

2023

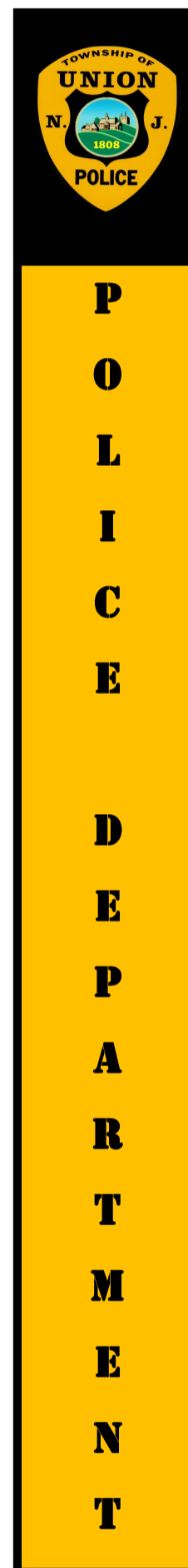
ANNUAL REPORT

Township of Union Police Department



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Mission Statement	Page 3
Core Values	Page 4
Code of Ethics	Page 5
Staff Services Bureau	Page 6 - 18
Records, Property, and Court Departments	Page 19 - 23
Internal Affairs Division	Page 24 - 26
Patrol Bureau	Page 27 - 31
Detective Bureau	Page 31 - 37
Traffic Bureau	Page 38 - 42



Union Police Mission



It is a top priority of the Township of Union Police Department to protect and serve the residents of the Township of Union, utilizing the philosophy of Community Oriented Policing, which provides for the delivery of police services with a focus on the needs of the residents of the Community. It is the mission of the Union Police Department to be sensitive to the needs of community and to work with residents to improve and maintain the quality of life within the Township. The Township of Union Police Department encourages communication and listens to the concerns of the community. Through a proactive approach, utilizing community education and crime prevention, officers and the community become members of a team with the common goals of reduced crime and improved quality of life.

Union Police Core Values

INTEGRITY | FAIRNESS | RESPECT | HONESTY | COURAGE | COMPASSION



1. **INTEGRITY** - *A value which represents incorruptible adherence to the other core values. Integrity does not stand alone; it is supported by the other key values: Fairness, Respect, Honesty, Courage and Compassion. These basic values require constant self-discipline. They are the foundation for law enforcement in a democratic society, which holds accountable those who it entrusts to enforce its laws.*
2. **FAIRNESS** - *A value characterized by freedom from self-interest, prejudice or favoritism. Fairness is the essential attribute of impartiality and a cornerstone of the relationship between the citizenry and those sworn to protect and to serve them. Law enforcement officers must treat all witnesses, victims and suspects fairly without reference to personal feelings, beliefs or interests. Fairness requires respect for cultural and ethnic diversity.*
3. **RESPECT** - *A value that denotes pride and a high regard for all citizens, and the Constitution, power and authority of office. Law enforcement officers must show respect for others through temperance, fairness and courteous execution of their duties and conduct of their personal lives.*
4. **HONESTY** - *A value that is the anchor of Integrity. Honesty means being trustworthy and sincere in accordance with experience and facts. Lying, cheating, stealing, or the appearance of impropriety is unacceptable to the profession of law enforcement.*
5. **COURAGE** - *A value that law enforcement officers must possess to preserve life and property. Courage is control under adversity of fear and the ability to do what is right. Courage is the value that prompts law enforcement officers to take control, and if necessary, risk their lives to defend and protect human life.*
6. **COMPASSION** - *A value that is inherent to understanding or sympathy for victims or another's suffering. Compassion is the ability to restore order to others' lives while controlling and understanding personal feelings which influence individual actions. Humility is a necessary attribute of compassion.*

Union Police Code Of Ethics



As a law enforcement officer, my fundamental duty is to serve the community; to safeguard lives and property; to protect the innocent against deception, the weak against oppression or intimidation and the peaceful against violence or disorder; and to respect the constitutional rights of all to liberty, equality and justice. I will keep my private life unsullied as an example to all and will behave in a manner that does not bring discredit to me or to my agency. I will maintain courageous calm in the face of danger, scorn or ridicule; develop self-restraint; and be constantly mindful of the welfare of others. Honest in thought and deed both in my personal and official life, I will be exemplary in obeying the law and the regulations of my department. Whatever I see or hear of a confidential nature or that is confided to me in my official capacity will be kept ever secret unless revelation is necessary in the performance of my duty. I will never act officiously or permit personal feelings, prejudices, political beliefs, aspirations, animosities or friendships to influence my decisions. With no compromise for crime and with relentless prosecution of criminals, I will enforce the law courteously and appropriately without fear or favor, malice or ill will, never employing unnecessary force or violence and never accepting gratuities. I recognize the badge of my office as a symbol of public faith, and I accept it as a public trust to be held so long as I am true to the ethics of police service. I will never engage in acts of corruption or bribery, nor will I condone such acts by other police officers. I will cooperate with all legally authorized agencies and their representatives in the pursuit of justice. I know that I alone am responsible for my own standard of professional performance and will take every reasonable opportunity to enhance and improve my level of knowledge and competence. I will constantly strive to achieve these objectives and ideals, dedicating myself before God to my chosen profession . . . law enforcement.

Staff Services Bureau

The Staff Services Bureau incorporates Educational Services (Training), Planning & Research, Community Policing, School Resource Officer, Field Training Officer Program, Crime Prevention, Law Enforcement Against Drugs (L.E.A.D), Alarm Enforcement, Accreditation, Jobs-in-Blue & the newly established Bicycle Unit.

EDUCATIONAL SERVICES SECTION

The goal of the Educational Services section is to provide effective, quality training, while at the same time maintaining a streamlined operation. This continues to be accomplished through the utilization of a training regimen, which provides for all of the **mandated** and ancillary training programs, while allowing for the fielding of adequate manpower. Noteworthy training activities that were undertaken in 2023, include some of the following:

Officer Safety – Weapons Training	CJIS Training
Active Shooter Training	Narcan Deployment
Domestic Violence	Defensive Tactics
Vehicle Pursuit /Block and Lock Training	Body Worn Camera
Use of Force Training	Drone Operation
Field Training Officer Program	M4 Operators Courses
9-1-1 and EMD Recertification Training	Workplace Harassment
Law Enforcement Interaction with Orthodox Jewish Community	Civil Disturbance Training
Mental Health & Special Needs Crisis Stabilization Training	Swift Water Rescue

The Union Police Department continued its participation in the Union County Emergency Response Team (U.C.E.R.T.) SWAT training. Additional training for Entry & Containment has continued as well. Currently, four Union Police Officers are assigned to the *Union County Emergency Response Team*, regular training team; in addition three are assigned to specialty training in the Entry & Containment Team.

Major mandated and voluntary training undertaken in 2023, included semi-annual firearms, pursuit training, and Racial/ Biased Policing training with once again a major focus on Use of Force training.

In 2023 the Training Bureau continued expanding our digital sight (Red Dot) training to Officers further increasing handgun accuracy. The department plans on continuing training in 2023 in order to increase the number of officers with digital sights.

As part of our on-going firearms maintenance program, which is conducted semi-annually, firearm instructors/armors continue to inspect each and every handgun that's in service and ultrasonically clean them. This program allows the department to ensure serviceability of all department issued weapons and to intervene early on if problems occur.



S
T
A
F
F
S
E
R
V
I
C
E
S
B
U
R
E
A
U

Staff Services Bureau

The police department supplies body armor to all of our police officers. The department also replaces a percentage of the body armor to ensure all of our officers are issued up to date body armor. In 2023, we issued 31 officers new body armor.

In the spirit of cooperation (as well as fulfilling our obligation), Union Police officers continue to serve as instructors at the John H. Stamler Police Academy. Instructors from various departments throughout Union County, as well as from state and federal agencies, staff the police academy.

ALARMS

The Alarm Enforcement Unit managed the Township's business and residential alarm accounts for 2023. Funds in the amount of **\$5,370.00** have been received for business alarm accounts.

The Alarm Enforcement Unit also maintains emergency information files on all businesses within the Township. Maintenance and daily updating of these files assist the communications personnel in making rapid contact to home and business owners in case of break-ins or other emergency situations. These files are also a source of important information for responding patrol personnel.

