray Infiniti on South Avenue near Lincoln Avenue East for motor vehicle violations. While Handy was speaking with the vehicle occupants, a rear seat passenger, identified as Kevin Clark of Linden NJ, was asked to exit the vehicle. While officers were attempting to identify Clark, he pulled away and fled the scene on foot. After leading police through several yards on Hale Street and Heinrich Street, Clark was apprehended by Patrolman Daniel Donnerstag behind a residence on Meeker Avenue. During the chase, Donnerstag observed Clark discard several items, one of which was a silver 9mm handgun loaded with hollow point bullets.

Clark was arrested and transported to Cranford Police Headquarters. He was charged with possession of a weapon for unlawful purpose, possession of hollow point ammunition, possession of a defaced firearm, hindering apprehension and resisting arrest. Bail was set at \$200,000 and Clark was committed to the Union County Jail pending an appearance in Superior Court on 4/8/2015.

The driver of the vehicle, a 22 year old female, was cited for multiple motor vehicle infractions and released at the scene. A 19 year old male passenger was cited for failure to wear a seatbelt.



# 2015 - YEAR IN REVIEW



## Public Safety Day

In April, the department took part in the annual Public Safety Day on Holly Street.

The event is held each year and offers students from Calvary Nursery School, Helen K. Baldwin Nursery School, and St. Michael's School a chance to meet officers and explorer police, fire, and EMS equipment.







# 2015 - YEAR IN REVIEW

## Take Your Child To Work Day

On April 23<sup>rd</sup> the Cranford Police Department participated in the National Take Your Child To Work Day by allowing staff to bring their children in to work for a day of activities. Children got a tour of the police department and related equipment. In addition, New Jersey Transit Police conducted a demonstration with their robot. Everyone was also given a tour of TV-35 and got to explore the studio and cameras.





# 2015 - YEAR IN REVIEW



**Top Left Photo,** St. Michael's School Bike Rodeo for 4<sup>th</sup> Grade students on April 29, 2015.

**Top Right Photo,** Patrolman Joseph Stulpin at a fire call on Oak Lane, April 28, 2015.

**Middle Photo,** police units assist with bicycle ride as part of the Cranford Peddle, Paddle, Explore on April 19, 2015.



**Bottom Photo, left to right,** Officer Sean Holcomb, Officer, Chris DiFabio, Sergeant Thomas Feeney, Patrick Feeney, and Officer Michael O'Neil at the Hillside Avenue School Spring Scramble Run.





# 2015 - YEAR IN REVIEW

## Cranford Police Department Releases iOS & Android App to Connect with Community

In an effort to streamline public access to police information, on May 6, 2015 the Cranford Police Department launched a new smartphone app that includes interactive features and easy access to the department's social media presence.

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

Cranford Police Chief James Wozniak has consistently pushed for more community engagement. "We think of ourselves as a partner in this community," he stated, "and as a partner, we want to embrace every chance to share critical information and make the Cranford Police Department accessible to everyone who needs it." Wozniak reiterated that the more avenues that are available for people to interact with his officers, the stronger the police-public relationship will become.

According to Captain Joseph Van Bergen, who worked with app developer WiredBlue to customize the app for Cranford, MyPD is just another example of Internet based technology migrating to a two way communications tool for law enforcement. "Using MyPD, the public can get push updates directly on their smartphone," he said, "but just as importantly, they can respond and send information to the police electronically." He noted that while some members of the community routinely interact with law enforcement, others may prefer the anonymity available through MyPD. App users can see the agency's Twitter and Facebook posts without signing up for either of those platforms directly.

