

TOWNSHIP OF UNION



POLICE DEPARTMENT

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

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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



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 2022, include some of the following:

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|---|----------------------------|
| 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, Five Union Police officers are assigned to the *U.C.E.R.T.* regular training team; in addition four are assigned to specialty training in the Entry & Containment Team.

Major mandated and voluntary training undertaken in 2022, included semi-annual firearms, pursuit training, and Racial/ Biased Policing training with once again a major focus on Use of Force training.

In 2022 the Training Bureau Began rolling out Digital sight (Red Dot) training, to officers further increasing hand gun 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/armorsers 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 weapons and to intervene early on if problems occur.

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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 2022, we issued 39 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 2022. Funds in the amount of **\$5,250.00** 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 2022 false alarm fees - **\$860.00**.

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 2022

Alarm fees collected for the year 2022 - **\$5,250.00**

False alarm fees for 2022 - **\$960.00**



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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 2022, 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 2022, 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 2022, 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.



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Staff Services Bureau

PERSONNEL

The department hired 19 new officer in 2022, maintaining our manpower at 144 sworn officers. We hired 8 new civilian employee. Our department had 14 retirements and 4 resignations. 4 Officers were promoted from Patrolman to Sergeant and 7 Sergeants were promoted to Lieutenant .

NEW HIRES

Roger M. Holmes	January 21	Police Officer
Nicole M. Pnho	January 21	Police Officer
Luis Bone	January 21	Police Officer
Matthew J. Vitale	January 21	Police Officer
Tyler J. Brochu	January 21	Police Officer
Melissa B. Blanco	January 21	Police Officer
Mervin Rose	February 22	Civilian
Michael T. Tevnan	March 9	Police Officer
Wilson Morales-Rivera	March 9	Police Officer
Ronald W. Jones	March 9	Police Officer
Bryan Moreau	March 9	Police Officer
Steve E. Acebedo	March 9	Police Officer
Lucfred Petion	March 9	Police Officer
Michael J. Mangual-Marquez	March 9	Police Officer
Khaleel Subhan-Khan	March 16	Civilian
Matthew Fischetti	March 16	Civilian
Christopher Donnelly	May 1	Director
Antonios Marmatakis	May 2	Civilian
Brandon Gonzalez	June 29	Police Officer
Gregory J. Aaron	June 29	Police Officer
Steve A. Vargas	June 29	Police Officer
Chukwuka Okafor	June 29	Police Officer
Toni F. Roman	July 18	Police Officer
Peter A. Deserres	July 18	Police Officer
Jacqueline Polizzi	August 1	Civilian
Imani Bryant	September 13	Civilian