The Alarm Unit monitors the number of false alarms generated by business and commercial establishments within the Township. Premises that continue to produce unacceptable numbers of false alarms are subject to an initial warning and graduated penalties determined by the Police Director. As a result of the program, a noticeable decrease in false alarm activity has resulted and the department will continue to strive for elimination of even more unnecessary alarm activations. The 2023 false alarm fees - **\$640.00**.

Careful monitoring to reduce the number of false alarms is necessary to insure rapid emergency response to the residents of the township, while protecting the safety of the officers on the road.

Excessive false alarms cause inefficient utilization of department resources and detract from the expeditious delivery of public safety resources to the community at large.

ALARM FEES 2023

Alarm fees collected for the year 2023 - **\$5,370.00**

False alarm fees for 2023 - **\$640.00**



S
T
A
F
F

S
E
R
V
I
C
E
S

B
U
R
E
A
U

Staff Services Bureau

CRIME PREVENTION / COMMUNITY POLICING / L.E.A.D. / D.A.R.E.

The Crime Prevention/Community Police Unit performs functions that support and enhance the mission of the Police Department. The unit provides education and information on Crime prevention and personal safety; encourages and assists in the formation of Neighborhood Watch groups and other prevention and public safety activities. D.A.R.E. / L.E.A.D. officers support and play key roles in many of the community policing and crime prevention activities and events. In 2023, we were able to train 2 additional officers through the D.A.R.E. / L.E.A.D. program.

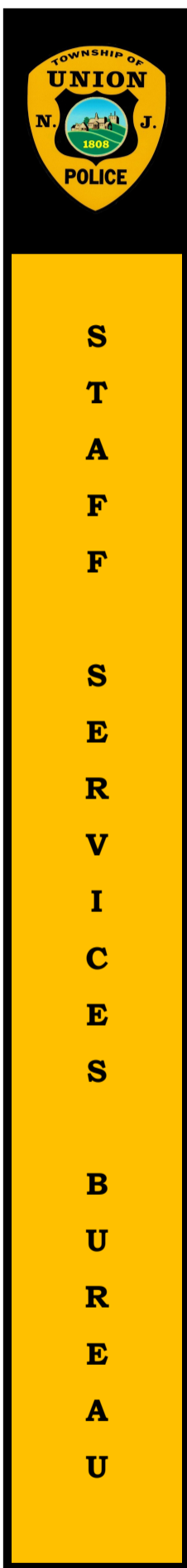


EXPLORERS

The Township of Union's Police Division maintains an active Law Enforcement Explorer Post. Exploring is a division of the Boy Scouts of America program, designed for young men and women between the ages of 14 and 18. A major purpose of Exploring is to develop character building, citizenship training and fitness programs for the youth of the participating community.

As of December 2023, the Union Police Law Enforcement Explorer Posts consist of 13 young members. The total number of advisors is 13. The program enables youth to participate in various aspects of law enforcement through training scenarios, community service programs, and social activities. Some of the training and activities included in the monthly meetings were CPR and First Aid Training, Morals and Ethics, Radio Communications, Crime Prevention, Bicycle Registration, Military Drill, and attendance at town events.

During 2023, Union Law Enforcement Explorers were able to supply over 250 volunteer hours to the Township. Explorers resumed their monthly meetings, and completed hundreds of training hours in the process. In the 24 year history, of the Union Police Department's Law Enforcement Explorer Post, 14 Police Explorers have gone on to become police officers. Four of the 14 are employed by the Union Police Department.



Staff Services Bureau

PERSONNEL

The department hired 11 new officers in 2023, maintaining our manpower at 144 sworn officers. We hired 5 new civilian employee. Our department had 4 retirements and 5 resignations. 6 Officers were promoted from Patrolman to Sergeant and 4 Sergeants were promoted to Lieutenant .

NEW HIRES

Kathleen Rosenbluth	January 2	Civilian
Terri McRae	May 1	Civilian
Michael Parkey	July 10	Parking Enforcement
Alexander Rislin	July 14	Police Officer
Steven DeJesus	July 14	Police Officer
Lewis Nicholas	July 14	Police Officer
Matthew Fischetti	July 14	Police Officer
Luis Ferreira	July 14	Police Officer
Steven Cedeno	July 14	Police Officer
Eric Arreaga	July 14	Police Officer
Lucas Silva	July 14	Police Officer
Trenten Brochu	July 14	Police Officer
Sandra Laranjo	September 5	Parking Enforcement
Brian Estevez	September 11	Civilian

RETIREMENTS

Gaetano D' Alessandro	February 1	Police Officer
Robert Donnelly III	May 1	Police Officer
Radcliffe Sangster	July 1	Police Officer
Paul Ward	October 2	Civilian



S
T
A
F
F

S
E
R
V
I
C
E
S

B
U
R
E
A
U

Staff Services Bureau

RESIGNATIONS

Michael Plaia	March 17	Police Officer
Matthew Fischetti	July 13	Civilian
Khaleel Subhan-Khan	July 15	Civilian
Daniel Cowan	October 2	Civilian
Giselle Moya	October 11	Police Recruit



S
T
A
F
F

S
E
R
V
I
C
E
S

B
U
R
E
A
U

Staff Services Bureau

GRANTS

The Police Department received funds throughout the year from the following grants:

2023 Distracted Driving Crackdown	\$ 7,000.00
Click it or Ticket Fund 2023	\$ 8,750.00
2023 Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over	\$ 8,750.00
Total	\$ 24,500.00

TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT CAMPAIGNS / GRANTS

Each year our agency participates in a number of enforcement campaigns. These campaigns are funded by grants from the federal and state government. The campaigns include:

- Drunk Driving Enforcement Fund
- Pedestrian Safety
- Labor Day DWI
- Holiday Crackdown DWI
- Safe Corridor
- Distracted Driver
- Click it or Ticket



Our Agency was awarded \$ 24,500.00 from the NJDOT Highway Safety 2023 . This money is allocated to help improve safety on Highways. Our agency used this money to strictly enforce violations Route 22, a designated safe corridor zone. Officers assigned to these special details focused primarily on speeding violations, distracted drivers, and violations involving work zone safety offenses.

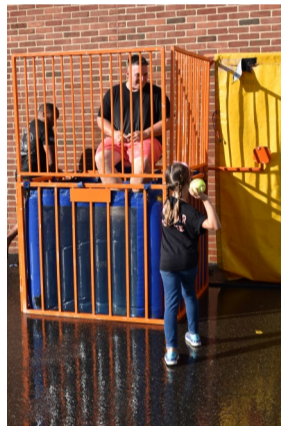


S
T
A
F
F
S
E
R
V
I
C
E
S
B
U
R
E
A
U

Staff Services Bureau

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT AGAINST CRIME

National Night Out is a community-police oriented event held every year in the United States on the first Tuesday of August. The Union Police Department participates in this every year hosting the event in our parking lot, having well over 800 attendees. During this event we provide many services to the resident including, DWI goggle demonstrations, Alzheimer awareness, Child restraint programs, & Drone Demonstrations. There is also a dunk tank where children could drunk officers, musical entertainment and food for all guests.



S
T
A
F
F

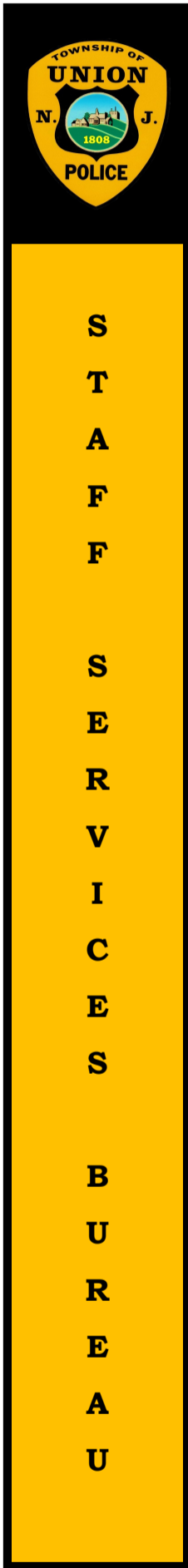
S
E
R
V
I
C
E
S

B
U
R
E
A
U

Staff Services Bureau

JUNIOR POLICE ACADEMY PROGRAM

In 2023, the department, through the Staff Services/D.A.R.E. Unit, conducted the Junior Police Academy program. This program was conducted through the week of July 11th – 15th. The program was offered to the graduating fifth grade class, having 40 spots available, which 33 spots were filled. The program offers participants to experience a mini Police Academy, complete with marching drills, and physical training. Participants are broken up into 4 teams and have daily team building exercises. The Junior Police Recruits also have educational classes on topics such as Basic Police Investigation and Crime Scene Development, giving them a small insight into everyday police responsibilities. Demonstrations are provided by the Union County Bomb Squad, The Union County Sheriff's K9 unit, the Union County Swat Team, and the Township of Union Fire Department. The week came close with a visit from the DEA Helicopter Unit, a field trip to the US Coast Guard Station, and finally, the graduation Ceremony.



