



Lower Paxton Township **Police Department**



2011 Annual Report



An Accredited Law Enforcement Agency
Pennsylvania Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission

VISION STATEMENT

The Lower Paxton Police Department will be the best provider of municipal police services in the Commonwealth. Innovation, accountability, and partnerships will be our hallmarks for accomplishing our mission.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Lower Paxton Police Department is to provide professional and ethical law enforcement services that ensure the preservation of peace and the highest quality of life in our community. We will accomplish our mission by:

- *Respecting the rights of citizens: Treating all people with the dignity and respect they are entitled regardless of race, color, creed, religion, gender, or socio-economic status.*
- *Developing community partnerships: Establishing our membership in the community by employing community oriented, problem solving, and proactive policing methods.*
- *Being a learning organization: Quickly adapting our goals and operations to meet our community's changing needs and demand for services, thereby ensuring the Department's priorities match the community's expectations.*
- *Acknowledging our duty: Constantly recognizing our sole purpose for existence is to serve our community and its citizens who are the source of our authority. We will focus on quality service, accept accountability, and follow-up relentlessly.*

CORE VALUES

The core values of the Lower Paxton Police Department that will guide our actions in the pursuit of fulfilling our mission are:

- *Respecting the value of human life and protecting civil rights.*
- *Protecting the lives, safety, and property of our fellow citizens.*
- *Fighting crime through prevention and aggressively pursuing violators.*
- *Taking ownership of and solving neighborhood problems.*
- *Maintaining the highest standard of integrity.*
- *Recognizing that our personnel are our greatest assets.*
- *Managing our resources in a safe, efficient, and effective manner.*

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY

DAVID J. JOHNSON

INTRODUCTION

The Lower Paxton Police Department continued its commitment to providing professional police services to our community in 2010. Since the Department's creation in 1958, our mission has remained unchanged: "ensure the preservation of peace and the highest quality of life in our community." The Department takes great pride in being a learning organization. Both external issues in the community and internal issues in the department impact on the effective delivery of police services. The Department is committed to identifying external and internal changes and implementing innovative methods to effectively adapt to the changing conditions.

From 1958 through 2008, the Department grew to sixty-two (62) sworn police officers; however, economic conditions in 2009 required a complete and thorough review of all programs as well as the deployment of personnel. Through retirements and resignations, the total number of sworn police officers decreased to fifty-five (54) in 2011.

STAFFING

The Department is comprised of three divisions: Patrol, Criminal Investigations, and Special Operations. The 2011 authorized staffing level includes the Director of Public Safety, three lieutenants, six sergeants, six corporals, thirty-one officers, seven detectives, one community service officer and six records management personnel.

During 2009 the Department completed a comprehensive reorganization plan to meet the demands of the community while understanding the need to do more with less. The plan identified needed staffing levels for the Patrol Division based on an analysis of existing patrol staffing levels and the increased demand for police services. We also factored in when the greatest demand for police services occurred. A proposal for 12-hour shifts was reviewed and after much debate, a decision to transition to 12-hour shifts was approved by the Board of Supervisors beginning January 1, 2010. The driving factor in this decision was that we would increase our minimum manpower of police officers on patrol to seven officers between the hours of 7 am and 7 pm everyday of the week. In years past, there were many days when only four officers were on patrol at a time. This was simply an insufficient number of officers to handle the demand and was clearly an officer safety issue.

With the first year of 12-hour shifts now complete, I believe the officers and the citizens of Lower Paxton Township yielded positive results. Our officer's report improved moral, less fatigue, improved personal lives and the security of increased officers on the street to assist when needed. In addition, our productivity increased and the number of sick time occurrences decreased. All of this results in improved service to the citizens of the Township.

As we begin 2011 we are still faced with significant economic challenges. We will continue to identify ways to improve our overall efficiency while always striving to provide the best possible service to the public. We will always strive to do the right thing, at the right time, and for the right reasons.

DEPARTMENTAL PERSONNEL ROSTER

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY

David J. Johnson

PATROL DIVISION

*Lt. Ronald Gramigni
Commanding Officer*

Patrol Unit

*Sergeant Tom Waller
Sergeant Tim Hicks
Sergeant Curt McCoy
Sergeant Leo Zuvich
Corporal Gregory Sumbury
Corporal Rich Needham
Corporal Tom Bell
Corporal Justin DePasqua
Shift Supervisors*

*Officer Christopher Vogel
Officer Scott Starr
Officer LuAnna Brook
Officer Douglas Petras
Officer John Albright
Officer Steve Cover
Officer Walter Cook
Officer Douglas Fisher
Officer Gareth Kauffman
Officer Karl Chortanoff
Officer Chad Miller
Officer Eric Tallman
Officer Nathan Larsen
Officer Thomas Eckenrode
Officer Zethan Weary
Officer Gregory Langley
Officer Steven Wertz
Officer Dave Shifflet
Officer Hallie Miller
Officer Zach Fehrenbach
Officer Bryan Ryder
Officer Brian Egli
Officer William Wable
Officer Dhenin Brock*

