



# HAMDEN POLICE DEPARTMENT

## MONTHLY REPORT

MARCH 2024



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## **Personnel Matters and Events**

On March 15, 2024, Hamden Town Clerk Karimah Mickens swears-in our three new entry level police recruits, Quinton Bright, Stephen Minio and Nicholas Denze.



Pictured left to right: Hamden Town Clerk Karimah Mickens, Mayor Lauren Garrett, recruits Quinton Bright, Stephen Minio, Nicholas Denze and Police Chief Edward Page Reynolds.



# HAMDEN POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT MARCH 2024



## **Personnel Matters and Events (continued)**

On March 21, 2024, Lieutenant Anthony Diaz was promoted to the position of Captain; Sergeant Timothy McKeon was promoted to the position of Lieutenant and Officer John Glass was promoted to the position of Sergeant. Congratulations guys!



Pictured left to right: Lieutenant Timothy McKeon, Captain Anthony Diaz, Police Chief Edward Page Reynolds and Sergeant John Glass



# HAMDEN POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT MARCH 2024



## **Personnel Matters and Events (continued)**

On March 11, 2024, Officers Richard Cotto, Joseph Seagren, Matthew Buccitti, and Luisangel Valdovinos were assigned to the Emergency Services Unit (ESU) of the Special Operations Bureau.

On March 25, 2024, Lieutenant Nathan Youngberg was re-assigned to the Patrol Division within the Field Services Bureau from Central Communications of the Support Services Bureau.

On March 25, 2024, Sergeant Scott Jason was assigned to the Special Victims Unit of the Field Services Bureau from the Patrol Division.

On March 25, 2024, Lieutenant Timothy McKeon was assigned to supervise Central Communications within the Support Services Bureau.

On March 25, 2024, Lieutenant Eric Goclowski was assigned to command the Special Operations Bureau.

On March 25, 2024, Captain Robert D'Aniello was re-assigned to the Administration Captain position of the Professional Standards Bureau and the Support Services Bureau.

On March 25, 2024, Captain Anthony Diaz was re-assigned to the Operations Captain position of the Field Services Bureau and Special Operations Bureau.

On March 25, 2024, Lieutenant Mark Katz was re-assigned to the Administration Lieutenant position of the Professional Standards Bureau.



# HAMDEN POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT MARCH 2024



## **Personnel Matters and Events (continued)**

The Community Liaison Unit was involved in the following community outreach events:

- Car Seat Clinic @ Hamden Police Department, - March 2, - Sergeant Scott Jason and Detective Kelley Cushman conducted car seat inspections and installations at the police department for members of the public
- Strengthening Police and Community Partnerships (SPCP) meeting @ Hamden Police Headquarters via zoom, - March 14, - The meetings purpose is to share information, community concerns, crime trends, as well as developing a response with community input on crime prevention and deterrence
- High Risk Youth and Young Adult Community Task Force meeting @ Hamden Police Department via zoom, - March 27, - Hamden Police School Resource Officers along with Hamden Police Department's Social Worker Jessica Rizzo participated in the multi-services / multi agency collaboration meetings to address issues in supporting our youths
- High Risk Youth meeting @ Hamden Police Department via zoom, - March 27, Hamden Police School Resource Officers along with Hamden Police Department's Social Worker Jessica Rizzo attended the meeting for the Hamden/North Haven High Risk Youths





# HAMDEN POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT MARCH 2024



## Personnel Matters and Events (continued)

Hamden Jr. Police Commissioners 1<sup>st</sup> event at the Hamden Ice Rink



Pictured left to right: Officer Christian Kaplan, Hamden Jr. Police Commissioner's Vikram Kent, Jalisa Mims, Savion Christley, Jermaine Cowan Jr., and Officer Vincent DeStefanis



# HAMDEN POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT MARCH 2024



## **Personnel Matters and Events (continued)**

Hamden Jr. Police Commissioners event at the Hamden Ice Rink





# HAMDEN POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT MARCH 2024



## **Personnel Matters and Events (continued)**

The Greater New Haven Saint Patrick's Day Parade Ball at Anthony's Ocean View in New Haven where SPCP Facilitator Jacqueline Beirne was presented with a Distinguished Service Award



Pictured left to right: Officer Micheal Alteri, Detective Vincenzo Palma, Officer Jenna Davis, honoree Jacqueline Beirne and Detective Sergeant Jomo Crawford





# HAMDEN POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT MARCH 2024



## Traffic Calming

Members of the Traffic Division deployed the Speed Compliance Units on Ridge Road and Haverford Street, Ridge Road and Pickwick Road, West Todd and Joyce Road, Mather Street and Dixwell Avenue, Woodin Street and Fairview Avenue, Leeder Hill Drive (north/southbound), Skiff Street and Howard Drive, Mather Street and Servoss Street, Sherman Avenue and Hamden Hills Drive, Four Rod Road and Earl Avenue, Brook Road and Wintergreen Avenue





# HAMDEN POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT MARCH 2024



## **Training - Sworn Personnel**

During the month of March, department-wide training for all sworn personnel consisted of a presentation from Clifford Beers, and DUI/SFST class

### **What Is a Standardized Field Sobriety Test?**

The United States Department of Transportation (NHTSA) has determined that 3 field sobriety tests, when used together, are good indicators of driver impairment. These are known as standardized field sobriety tests ("SFSTs") and are described below.