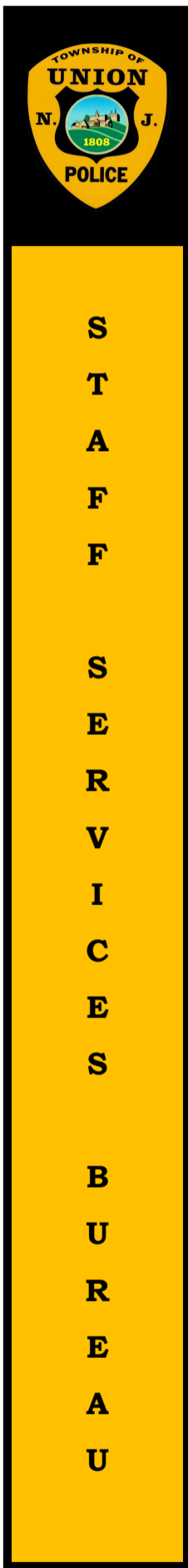
Staff Services Bureau

TRUNK or TREAT

Due to inclement weather, this event was cancelled. We look forward to bringing it back next year, bigger and stronger.

MARCH MADNESS BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

On Friday, March 31st, 2023, the Township of Union Police Department proudly hosted the first annual “March Madness Final Four Tournament” Basketball Game at Union High School. The concept of the fundraiser was developed by SRO N. Senyon and members of the Staff Services Bureau. The fundraiser included prizes, raffles, entertainment, and friendly competition against the “Final Four”, bringing together teams from the Union Board of Ed., UPD, DPW, and UFD. Team members voluntarily participated in the community policing event which included weekly practices, assigned uniforms, and event entrance theme music. All proceeds of the event benefited Union High School Athletics and the Township of Union Police Department’s Explorer Program. The event proved to be a great success, while supporting the development and enrichment of local youth. The event was filled with sportsmanship, camaraderie, and a shared commitment to continue to make a positive impact on the Township of Union community.



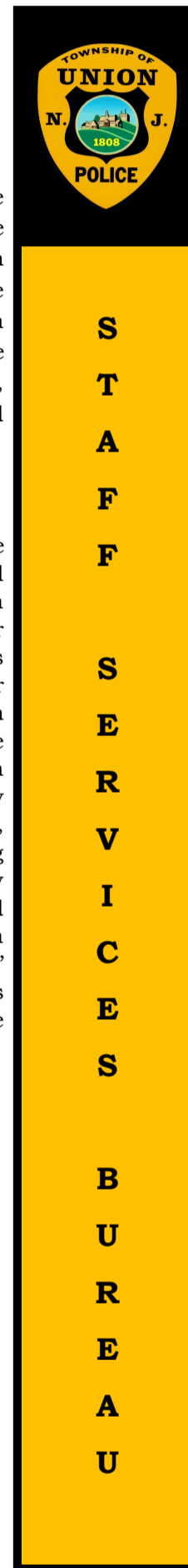
Staff Services Bureau

HALLOWEEN SAFETY

“Un-Mischief Night” is an annual community policing event organized and ran by the Township of Union Police Department. “Un-Mischief Night” is dance held at one of the local Township schools to help celebrate Halloween for local sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students. The purpose of “Un-Mischief” night is to deter children from possible dangers and engaging in typical vandalistic behaviors on the night before Halloween known as “Mischief Night” by providing a fun and safe environment. Students are chaperoned for the evening by Union Police Officers, and given the opportunity to dance, socialize with friends, enjoy music, play games, win prizes, eat pizza and snacks, and interact with Union Police Officers.

SANTA IN BLUE

The Union Police Department coordinates and administers the annual Santa-In-Blue Program. Unfortunately, too many members, more importantly our children, of local communities are struggling to live day to day due to stressing factors and unforeseen circumstances which can make the holiday season a tough time to get through. For over twenty years, the Township of Union Police Department’s “Santa in Blue” program has benefited families in need through the annual collection of new and unwrapped toys for children newborn to 18 years of age. The “Santa in Blue” program works in conjunction with local business, Township officials, Township residents, local organizations, and the local school district. Officers of the Community Policing Unit and D.A.R.E./L.E.A.D run programs throughout the holiday season to promote the collection of gifts for needy families. Civilian employees, volunteers, and officers worked diligently in organizing, sorting, wrapping, and distributing new and donated collection of toys. By utilizing officers from throughout the department, dozens of gifts and toys were personally delivered to 188 homes within the Township of Union. After the gifts were delivered throughout the Township, remaining gifts and toys were donated to various veteran organizations to be dispersed to the children of disabled Veterans. The “Santa in Blue” program helps make Christmas morning that much more special to a child as well as their families as they awake to see an extra gift under the tree which contributes to the magic and joy of the holiday season.



Staff Services Bureau

Bicycle Unit

The Bicycle Unit consists of 8 officers and 2 supervisors. The unit works a 4/4 schedule. Bicycle Unit Officers also change their schedules, split shifts, and exchange workdays in order to accommodate the needs of the community and the department. Bicycle patrols are effective in delivering police services on a more personal level. The public finds the Bike Officers to be more accessible, similar to the officers on the walking beat, but unlike officers assigned to walking posts, bicycle officers have the advantage of a higher level of mobility. Bicycle Patrol allows the officers to interact more easily with the members of the community, and, therefore, becomes an extremely effective police/community relations medium. The use of bicycles makes the patrolling of parks, wooded areas, alleys, and other areas not available to motor vehicles, more easily accessible. The Bicycle Unit serves as a means of delivering proactive services and provides the ability to access suspects and affect criminal apprehensions.

The Bicycle Unit utilizes electric “E-bikes” for their patrol. The “E-Bike” allows the officers to travel safer in the roadways and also allows the officer to stay mobile for longer periods of time without needing to rest.

All officers assigned to the Bike Unit have completed the Police Training Commission course Bicycle Patrol. This course is a rigorous 5 day/40 hr. course designed to equip the candidate with the skills to successfully and safely operate a bicycle while in performance of their job duties. Candidates will be taught how to maneuver the Police Bicycle at moderate and high speeds, negotiate obstacles, ascend/descend stairs, accident avoidance, braking maneuvers, proper nutrition, fitness, pedestrian stops/contact, crowd control and using the bicycle as an alternate means of force.

This year the Bicycle Unit has maintained a high level of involvement in community oriented policing. Taking part in over 75 community events throughout the year. The Bike unit was able to provide 168 families and over 375 children with gifts during the Santa in Blue toy drive. During the Trunk or Treat over 700 children were given candy and treats at no cost. During the Good Scout award dinner they were able to raise \$2,500 to fully sponsor an entire Boy Scout troop for the year. Other events they ran include Junior Police Academy, National Night Out, and dozens of small township events, classroom presentations, and local block parties.

In addition to their normal duties, the Bicycle Unit Officers also provided assistance to other Bureaus when needed, i.e. patrol with accidents scenes, respond to calls for service and major crime scenes. Bike Unit officers have also assisted the Detective Bureau with investigations, and when needed, they have assisted in arrest situations. Officers from the Bike Unit have also worked with the LEAD Officer when needed to provide additional assistance with community and school programs. The Bike Unit officers also assisted Internal Affairs with extensive background investigations for regular and auxiliary police officer candidates, as well as dispatch candidates.