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DIVISION

*Lt. Gary Seefeldt
Commanding Officer*

Crime Investigation Unit

*Sergeant Gregory Taylor
Corporal Todd Witmer
Unit Supervisors*

*Detective Gordon Goodrow
Detective Mark Brumaghim
Detective Gary Flythe
Detective Jim Glucksman
Detective Autumn Lupey*

*Detective Jeffrey Corcoran
Juvenile Investigations*

*Officer John McPhillips
Evidence and Identification*

Administrative Unit

*Susan Katz
Administrative Supervisor*

*Fran McPhillips
Sonia Murphy
Department Secretaries*

*Sally Humbert
Michelle Kwasnoski
Edith Canaguier
Records Clerks*

SPECIAL OPERATIONS DIVISION

*Lt. Mark Zerbe
Commanding Officer*

Community Policing Unit

*Sergeant Steve Paoletti
Unit Supervisor*

*Officer Ralph Palm
Crime Analysis/
Accreditation Manager*

*Officer John Stoner
Prevention Programs*

*Officer Charles Farrell
Officer Steve Alcorn
School Resource Officers*

Traffic Safety Unit

*Sergeant Steven Paoletti
Corporal Tim Puchalski
Unit Supervisors*

*Officer Donald McCurdy
Officer Kevin Roland
Officer Gregory Geib
Officer Brian McIntyre*

Staff & Inspection Unit

*Corporal Richard Needham
Fire Investigator*

*Officer Dan Smeck
Warrants Officer*

Community Services Unit

CSO Charles Grubb

LOWER PAXTON TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



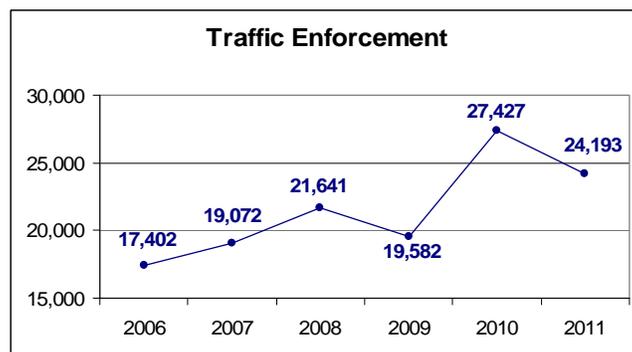
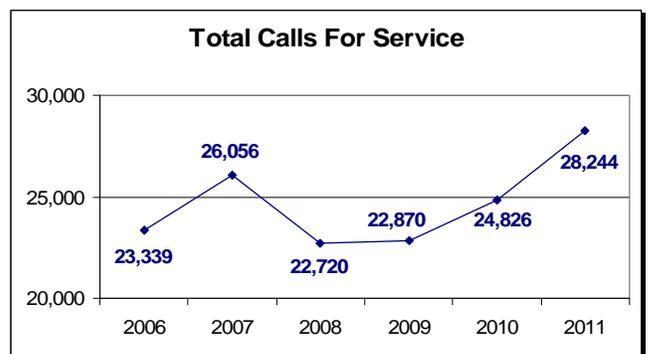
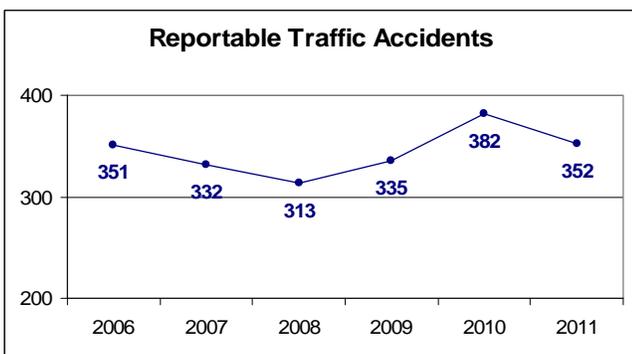
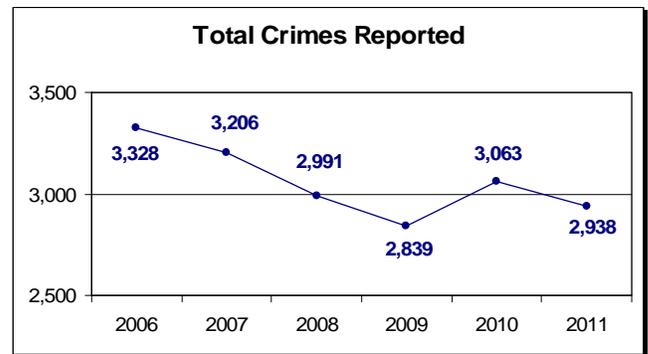
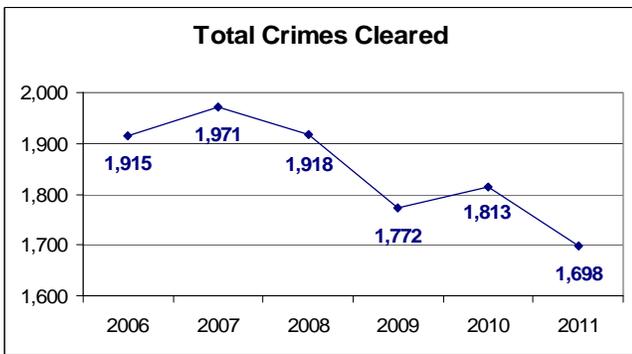
PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Officers of the Lower Paxton Police Department responded to 2,967 criminal offenses in 2010 as compared to 2,839 criminal offenses in 2009. This 4.5% increase is mainly attributed to an increase in residential burglaries, assaults, and disorderly conduct incidents. Through investigation, officers cleared 1,813 crimes or 59.2% of all crimes reported. The average clearance rate for police agencies in the Northeastern United States is approximately 40-42%.