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

**MYPD**  
MY POLICE DEPARTMENT

**SMART  
PHONES  
SMART  
CITIZENS  
SMART  
POLICING**

**FEATURES**

- Commend an Officer
- Ask Us Questions
- Give Us Feedback
- Latest News & Alerts
- Submit Crime Tips
- Contact Information
- Push Notifications
- Department Surveys
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HAVE AN **IPHONE** OR **ANDROID**? DOWNLOAD THE CRANFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT

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# 2015 - YEAR IN REVIEW



**Photos, clockwise from top left,** DWI Simulator at Cranford High School on May 14, 2015; Patrolman Dan Norton with a tour from Helen K. Baldwin Nursery School on May 12, 2015; Traffic Maintenance Joe Corbisiero installing Stop marking at the Library on April 30, 2015; Ptl John Ratigan, Det. Kelly Rieder, Ptl. Jason D'Agostino, Chief James Wozniak, and Ptl. Tom Bell at D'Agostino's Police Academy Graduation on June 8, 2015; Water Rescue training on May 7, 2015 with Officers Eugene Perrotta, Matt Siessel, and Joseph Stulpin.







## 2015 - YEAR IN REVIEW

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



Five Cranford Police officers took part in the Police Unity Tour bicycle ride to honor the sacrifices of police officers killed in the line of duty. Officers from around the United States converged on the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington D.C. On May 12, 2015. Captain Guy Patterson and Detective Derek Farbanec were joined by first year rider, Patrolman Joseph Stulpin. Patrolman Thomas Stiansen and Matthew Siessel provided support for the three riders along their 300 miles trip. They departed New Jersey on May 9, 2015.

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 1,600 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 2014 event resulted in over 1.9 Million Dollars being donated to the NLEOMF, bringing total donations to the fund since inception to nearly 16 Million Dollars. All five Cranford officers committed to raising over \$2,000.00 each through their participation in the tour. The officers thank Barry O'Donovan and Kilkenny House, G. DeLuca and Sons Masonry, Dottie Baniewicz and Barbara Bilger of the Cranford Chamber of Commerce, Mr. J's Deli, Dreyer's Farm, NJ Wine Seller.Com, Rock n Joe, Scaturro's Pizzeria and Café, Dellavecchia Group LLC, Mountainside PBA # 126, Cranford Jaycees, Cranford PBA Local # 52 and the Cranford PAL for their support.

According to Captain Patterson, the continued participation of the Cranford Police Department in the Police Unity Tour is great both for the Cranford Police Department and the Police Unity Tour. "Since first completing the Unity Tour in 2012, I have encouraged other officers to become involved. The experience of riding over those four days to honor the officers who have died in the line of duty and their surviving family members is unforgettable. The Police Unity Tour is a great organization. I know all the officers participating this year will share that same feeling when we arrive in D.C." Cranford Police Chief James Wozniak commends his officers' participation in the Police Unity Tour. "Last year I met our officers as they arrived at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial. The smiles on their faces said it all. They put in days of hard work and couldn't be happier doing it. Our officers are great representatives of our Town and of our profession."

**Top Photo,** Team Cranford arriving at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, DC.

**Bottom Photo,** left to right, Patrolman Matt Siessel, Patrolman Thomas Stiansen, Patrolman Joseph Stulpin, Captain Guy Patterson, Detective Derek Farbanec, and Chief James Wozniak.





# 2015 - YEAR IN REVIEW



The U.S. Marines with 1st Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment, came to Cranford in an aerial landing event as part of Fleet Week New York, May 21, 2015. Marines with Special-Purpose Marine Air Ground Task Force-New York showcased the capabilities of the Marine Corps both physically, mentally and technologically during Fleet Week New York.

The kids (and adults) had a great time at Orange Avenue School where three aircraft were landed - MV-22 Osprey, a CH-46E Sea Knight, and a UH-1Y Huey.







# 2015 - YEAR IN REVIEW

## Surplus Vehicles to Enhance CPD Disaster Response

In 2015, the Cranford Police Department took possession of a number of military surplus vehicles and other equipment geared towards enhancing the agency's flood and disaster response capabilities. The items were obtained through a federal program that repurposes decommissioned military equipment for use by municipal and state agencies. All vehicles and equipment were obtained at no cost to the township, and with the approval of the Cranford Township Committee.