## **Training – In Service**

Amped Five Online @ Hamden Police Department – Detectives Sean Nutcher and Gabriel Garcia

Pistol Mounted Optic Class @ New Haven Police Department range – Deputy Chief Kevin Samperi, Officers Anthony Georgetti, Eric Hallstrom and ESU members

Introduction to Bicycle Maintenance @ United Bicycle Institute, Ashland, OR – Sergeant Kyle Sampognaro and Detective Vincenzo Palma

4-Day Less Lethal ICP Instructor Course @ Manchester TWP, NJ – Sergeant Kyle Sampognaro and Officer Michael Vivencio



# HAMDEN POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT MARCH 2024



## Training: Emergency Services Unit

Members of the Emergency Services Unit (ESU) participated in firearms training with new optics during the month of March





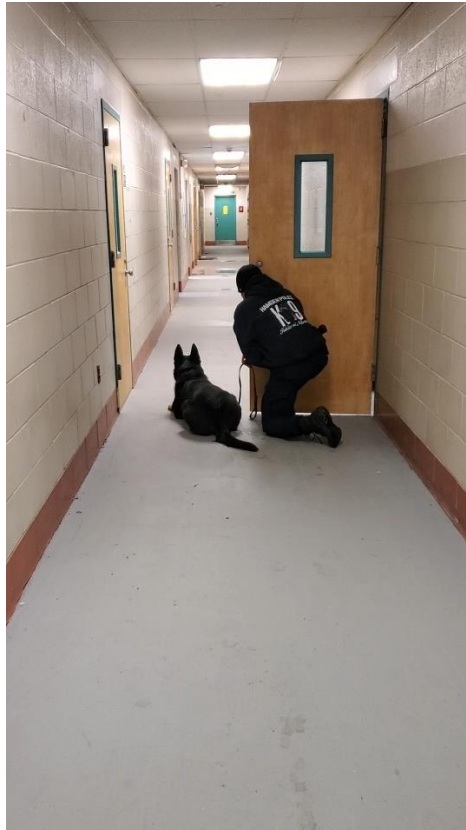
# HAMDEN POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT MARCH 2024



## Training – K-9

K-9 Units participated in monthly training throughout areas in town. The training curriculum included:

- Low light building searches
- Narcotics detection; vehicles & buildings
- Aggression Control
- Obedience
- Evidence / Article recovery
- Urban/Residential Tracking
- Suspect apprehensions across river
- Muzzle training





# HAMDEN POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT MARCH 2024



## Training – Dispatchers

During the month of March, Dispatcher training consisted of Emergency Medical Dispatching (EMD) recertification





# HAMDEN POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT MARCH 2024



## **Incidents of Special Interest**

On March 4, 2024, at approximately 12:00 a.m., members of the Patrol Division responded to a residence on Pine Rock Avenue on the report of a stabbing involving Juvenile siblings. Upon arrival officers' investigation revealed that a 15-year-old youth had stabbed her 12-year-old sister in the upper chest after an argument. Further investigation revealed that the 15-year-old youth suffers from behavioral issues and was not currently taking her prescription medication. The stab wound was minor in nature. The knife involved was seized as evidence and the 15-year-old was issued a Juvenile Summons for the assault and transported to the hospital for her behavioral issues. Officer Cameron Joyner conducted the investigation.

On March 4, 2024, at approximately 4:00 a.m., members of the Patrol Division responded to Dunkin Donuts on State Street on the report of a burglary. Employees who opened the business found that the drive thru windows were damaged and the register at the window had been opened. Employees reported a couple of hundred dollars was taken. There were no alarm indications for the business during the night and any video from the store could not be accessed for any suspect descriptions. Also, during the night; Sunoco on State Street in North Haven and another Sunoco in North Branford were burglarized. It is unknown if the burglaries are connected at this time. Officer Matthew Buccitti conducted the initial investigation.

On March 6, 2024, at approximately 8:25 p.m., members of the Patrol Division along with Hamden Fire Rescue and AMR responded to the area of 3833 Whitney Avenue, on a reported pedestrian struck by a motor vehicle. It was noted, that the weather and road conditions were wet roads with heavy rain, and poor visibility, at the time of the accident. The struck pedestrian, was attempting to cross Whitney Avenue at the time of the accident. The pedestrian suffered a left leg injury, and minor head injury, which were deemed non-life threatening while on scene. That pedestrian was transported by AMR to Yale New Haven Hospital for further medical treatment and evaluation. Officer Christina Kelley conducted the investigation.