The number of reportable traffic accidents; those involving death, injury, or substantial damage, increased slightly from 335 in 2009 to 382 in 2010. This is in large measure due to increased traffic volume throughout the Township.

Traffic enforcement continues to be a primary focus of the Department. Enforcement action includes the issuance of traffic citations, parking tickets, written warnings, and faulty equipment cards. Total traffic enforcement for 2010 was 27,427 as compared to 19,771 in 2009 with more than 19,000 traffic stops resulting in warning notices only.

The total calls for service increased from 22,870 in 2009 to 24,826 in 2010.





**Actual Offenses: Part I & Part II Crimes
LOWER PAXTON TOWNSHIP
For The Year: 2011**

Part I Crimes Classification of Offenses	Actual Offenses 2011	Actual Offenses 2010	Percent of Change	Offenses Cleared 2011	Percent of Change in Clearances 2010-2011
01A-Murder and Non-Negligent Manslaughter	1	2	-50.00	1	.00
02A-Rape by Force	10	13	-23.08	7	-41.67
02B-Assault to Rape - Attempts	0	3	-100.00	0	-100.00
03A-Robbery Firearm	14	6	133.33	4	-20.00
03B-Robbery Knife or Cutting Instrument	1	5	-80.00	1	-66.67
03C-Robbery Other Dangerous Weapon	1	1	.00	0	N/A
03D-Robbery Strong Arm(Hands, Feet, Etc.)	17	15	13.33	12	-25.00
04A-Assault Firearm	2	1	100	2	N/A
04B-Assault Knife or Cutting Instrument	5	7	-28.57	6	0.00
04C-Assault Other Dangerous Weapon	7	6	16.67	7	16.67
04D-Assault Hands, Fist, Feet, Etc.	61	34	79.41	60	87.50
05A-Burglary Forcible Entry	80	91	-12.09	42	110.00
05B-Burglary Unlawful Entry - No Force	79	80	-1.25	23	43.75
05C-Burglary Attempted Forcible Entry	46	37	24.32	20	566.67
060-Larceny-Theft	973	977	-0.41	392	-20.49
07A-Motor Vehicle Theft - Autos	36	26	38.46	11	0.00
07B-Motor Vehicle Theft - Trucks and Buses	2	2	.00	1	N/A
07C-Motor Vehicle Theft - Other Vehicles	2	3	-33.33	0	-100.00
090-Arson	8	6	33.33	3	0.00
Total Part I	1,345	1,315	2.28%	592	-6.03%
Classification of Offenses	Actual Offenses 2011	Actual Offenses 2010	Percent of Change	Offenses Cleared 2011	Percent of Change in Clearances 2010-2011



Part II Crimes Classification of Offenses	Actual Offenses 2011	Actual Offenses 2010	Percent of Change	Offenses Cleared 2011	Percent of Change in Clearances 2010-2011
04E-Other Assaults - Not Aggravated	166	190	-12.6%	147	-16.48
100-Forgery and Counterfeiting	34	38	-10.5%	9	-30.77
110-Fraud	239	269	-11.2%	89	-11.88
120-Embezzlement	0	2	-100.0%	0	-100
130-Stolen Prop., Rec., Posses., Buying	7	3	133.3%	8	166.67
140-Vandalism	278	299	-7.0%	40	14.29
150-Weapons, Carrying, Posses, Etc.	12	13	-7.7%	12	0
160-Prostitution and Commercialized Vice	1	1	0.0%	0	-100
170-Sex Offenses (Except 02 and 160)	29	47	-38.3%	32	10.34
18A-Drug Sale/Mfg - Opium - Cocaine	4	5	-20.0%	4	-20
18B-Drug Sale/Mfg – Marijuana	8	8	0.0%	10	-9.09
18C-Drug Sale/Mfg – Synthetic	1	4	-75.0%	2	-33.33
18D-Drug Sale/Mfg - Other	1	0	N/A	1	N/A
18E-Drug Possession - Opium - Cocaine	8	4	100.0%	8	166.67
18F-Drug Possession - Marijuana	63	67	-6.0%	63	-3.08
18G-Drug Possession - Synthetic	1	4	-75.0%	1	-75
18H-Drug Possession - Other	19	19	0.0%	19	0
200-Offenses Against Family & Children	2	1	100.0%	1	-50
210-Driving Under the Influence	162	117	38.5%	161	37.61
220-Liquor Law	28	29	-3.4%	28	-3.45
230-Drunkenness	34	27	25.9%	34	25.93
240-Disorderly Conduct	324	360	-10.0%	292	-4.89
250-Vagrancy	3	6	-50.0%	0	-100
260-All Other Offenses (Except Traffic)	133	139	-4.3%	111	-12.6
Total Part II	1,557	1,652	6.1%	1,072	-2.01%
Part I & Part II Crimes Classification of Offenses	Actual Offenses 2011	Actual Offenses 2010	Percent of Change	Offenses Cleared 2011	Percent of Change in Clearances 2010-2011
Total Part I & Part II Crimes	2,902	2,967	-2.19%	1,664	-3.48%