Most visibly, the Cranford Police Department has deployed three Humvees, a five ton mobile command post, and two five ton trucks. All are capable of operating in flooded areas and are anticipated to help with rescue, recovery and evacuation efforts in future emergencies such as the massive floods or power outages that accompanied Hurricane Irene, Hurricane Sandy, Tropical Storm Floyd, and other recent storms. In addition to coordinating field activities and personnel, the mobile command post is able to assume the role of the police communications center in the event the municipal building is damaged or inaccessible, as was the case during Irene. It is fully equipped with radios, telephones, and computer equipment.

Each of the vehicles was painted and outfitted at Eastern Surplus and Equipment Company in Philadelphia. In addition to installing safety features and keyed ignition systems, the company installed engine snorkel kits allowing the Humvees to operate in over four feet of water. Police lights and markings were also installed.

Additional surplus equipment includes three heavy duty generators, a bulldozer and a five ton dump truck. While the generators can keep vital services operating in a disaster, the bulldozer and dump truck will help avoid unnecessary expenses related to debris removal; in past disasters, the Department of Public Works needed to rent similar equipment at significant cost.

Chief James Wozniak believes that his personnel are now better prepared for the next disaster. "The Cranford Police Department has, unfortunately, deployed to more than our fair share of weather related emergencies, rescues and evacuations in the past decade," he stated. "Now, we have a more complete toolbox, and we can rely less on outside agencies that have their own needs and priorities." He noted that on multiple occasions, the Cranford Police Department called on the Union County Office of Emergency Management, the National Guard, and surrounding towns to assist in weather related events.

Cranford Mayor Andis Kalnins was also an avid supporter of the surplus acquisition program. He said, "I commend Chief Wozniak and the Cranford Police Department. By taking advantage of this innovative program, they have significantly increased our public safety abilities at almost no cost to the taxpayers."

**Photo, left to right,** D/Lt. Edward Davenport, Capt. Guy Patterson, Mayor Andis Kalnins, Chief James Wozniak, Capt. Joseph Van Bergen, & Det. Steve D'Ambola.





# 2015 - YEAR IN REVIEW



**Top Photo,** images from the 2015 Memorial Day Parade.

**Bottom Left Photo,** images from the department hum-vee driver training conducted in April 2015. Standing are Detective Kelly Rieder and Patrolmen Corey LoForte, Ryan Gerrity, and Dan Norton. Lieutenant Marino is seated in top left and Patrolman Stulpin in top right.

**Bottom Right Photo,** humvee during an early March 2015 snow storm.







## 2015 - YEAR IN REVIEW



**Top Left Photos** show the renovation of the Investigative Division offices in June.

**Top Right Photo** shows the department's new command post deployed at the July 4<sup>th</sup> Fireworks event.

**Bottom Photo**, On June 12<sup>th</sup> our officers, accompanied by resident Special Olympians Tommy Wisnewski and Adam Fleissner, participated in the Law Enforcement Torch Run to benefit the Special Olympics of New Jersey.



# 2015 - YEAR IN REVIEW



## Awards Ceremony & New Hire

The police department held an annual awards ceremony in June at the Township Committee meeting. Those receiving awards are shown with Chief Wozniak in the photo above, right to left, Chief Wozniak, Sergeant Williams, Sergeant Luedecker, Detective Durkin, Patrolman Dubitsky, Patrolman Federici, Detective Farbanec, Patrolman Siessel, Patrolman Donnerstag, Patrolman Handy, Patrolman Trotter, and Patrolman O'Neil.

Christian Pasternak was also sworn in and attended the John H. Stamler Police Academy from July to December. He is shown with Chief Wozniak in the photo above.



**Photos at left,** The final Cranford Air Raid Siren was taken down in August as part of the parking lot repaving project. The siren, the last of four, was a Federal Signal Model 3T22 installed in 1960 to replace the older system installed originally in 1941. The other three sirens were taken down in 2014.