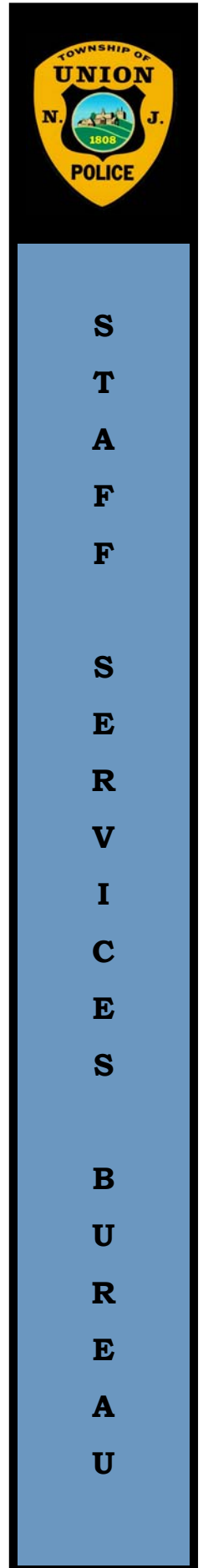


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Staff Services Bureau



Jeremey Bonilla	October 31	Civilian
Ryan Texas	December 5	Civilian

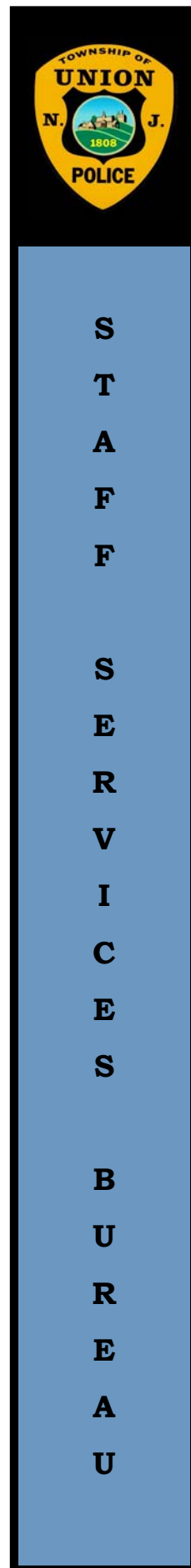
PROMOTIONS

Fernando Trejo	June 29	Lieutenant
Joseph Rubel	June 29	Lieutenant
Daniel Hanselmann	June 29	Lieutenant
Dorothy Mascidlo-Skipper	June 29	Lieutenant
Peter Simon	June 29	Lieutenant
Anthony Lagoa	December 20	Lieutenant
Nuno Lopes	December 20	Lieutenant
Michael Loguidice	December 20	Sergeant
Michael Campos	December 20	Sergeant
Christopher Connors	December 20	Sergeant
Joseph Peterson	December 20	Sergeant

RETIREMENTS

Joseph Zapico	2/1/2022	Police Officer
Lisa Simpson	2/1/2022	Communications Officer
Daniel Zieser	5/1/2022	Director
Teresa Wilson	5/1/2022	Civilian
Phillip Pugliese	7/1/2022	Police Officer
Stephen Viaud	7/1/2021	Police Officer
Daniel Williams	7/1/2022	Police Officer
Michael Leeman	8/1/2022	Police Sergeant
Donald Cook	7/1/2022	Detective
Caryn Ferrigno	7/1/2022	Civilian
James Gilleece	10/1/2022	Police Officer
Stephen Bariexca	10/1/2022	Civilian
Robert Fuzia	11/1/2022	Civilian

Staff Services Bureau



RESIGNATIONS

Melissa B. Blanco	1/25/2022	Police Officer
Matthew Vitale	2/3/2022	Police Officer
James Dybas	3/25/2022	Civilian
Gregory Aaron	9/8/2022	Police Officer

Staff Service Bureau

GRANTS

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

NJDOT Highway Safety 2022	\$ 83,750.00
Click it or Ticket Fund 2022	\$ 8,750.00
2022 Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over	
Statewide Labor Day Crackdown	\$ 8,750.00
Total	\$ 101,250.00

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 \$ 83,750.00 from the NJDOT Highway Safety 2022 . 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.



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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.



