

MAYOR
POLICE
DAVID MARTIN
SHAW



CHIEF OF
TIMOTHY

STAMFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT
725 BEDFORD STREET
STAMFORD, CT 06901
(203) 977-4681 FAX (203) 977-5583

The Stamford Police Commission held their monthly meeting at Police Headquarters Community Room on November 8, 2021 at 5:00pm.

Present at the meeting were Commissioners Abbazia, Flinn, Figueroa and Mercede. Commissioner Bass arrived a few minutes late. Chief Timothy Shaw, Assistant Chief's Louis DeRubeis and Silas Redd, Lt. Michael Noto, Sgts. Richard Gasparino and Christopher Gioielli.

Commissioner Abbazia called meeting to order at 5:00pm

Review of Minutes

Commissioner Figueroa made a motion to accept the minutes from the October 4, 2021 meeting second by Commissioner Mercede. All were in favor

Employee Performance Recognition

Assistant Chief DeRubeis informed the Commission about great performances beginning with Officer Califano and Rosado coming to the rescue of a 61-year-old male victim who was robbed and shot by four juveniles. Officers applied a tourniquet and saved the victims arm and life. All four juveniles were arrested. SROs played a big part in arresting the juveniles.

On October 14, 2021, a motor vehicle containing two passengers crashed into a house on Young Dixon Way. Suspects fled the scene, Officers checked the residence and no one was inside. Officer Pennoyer was simultaneously out with two suspects that matched the description of the passengers in the car. Officers did a fantastic job with their investigation and an arrest was made. Thank you Officers Pennoyer, Cooper, Becroft, Gale, Montanaro, Baines, J. Edwards, Inverno and DiNardo.

On October 30, 2021, Officers responded to shots fired at Ludlow Street. Officers and CSU team canvassed the area and gathered pertinent information.

Between September 24 and October 18, 2021, Stamford had nine commercial burglaries. SPD decided to put a team of officers in the areas that were being burglarized. Officers were able to arrest a suspect.

On October 14, 2021, Officer Buehler arrived on the scene of a pedestrian vs. car at Washington and Travis. An 18-year-old female victim was struck and taken to the hospital where she is still in the ICU.

October 28, 2021 Sgt. Gasparino and Officer Petrone were called to Mill River where a car was half in the water and driver was still inside. Officers Petrone, Bates and Sgt. Gasparino pulled the victim out of the water and EMS took her to the ER. She was very intoxicated and pregnant and stated she was in Stamford to terminate her pregnancy.

October 31, 2021 Road Rage at Strawberry Hill Avenue and Rock Spring Road. Female was not happy with the way the male victim was driving and pulled up next to him and pointed a gun at him. Officers were able to make contact with the owner and the suspect came into Headquarters where the victim identified the suspect. The suspect's gun and expired CT pistol permit were seized. Great work by Officer Bossone and Zack.

Assistant Chief Redd explained to the Commission how the JRB works. We have a panel of officers, court personnel, etc. They give the juvenile a chance to take ownership of their offense and they could be allowed to sign a contract that is three months long.

On October 13, 2021 BHU, officers Sgt. A. Molina, Sgt. Kennedy, Officer Daly and LCSW/MSW liaison Carolina Rodriguez have been working tirelessly with offering assistance to the homeless and at risk residents in the downtown area. Sgt. Molina and Officer Daly spoke to a victim of alcoholism and transported him to 135B (Stamford Hospital) where he said he wanted to go into detox. Carolina called First Step and she arranged for a room for this person. They would meet the next day and to everyone's surprise the male showed up with a friend who also wanted to get help. Arrangements were made but transportation was an issue so Officer Daly and Sylva were assigned to transport these two men to First Step. On the way Officer Daly and Sylva purchased cigarettes and lunch for both the individuals. Awesome job!

Officer Marco Califano and Xhema arrested a person who was violating an order of protection and found that the suspect had 42 counts of Violation of Probation. Great proactive work.

SRO Martinez and Webb helped a student who said that he wanted to harm himself. They were able to get him to the hospital and contact his parents. SRO's do a fantastic job in our high schools.

Commissioner Awards

Ten Commissioner Awards were given out tonight to officers who did an outstanding job dealing with victims and suspects. Officer Thomas Landry for his Domestic Violence call, Lieutenant Christopher Baker and his team of Sgt. Brenan Phillips, Sgt. William Garay, Officers Conor Canning, Daniel DeRocco, Daniel Kokkoros, Matthew Linnehan and Michael Spinosa for arresting a suspect in a drug/gun episode. Darien Police Officer Michael Cummings was given a SPD Commissioner Award for his help in a drug related takedown. Darien Chief Anderson and Captain Marron attended.

Comments from Public

None

Personnel Update

We are down to 256 total officers. We have 269 with 13 still in the academies, two out on military leave and several injured. Chief Shaw stated we are looking into new hiring initiatives with a new lateral test going both inside the State of CT and outside.

Administrative & Operations Report

According to the new Accountability Bill, we have to do a drug test of officers every 3 years – which we are conducting in December. We have between 120-130 officers to be tested. In addition, every 5 years officers must do a psych evaluation.

Community Engagement

A/C Redd informed us of a Teacher Mrs. Fox at Rodgers School doing an 8th grade platform on career paths. Officer Derisme was very helpful in helping to answer questions on the skills he has to have to be a Police Officer.

Sgt. Molina and Officer Daly went to St. Mary's Parish on Elm Street on October 31, 2021 to speak about Domestic Violence Awareness and Mental Health. They handed out brochures and answered questions in English and Spanish.

Sgt. Murphy and Officer Xhema visited the Islamic Center on Washington Blvd. to meet with children at the center to learn the Koran. They also visit the center to help with sports and other issues.

Old/New Business

Submitted,

Timothy Abbazia

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Chairperson