



HAMDEN POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT March 2022



Personnel Matters and Events

On March 21, 2022, certified Officer Kevin Cugini was hired at the Police Commissioner's monthly meeting. Officer Cugini was previous employed at the Bridgeport Police Department.

On March 17, 2022, Detective Angelo DeLieto retired from the department after serving for approximately 21 years.

Congratulations on your retirement "Detective", you'll be missed!





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Personnel Matters and Events (continued)

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

- Hamden Officers and Command Staff personnel participated virtually in the monthly High Risk Youth Task Force meeting hosted by Youth Outreach Manager Mary Hall of CT VIP @ Hamden Police Department, - March 2, - The meetings purpose was to share information, crime trends and concerns over some of the activities that our youth are participating in as well as developing an individual response for the youth/family in an effort to prevent crime and delinquency
- Hamden Rights and Relations Commission (HRRC) Virtual Meeting @ Hamden Police Department, - March 10, - Officers attended the virtual meeting and had a very productive Discussion on what Hamden is currently doing to recognize and combat human trafficking and things we might be able to do better in the future
- Department of Justice / Town of Hamden Strengthening Police and Community Partnership Program virtual meeting and briefing to the SPCP advisory council @ Hamden Police Department, – March 22, - Officers participated in conversations with community members to address concerns, identify problems, form solutions and create relationships
- Public Safety Recruitment event @ Keefe Community Center, March 14, - Hamden Police & Fire Department jointly hosted recruitment event to bring awareness to employment opportunities, provide career information and attempt to attract our citizens into service with the Town of Hamden
- Homeless Out-Reach with Cornell Scott Hill Healthcare and Connecticut Mental Health Center @ various locations on the Dixwell Avenue corridor, - (4 Sessions – March 7, 14, 21, 27) – Officers are partnering with healthcare, social workers, substance abuse counselors and mental health professionals to treat and form relationships with our areas impoverished and/or homeless population to bring services to them and assist with locating stable housing options
- Transition meeting @ the mayor's office at the Government Center, - March 21, - The discussion was focused on bringing a better collaboration of services, the police department's recruitment efforts / status and community concerns with the intent on increasing the quality of life in Hamden and crime prevention
- Community Crime Concern meeting @ Miller Memorial Library, hosted by the Miller Elderly Club, - March 23, - Officers and Command Staff participated in conversation with community members to address concerns, identify problems, form solutions and to create relationships



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Personnel Matters and Events (continued)

- Hamden Police Community Oriented Policing initiative @ various locations throughout the town – (Month of March 2022), - Approximately 114 Community Policing Foot Patrols were conducted in March as part of the adopted community-oriented policing model. Most of these patrols consisted of between 20 minutes to 2 hours in duration with a focus on engaging the public in forming positive relationships and identifying and addressing quality of life issues and to take the necessary steps to address them in a timely manner

Hamden Woman's Club safety presentation





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Personnel Matters and Events (continued)

Hamden Woman's Club safety presentation



Pictured left to right: Deputy Chief Kevin Samperi, Hamden Woman Club's Co-Presidents Shirley Cavanagh and Carolyn DellaPietra, and Detective Sean Dolan



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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, Dixwell Avenue and Old Dixwell Avenue N/S, Howard Drive and Phelps Drive, Hill Street, Hume Drive and Todd Street



Members of the Traffic Division conducted selective enforcement in the following areas in response to complaints from residents: Todd Street, Wooden Street, Evergreen Avenue and Whitney Avenue



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Training - Sworn Personnel

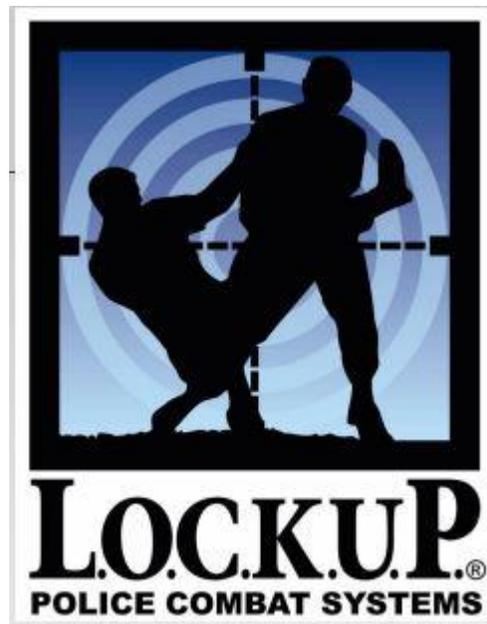
During the month of March, department-wide training for all sworn personnel consisted of Rape Crisis, Procedural Justice, and Trauma Informed Policing