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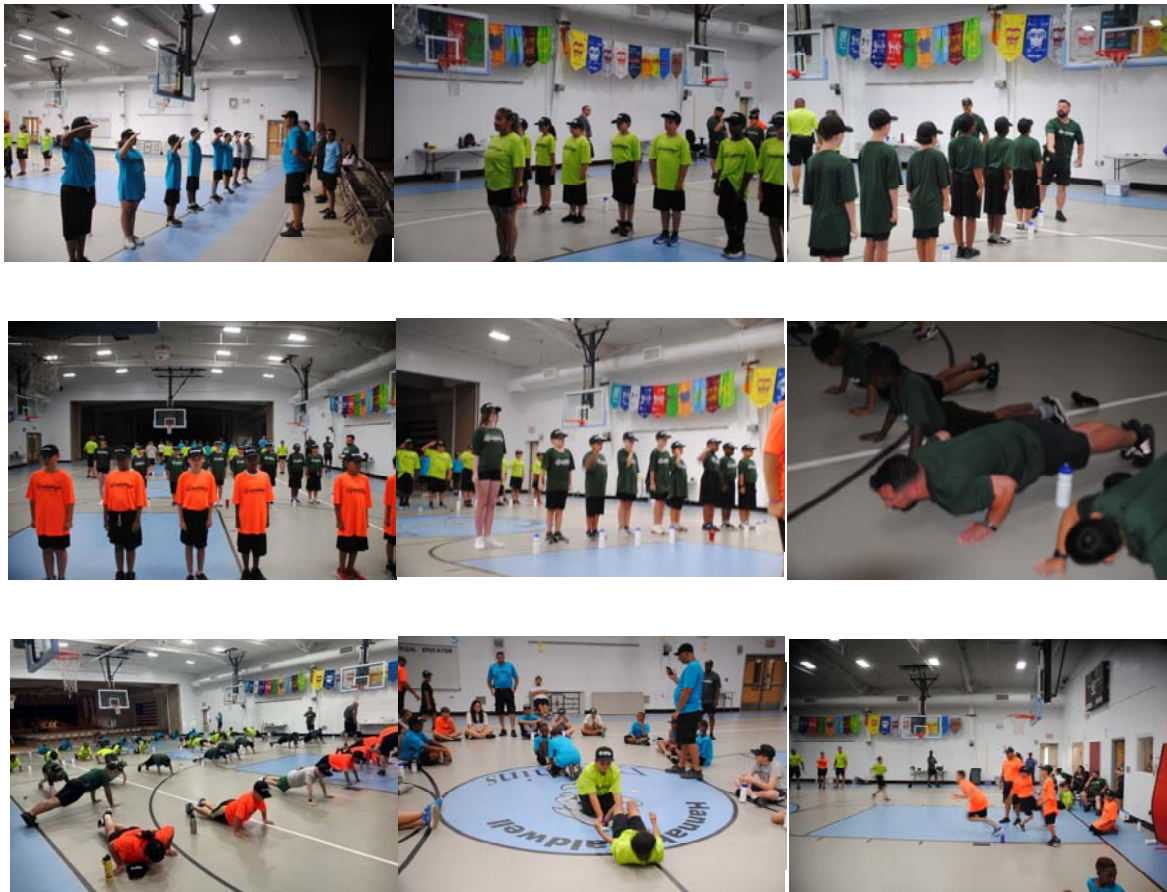
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Staff Services Bureau

JUNIOR POLICE ACADEMY PROGRAM

In 2022, 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.



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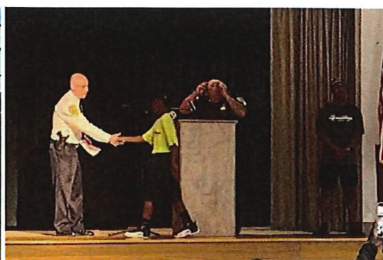
JUNIOR POLICE ACADEMY PROGRAM



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Staff Services Bureau

TRUNK or TREAT



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Staff Services Bureau

TRUNK or TREAT

The Township of Union Police Department Presents “Trunk or Treat” is an annual community policing event hosted by the Township of Union Police Department to celebrate Halloween. The event takes place in the Union Police Department parking lot located at 981 Caldwell Avenue. “Trunk or Treat” is a free community event which offers an alternative to traditional trick or treating. During the “Trunk or Treat” event, contests were held for best decorated vehicle and best costume, as families mingled and collected candy. The event continues to be a huge success with hundreds of visitors. The department continues to receive positive feedback from providing safe measures to help the Township of Union safely celebrate Halloween.



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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 158 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.



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Staff Services Bureau

Bicycle Unit

The Bicycle Unit doubled in size in 2022 and now 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 now 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 Commissions 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.



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Staff Services Bureau

Bicycle Unit



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Records, Property, and Court Departments



2022 POLICE DIVISION - STAFFING

POLICE DIRECTOR	1
POLICE DEPUTY DIRECTOR	1
DEPUTY CHIEF	1
CAPTAINS	3
LIEUTENANTS	14
SERGEANTS	19
DETECTIVES	14
POLICE OFFICERS	93
TOTAL SWORN PERSONNEL	144
CIVILIANS	38
DISPATCHERS	23
TOTAL PERSONNEL	206

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Records, Property, and Court Departments

RECORDS, TECHNICAL SERVICES, PROPERTY AND COURT SECTION

The Records section consists of five 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.