S
T
A
F
F

S
E
R
V
I
C
E
S

B
U
R
E
A
U

Staff Services Bureau

Bicycle Unit



S
T
A
F
F

S
E
R
V
I
C
E
S

B
U
R
E
A
U

Staff Services Bureau



2023 POLICE DIVISION - STAFFING

POLICE DIRECTOR	1
DEPUTY CHIEF	1
CAPTAINS	3
LIEUTENANTS	14
SERGEANTS	22
DETECTIVES	14
POLICE OFFICERS	88
TOTAL SWORN PERSONNEL	143
CIVILIANS	41
DISPATCHERS	23
TOTAL PERSONNEL	207

**S
T
A
F
F

S
E
R
V
I
C
E
S

B
U
R
E
A
U**

Records, Property & Court Departments

RECORDS, TECHNICAL SERVICES, PROPERTY AND COURT SECTION

The Records section consists of four clerk typists, a property officer, and a court coordinator.

The Record Clerks are responsible for the proper maintenance, filing, and release of records and information produced by the Police Department. The Police Department produces over 50,000 paper reports annually. Each report is categorized and placed into a filing system in accord with government and civil regulations. The Records Section is responsible for providing blotter and report access to the public and government requests, while assuring the confidentiality of information necessary to protect active investigations. The Record Section serves the public with copies of accident reports, investigation reports, and blotter information. The section is responsible for background investigations of individuals as required by government and private agencies. The Police Department received several hundred OPRA requests this year. Each one of these is reviewed by the section supervisor to determine what information can be released and the clerk compiles the information.

During the past year, the Department continued utilizing an online system for OPRA requests to be submitted. This enables citizens to file OPRA request from the comfort of their home and many of the responses can be delivered electronically as well reducing time and cost.

The Records section supervisor is also responsible for uploading nearly 3,500 motor vehicle accident reports to the web services "<https://buycrash.lexisnexisrisk.com/search/index> " Where citizens can obtain a copy of their accident report online.

The Property officer maintains the storage and security on all evidence and property recovered by members of the Police and Fire Department. The clerk handled over 5000 pieces of property during the year. Each item is checked for stolen ownership and evidentiary values. Appropriate items are forwarded to other agencies for scientific evaluation of evidence. The Property Officer ensures the court chain of custody is maintained on all property. The officer is responsible for the legal disposition of all property held by the departments. The Property Officer is also responsible for the transfer to the Union County Prosecutor of all confiscated weapons under the Domestic Violence Act. The Property Section operates a Property and Lab Management computer system called 'The Beast'. The Beast is a bar code system that tracks all evidence and property acquired by this department. There was a complete 100% audit of the all the stored property in 2021 since there was a change of the chief law enforcement officer.

The Court Coordinator position holds the responsibility of answering all requests for discovery on court cases before the Municipal Court of Union. This responsibility extends to assisting the Municipal Prosecutor's office with cases originated by the Union County Police, NJ State Police and Kean University Police, NJ Transit Police and other agencies. The Court Coordinator works hand in hand with the Police Officers and the Prosecutor to ensure all reports, certifications, evidence, and witnesses are presented before the Court.



R
E
C
O
R
D
S

P
R
O
P
E
R
T
Y

C
O
U
R
T

Records, Property & Court Departments

The Police Clerk Typists and Computer Operators assigned to the Technical Services Bureau are responsible for the data entry of all incident information received on police reports. All reports created by the Police Department funnel through the Technical Services section prior to filing in the Records Section. The data entered creates the information necessary to provide the State of NJ with a Uniform Crime Report. The database is used as a central repository for the name and case number file used in retrieving reports from the Records Section. Technical Services is the unit that maintains the attendance records for the Police. Reports are created for the Payroll Department for use in pay allowances. The section also maintains the computerized personnel file with a complete database of employees and their contractual allowances. On a daily basis, the section members scan all reports and blotters into a document imaging system. Personnel in the Police and Fire Departments assign cases, research information and retrieve the public records through this document imaging system. The Docuware imaging system currently contains over 1,000,000 copies of records available on line 24 hours a day.

The police department deployed AXON body worn cameras in March of 2019 and continued its use throughout 2023, expanding to the latest, cutting edge technology. All patrol officers were outfitted with updated body worn cameras. In 2023, all officers assigned a body worn camera received an upgraded AXON body worn camera known as the AB4. The potential benefits of body worn cameras include creating objective records of stop encounters, encouraging lawful and respectful police-citizen interactions when both parties know exchanges are recorded, alleviating mistrust between the police and the public, and offering a way to substantiate whether officers have been wrongly or rightly accused of misconduct.

We also implemented Axon Fleet 3 cameras into twenty vehicle in our fleet. These devices utilized the latest ALPR (automatically license plate reader) technology to enhance our ability to keep the community safe.



R
E
C
O
R
D
S

P
R
O
P
E
R
T
Y

C
O
U
R
T

Records, Property & Court Departments



GENERAL DIVISION ACTIVITIES

ITEM	2023	2022
TOTAL NUMBER OF INCIDENT NUMBERS	119,179	96,922
ANIMAL CALLS	418	358
SUDDEN DEATH REPORTED	60	86
MISSING PERSONS REPORTED	152	168
TOTAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ALARMS	2,356	2,455
ESCORTS PROVIDED	613	516
TOTAL MEDICAL AID CALLS EXCEPT MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS	5,157	5,391

R
E
C
O
R
D
S

P
R
O
P
E
R
T
Y

C
O
U
R
T

Records, Property & Court Departments



COST IN DOLLARS OF PROPERTY STOLEN AND RECOVERED		
CATEGORY	2023	2022
VALUE OF PROPERTY STOLEN (EXCEPT VEHICLES)	\$2,258,840	\$ 2,800,087
VALUE OF STOLEN VEHICLES	\$3,4305.99	\$ 3,104.16
***TOTAL ALL STOLEN PROPERTY *** (NIBRS replaced UCR which calls for more detailed reporting of stolen property including frauds which were never tabulated in prior years)	\$5,687,439	\$ 5,904,503
VALUE OF STOLEN PROPERTY RECOVERED (EXCEPT VEHICLES)	\$248,559	\$ 202,061
VALUE OF STOLEN VEHICLES RECOVERED	\$1,509,075	\$ 1,899,326
TOTAL VALUE ALL STOLEN PROPERTY RECOVERED	\$1,757,634	\$ 2,101,387

R
E
C
O
R
D
S

P
R
O
P
E
R
T
Y

C
O
U
R
T

Records, Property & Court Departments



OFFENSES	2023	2022	Percent
	Totals	Totals	Change
Homicide/ Murder	0	1	-100%
Rape/Sexual Offenses	18	18	N/C
Robbery	28	29	-3%
Aggravated Assault	36	25	44%
Simple Assault	130	86	51%
Burglary	357	237	50%
MV Burglary	242	183	32%
MV Theft	123	93	32%
Arson	0	0	N/C
Total	934	672	39%

R
E
C
O
R
D
S

P
R
O
P
E
R
T
Y

C
O
U
R
T

The Above information represents actual offenses which occurred within the Township of Union as reported through the **Uniform Crime Reporting** System. They only represent crimes that are under this agency's jurisdiction and do not include offenses that occurred at Kean University, Union County Parks located in the Township of Union or crime committed in New Jersey State Police jurisdiction. (**Garden State Parkway, I-78**)

Note: These figures also include attempts to commit the indicated offenses.

Internal Affairs Division & Case Dispositions

Type of Complaint	Cases Received	Sustained	Exonerated	Not Sustained	Unfounded
Crime	2	0	0	0	1
Excessive Force	4	0	0	1	3
Improper Arrest	2	0	2	0	0
Improper Entry	0	0	0	0	0
Improper Search	1	0	1	0	0
Differential Treatment	5	0	1	3	0
Demeanor	30	3	15	5	4
Rule Violation	46	21	8	12	8
Totals	90	24	27	21	16

Sustained: The investigation disclosed sufficient evidence to prove the allegation.

Exonerated: The actions of the officer were proven to be justified, legal and proper.

Not Sustained: The investigation failed to disclose sufficient information to clearly prove or disprove the allegation.

Unfounded: The alleged incident did not occur or there is insufficient information to conduct a meaningful investigation.

- Note: There were 2 open cases at the year's end.