PATROL DIVISION

The Patrol Services Division is the largest division within the police department. Lieutenant Ronald Gramigni is the division commander. The division was staffed with four sergeants, four corporals, and twenty four officers in 2010. The Patrol Unit consisted of 4 platoons with a sergeant, a corporal, and six officers assigned to each.

While every officer of the department is sworn to protect life and property, prevent crime, and arrest violators of the law, it is the members of the patrol division that mainly accomplish these goals through routine patrol of geographically assigned zones. Patrol officers respond to emergency and non-emergency calls for service, investigate traffic collisions, enforce vehicle laws, and handle any other requests for police services. During 2010, officers of the Patrol Division responded to 24,826 calls for service; an average of 621 calls per officer. Patrol officers made 1,489 criminal arrests, investigated 847 traffic collisions, and issued 27,427 traffic contacts in 2010.

RAPID RESPONSE TEAM

Twelve officers were selected by their supervisors to serve as part of the Department's Rapid Response Team. Patrol Sergeant Tim Hicks is the team leader and oversees training and operations. The members of the team undergo intensive firearms, tactics, and hostage rescue technique training at various schools and large commercial buildings within the township. Team members have access to ballistic shields, tactical rifles, and ballistic helmets.

When an active shooter situation begins, it is imperative that the first police responders take immediate action to pursue and make contact with the shooter in order to save lives. In active shooter incidents, officers are trained to move rapidly through unsecured areas, even bypassing the injured, in an effort to end the shooting as quickly as possible. Experience has proven that it is absolutely necessary that officers stay focused and intent on locating the active shooter and end the shooting, rather than stop to aid victims, or become a victim themselves.

The Rapid Response Team is not meant to replace the use of the Dauphin County Crisis Response Team (CRT), but rather respond quickly and confine or neutralize the threat.

POLICE HONOR GUARD

The Honor Guard consists of seven members representing each of the three Divisions. The Honor Guard is supervised by Lieutenant Mark Zerbe and its members include: Corporal Todd Witmer, Officer John Stoner, Officer Zach Fehrenbach, Corporal Tom Bell, Corporal Rich Needham and Corporal Justin DePasqua. The honor guard was initially created to honor deceased police officers. Unit members serve as pall bearers and conduct flag presentations at funerals. The unit also participates in many community events, ceremonies, parades, and has posted the colors at two sporting events. The honor guard has marched in the annual Linglestown Memorial Day Parade and the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Harrisburg. The Honor Guard received its formal training from the U.S. Navy Ceremonial Guard. The training consisted of basic drill maneuvers, flag folding, funeral protocol, and posting of colors.

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DIVISION

The Criminal Investigation Division provides specialized investigative support to the Patrol Division. The Division is under the command of Lieutenant Gary Seefeldt. Members of the unit perform both initial criminal investigations and follow-up investigations involving adults and juveniles. Detectives conduct initial investigations of serious crimes, and conduct follow-up investigations when time, geography, or manpower restraints prevent patrol from continuing the investigation.

The Investigation Unit utilizes a case management system to effectively manage criminal investigations conducted by both detectives and patrol officers. Other major functions of the division include crime scene processing, evidence and property management, and juvenile justice programs.

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION UNIT

The Criminal Investigations Unit is staffed with eight police personnel: a detective sergeant, a detective corporal, five detectives assigned to criminal investigations and one detective assigned to juvenile investigations.

In 2010, detectives were assigned 463 criminal investigations. This was an average of 77.2 cases per detective. The detectives made 142 criminal arrests and closed 114 investigations through exceptional clearances. This was a clearance rate of 56% for assigned cases, a 4% decrease from 2009. Of the 463 cases assigned, 31% were cleared by arrest. Members of the CI Unit applied for more than 100 search warrants during 2010. Cpl. Witmer, the Department's polygraph expert, conducted 32 polygraph examinations for both this agency and surrounding department's.

The Criminal Investigation Unit created a database within the Department's records management system specifically designed for tracking sexual offenders. The database includes offenders whose work address or home address is within the Township. The database also includes persons who commit any sex crime in the Township, even those which do not meet Megan's Law criteria. The information, including photos of the offenders, is available to officers on patrol in their vehicles. This technology improves our ability to monitor sex offenders.