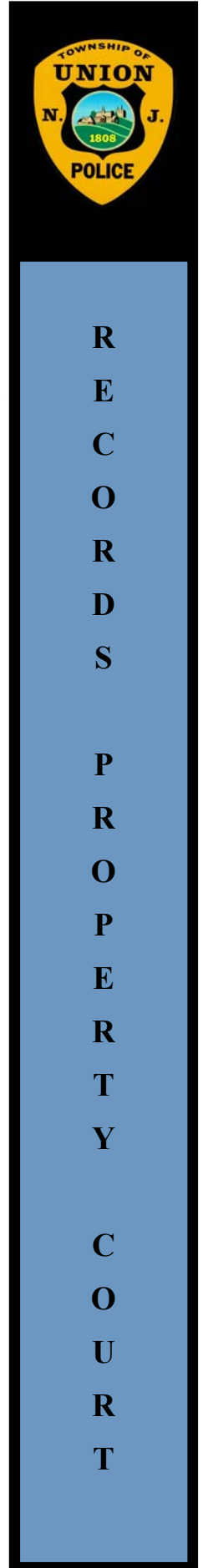


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Records, Property, and Court Departments



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 2021. All patrol officers were outfitted with body worn cameras. In 2021, all officers assigned a body worn camera received an upgraded AXON body worn camera known as the AB3. 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.

In 2022 the Police Department upgraded its CAD/RMS system from Central Square to Lawsoft. Lawsoft provided the Township of Union with a turnkey, scalable and customizable CAD/GIS/RMS system. Lawsoft is currently deployed in 115 other public safety agencies. Lawsoft is inherently known for being user friendly and makes the task of reporting easy and effective without the redundant entry of information. Lawsoft seamlessly converted the police department's existing CAD/RMS data into a legacy portal for a true all in one experience. Lawsoft also enabled the Township of Union Police Department to be NIBRS compliant. NIBRS also known as National Incident-Based Reporting System is an upgrade to (UCR) Uniform Crime report. NIBRS was implemented to improve the overall quality of crime data collected by law enforcement, NIBRS captures details on each single crime incident—as well as on separate offenses within the same incident—including information on victims, known offenders, relationships between victims and offenders, arrestees, and property involved in crimes.

Records, Property, and Court Departments



GENERAL DIVISION ACTIVITIES

ITEM	2022	2021
TOTAL NUMBER OF INCIDENT NUMBERS	96,922	95,140
ANIMAL CALLS	358	354
SUDDEN DEATH REPORTED	86	90
MISSING PERSONS REPORTED	168	66
TOTAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ALARMS	2,455	2,179
ESCORTS PROVIDED	516	415
TOTAL MEDICAL AID CALLS EXCEPT MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS	5,391	4,722

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COST IN DOLLARS OF PROPERTY STOLEN AND RECOVERED		
CATEGORY	2022	2021
VALUE OF PROPERTY STOLEN (EXCEPT VEHICLES)	\$ 2,800,087	\$ 795,573
VALUE OF STOLEN VEHICLES	\$ 3,104,416	\$ 1,235,527
***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)	\$ 5,904,503	\$ 2,031,100
VALUE OF STOLEN PROPERTY RECOVERED (EXCEPT VEHICLES)	\$ 202,061	\$ 138,396
VALUE OF STOLEN VEHICLES RECOVERED	\$ 1,899,326	\$ 1,001,230
TOTAL VALUE ALL STOLEN PROPERTY RECOVERED	\$ 2,101,626	\$ 1,139,626

Records, Property, and Court Departments



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OFFENSES	2022	2021	Percent
	Totals	Totals	Change
Murder	1	2	-50%
Rape	5	5	N/C
Robbery Armed	7	8	-12.5%
Robbery Strong arm	5	6	-16%
Aggravated Assault	26	38	-31%
Simple Assault	234	272	-13%
Burglary	32	55	-41%
Larceny Theft	617	647	-4%
MV Theft	110	102	7%
Arson	0	0	N/C
Total	1037	1135	-8%

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.

Records, Property, and Court Departments



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ARRESTS	2022 Arrests	2021 Arrests	Percent Change
Murder	0	1	-100%
Rape	1	1	N/C
Robbery	7	3	133%
Aggravated Assault	36	38	-5%
Simple Assault	131	132	-.75%
Burglary	9	7	28%
MV Burglary	19	20	-5%
Larceny Theft	192	187	2.5%
Arson	0	0	N/C
MV Theft	2	2	N/C
Other	818	687	19%
Total	1215	1078	12%

Below are listed examples of offences which are included in the **other** category.