I
N
T
E
R
N
A
L

A
F
F
A
I
R
S

Internal Affairs Division & Case Dispositions



I
N
T
E
R
N
A
L

A
F
F
A
I
R
S

Number of pursuits initiated	81
Number of pursuits resulting in accidents	7
Number of pursuits resulting in injury (NO DEATHS)	4
Number of pursuits resulting in death	0
Number of pursuits resulting in arrest	12

Number of Vehicles in Accidents	
Pursued vehicles	3
Police vehicles	0
Third party vehicles	3

Number of People Injured	
Pursued vehicles	0
Police vehicles	5
Third party vehicles	0
Pedestrians	0

Number of People Killed	
Pursued vehicles	0
Police vehicles	0
Third party vehicles	0
Pedestrians	0

Number of people arrested	4
Number of pursuits in which tire deflation device used	0

Internal Affairs Division & Case Dispositions



I
N
T
E
R
N
A
L

A
F
F
A
I
R
S

Number of Use of Force Incidents	42
Number of Suspects Involved	36
Number of Suspects Under the Influence	21

Type of Suspect Resistance (Incidents):	
Physical Resistance	44
Threat / Physical Attack on Officer	19
Threat / Attacked Officer with Weapon	3

Type of Force Used by Officer (Incidents):	
Physical Force	41
Mechanical Force	1
Deadly Force	0

Injuries Sustained During Incidents:	
Number of Suspects Injured	8
Number of Officers Injured	6
Total Number of Arrests during this Period	1,338
Percentage (%) of Arrests where Force was Used	3.1%

Patrol Bureau

The Patrol Division is the backbone of the Union Police Department and is the Department's largest and most visible component, operating 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and 365 days a year.

In 2023 the Patrol Division was staffed by 1 Captain, 7 Lieutenants, 14 Sergeants and 75 patrol officers. The Supervisors and Officers are divided into four separate platoons that work 11.5 hour days on a four day rotation. A Lieutenant led each platoon along with three Sergeants. Sixteen or Seventeen officers were assigned to each of the platoons and almost half of the officers assigned to patrol have less than ten years of experience.

Uniformed Patrol Officers are the first response to calls for service that come into the Department. Patrol Officers respond to all types of emergencies, they conduct initial investigations at crime scenes and motor vehicle crashes. They address quality of life complaints, and are often called upon to respond to disturbances and disputes. They handle noise complaints, restore order and preserve and maintain the peace. Uniformed Patrol Officers are often the first on the scene of medical aides and in years past have saved numerous lives by performing CPR and rendering aid. Patrol Officers also respond to drug overdoses and have successfully administered nasal Narcan on a growing number of occasions since it was first deployed back in 2014 and have saved countless lives.

Patrol officers are responsible for enforcing motor vehicle traffic laws. In 2023, Patrol Officers made over 14,500 motor vehicle stops and issued more than 24,500 motor vehicle summonses. The Department also participated in the "Click-it or Ticket" seatbelt campaign, and conducted distracted driving enforcement details, which were funded by grant money. From the day after Thanksgiving until the day after Christmas the department conducted its annual holiday season overtime patrols. The patrols were primarily on Rt. 22, Springfield Ave, and Union Center.

The Department has continued an aggressive stance towards DWI enforcement. There were 13,384 deaths from alcohol-impaired-driving crashed nationwide in 2021. The Patrol bureau conducts proactive DWI enforcement. Many officers have received advanced training in DWI detection and enforcement. Officers have been trained to utilize HGN (Horizontal Gaze Nystagmus) testing, Standardized Field Sobriety Testing (SFST), as well as being certified in the operation of the Alcotest machine to determine Blood Alcohol Content (BAC). There are three officers currently certified as a Drug Recognition Experts. DRE Officers are specially trained to recognize impairment in drivers under the influence of drugs other than, or in addition to, alcohol. Our DRE Officers have assisted in numerous DUI investigations, many of them involving motor vehicle crashes. There are plans to continue training additional officers to be certified as DRE's in the near future. In 2023, the Twp. of Union Police made over 1,300 arrests and 154 of those arrests for driving while intoxicated in 2023.

Patrol officers also conduct pro-active directed patrols to deter and prevent criminal activity and to detect and apprehend offenders. Patrol Officers conducted approximately 40,000 directed patrols in 2023. Directed Patrols were often conducted to address specific complaints in specific areas of the town at specific times, and have led to motor vehicle stops or pedestrian stops that often resulted in some type of enforcement action. Patrol Officers also conduct "Park and walks" at our schools. Officers, throughout the day, visit schools on their assigned posts and walk around the schools checking for open/unlocked doors.



P
A
T
R
O
L

B
U
R
E
A
U

Patrol Bureau

Patrol officers also conduct pro-active directed patrols to deter and prevent criminal activity and to detect and apprehend offenders. Patrol Officers conducted approximately 40,000 directed patrols in 2023. Directed Patrols were often conducted to address specific complaints in specific areas of the town at specific times, and have led to motor vehicle stops or pedestrian stops that often resulted in some type of enforcement action. Patrol Officers also conduct "Park and walks" at our schools. Officers, throughout the day, visit schools on their assigned posts and walk around the schools checking for open/unlocked doors.

Highlights for 2023:

On 01/09/2023, NYPD notified the twp. that they had a burglary that occurred earlier in the morning at a cell phone store in the Bronx. They were pinging a phone to the area of R22 in Union, officers flooded the area and were able to locate the suspect vehicle from the NYPD burglary. Officers stopped the suspect vehicle that was occupied by 2 males. Inside the vehicle officers observed proceeds from the burglary. Both males were detained and eventually arrested for receiving stolen property, fencing, poss. of a weapon and hindering. NYPD will follow-up with additional charges at a later date. During the investigation, officers determined that the suspect had sold some of the stolen merchandise to a store in town. Officers responded to the location and also arrested the owner for receiving stolen property.

On 01/28/2023, the police department was contacted about an attempted armed robbery of 2 different victims that just occurred in the parking lot of the Millburn Mall where the suspect displayed a black handgun and demanded money from the victims. Officers were immediately dispatched and were in the area searching for the suspect within a minute. The first officer on scene spoke with the victims to gather as much information about the suspect and relayed it to other officers who were setting up a perimeter around the area. Officers conducted an extremely thorough search and eventually located the suspect hiding next to a small shed in the area of 887 Valley St. The suspect was immediately placed in handcuffs without further incident and officers located a black airsoft pistol that was used in the attempted armed robberies. The suspect was charged accordingly and transported to the county jail.

On 03/04/2023, Berkeley Twp. Police contacted Union Police Department to notify they were tracking a stolen vehicle that had just entered our town. Officers converged on the area and eventually located the stolen vehicle parked in the parking lot of Target on Rte. 22. Officers set up a perimeter and after reviewing surveillance video they were able to get a suspect description. Moments later, officers were able to locate the suspect inside the store. The suspect then attempted to run away from officers and after a short foot pursuit, officers were able to apprehend the suspect and place him in handcuffs. He was transported to Union Police Department and charged accordingly.

On 4/5/23, Officers Melody and Mcternan observed a suspicious vehicle with an expired temporary registration. Officers conducted a motor vehicle stop of the suspect vehicle. As Officers approached the driver, they immediately identified the driver as a suspect from a recent BOLO (Be on the lookout) out of South Plainfield. The suspect was wanted for committing multiple frauds in their town worth over \$60,000. While Officers were waiting for the active warrant to be confirmed, they spotted 2 other males that were also identified in the same BOLO as the first suspect, a short distance away. They were able to detain the additional 2 suspects. All active warrants were confirmed by South Plainfield. The 3 males were transported to police headquarters where South Plainfield police responded and took custody of all 3 males.



P
A
T
R
O
L

B
U
R
E
A
U

Patrol Bureau

On 4/20/23, officers were notified of a theft that occurred in Fanwood Twp. where the suspects stole a female victim's purse and fled in a Porsche Cayenne. A short time later, officers working in the Quality of Life unit observed the suspect vehicle traveling on Rte. 22 e/b. Officers attempted to conduct a motor vehicle stop but the suspect vehicle accelerated away from officers then cut across the grass onto Rt22 w/b and was last seen on West Chestnut St. While searching the area, officers were alerted to a male looking into parked vehicles. The suspect was stopped on West Chestnut St while other officers continued the investigation. Through surveillance video officers were able to ID the suspect stopped as the same suspect who exited the passenger door of the Porsche with the stolen purse in the Mamba's restaurant parking lot. The Porsche was also located parked unoccupied a few blocks away. Fanwood PD responded and took custody of the male suspect who was charged accordingly.