2010 INVESTIGATIONS OF INTEREST

Criminal Homicide: In June, detectives investigated the murder of Dontel Taylor of Penbrook. Taylor had been shot one time and succumbed to his wound at the Hershey Medical Center. After an extensive investigation, detectives arrested Tracy J. Denson Jr and Raheem Bilal both of the 4200 block of Williamsburg Drive. Bilal was arrested on the same day of the shooting, but Taylor fled the North Carolina where he was eventually located, arrested and returned to Harrisburg. Both are awaiting trial in Dauphin County Court.

Serial Burglars: Upon completion of two extensive investigations, detectives arrested two serial burglars. The first, LaQuincy Watson, was charged with more than 25 burglaries in four counties. In the second case, three suspects were charged with nine counts of burglary stemming from multiple break-ins in the Twin Lakes Apartment Complex.

JUVENILE SERVICES

Detective Corcoran is assigned as the department's juvenile officer. The Department referred 131 juveniles to the Dauphin County Juvenile Probation Office in 2010 as compared to 171 in 2009. This was a decrease of 23.4%. The total number of juveniles arrested in 2010 decreased from 567 in 2009 to 485, a decrease of 14.5%. Through the efforts of our school resource officers and our juvenile detective we will continue our efforts to reduce juvenile crime.

The Department's Juvenile Alternative Sentencing Program (JASP) continues to be a valuable tool in delinquency prevention in our community. The program was developed to allow police officers to have a positive impact with first time juvenile offenders. The juveniles are assigned a specific number of community service hours that they must complete. The JASP program enables the police to address juvenile crimes without involving the juvenile court system directly, while ensuring community protection, and juvenile accountability, with the end goal of rehabilitation of the juvenile. In 2010, twenty-seven juveniles participated in the JASP program.

PROPERTY AND EVIDENCE

Officer John McPhillips is assigned to the Property and Evidence Unit of the Criminal Investigation Division. The Unit is responsible for the handling, storage, and disposition of all property and evidence seized by police officers. Officer McPhillips is tasked with processing all major crime scenes. He is a member of the Dauphin County Forensic Team, which is a team of highly trained forensic specialists who respond to process major crimes scenes in Dauphin County. The Evidence Unit also maintains a digital photo lab for processing and storing digital images.

The Evidence Unit handled 12,215 items of evidence during 2010 as compared to 12,025 in 2009. All property and evidence received is processed and stored, transferred to a crime lab, transferred to county court, released to the owner, turned over to the State, or destroyed. Officer McPhillips processed twenty-eight crime scenes and attended nine post-mortem examinations at the Coroner's Office.

RECORDS AND ADMINISTRATION UNIT

The Records and Administrative Unit is a component of the Criminal Investigation Division. It is staffed by civilian personnel who are committed to providing professional service to the public. It maintains all reports generated by officers to include; criminal records, offense and accident reports, traffic citations, parking tickets, and criminal arrest files. The Records Division staff responds to thousands of requests each year for copies of incident and accident reports, criminal records information, criminal history checks, and processing of parking tickets. Records Clerks receive phone calls, enter data, file, scan documents and assist the public at the front window. Secretaries' duties include administration of criminal records, payroll, maintaining attendance records, meeting minutes, and transcription. The Records Unit also tracks important statistical data and officer productivity, which is reviewed quarterly at the Department's staff meetings to accurately measure resource allocation and its effect on crime.

The Records Office is open Monday-Friday 7 am to 5 pm to assist the citizens of Lower Paxton.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS DIVISION

The Special Operations Division is commanded by Lieutenant Mark Zerbe. The Division consists of the Staff and Inspection Unit, which includes the fire investigator and warrant officer, the Community Policing Unit, which includes the school resource officers, crime analyst, and crime prevention officer.

STAFF AND INSPECTION UNIT

The Staff and Inspection Unit conducts internal inspections and audits in accordance with the directives of the Director of Public Safety. The purpose is to ensure that agency personnel and units are in compliance with established policy and procedure. They also ensure that policies and resources are adequate to attain department goals, and identify deficiencies in training, morale, supervision, or discipline.

The Unit is also tasked with maintaining the Department's state accreditation status that was initially achieved in March 2005 through the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association. Accreditation is the process of conforming internal policy and procedures to established professional standards and objectives. A re-accreditation assessment was conducted in March of 2008. Three assessors from the Pennsylvania Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission evaluated our facility, policies, and procedures. The assessment team evaluated the Department's compliance with more than 120 professional standards. The team highly recommended the Department for re-accreditation status. In June 2011, state assessors will again return to conduct another on-site inspection.

Lower Paxton Township is the only municipality in Dauphin County with a sworn police officer serving as its fire marshal. Corporal Richard Needham's is responsible for investigating the cause and origin of fires and to assist with the enforcement of the International Fire Code. In this capacity, Corporal Needham responded to 7 fires during 2010. Corporal Needham also works closely with the Township Codes Enforcement Officers to assist with the implementation and enforcement of the International Fire Code.

Officer Dan Smeck is the Department's warrant officer. During 2010, he served 329 warrants: 103 criminal warrants and 226 summary warrants. The police department's web page, "Most Wanted" list, continues to generate public assistance in locating wanted persons.