Driving Under the Influence
Drug Offenses
Contempt of Court

Resisting Arrest
Juvenile Delinquency
Disorderly Offenses

Internal Affairs Division Case Dispositions



INTERNAL AFFAIRS

Type of Complaint	Cases Received	Sustained	Exonerated	Not Sustained	Unfounded
Crime	0	0	0	0	0
Excessive Force	0	0	0	0	0
Improper Arrest	1	0	0	0	1
Improper Entry	0	0	0	0	0
Improper Search	1	0	1	0	0
Differential Treatment	8	0	5	2	0
Demeanor	22	3	12	3	4
Rule Violation	33	21	0	8	2
Totals	27	4	1	6	12

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.

Internal Affairs Division Police Pursuit Summary



INTERNAL AFFAIRS

Number of pursuits initiated	25
Number of pursuits resulting in accidents	3
Number of pursuits resulting in injury (NO DEATHS)	0
Number of pursuits resulting in death	0
Number of pursuits resulting in arrest	4

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

Number of People Injured	
Pursued vehicles	0
Police vehicles	0
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

Use of Force Statistics



INTERNAL AFFAIRS

Number of Use of Force Incidents	57
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	8
Threat / Attacked Officer with Weapon	1

Type of Force Used by Officer (Incidents):	
Physical Force	57
Mechanical Force	0
Deadly Force	0

Injuries Sustained During Incidents:	
Number of Suspects Injured	2
Number of Officers Injured	2
Total Number of Arrests during this Period	1,338
Percentage (%) of Arrests where Force was Used	2.8%

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, 365 days a year.

In 2022 the Patrol Division was staffed by 1 Captain, 5 Lieutenants, 13 Sergeants and 68 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 had 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 2022, Patrol Officers made over 11,800 motor vehicle stops and issued more than 24,000 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 10,142 deaths from alcohol-impaired-driving crashed nationwide in 2019. 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 for additional officers to be certified as DRE's in the near future. In 2022, the Twp of Union Police made 1,086 arrests and 137 of those arrests for driving while intoxicated in 2022.



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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 over 42,900 directed patrols in 2022. 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 2022:

01/13/22

Dispatch received multiple 911 calls reporting a female had been stabbed in front of 381 Chestnut St. Upon officer’s arrival, they found the victim lying lifeless on the sidewalk bleeding profusely and being treated by Dr. Mathias Zemel, Dr. Mouli Surti, and PA Ester Feinstein. Not knowing the victim, these three heroes without any hesitation immediately began providing medical aid to the victim until medic units could arrive on scene. Their actions and heroism is the main reason the victim survived this attack and is on the road to recovery.

01/23/22

PO Faustino observed a suspicious vehicle traveling on Rt22 with fictitious plates. He conducted a motor vehicle stop of the vehicle as the vehicle entered onto the Garden State pkwy. During the course of the investigation, PO Faustino established probable cause to conduct a search of the vehicle and located two loaded handguns and CDS. Both occupants were arrested and charged accordingly.

01/26/22

Officers responded to 2290 Rt 22 (Jewelers Exchange) for an alarm where the owner was watching two suspects incident the store. Officers quickly responded and set up a perimeter. The males retreated back into the store upon seeing Union Police officers but eventually fled out the rear doors. Officers converged on the area and officers chased the males through the Point Apartment Complex. PO. O’Grady and PO. Honeymar located and arrested a suspect that was found hiding under a car. PO Morais located a suspicious vehicle parked on Linden Ln where the second suspect was found hiding on the floorboard in the backseat. Both were arrested without further incident and charged accordingly.

02/07/22

Officers responded to a medical aid involving an 11y/o not breathing. Officers Kruse, Pinto, and St. Louis were lead to the bathroom where the male was lying face down on the floor. Officer Kruse determined the victim had no pulse. The officers moved the victim out of the small bathroom and placed him on his back. Officer Kruse immediately began CPR as Officer Pinto applied the AED. The AED advised officers to shock the patient and then they continued CPR. Officer St. Louis took over chest compressions until EMS and Medics arrived on scene to take over treatment. The victim was transported to the hospital where he was treated and survived. The officer’s quick actions in rendering life saving techniques saved the victims life.