On 05/02/2023, Officers working patrol were notified of a stolen vehicle that was last seen by Westfield officers entering onto Rte. 22 from the area of the Mountainside/ Westfield border. The vehicle was also a suspect vehicle from a possible residential burglary. A short time later Union officers observed the stolen suspect vehicle traveling on Rte. 22 E/B at a high rate of speed. Officers attempted to stop the vehicle but the suspect vehicle initiated a motor vehicle pursuit which continued down Rte. 22 into Hillside before crashing near the Newark border. Union Officers along with the assistance of Hillside Police department were able to locate and arrest 3 of the 4 occupants of the stolen vehicle. All three suspects were transported to Union headquarters and charged accordingly.

On 05/11/23, officers were dispatched to multiple strong arm robberies that had just occurred all within a 7 minutes time frame. The same suspects committed all 4 of the robberies and also stole the victim's vehicle in the last one. Officers converged on the area. PO Faustino while searching the surrounding area located the suspect vehicle and pursued the vehicle through Irvington before losing sight of the suspect vehicle. A few minutes later, PO Mcternan located the victim's vehicle parked unoccupied on a side street in Newark. Officers canvassed the area and were able to locate one of the suspects. After the victims made a positive ID of the suspect. He was placed under arrest, transported to Union Police HQ, and charged accordingly. The detective bureau is in the process of identifying all individuals involved.

On 05/28/23, Officers Melody and McTernan stopped a vehicle on Rte. 22 for speeding. During the traffic stop, officers requested a K9 Officer to the scene. Union County K9 Milo arrived on scene a short time later. K9 Milo alerted to several locations in the car where officers found a large amount of CDS and cash. The driver was arrested, transported to HQ, and charged accordingly.

On 06/16/23, officers located a vehicle on Rte. 22 E/B that was entered stolen out of Newark, NJ. Officers attempted to conduct a motor vehicle stop of the suspect vehicle but the vehicle accelerated away from officers initiating a motor vehicle pursuit. The pursuit continued on Rte. 22 E/B towards Hillside Twp. The vehicle was traveling at a high rate of speed in a reckless manner and officers lost sight of the vehicle. Officers located the vehicle moments later when it struck a civilian vehicle as it attempted to pass them. The stolen vehicle became disabled and 4 suspects fled from the vehicle across Rte. 22 W/B into a residential area in Hillside. PO Kelly ordered the males to stop and advised dispatch he was now in foot pursuit. PO Kelly was able to locate and arrest a 15 year old suspect that fled the vehicle without further incident. While searching the area, PO Kelly located another 13 years old suspect who was hiding in the bushes a short distance from the accident scene. Officers were unable to locate the other 2 suspects. The arrestees were both charged accordingly.



P
A
T
R
O
L
B
U
R
E
A
U

Patrol Bureau

On 07/23/23, the police department received a call from a resident on Grandview Ave about a suspicious male in a backyard. Officer Melody quickly arrived on scene and observed damage to the gate lock going to the rear yard. Officer Melody entered the rear yard and observed a male inside a screened in porch connected to the house. Officer Melody identified himself as a police officer and order the suspect to the ground. He was placed under arrest without further incident. He was arrested, transported to HQ and charged with residential burglary.

On 08/21/23, multiple officers working a plain clothes burglary prevention detail observed a white ford fusion occupied by 3 males driving slowly down several streets in town. Officers conducted a motor vehicle stop of the vehicle due to suspended registration. During the course of the investigation, the driver from Atco, NJ lied about his name and was eventually found to be an active wanted person out of Pennsylvania for burglaries. The front seat passenger from Pennsauken, NJ was also found to have active wanted person out of Pennsylvania for burglaries. The rear seat passenger from Jersey City was also found to have active wanted person warrant out of Middlesex County, NJ for burglaries. All 3 males were transported to Union Police department. 2 of the males were transported to Union County Jail awaiting extradition back to Pennsylvania.

On 09/13/23, officers working a plain clothes burglary assignment were notified by a resident on Stuyvesant Ave of 2 females that entered the lobby of an apartment building and stole several packages before fleeing the scene. Officers quickly responded to the area, they established a perimeter and were able to locate and arrest one of the female suspects who was found hiding under a vehicle a couple blocks away. She was arrested and transported to HQ for processing.

On 10/5/23, officers responded to the area of Kirkman Pl in town for a report of a possible motor vehicle burglary. Multiple officers quickly responded to the scene and located 2 male suspects inside of a vehicle committing a burglary. Officers ordered the males to stop. One male took off running as the second male was able to jump back into a stolen vehicle that was waiting for them. Officer Marquez was able to chase the male on foot apprehend suspect after a short distance. Officers conducted a brief motor vehicle pursuit of the suspect vehicle that was later determined to be freshly stolen out of Elizabeth. Officers terminated the pursuit due to the reckless and dangerous driving by the suspects. The male suspect arrested was transported to HQ and charged accordingly.

On 10/22/23, Union Police received a call from a resident just after 2am reporting that she observed approx. 4 males near her driveway with at least one male attempting to gain entry into her vehicle. Numerous officers were dispatched into the area. Officers established a perimeter and were able to locate the males walking in the area. As officers approached the suspects all the males took off running in different directions. Officers chased the suspects on foot and were able to locate and arrest 2 of the males. Officers continued searching the area for the other suspects. While searching officers located several vehicles were burglarized due to UNLOCKED CAR doors. Officers transported the 2 arrestees to HQ and they were charged accordingly. Officers were able to ID the other individuals involved to be charged at a later time.



P
A
T
R
O
L

B
U
R
E
A
U

Patrol Bureau

On 11/7/23, a resident called reporting his unlocked vehicle was broken into and gave a suspect description. Officers quickly responded to the area, set up a perimeter, and were able to locate the suspect as he was attempting to flee the area. While conducting their investigation officers found proceeds from additional burglaries and he was also found to be in possession of a large quantity of drugs. He was placed under arrest, transported to HQ, and charged accordingly.

Over the course of the last few months of the year, the Union Police responded to several commercial burglaries in town where the suspect smashed the front glass door and burglarized the businesses. The detective bureau quickly identified the suspect and with the assistance of the Quality of Life unit were able to locate and surveil the suspect until he was arrested by Hillside PD after a short foot pursuit. The suspect also committed numerous burglaries in the surrounding towns and has been charged accordingly.



P
A
T
R
O
L

B
U
R
E
A
U

Detective Bureau

The Investigative Bureau is primarily assigned cases and investigations related to indictable crimes along with general investigations not cleared through preliminary investigations. The Investigative Bureau is comprised of five (5) sub-units, all of which are commanded by one Captain. The five (5) sub-units include: General Investigations, Family Relations and Youth Services, Identification Section and Special Operations/Narcotics. Investigative personnel and civilian staff work hand in hand with other law enforcement agencies and the Union County Prosecutors Office to investigate crimes and ensure thorough pre-trial preparation. One detective is assigned to the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) Task Force and another to Homeland Security HSI Drug Interdiction Unit. This assignment enabled the department to utilize resources that would not have been available and returned additional benefits. These Detectives has been involved in long-term investigations across the country. A third detective is assigned to the Union County Homicide Task Force.

Two Supervisors, nine Detectives, and two civilians are assigned to general investigations. The unit is responsible for the investigation of all crimes reported. The unit is also responsible for all arrest follow-ups, firearms investigations, warrants, liquor, towing, taxi and other municipal licensing investigations. The Licensing Detective was again busy this year, receiving 1,002 new firearms ID card and permit to purchase applications were received. Additionally, due to recent Supreme Court decisions striking down various State laws restricting carry permits the Department has also seen an increase in these applications, issuing 135 permit to carry firearms application. Licensing also investigated and approved 2 liquor license transfers, which is a time consuming process, including intensive background and financial checks of the principals. 6 taxi licenses, 13 limo licenses, 2 canvass permits, 38 bingo permits were also investigated by the licensing unit. Other Detectives and civilian workers assisted the licensing section.

One supervisor, three detectives and one civilian were assigned to the Family Relations and Youth Services section. The unit is responsible for handling all juvenile matters and works closely with the administrators and security staff of the township schools. Activity is also coordinated with the Union Police School Resource Officer assigned to Union High School. Investigations of child abuse, bias offenses, missing persons, criminal mischief, (graffiti) and Domestic Violence are also the responsibility of the unit.