COMMUNITY POLICING UNIT

Community Policing Unit members made 128 community presentations in 2010. They included school presentations, station tours, media events, business and residential security inspections, police recruiting appearances, child identification/fingerprinting events, senior citizen meetings, and presentations to both Boy and Girl Scout organizations. Unit officers visited Shippensburg University, York Technical Institute and Elizabethtown College for police recruiting presentations in an effort to attract the most highly qualified candidates to the Lower Paxton Police Department. Unit members also attended 173 duty officer hearings at the two magisterial district judge offices. This resulted in more than \$22,000.00 in court overtime savings in 2010.

The School Resource Officer Program (SRO) assigns a police officer to Central Dauphin East High School and the Dauphin County Technical School. The CD East SRO is Officer Steve Alcorn. Officer Chuck Farrell is the SRO for DCTS. During 2010, the SROs were involved in 350 incidents. These included criminal arrests, weapons offenses, educational presentations, and counseling sessions. The school resource officers also shared summer school duties at the Dauphin County Technical School.

CITIZEN'S POLICE ACADEMY

The Citizen's Police Academy is a ten week program designed to provide adult citizens with a working knowledge of police responsibilities. The academy is modeled after the regular police academy that all officers must attend. The program is not intended to train police officers, but to familiarize citizens with the duties of their police department. The program involves a mix of lecture and hands-on training. Participants also take field trips to several county facilities such as the Dauphin County Emergency Management Agency, Dauphin County Prison, and the morgue.



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

The Neighborhood Watch Program is one of the most effective and least costly ways to address crime and the fear of crime in neighborhoods. The Neighborhood Watch Program is one of the oldest crime prevention programs in the country, bringing citizens together with law enforcement to deter crime and make communities safer. At the present time, the Department works closely with seven neighborhood watch groups in the Township providing them with current crime statistics and working together to reduce crime.

NIGHT OUT FOR PUBLIC SAFETY

Officer Ralph Palm, with the assistance of Officer John Stoner of the Community Policing Unit organized the 11th Annual Night Out for Public Safety at George Park. There were more than 50 exhibitors at this year's event. Displays included a hot air balloon, sheriff's department working dogs, obstacle course, horse, variety band, and the Dauphin County Crisis Response Team. The venue is an exceptional means for police and other emergency response providers to interact with the community we serve. Returning for the 2010 event was a portable smoke trailer, where visitors learned to survive in a smoke filled structure. The fire department displays were manned and presented by members of the Lower Paxton Township fire companies.

Although the police department spearheads this event, it has become a cooperative endeavor with South Central EMS and the Paxtonia, Linglestown, and Colonial Park Fire Companies.



YOUTH POLICE ACADEMY

For the fifth consecutive year the Department sponsored and presented the Lower Paxton Youth Police Academy. Participants in the academy met daily for one week. Students received training in a variety of law enforcement topics, to include history of policing, evidence and crime scene processing, patrol work, investigative techniques, traffic enforcement, and firearms training.

Students experienced weapons qualifications and witnessed demonstrations by the Crisis Response Team. New for this year was physical fitness training and military drill instruction. At the conclusion of the academy, each participant left with a greater understanding of the police career and its associated demands and rewards. This project has become one of the Community Policing Unit's greatest community outreach programs along with the Citizens Police Academy.



GRANTS

The Community Policing Unit also manages grants that are used to purchase equipment, and fund personnel, specialized training, and community service programs. In 2010 the Department received a \$3,000.00 grant from TMI for EOC equipment. The Department also received 50% reimbursement in the amount of \$3,000.00 from the Justice Department for ballistic body armor used by all officers.

TRAFFIC SAFETY UNIT

The Traffic Safety Unit is a unit within the Special Operations Division. Sgt. Steve Paoletti is assigned as the unit supervisor. Cpl. Tim Puchalski, Officers Donald McCurdy, Kevin Roland, Gregory Geib, and Brian McIntyre are assigned to the unit. The Unit's primary task is to reduce traffic accidents thru enforcement, education, and traffic engineering studies. The unit is also responsible for investigating all fatal traffic crashes that occur in the Township. Unit officers also investigate many of the minor non-reportable crashes that occur in the Township.

The responsibilities of the unit are not limited to accident investigation. Unit members also conduct traffic engineering studies and surveys to evaluate current and projected traffic conditions. The surveys determine whether improvements or corrections are necessary at specific intersections, within residential developments, or along roadway segments.

Members of the Traffic Safety Unit also coordinate and implement selective traffic enforcement details at locations which are experiencing a significant vehicle or pedestrian accident history. The Unit conducted 660 selective traffic enforcement details in 2010. As part of our endeavor to reduce speeding problems, the Department utilizes two state of the art speed-warning trailers. The trailers are placed at locations with a high incidence of speeding with the hope of gaining voluntary compliance. The speed-warning trailers were deployed on 577 occasions during 2010.

The Traffic Unit also develops and presents safety programs to various community groups, schools, the Youth Police Academy, and the Citizen's Police Academy. These programs are designed to create increased driver safety awareness among drivers of all ages.

