



HAMDEN POLICE DEPARTMENT

MONTHLY REPORT

JUNE 2024



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Personnel Matters and Events

The Hamden Police Department partnered with the Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) between May 13th and June 2nd, 2024, for the National "Click It or Ticket" high-visibility enforcement campaign. The Hamden Police Department and the Connecticut Department of Transportation strongly urge motorists to buckle up as "It's not just a safe thing to do – it's the law." Buckling up is the simplest thing you can do to limit injury or save your life during a crash. We see the result of not wearing a seat belt all the time. We see loss of life and so often, it could have been prevented. Please drive safe and remember to buckle up!

During the enforcement campaign, officers issued 97 Infractions for Seatbelt violations, 1 Infraction for other motor vehicle violations, 114 warnings for Seatbelt Violations and apprehended 1 fugitive from justice (warrant service)





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Personnel Matters and Events (continued)

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

June 8, 2024

On June 8, 2024 from 11am-4pm members of the Hamden Police Department participated in the Hamden Fest at Town Center Park. The Hamden Community Division, HPD Bicycle Squad, and (SPCP) Strengthening Police and Community Partners worked in collaboration with Eli's Garden of Healing to raise funding and awareness. Eli's Garden of Healing is on a mission to transform the old Winchester machine gun test firing range, located along Treadwell Street into a healing garden for anyone impacted by violence.

June 13, 2024

Hamden Police Department assisted in a successful class of 2024 Hamden High School Graduation Ceremony.

June 16, 2024

On June 16, 2024 the Hamden Police Department helped sponsor a Father's Day BBQ held at Peter Villano Park, 260 Mill Rock Rd. The event was hosted by Hamden Youth Services Bureau who offered a variety of free food vendors, a musical DJ, and fun activities for families to enjoy.

June 20, 2024

On June 20, 2024 Deputy Chief W. Onofrio, Hamden Police Department Social Worker Jessica Rizzo, Sergeant S. Jason, and Officer J. Davis attended the DEA Family Summit on Fentanyl 2024. The DEA, with support of Lisa Deane and the demandZERO foundation are spreading awareness of the overdose epidemic caused by Fentanyl in the USA, the One Pill Can Kill fake pill awareness, and hearing from grieving families who lost a loved one to Fentanyl.

June 28, 2024

On June 28th, 2024 the Town of Hamden conducted their Annual Fourth Of July, Independence Day Fireworks Celebration at Town Center Park. The Hamden Police Department proudly assisted Hamden Town Officials with heavy traffic, large crowds, and public safety concerns with no major issues. This year's largely attended fireworks celebration was huge success due to the hard working men and women of the Hamden Fire Department, Police Department, Town Parks and Recreation Division, Public Works, and the Hamden CERT Team.



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Personnel Matters and Events (continued)

Chief Reynolds meets with 5th graders from Shepherd Glen School in his office after their tour of Hamden Police Headquarters.





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Personnel Matters and Events (continued)

Hamden Police Officers and Chief Reynolds participate in "Tip-a Cop" at Café Amici to raise money and awareness for Special Olympics.





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Hamden Police "Tip-a-Cop" volunteers along with a Special Olympian, and Café Amici staff members.





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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





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Training - Sworn Personnel

During the month of June, department-wide training for all sworn personnel consisted of Firearms recertification at the West Haven Shooting range

Training – In Service

Class: **FBI Behavior Analysis Unit Symposium**

Date(s): June 4th – June 6th

Attendees: Sergeant Jomo Crawford, Detective Joseph Venditto, Detective Robert O’Neil, Detective Vincenzo Palma, Detective Kelley Cushman, Detective Jenisse Perez, Detective Andrew Lipford, Detective Gabriel Garcia and Detective Shawn Natcher

Location: Yale University West Campus

Class: **Homicide Investigation & Crime Scene Management**

Date(s): June 11th – June 13th

Attendees: Detective Vincenzo Palma and Detective Kelley Cushman

Location: Bristol Police Department

Class: **Basic Crime Scene Processing**

Date(s): June 17th – June 19th

Attendees: Sergeant Patrick McCue and Officer Jordan Crawford

Location: Bristol Police Department

Class: **Report Writing 102**

Date(s): June 20th

Attendees: Officer Samuel Mendez

Location: Hamden Police Headquarters (Online Training)

Class: **Burglary Investigation**

Date(s): June 27th

Attendees: Detective Robert O’Neill

Location: Hamden Police Headquarters

Training: Emergency Services Unit

Class: **CQE Marksmanship Training**

Date(s): June 13th

Attendees: SWAT Team

Location: Milford Police Department Outdoor Shooting Range



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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



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Training – Dispatchers

During the month of June, Dispatcher training consisted of Emergency Medical Dispatching (EMD) Protocol reviews conducted by American Medical Response (AMR).



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Incidents of Special Interest

On June 17, 2024, at approximately 6:45 p.m., members of the Patrol Division responded to 241 Shepard Avenue for a complaint of a trespass/possible squatter. Upon arrival Officers spoke to the owners of the property. Owners indicated there was a fire at the residence and the house is currently being fixed by the insurance company. Owners stated they checked on the property on or about June 10, 2024 or June 11, 2024 and the house was secure and they did not observe any furniture inside the residence. Today the contractors arrived at the residence and they observed the locks were changed. When the owners arrived, they located a male later identified as Jahkeel Smith inside the residence. There was now furniture, and other personal belongings in the house. When questioned about the incident Smith tried to articulate he had possession of the residence and should be allowed to live there. Based on the investigation it appears Smith has only been at the residence for approximately 3 days to a week. Smith was eventually placed under arrest and charged appropriately. Officers attempted to find a way for Smith to return to the residence to retrieve his belongings. Smith stated he wants to leave everything in place at this time because he believes he will be allowed back into the residence. Smith was not allowed to return to the above property unless escorted by Hamden Police. The locks were changed and the house was re-secured.