Two detectives are assigned to the Identification Unit. The investigators process crime scenes for any and all physical evidence. The investigators are trained in some of the latest forensic techniques and routinely collect DNA and other items of evidence for laboratory testing. Additionally, investigators use Livescan fingerprinting technology and the automated fingerprint Identification System of the New Jersey State Police. This technology identifies criminal suspects electronically. Additionally, almost all of the photographic images taken by the department are in digital format. The Detectives regularly assist the patrol division with evidence collection and preservation of evidence.



D
E
T
E
C
T
I
V
E
B
U
R
E
A
U

Detective Bureau

The Narcotics Unit/Special Operations is comprised of two detectives, under the supervision of Investigative Bureau supervisors. Detectives conduct narcotics and vice investigations in addition to assisting outside law enforcement agencies with investigations in Union. The detectives of the unit often work with and coordinate activities with officers of the Quality of Life Unit and share information.

Notable Detective Bureau Investigations 2023

January 25, 2023 there was a shoplifting at the Target and the officer working the off-duty security detail attempted to stop the individual. The officer was struck by the suspect while they tried to escape in a vehicle. A foot pursuit ensued and the suspect was apprehended. The suspect was found to have numerous checks and credit cards, detectives were able find victims and he was ultimately charged with credit card fraud, aggravated assault against an officer and Robbery. Refer to UPD case # 23-008066.

May 2023, during the month of May within the Township of Union there were multiple residential burglaries where high end vehicles were targeted. Union Police Detectives were able to develop a suspect, a juvenile from Newark, NJ with a lengthy criminal history for burglaries and thefts. Through their investigation the Union Police was able to ultimately charge the suspect with 8 counts of theft and burglary. Refer to Union Police cases: 23-046123, 23-046125, 23-046115, 23-046116, 23-046130, 23-046173, 23-046371, 23-049369, & 23-049719.

July 17, 2023 the detective bureau investigated a commercial burglary / criminal mischief that occurred at Lee Myles 1415 Stuyvesant ave. The suspect was developed through canvassing for video. Patrol officers located a suspect sleeping inside of a vehicle and ultimately arrested him. Detective then Mirandize the suspect and he gave a statement admitting to the burglary and the criminal mischief. Refer to UPD case # 23-065095.

July 18, 2023 there were multiple burglaries to motor vehicles in the surrounding areas of Spruce Street. Detectives were able to identify a suspect and ultimately prepared an active arrest warrant for the burglaries that were committed in town. Refer to UPD case # 23-065747.



D
E
T
E
C
T
I
V
E

B
U
R
E
A
U

Detective Bureau

July 19, 2023 there was a motor vehicle burglary at 1087 Mayfair Road. The ID bureau processed the vehicle and was able to recover a latent fingerprint inside the vehicle. The fingerprint was a match to an individual, who was ultimately charged for the theft and burglary and placed on an active arrest warrant. Refer to UPD case # 23-065656.

August 16, 2023 there was a burglary to a business in town at 1351 Magie Ave. Detectives were able to identify the suspect through surveillance footage and other investigatory methods. The suspect and his vehicle were identified. The vehicle was entered felony and located in Newark. The suspect was charged with Burglary and theft. While the vehicle was being processed a handgun recovered and it was later found to have been used in a shots fired call in Newark. Refer to UPD case # 23-074835.

September 9, 2023 There were multiple burglaries and an MV theft in the area of 2284 Stecher Ave. While responding to the scene officers observed a suspicious vehicle, later determined to be a stolen vehicle from a home burglary, and pursued it. The vehicle was later found in Newark and processed. From the evidence recovered in the vehicle detectives developed an investigative lead and were ultimately able to charge the suspect with, burglary, MV theft and criminal mischief. Refer to UPD case# 23-082500 & 23-082501.

September 13, 2023 the detective bureau investigated an Armed Gunpoint Robbery of the Exxon (US HWY 22 West/hillside border) that resulted in the arrest of Joseph Young and Ahmad Singletary for robbery and weapons offenses. This case was a combined effort with UCPO and NJSP Bloomfield that resulted charges of 6 additional robberies for Young and Singletary (Whitney Houston service area and Colonia service area robberies). Case was adopted by AUSA & ATF and both defendants charged with (7) counts of Hobbs Act Robbery. Refer to UPD case # 23-081048.

November 08, 18, 25, 2023 - During the better part of November 2023 the Township of Union and surrounding towns were plagued by commercial burglaries committed by a repeat offender, Chris Ransom. Detectives were able to quickly identify the suspect and ultimately arrest and stop him from his drug driven crime spree. Mr. Ransom was responsible for numerous commercial burglaries and thefts in town. Refer to UPD case numbers: 23-107199, 23-105130, 23-101957.



D
E
T
E
C
T
I
V
E

B
U
R
E
A
U

Detective Bureau

December 9, 2023 Detectives arrested an individual for sexual assault after he sexually assaulted his passed out Lyft passenger in the parking lot of the Vermella complex. Combined invest with UCPO SVU and assist with NYPD for stop of suspect vehicle and arrest of suspect who had warrant that was issued by the Township of Union Police. Refer to UPD case # 23-112085.

December 15, 2023 there was a robbery of the Power Gas 1865 Vauxhall road. Detectives were able to gather surveillance footage of the incident and recognized the suspect from prior incidents. They were able to identify the suspect and after their investigation he was charged with the Robbery of the gas station attendant. Refer to UPD case # 23-113850.

December 29, 2023, there was a residential burglary and criminal mischief at 800 Inwood road. Detectives canvassed the area and were able to locate surveillance footage of the actors. They prepared TRAKS messages and disseminated them throughout the state. With the TRAKS message they were contacted by Newark Police and a suspect was developed. Through their investigative efforts, two suspects were ultimately identified and charged with the burglary and criminal mischief. Refer to UPD case # 23-118523.



D
E
T
E
C
T
I
V
E

B
U
R
E
A
U

Yearly Totals

Case Status	Main	FRY	ID
Assigned Cases	2,881	325	315
Active (at year end)	28	0	1
Active Closed	1408	286	87
Clear Arrest/Closed	291	0	6
Unfounded	137	5	19
X/Clear Closed	28	0	0
X/Clear Court	0	26	58
Clear/Arrest Court	486	8	143
Court	0	0	0
Closed	1,408	286	87
Total Cleared	2,881	325	314

Juveniles Arrested = 8

Juveniles taken into short-term custody = 151



**D
E
T
E
C
T
I
V
E

B
U
R
E
A
U**

Identification Division Activity Report



D
E
T
E
C
T
I
V
E

B
U
R
E
A
U

Out of Office Investigation:	Criminal	64
	Non-Criminal	32
In-House Investigations	Criminal	29
Latent Investigations:	Total Items Processed	490
Photographs Taken:	Criminal (digital)	2,539
	Non-Criminal (digital)	829
Persons Fingerprinted:	Criminal	853
	Non-Criminal	74
Fingerprints:	Classifications	74
	Comparisons	740
DNA Swabs:		4
Municipal Court:	Calendars Processed	0
	CDR Forms	0
Photographic / Darkroom Work	Mugs printed	
	DVA Photos Requested	0
	CD's Burned	0
	Lineups	27
	Digital Photos Downloaded	460
	Digital Photos Printed	171
	8 x 10 Enlargements	172
Other Enlargements	0	
Arrest Reports:	Reports Processed	237
Arrests by ID Bureau:	Persons Arrested	45
Fingerprints/AFIS	Matches/Hits	180
DNA	Matches/Hits	59
Closed Cases by ID Detectives		137

Traffic Bureau

The Traffic Division oversees the investigation, tabulation, and filing of all reported motor vehicle crashes occurring within the Township, as well as the follow-up investigations of all leaving the scene and fatal crash investigations. The Traffic Division consists of the following personnel: the traffic sergeant, 2 motor officers, 1 traffic officers, 3 parking enforcement officers, 60 school crossing guards, and a civilian clerk.

In 2023, there were 3,131 State-reportable crashes (where property damage exceeded \$500 and/or someone was injured) and 513 non-reportable crashes. A total of 824 people were involved in crashes in which they reported an injury, and none of the crashes resulted in a fatality. There were 299 crashes involving property other than vehicles. 619 summonses were issued for violations occurring during motor vehicle crashes.