The Traffic Unit is also responsible for overseeing all aspects of the School Crossing Guard program. Officer Roland coordinates the hiring, training, and scheduling of all school crossing guards in the Township. The crossing guards ensure that the students who walk to and from school each day can do so as safely as possible.

The Traffic Safety Unit will continue to strive to improve pedestrian and traffic safety within the Township and reduce the number of traffic accidents. The Department investigated a total of 847 traffic collisions during 2010 as compared to 843 in 2009. A breakdown of the total number of motor vehicle accidents investigated yielded the following results: 382 reportable accidents investigated in 2010 as compared to 335 in 2009. Reportable collisions increased 14% from the previous year. Reportable accidents are those vehicle crashes that involve injury, death, or require the towing of a vehicle from the accident scene. Officers investigated 465 non-reportable accidents in 2010 and 508 in 2009. There was one fatal motor vehicle crash in 2010 as compared to none in 2009.

The Traffic Unit's primary focus has been and continues to be accident reduction. This is especially true in those locations identified as high accident locations.

Traffic Unit members were an integral part in ensuring the Smooth Operator and PA Buckle-Up safety programs continued to be a success. Both programs will continue in 2011 as part of our overall goal of improving traffic safety for all motorists and pedestrians in the Township.

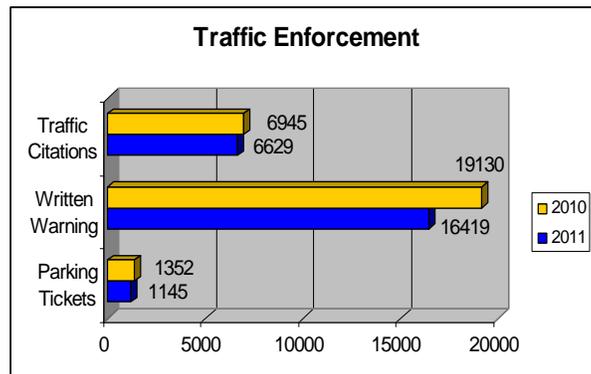
Top Ten Accident Locations

1. Union Deposit Road at I-83
2. 4200 block of Union Deposit Road
3. Allentown Boulevard at Mountain Road
4. Jonestown Road at Paxton Town Centre / Commons Drive
5. Union Deposit Road at Briarsdale Road
6. Jonestown Road at Houcks Road / Prince Street
7. Colonial Road at Elmerston Avenue
8. Devonshire Road at Nyes Road
9. Spring Creek Road at East Park Drive
10. Blue Ridge Avenue at Blue Ribbon Avenue

TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT STATISTICS

Members of the Patrol Division and the Traffic Safety Unit took enforcement action for traffic law violations 27,427 times during 2010 as compared to 19,773 times in 2009. This is a 45% increase in productivity. During 2010, members of the Department issued 6,945 traffic citations as compared to 5,449 citations issued in 2009. Officers also issued 19,130 written warnings and faulty equipment cards in 2010 as compared to 13,370 in 2009. The Department issued 1,352 parking tickets in 2010 as compared to 954 issued in 2009.

A concerted enforcement effort will continue in 2011 to decrease the number of traffic accidents throughout the Township. Our goal is to decrease the number of reportable accidents, with increased enforcement details and speed trailer deployments.



INSTEP

The Intensive Neighborhood Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (INSTEP) is an initiative to reduce traffic violations and improve the quality of life within all neighborhoods. Traffic and accident data, along with citizen complaints, are analyzed to determine if actual traffic problems exist. A systematic approach involving improved roadway signage, intensive enforcement, and public education is used to mitigate the traffic problem and gain driver compliance.

DEPARTMENT TRAINING

The Department continues to pursue a rigorous training agenda that includes both mandatory in-service training and advanced or specialized training. Continuing education and training is an expected component of any professional's job and the police are no exception. The purpose of training is to meet the needs of the department while enhancing the personal and professional development of every member. Providing officers and employees with the best and most up-to-date training is considered good risk management and good risk management involves keeping the knowledge and skills of all personnel current. Civil liability for failure to train is likely to occur when it can be demonstrated that a policy maker knew or should have known that inadequate training was likely to result in the violation of a persons constitutional rights. Keeping this in mind, training in 2010 was again expanded with the goal of improving the operational and technical skills of our officers

MANDATORY IN-SERVICE TRAINING

The Municipal Police Officers Education and Training Commission (MPOETC) requires that all newly hired officers who have not been previously certified in Pennsylvania attend a 754 hour police training academy. New officers receive extensive classroom and hands-on training in criminal law, traffic law, firearms, criminal investigation, and driving techniques. They are also required to pass a strenuous physical agility test prior to graduation from the academy. Upon successful completion of the basic academy, officers are then assigned to a veteran field training officer for a minimum of 528 working hours of additional field training. Officers must successfully complete the field training program before being released on their own.