**Photo below,** the rear parking lot (lot #5) of the municipal building/police headquarters was slightly reconfigured and paved in September. The most visible changes included a new entrance driveway from North Union Avenue and a wider entrance driveway from Springfield Avenue to allow emergency vehicles to exit.







# 2015 - YEAR IN REVIEW

## National Night Out

Cranford Police took part in the 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual National Night Out on August 4<sup>th</sup> from 6-9 PM on Patrolman Robert F. Hand Plaza and the front lawn of the police department. 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, skateboard demonstration and much more.

Detective Kelly Rieder and Captain Joseph Van Bergen coordinate the event held in the plaza fronting headquarters.







**Top Photo,** Detective Steven D'Ambola was recognized In August by Mothers Against Drunk Driving for the fourth consecutive year. The MADD Distinguished Service Award recognizes police officers that lead their departments with the most DWI arrests in a year.

**Bottom Photo,** In October Detective D'Ambola was presented with the Health & Wellness Coalition of Union County Chief Daniel Vaniska DUI Enforcement award for his continued success in DUI enforcement within the County.

**Right Photo,** Orange Avenue School Bike Rodeo from October.



**Patrolman Andrew J. Sharo, Jr.**

Andrew J. Sharo, Jr. joined the Cranford Police Department in March 1966 and served here until his resignation on January 28, 1974 in order to become a detective with the Union County Prosecutor's Office where he had a successful career. Andrew passed away in August 2015.







## 2015 - YEAR IN REVIEW



**Top right photo,** Warner Plaza at North Avenue & Alden Street in August just as construction on the new plaza began.

**Middle right photo,** Warner Plaza during reconstruction on October 30<sup>th</sup> with wider pedestrian areas and shorter crossings. The project was completed in December.

**Bottom right and left photos,** Cranford Health and Extended Care hosted a first responder appreciation lunch on August 12<sup>th</sup> for our police, fire, and ems personnel.







## Promotional Ceremony

The Cranford Police Department held a promotional ceremony on September 29, 2015 at the Township Committee meeting.

Matthew Nazzaro, shown above, with his family after his promotion to the rank of Detective Sergeant. Nazzaro is a 12 year veteran of the Cranford Police Department and was previously assigned as the School Resource Officer. Sergeant Nazzaro is now assigned as the supervisor of the Juvenile Bureau.

**Top Right Photo**, Detective Rieder with students at Bloomington Avenue School for their Halloween Parade.

**Bottom Right Photo**, Sergeant Luedecker took a moment to stop two super heroes on Halloween.

**Bottom Left Photo**, all marked radio cars displayed pink ribbons for Breast Cancer Awareness Month in October.







# 2015 - YEAR IN REVIEW



**Top Photo, left to right,** Officers Siessel, Stiansen, Handy, Perrotta, and Jordan enjoy Thanksgiving dinner while working the night shift.

**Bottom Photo, left to right,** Patrolmen Jordan, Hearn, Donnerstag, and O’Neil pose with Thanksgiving snack bags from the students of Bloomingdale Avenue School.



## 16<sup>th</sup> Annual CPD Santa Deliveries

The Cranford Police Department 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.





**Photo Above,** members of the Cranford Police Auxiliary at the Red Ribbon Walk on October 7<sup>th</sup> at Nomahegan Park.