Training – In Service

Crime Scene School @ Milford Police Academy – Sergeant Timothy McKeon

Developing 1st Line Supervisors @ POST – Sergeant Patrick McCue

Triple Certification Instructor @ New Britain Police Athletic League – Officer Anthony Georgetti





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Training: Emergency Services Unit

Members of the Emergency Services Unit (ESU) conducted training sessions on Tactical training and rifle qualifications during the month of March





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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 March, department wide training for all dispatchers consisted of AMR review of protocols for recertification





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Incidents of Special Interest

On March 1, 2022, at approximately 9:30 p.m., Officer Keron Bryce and Officer Michael Vivencio were on a high visibility patrol assignment as part of the Hamden Police Department's Crime Deterrent Unit. The officers stopped a car on Beacon Street near Dixwell Avenue for misuse of a license plate on an unregistered motor vehicle. The vehicle did not initially pull to the side of the road when police activated their emergency lights. The operator of the vehicle, Antrum Coston, began to resist officers and attempted to flee. Coston was secured by officers and placed under arrest. During the arrest, officers seized a large bag of narcotics, including 100 wax folds of suspected heroin, 55 bags of "crack" cocaine and 11 bags of powder cocaine. Coston was in possession of \$2,650.00 cash at the time of his arrest, which was also seized by police in conjunction with the investigation. Antrum Coston, age 39, of New Haven, was charged with two counts of Possession of Narcotics, two counts of Possession of Narcotics with Intent to Sell and Interfering with Police. He was also charged with Failure to Renew Registration, Improper Use of a Marker Plate and Disobeying the Signal of an Officer. Coston was held on a \$10,000 bond and was scheduled to appear in Meriden Superior Court on April 5, 2022.



On March 5, 2022, at approximately 3:00 a.m., members of the Patrol Division responded to a shooting that occurred inside a condominium located at 2390 State Street. The gunshot victim was rushed to Yale New Haven Hospital and later died as a result of his injuries. The preliminary investigation revealed that the shooting stems from a domestic related dispute. Detectives from the Major Crimes Unit and Crime Scene Unit are actively investigating. The victim is a 22-year-old New Haven resident. The identification of the victim is not being released at this time pending notification of next of kin. Detective Shawn Nutcher of the Major Crimes Unit is leading the investigation.



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Incidents of Special Interest (continued)

On March 6, 2022, at approximately 10:00 p.m., Hamden Police Officers responded to Mill Rock Road on a reported carjacking. The victim was walking to his vehicle in a driveway, when he was approached by an individual with a handgun. The suspect took the SUV at gunpoint and pushed the victim to the ground. The suspect was described as a black male, approximately twenty years old. A short time later, the victim's vehicle was located by the New Haven Police Department at Edgewood Park. The vehicle was unoccupied and partially submerged in a pond. The vehicle was recovered from the water and processed for evidence by detectives from the Crime Scene Unit. Detective Scott Levenduski of the Major Crimes Unit is conducting the investigation.

On March 9, 2022, Hamden Police arrested Charles Hill on an outstanding arrest warrant. The arrest warrant stems from a homicide that occurred on January 15, 2022, on Fairview Avenue. The victim, Herman Bellamy, died as a result of the shooting. The investigation revealed that Charles Hill was a passenger inside Bellamy's vehicle. Hill was firing a handgun from inside Bellamy's vehicle at another vehicle. Bellamy, who was driving the vehicle, was struck and killed during the exchange of gunfire. The Hamden Police Department Major Crimes Unit, along with the Connecticut State Police, conducted an extensive investigation into the homicide. Detective Jomo Crawford and Detective Donald Remillard were the lead detectives assigned to the case. Hill, a 19-year-old New Haven resident, was charged with Manslaughter 1st Degree with a Firearm. He is currently in custody at the State of Connecticut Department of Corrections. Hill was previously charged with Criminal Possession of a Firearm, Carrying a Pistol without a Permit and Illegal Discharge of a Firearm in connection with the shooting. The investigation is ongoing.