MPOETC also mandates that municipal officers remain current with legal updates and changes to other aspects of the job. As a result, each officer must complete 16 hours of update training and obtain a minimum passing score of 70% on the written exams each year to maintain certification. The Department hosts this training several times a year in its state-of-the-art training room. Several Lower Paxton officers are certified MPOETC instructors and are tasked with conducting in-service training in the areas of firearms, use of force, pursuit driving, First Aid, CPR, and AED certification. Division commanders, in conjunction with the Director of Public Safety, are constantly reviewing options for new and improved in-service training for both sworn and non-sworn members of the police department.

SPECIALIZED TRAINING

The primary focus of specialized training remains the professional development of all members so that personal career goals may be realized. Some examples of the specialized training received in 2010 include; response to an active shooter, SWAT training, basic and advanced police executive development, emergency vehicle operation, response to incidents of terrorism, incident command, and hostage negotiation training. All of the specialized training is aimed at providing operational readiness that will enable officers to provide the best possible service to the residents of Lower Paxton. In total, officers received nearly 1,600 hours of training in 2010.

In keeping with the department's Mission Statement, we endeavor to be the best provider of municipal law enforcement services in the Commonwealth. To do this, we must have the best trained and best educated personnel possible.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

The Police Department expects the highest level of professional conduct from its employees at all times. We also recognize there are times when employees go above and beyond what is normally expected of them. Recognizing superior performance is critical to both individual and departmental morale. The Department also acknowledges that the effectiveness of any law enforcement agency is seriously impaired without citizen support. Each year we recognize those citizens who provide extraordinary assistance to the Department. The types of awards presented annually by the Department include the following:

- Medal of Valor - Recognizes officer performance involving great personal risk.
- Life Saving Award – Presented to members who save or attempt to save a human life.
- Purple Heart Award – Recognizes officers who sustain potentially life threatening or serious injury while performing their duties.
- Civilian Support Award – Recognizes exceptional support by an officer's family or civilian.
- Award of Merit - Recognizes meritorious service which upholds the highest traditions of the Department.
- Unit/Platoon Citation – Recognizes the outstanding accomplishment of a platoon or unit, which is the result of teamwork rather than through the efforts of an individual officer.
- Officer of the Year – Recognizes officers who continuously strive to uphold the highest traditions of the Department.

The Civilian Support Award:

- Ms. Leslie Rehm

- Ms. Maria Ramirez

The Officer of the Year:

- Police Officer Chad Miller: Uniformed
- Police Officer Steve Cover: Uniformed
- Police Officer Dan Smeck: Non-Uniformed

The Award of Merit:

- Police Officer Walt Cook
- Detective Autumn Lupey
- Police Officer Zethan Weary
- Police Officer Bryan Ryder

The Life Saving Award:

- Sgt. Leo Zuvich
- Police Officer Chad Miller
- Police Officer William Wable
- Police Officer David Shifflett (2)
- CSO Charles Grubb

The Director's Fitness Award:

- Officer Walt Cook

The Unit/Platoon Citation Award was presented to Sgt. Leo Zuvich's platoon, which includes the following officers:

- Sgt. Leo Zuvich
- Cpl. Justin DePasqua
- Police Officer Chris Vogel
- Police Officer Carl Chortanoff
- Police Officer Zach Fehrenbach
- Police Officer Eric Tallman
- Police Officer Brian Egli
- Police Officer Chad Miller

2010 GOALS

The Department is continually challenged to make the best use of its financial and human resources to remain proactive and responsive to competing public safety needs. The goals identified and listed below, were achieved during these tough economic times by reallocating existing resources and working within budget constraints. We believe the 2010 goals had a positive impact on both the community and the Department as we continued our commitment to providing quality police services.

Goal 1: IMPLEMENT 12-HOUR PATROL SCHEDULE

A goal of the Department was to implement a 12-hour work schedule for the patrol division beginning January 1, 2010. For as long as anyone can remember the Patrol Division worked 8-hour shifts and worked eight (8) days on followed by a four (4) day weekend. The officers then returned for seven (7) work days followed by two (2) days off. This rotation was then continuously repeated. There were many instances where officers would work seven straight days, be in court on both their days off, and then work another eight (8) day stretch. That is seventeen straight days of work! This was clearly an officer safety issue. Furthermore, our studies showed sick time was often taken during the last few days of the rotation. In addition, officer productivity fell during the end of the rotation and officers reported significant fatigue as well.

On December 31, 2010, we completed the first full year of the 12-hour shifts. Officers reported less fatigue and improved home life. Productivity was up significantly and overtime as a result of sick time was down. We were also able to increase the minimum manpower requirements and now there are never less than six (6) officers on patrol from 6 am – 2 am and never less than five (5) officers on patrol from 2 am – 6 am. In years past we generally had four (4) officers on patrol during those hours.

Goal 2: REDUCE COURT OVERTIME THROUGH USE OF COURT DUTY OFFICER

Lt. Mark Zerbe, Special Operations Division Commander, conducted a full analysis of all court overtime to determine if a court duty officer would have a positive affect in reducing court overtime expenses. He determined that court overtime was approximately 40% of the overall overtime budget. As a result, the court duty officer program was implemented. A duty officer attended 173 preliminary hearings during 2010 resulting in more than \$22,000.00 in court overtime in 2010.