**Photo Below,** members of the department took part in No Shave November to raise awareness and funds for cancer.







# 2015 - YEAR IN REVIEW

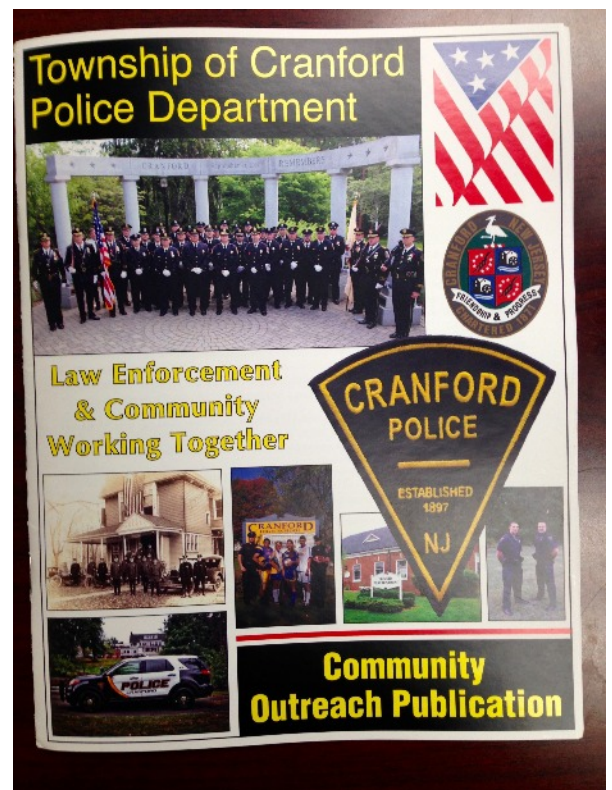


**Photo Above,** left to right, Robert Chamra, Lynne Galvez, and Ali Muhammad at the swearing in ceremony for the three officers on December 15, 2015. The officers will start the police academy in January of 2016.



**Photo at Top Right,** Sergeant Eugene Perrotta graduated on May 21<sup>st</sup> from the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police Command and Leadership Academy. Sergeant Perrotta also received the Chief Harry Wilde Academic Achievement Award for finishing the class with the highest grade point average. He is shown here with Captain Guy Patterson at right.

**Photos at Bottom Right and Below,** in March the department partnered with Crime in America to publish a community outreach publication with crime prevention tips and important information about the department and our many programs. The book was paid for by advertisements of local business and the first edition was ready for distribution in time for National Night Out in August.





## Officers Receive Valor Awards

Detective Lieutenant Edward Davenport and Detective Russell Luedecker received The 200 Club of Union County Valor Award on May 8th and the New Jersey State Policemen's Benevolent Association Lifesaving Award at their Valor Awards Banquet on November 21st. The awards were for their efforts in an August 20, 2014 fire at Cranford Towers, a high-rise residential complex..

At about 2:45 PM we received a 9-1-1 call for a fire and when police units arrived, flames were visible raging out of a fifth floor window and police units immediately went into action. Entering the stairwell to the fifth floor, officers encountered a heavy smoke condition causing limited visibility. The officers began the evacuation process unit by unit, but were met with several elderly residents that required more assistance to evacuate.

During the evacuation, Lieutenant Davenport and Detective Luedecker entered the unit that contained the fire and were met by the confused homeowner who appeared to be in a panic attempting to put out the fire which, at this point, had consumed most of the kitchen. Faced with a life threatening situation the officers quickly removed the resident to the safety of the stairwell. The resident was suffering from smoke inhalation and was physically disabled and unable to walk on his own. Without hesitation Lieutenant Davenport picked him up and carried him over his shoulders down five flights of stairs to the awaiting EMS unit. Further as Detective Luedecker exited the fire unit he closed the door behind him as they escorted the homeowner out to safety. Cranford Fire Chief Czeh pointed to this action as the primary reason for the fire not spreading to the rest of the building.

Once the building was evacuated, the officers returned to the fifth floor to assist the fire department in running hoses. The fire was eventually contained and extinguished with the assistance of mutual aid from five departments. The patient was transported to the hospital and treated for smoke inhalation and eventually recovered from his injuries.

**Top and Right Photos,** Lieutenant Davenport and Detective Luedecker at the 200 Club ceremony with Chief Wozniak.  
**Bottom Photo,** Detective Luedecker, left, with Lieutenant Davenport at the PBA Valor Awards ceremony.