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Patrol Bureau

02/28/22

Officer Thalout was dispatched to a suicidal male armed with handgun sitting in his car in area of 308 Concord Ave. Officer Thalout made contact with male who refuse to show his hands stating he had a gun and repeatedly asking Officer Thalout to shoot him. The male continued to walk towards PO Thalout without showing his hands. Officer Thalout tactically positioned himself near his radio car using his flood lights to disguise his location from the male. Officer Thalout was able to tackle the male, pinning his arms to the ground and subsequently place him in handcuffs. It was later discovered the suicidal male was in possession of his cell phone and not a hand gun. The male was transported to the hospital for a mental evaluation.

04/03/22

Officers were dispatched to 2nd Avenue Thrift Store for a male attempting to steal the victim's vehicle. Officers quickly arrived on scene and observed the suspect attempting to flee the scene on foot and he was immediately detained. The victim reported a male approached him in the lot as he and his daughters were getting into their vehicle. The suspect was holding a glass bottle in a threatening manner and then entered the victim's vehicle. The suspect tried several times to get the car started before attempting to flee the scene. The suspect was arrested and charged with numerous crimes related to the incident and has been transported to the Union County jail. The victim and his daughters were not injured during the incident.

06/04/22

P.O. Loguidice and P.O. Marquez responded to a motor vehicle accident with injuries involving a motorcyclist. Officers arrived on scene and immediately began to provide medical attention to the operator of the motorcycle who was laying on the ground with serious injuries. Officers quickly applied a tourniquet to the driver's leg in an attempt to stop the bleeding. Officers kept the driver calm and controlled the scene until EMS could arrive on scene and take over patient care.

6/26/22

Officers responded to the area of Burkley Pl. and Elm St. on a report of a group of males arguing and 1 male possibly having a gun. P.O. Honeyman spoke with the caller who gave a description of the suspects and the firearm. P.O. Honeyman quickly gave out a description to the responding officers who began to canvass the area. Upon their arrival P.O. Killmet, McDonough located a group of 8 males walking on Astoria Ave. near Ohio St. They advised HQ of their findings and P.O. McTernan, Melody, Morales and Myself responded to the area to assist. After stopping the males a black satchel that was discarded by one of the males was found. Inside the open satchel in a plain view was a Pro Mag large capacity magazine with one bullet inside it. At the conclusion of the investigation one of the males was found to be in possession of a black GI Expert Para 1911 .45 Caliber handgun.



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Patrol Bureau

7/16/22

Officers responded to the area on 1600 Union Ave. in regards to a report of a two males pulling on car door handles. While canvassing the area P.O. Kelly and P.O. McDonough located two males that matched the description given by the caller. During the course of the investigation the two males were arrested and charged with burglary and attempted burglary. The two males were also linked to another car burglary that occurred prior to this one.

8/13/22

P.O. O'Grady and Pinho preformed a motor vehicle stop on a 2009 4 door Nissan Altima for motor vehicle violation (expired registration). While speaking to the driver P.O. O'Grady asked him to step out for further investigation. While speaking to the other occupants of the vehicle P.O. O'Grady observed the rear sights of a black handgun sticking out from underneath the driver's seat. The driver was immediately placed under arrest and all occupants were then ordered out of the vehicle and searched. The search of the occupants and the vehicle yielded the recovery on two additional handguns that were concealed in their pants. One of the recovered handguns was found to be stolen out of Alabama. Also recovered from the vehicle and occupants was 78 vials of suspected crack cocaine. All occupants were later charges with numerous weapons and CDS charges.

10/03/22

P.O. Melody and P.O. McTernan conducted a motor vehicle stop on a 2020 Honda Accord for motor vehicle violations (tinted windows). While speaking to the driver P.O. McTernan observed the back strap of a handgun in the front pocket of the driver's sweat-shirt. The driver was then ordered out of the vehicle and placed under arrest. A search of the driver yielded a FN 509 Tactical 9mm handgun with hollow point bullets and high capacity magazine. A search of the vehicle yielded several credit cards in different names than the driver. The driver was later charged with several weapons charges and credit card fraud.

11/11/22

P.O. Melody and P.O. McTernan conducted a motor vehicle stop on a 2009 Nissan Altima for motor vehicle violations (no front plate). While speaking to the driver P.O. McTernan observed a clear plastic bag containing several different colored pills in the center console. Officers recovered the bag and immediately recognized the pills as suspected ecstasy. The driver was then ordered out of the vehicle and placed under arrest. A search of the vehicle yielded 37 pills suspected to be oxycodone and a loaded 9mm Ruger SR9C handgun. The recovered handgun was later found to be stolen out of Eufaula, Alabama. The driver was charged with several weapons and CDS related charges.