In 2023, there were 682 crashes where one or more involved drivers left the crash scene without reporting it. Officers assigned to the Traffic Division were tasked with reviewing and investigating these leaving-the-scene crashes.

In 2011, the Township of Union Police Department further enhanced its commitment to traffic safety by re-establishing the department's motorcycle unit. The unit consists of 2 full-time motor officers and 2 relief motor officers. In addition to supplementing the Patrol Division, the motor officers handle traffic safety concerns and other traffic and parking-related complaints throughout the Township. Each of the 4 police motorcycles is equipped with Laser Radar Speed detection technology, portable Tough pad computers, and printers with E-ticket technology. The motorcycle unit has been very active in conducting multiple escorts for numerous township-sponsored special events such as the Union Commerce Mayor's Day 5K run, Bike Rodeo, The Township Santa Claus Escort, Union County St. Patrick's Day Parade, and numerous funerals.

The Traffic Division also coordinates and supervises the Township's School Crossing Guard Program. Sixty (60) School Crossing Guards are deployed to various locations throughout the town to cross school-aged children who are walking to and from the Township's elementary, middle, parochial schools, and Union High School.

The Traffic Division employs 3 Parking Enforcement Officers whose responsibility is to enforce parking laws and ordinances throughout the Township. These officers collectively issued 1,749 parking summonses this year. Parking enforcement officers are also trained to perform school crossing guard duties as needed.



T
R
A
F
F
I
C

B
U
R
E
A
U

Traffic Bureau

The Traffic Division continues to utilize state-of-the-art speed enforcement technology to help keep our roadways safe. The Patrol and Traffic Division utilize traditional Radar and Laser Equipment, which enables Officers to detect speeders with pinpoint accuracy. The Traffic Division has 3 Traffic Logix radar trailers at its disposal which are advanced traffic and speed measurement devices. The radar trailer enables the police department to measure a variety of traffic data, including volume, time of day, and speed, in order to efficiently and effectively address speeding problems in town. The Traffic Division officers have deployed the radar trailers to diverse locations on a bi-weekly basis to conduct traffic studies to determine precisely where and when enforcement is needed. Traffic officers are then deployed to locations where speeding issues have been detected to conduct enhanced traffic enforcement. The Traffic Division has 14 EVOLIS Radar Speed Signs installed throughout the town at locations determined to be high-speed roads based on crash data and data retrieved from our Traffic Logix Radar Trailers. These radar speed signs are effective traffic-calming devices that inform the motorist of their speed by displaying their speed and a message to slow down. These signs have been proven to reduce the speed by 25%. In an ongoing effort to improve pedestrian safety, the Traffic Division had 5 new crosswalk light warning systems, which include rapid flashing beacons installed in high pedestrian locations. These systems are effective in prompting drivers to yield to pedestrians within the crosswalks. The Traffic Division has 5 message board trailers that are deployed through the Township to provide the residents with safety information, a notice of upcoming events and upcoming road closures, and provide a roadway with a temporary traffic control device as needed.

The Traffic Division conducts all traffic-related investigations, including traffic complaints, parking surveys, handicap on-street parking space requests, and fatal crashes. The Traffic Division works closely with the Township Committee, Engineering Office, Planning Board, Board of Adjustment, Department of Public Works, and Township attorney. The Traffic Division reviews safety, parking, traffic concerns, construction, site plans, variance applications, and ordinance revisions for the Township.



T
R
A
F
F
I
C

B
U
R
E
A
U

Traffic Bureau

Major projects reviewed in 2023 were:

- | | | |
|-----|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. | 581 Rahway Avenue | Rayway Estates, LLC. |
| 2. | 2200 Route 22 East | Best Buds Union, LLC |
| 3. | 2735 Rt. 22 West | BAPU CORPORATION |
| 4. | 407 Chestnut Street | 407 Chestnut LLC. |
| 5. | 367 Chestnut Street | Chestnut 367 LLC |
| 6. | 380 Wayne Terrace | Jose Saravia |
| 7. | 784 Valley Street | Pablo Salinas |
| 8. | 1721 Morris Avenue | Ashley Home Store |
| 9. | 1235 West Chestnut Street | Phenix Salon Suites |
| 10. | 750 Union Avenue | Unon Solar, LLC. |
| 11. | 610 Rahway Avenue | American Products |
| 12. | 2586 Morris Avenue | Signaturz Sports Bar |
| 13. | 2135-2145 & 2155 Rt. 22 W | 2155 Route 22 Realty LLC |
| 14. | 815 Prospect Street | O. Tenezaca & G. Pacheco |
| 15. | 2290 Route 22 East | Botera Union, LLC. |
| 16. | 687 Lehigh Avenue | Dory Properties |
| 17. | 1933 William Street | Saad & Nadra Shafik |
| 18. | 1047 Warren Avenue | Jorge & Olga Diaz |
| 19. | 360 Whitewood Road | Angela Renna |
| 20. | 1178 Morris Avenue | Brainiacs Jr. |
| 21. | 601 Lehigh Avenue | Easton Coach Company |
| 22. | 2013-17 Springfield Avenue | Bellie Holdings, LLC. |
| 23. | 1489 Morris Avenue | 1489 Morris Avenue, LLC. |
| 24. | 380 Princeton Road | Yuriy Symczyk |
| 25. | 2470 Rte 22 E Center | J P Morgan Chase Bank |
| 26. | 2088 Springfield Avenue | Enterprise Rent-A-Car |
| 27. | 2461 Iorio Street | RCG Realty LLC |
| 28. | 2260 Route 22 East | Caliber Bodyworks of NJ, LLC. |
| 29. | 2515 Vauxhall Road | Gecko Construction Group |



**T
R
A
F
F
I
C

B
U
R
E
A
U**

Traffic Bureau Crash Data - 2023



**T
R
A
F
F
I
C

B
U
R
E
A
U**

DATA	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD Totals
Reportable By Police	219	195	235	266	272	260	280	267	284	266	278	289	3131
Non-State By Police	60	41	55	54	39	30	38	26	38	41	50	41	513
Citizens' Reports	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
TOTAL CRASHES	280	236	290	320	311	290	318	293	322	327	328	330	3645
Total DWI Involved	7	4	5	5	3	6	7	2	7	7	1	3	57
DWI Under 21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
# Tickets Issued	36	45	51	52	61	52	65	43	56	57	50	51	619
Prop. Other than Veh	17	30	21	26	28	11	38	27	34	17	24	26	299
Lv/Scene By Police	17	28	36	30	34	41	36	28	40	43	28	38	399
Lv/Scene Citizen Rp	18	23	25	26	24	24	26	29	19	21	24	24	283
TOTAL L/SCENE	35	51	61	56	58	65	62	57	59	64	52	62	682
Pedestrian Injured	3	3	4	4	2	4	1	0	3	9	8	9	50
Motorists Injured	42	40	61	50	64	72	62	81	61	70	77	72	752
Bicyclists Injured	5	0	0	1	0	1	2	3	4	4	3	2	25
TOTAL INJURED	50	43	65	55	66	77	65	83	67	83	88	82	824
Crashes w/ Injuries	41	35	53	49	54	57	52	61	54	61	63	55	635
TOTAL KILLED	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Traffic Bureau Crash Data



T
R
A
F
F
I
C

B
U
R
E
A
U

CATEGORY	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total Vehicular Crashes	3,354	3,354	2,960	3,405	3,645
Leaving Scene Crashes	528	528	579	584	682
Pedestrian Injuries	47	47	36	35	50
Bicyclist Injuries	14	14	14	12	25
Total Crashes with Injuries	569	569	495	518	824
Vehicular/Pedestrian Fatalities	3	3	2	4	0
Total Arrests For DWI (Involved in Crashes)	58	58	65	51	58

FIVE YEAR TRAFFIC CRASH & STATISTICAL TOTALS 2018 - 2022		
CRASH INFORMATION	5 YEAR TOTAL	5 YEAR AVERAGE
Total Vehicular Crashes	15,725	3,145
Leaving Scene Crashes	2,769	544
Pedestrians Injured	208	42
Bicyclists Injured	73	15
Vehicular Crashes with Injuries	2,914	583
Vehicular/Pedestrian Fatalities	10	2
Total Arrests For DWI (Involved in Crashes)	276	55