On March 12, 2022 at approximately 11:30 p.m., Hamden Police Officers responded to the area of Dunn Road on a report of shots fired. Officers discovered that a single-family house on Dunn Road was struck by the gunfire. The home was occupied at the time of the shooting and at least one of the shots penetrated into the home. No injuries were reported. Ballistic evidence was recovered at the crime scene. A small sedan was seen leaving the area. Detectives from the Crime Scene Unit and Major Crimes Unit are investigating. The preliminary investigation revealed that the house may have been specifically targeted.

On March 13, 2022, at approximately 3:30 p.m., members of the Patrol Division responded to the area of Dixwell Avenue near North Street on a reported pedestrian struck by a motor vehicle. Dixwell Avenue at North Street was closed in both directions while police investigated the incident. Motorists were advised to avoid the area. The condition of the pedestrian was not known at the time of the News Release.



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Incidents of Special Interest (continued)

On March 17, 2022, at approximately 4:30 a.m., members of the Patrol Division responded to the area of Helen Street and Glemby Street on the report of someone breaking into vehicles. Officer Pesanelli and Officer Palma quickly responded to the neighborhood and located Samuel Brown. An investigation by the officers determined that Brown was in possession of numerous items that were taken from vehicles in the neighborhood. Samuel Brown, age 46, of New Haven, was charged with Burglary 3rd Degree and Larceny 3rd Degree. He was held on a \$1,000.00 bond and was scheduled to appear in Meriden Superior Court on March 04, 2022. In addition to the Hamden charges, Brown was also wanted on an outstanding arrest warrant out of Orange, CT for Failure to Appear 2nd Degree.

On March 18, 2022 at approximately 3:00 p.m., members of the Patrol Division responded to the Hamden Plaza, 2100 Dixwell Avenue, on a reported carjacking of a 74-year-old female. The victim was placing her purchases into the car, when she was violently thrown to the ground from behind. The victim was transported from the scene to the hospital, where she remains hospitalized with serious injuries. The preliminary investigation revealed that three suspects fled in the victim's vehicle. The suspects arrived in another stolen vehicle, which was recovered by police at the crime scene. The recovered stolen vehicle is suspected of being involved in a theft of a pocketbook from a vehicle, which was pumping gas a short time earlier. Police in New Haven later recovered the carjacking victim's vehicle. Detectives from the Major Crimes Unit and Crime Scene Unit are actively working on the investigation.

On March 18, 2022, at approximately 8:45 p.m., Hamden Police Officers responded to the 1400 block of Whitney Avenue for a bicyclist struck. The preliminary investigation revealed that the bicyclist was traveling south on Whitney Avenue, when he was struck by a vehicle which was also traveling southbound. The offending vehicle fled the scene and is suspected to have front-end and passenger-side damage. A passerby noticed the victim on the side of the road and called 911. The victim was transported by ambulance to the hospital with serious injuries. Anyone that may have witnessed the accident, or that has any information pertaining to this investigation, was encouraged to call the Hamden Police Department at 203-230- 4000. Callers may remain anonymous. Officer Kevin Hall is the lead investigator of the accident.

On March 30, 2022, The Hamden Strengthening Police & Community Partnerships (SPCP) Council hosted a Public Safety Community Forum 6:30 p.m. The meeting took place at the Legislative Council Chambers located at Hamden Memorial Town Hall, 2372 Whitney Avenue. Mayor Lauren Garrett, along with Hamden Police Chief John Sullivan and other guest speakers, were on hand to speak with concerned community members. The event was open to the public. The meeting was also be livestreamed via Facebook on the Hamden Strengthening Police & Community Partnerships (SPCP) Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/hamdenspcp/> This meeting was in response to the recent robbery and stolen vehicle complaints in shopping areas. The safety and well-being of our residents, and those who visit and work in the Town of Hamden, is our primary goal. Town officials will be discussing various initiatives that are being implemented to address the recent crimes that have taken place.