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Patrol Bureau

12/05/22

Officers responded to the area of Biscayne Blvd. in regards to a report of males pulling on the car door handle of the caller's vehicle. Upon arrival P.O. Killimett spoke with the caller and gave out the description of the suspects to the other responding officers. P.O. Kelly and P.O. McDonough later observed two males in the area of Churchill Dr. and Patton Rd. that matched the description of the suspects. P.O. Kelly and P.O. McDonough exited their radio car and ordered the males to stop. The males then fled the area on foot. After a lengthy foot pursuit officers were able to catch one of the males and place him under arrest. The male arrested was seen on a surveillance camera pulling on the handle of the vehicle in question. The male, later found to be a juvenile, was later charged with attempted burglary and other related crimes.

12/19/22

Officers responded to Applebee's (1721 Morris Ave) on a report of a male inside threatening to shoot up place with a handgun. Upon arrival P.O. Morais and Sgt. Stradford observed a male matching the description given by the caller walk out the front door of Applebee's. The male was ordered to stop but ignored officer's commands and continued walking. The male then ran away from officers initiating a foot pursuit. The male was apprehended by P.O. Morais and Sgt. Stradford and was found to have a black Taurus G2C 9mm handgun in his pants pocket loaded with 10 bullets.



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Detective Bureau

INVESTIGATION 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. This assignment enabled the department to utilize resources that would not have been available and returned additional benefits. This Detective has been involved in long-term investigations across the country. Another detective is assigned to the Union County Homicide Task Force.

Two Supervisors, eight 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 1,031 new firearms ID card and permit to purchase applications from which 120 new firearm's ID cards and 1,785 handgun permits were eventually issued. 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 56 with another 30 still pending at year's end. This trend is expected to continue for the foreseeable future and is occurring statewide. Licensing also investigated and approved nine liquor license transfers, which is a time consuming process, including intensive background and financial checks of the principals. Other Detectives and civilian workers assisted the licensing section.

One supervisor, three detectives and one civilian are 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 along with a civilian technician. 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.



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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 Patrol Unit and share information.

Notable Detective Bureau Investigations

2022

On 1/7/2022, there was an incident at Cioffi's Restaurant during which two patrons of the business got into a verbal dispute which eventually escalated into a physical altercation in the parking lot. One of the parties in the fight retrieved what was believed to be a handgun from his vehicle and threatened to shoot the victim while also firing shots into the air and the ground prior to fleeing the area. Detectives took statements from the victim and witnesses, who were eventually able to positively identify the suspect in a photo array. The suspect was charged with various weapons offenses and terroristic threats. The handgun was later determined to be a starter pistol which fired blanks.

On 1/13/2022, Detectives responded to the area of Chestnut and Monticello Streets regarding a young female victim who had been stabbed multiple times by an ex-boyfriend, who was eventually located and arrested hiding in a backyard a few blocks from the scene. Detectives took numerous statements, preserved the crime scene and obtained surveillance video depicting the attack. Additionally, packaging from a kitchen type knife was observed in plain view in the suspect's vehicle, which a Detective recognized as the type commonly sold in dollar type stores. A canvass of a nearby Dollar Store revealed surveillance video of the suspect purchasing the knife just prior to the attack. The suspect was charged with attempted murder and numerous other related charges.

On 1/20/2022, there was an armed robbery of the Exxon Gas Station on US Hwy Rt 22E, during which two males pointed a handgun at the gas attendant and demanded money prior to fleeing in a vehicle. Detectives were able to determine that the same vehicle was later used in another armed robbery in Secaucus which had been pursued by Newark PD who made arrests of the occupants. A search warrant was then prepared for these suspect's cell phones, which confirmed they were the same suspects who robbed our Exxon and they were charged accordingly.

On the night of 12/10/2021, there were two burglaries committed to Liquor Stores on Stuyvesant Ave as well as Morris Ave in Union Center, with alcohol, cash and cigarettes stolen. After retrieving surveillance video and disseminating crime bulletins, Detectives became aware that the same suspect had also burglarized businesses in Belleville and Roseland earlier the same night. The suspect was later arrested by Belleville Detectives and we responded to their Department to observe the evidence and interview the suspect, after which he was charged with the two burglaries here in Union.