# 2015 - YEAR IN REVIEW



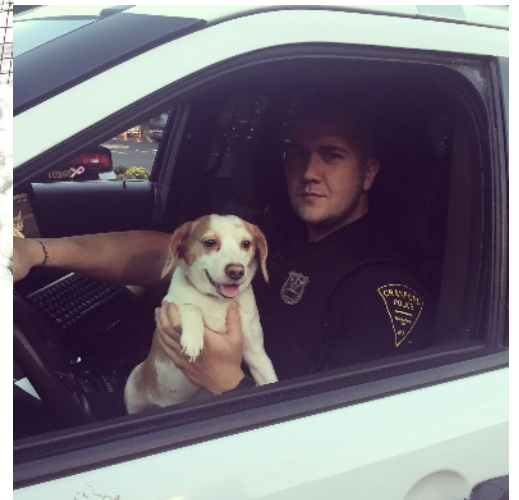
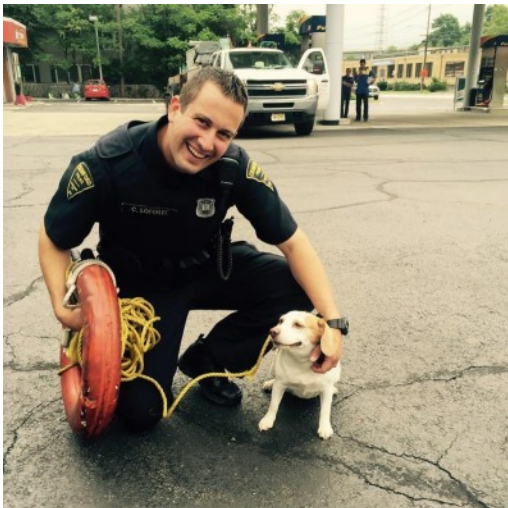
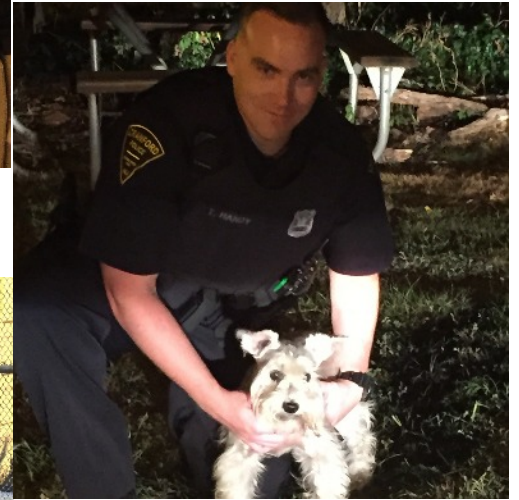


# 2015 - YEAR IN REVIEW



**Photos on Page 85,** During 2015 we found many a lost dog and were successful in getting them all home thanks to the use of social media. Here are just a sampling of some of the pups we helped get home.

**Photos on Page 84,** various pictures from 2015 that we posted on social media. We love our lemonade.





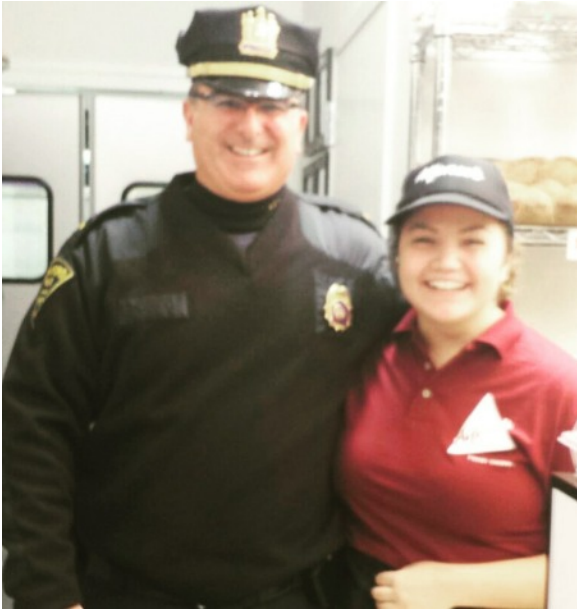


# 2015 - YEAR IN REVIEW





# 2015 - YEAR IN REVIEW



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