On March 8, 2024, at approximately 3:00 a.m., members of the Patrol Division were dispatched to a residence on Goodrich Street regarding a domestic dispute / home invasion incident. Upon arrival, the initial complainant explained that she invited a friend and her new boyfriend over to spend time together. Shortly after their arrival, her friend's ex-boyfriend arrived at the residence "uninvited" and entered the premise through the front door. Upon his entry into the residence, he produced a black handgun from his person and threatened to kill his ex-girlfriend, her new boyfriend and the tenant of the residence before leaving the scene within an older silver or gray BMW (unknown reg) accompanied by his ex-girlfriend. It is unknown if the ex-girlfriend was forcefully taken with him or she left on her own free will with him. All parties that were found on-scene were intoxicated and unable to provide further information regarding the incident. Video evidence was discovered at the next-door apartment, which only revealed a tall black male sporting a black hooded sweatshirt, white t-shirt, dark colored pants and dark colored shoes walking back and forth to the apartment numerous times before entering his vehicle alone. The video footage was equipped with audio but no arguing could be heard.



# HAMDEN POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT MARCH 2024



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

The suspect's identity is unknown at this time, due to the tenant and new boyfriend having no prior knowledge or interactions with him. Extensive efforts were made to locate the suspect and the female party but all efforts were met with negative results.

On March 14, 2024, at approximately 3:30 a.m., members of the Patrol Division were dispatched to the area of Glenbrook Avenue and Helen Street on reports of 4-5 shots fired in the area. Units arrived and canvassed the area for any signs of gun shots but were unable to locate any shell casings/blood or other evidence to support the calls for service. Residents in the area stated they believed the shots were fired closer to Helen Street with one reporting that a group of young males were seen entering a vehicle (no description provided) and speeding out of the area. Hospitals were notified but no walk-in gunshot victims have been reported. Officers Kenneth Graham and Devon Bonds conducted the investigation.

On March 17, 2024, at approximately 4:00 p.m., members of the Patrol Division responded to Kohl's Department Store on the report of 3 suspects shoplifting. Two males were putting clothes in their own shopping bags, while a female appears to be the one waiting in the getaway vehicle. These individuals stole \$1,198.00 worth of merchandise. Video surveillance shows the male in the tan sweatshirt did not enter the vehicle but handed the bags full of clothes to another male subject who handed the clothes over to the getaway driver before getting in the vehicle and driving away. Officer Karen Estronza conducted the investigation.

On March 24, 2024, at approximately 12:30 a.m., 3 suspects attempted to break the windows to gain entry to the Citgo Service Station at 1312 Whitney Avenue. Residents across the street observed 3 males dressed in dark clothing flee the area in a dark colored sedan. Minutes later; Officers responded to an alarm at the Gulf Station at 1671 Whitney Avenue where it appears that attempts were made to force entry into the business. While on scene, New Haven Street Crime units arrived and stated they observed a grey Nissan Sentra bearing CT registration BJ 39587 travelling northbound on State Street from their town shortly before these attempts. This vehicle was reported stolen and suspect vehicle in numerous commercial burglaries over the past week. North Haven Police reported that the same vehicle had just burglarized a gas station on State Street in their town around the same time. Patrol units were advised to increase their attention on closed businesses in their areas overnight. Entry was not gained into neither business at this time.



# HAMDEN POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT MARCH 2024



## **Incidents of Special Interest**

On March 28, 2024, members of the Hamden Police Department responded to Aces, 130 Leeder Hill Drive, on the report of two (2) students with knives. Investigation revealed that the two students had a dispute with another student earlier in the day and were suspended and asked not to return to the school. The two students returned to the school and one of them pulled the fire alarm. The two students were detained by Security and staff members until police arrived. Further investigation revealed that the students were in possession of knives. There were no reported injuries. Both 16-year-old juveniles from New Haven, were charged with Conspiracy to commit Assault 2nd, Trespassing and Carrying a dangerous weapon. One of the juveniles was additionally charged with pulling the fire alarm. Both juveniles were released to the custody of their parents and are scheduled to appear in Juvenile Court in New Haven on April 2, 2024.

On March 31, 2024, during the early morning hours members of the Patrol Division investigated two commercial burglaries at Smoke Shops that were both perpetrated by subjects driving a stolen Nissan Sentra. This vehicle was used in many similar crimes all over Southern Connecticut. The first incident occurred at "Slow Puffs" located at 3030 Whitney Avenue at approximately midnight, where the suspects used a car jack to smash the front window and proceeded to defeat the metal gate. The suspects attempted to steal the cash register but it was bolted to the counter. Then at approximately 1:00 a.m., a new smoke shop at 1220 Whitney Avenue was struck. The same suspects in the same vehicle used a soda crate to smash the window and gain entry. No alarm activation was received but it was witnessed by a neighbor. New Haven Police I-Units observed this vehicle entering Interstate 91 Northbound in Fair Haven immediately after the second incident but lost sight of the vehicle as it got off Route 80. In both incidents, nothing of evidentiary value was located other than the CCTV which was preserved.