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On 4/11/2022, there was a dispute inside the Sunoco Gas Station convenience store located in the center aisle of US Hwy Rt 22, during which the suspect threatened the attendant with a machete as well as damaging various displays inside the store causing over \$3,000 in damages. Using various investigative means, Detectives were able to identify the suspect who was subsequently charged with terroristic threats and various other crimes.

On 1/1/2022, three individuals came into Police HQ to report that a family member had taken large amounts of money from them in a Ponzi type scheme, in which the money was purportedly being invested in cryptocurrency. Detectives launched a comprehensive and complex financial fraud investigation during which other victims were located, all of whom were swindled by the suspect to the tune of approximately \$150,000. Through the investigation it was determined that the suspect was a compulsive gambler and had lost all the money on various on-line casino sites. He was charged with 2nd degree theft by deception and subsequently arrested by members of the Bureau.

On 4/20/2022, there was a motor vehicle crash on Galloping Hill Rd in the area of Salem Rd. After the crash a dispute between the drivers ensued because the suspect did not want the other party to call the police. The dispute escalated into the victim being assaulted and the suspect fleeing with his cell phone. Detectives identified the suspect who was charged with a 2nd degree robbery.

During April and May of 2022, members of the Narcotics Unit received anonymous tips regarding a storefront in Union Center that was illegally selling marijuana. An investigation was launched which included an undercover officer making multiple buys of illicit CDS. On 5/19/2022, a search warrant was executed at the premises, resulting in the seizure of a quantity of illicit marijuana, packaging materials and cash as well as the arrest of two individuals.

On 5/25/2022, a shoplifting occurred at Lowes in which three suspects stole a large quantity of electrical wire and devices. During the crime, a Lowes associate was threatened and the suspect motioned as if he had a gun. Using various investigative techniques Detectives were able to identify all the suspects and determine that they had committed another similar shoplifting at the Home Depot in Vauxhall. All suspects were eventually charged with robbery and conspiracy as well as being part of an organized retail theft enterprise, a 2nd degree crime which carries enhanced penalties

On 6/26/2022, an individual met with a suspect on Winfield Terr who was purportedly selling a vehicle on Facebook. The victim realized that it was a scam after providing the suspect with a \$6,000 down payment. A dispute ensued while the suspect was sitting in the vehicle and he then fled with the victim hanging onto the side before eventually falling off after being dragged for a distance and sustaining injury. The suspect who was well known to Detectives from previous incidents was immediately identified and charged with robbery.



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On 7/22/2022, a resident reported that his neighbor who is well known to Union Police Department was making and detonating pipe bomb type explosive devices in his garage on Berwyn St. Detectives responded and located evidence of this type of activity and recovered a spent device. A search warrant for the garage was obtained and executed along with the Union County Police Bomb Squad, where other devices and precursor materials were located. The suspect was charged with 2nd degree possession of destructive devices and other related crimes.

On 8/10/2022, there was a street robbery on Laurel Ave where two suspects approached the victim, put a gun to his head and demanded cash. An investigation was launched and two local suspects were identified and charged accordingly. One of the suspects was arrested by members of the Bureau in a basement apartment on Russell St, after which he gave a full post-miranda confession.

During late August and early September of 2022, there were four armed robberies of separate gas stations throughout the Township. Detectives realized that all four robberies were committed by the same suspects who had also done similar robberies throughout the State. A task force was formed by the NJ Division of Criminal Justice but at first no suspects were identified, until a vehicle that was used in one of our robberies was recovered and brought back to Police HQ to be processed for evidence. Members of our Identification Bureau were able to pull a thumbprint from a paper temporary NJ plate that had been affixed to the rear window using advanced forensic techniques including fuming with ninhydrin reagent. This print returned to a suspect who had a history of robberies. A second suspect was then developed after analyzing the first suspect's co-defendants from previous incidents. This information was relayed to the Task Force and one of the suspects was arrested by Elizabeth PD after another robbery in their City. Our Detectives responded to Elizabeth PD and obtained a confession for all our crimes. A State Grand Jury subsequently indicted these two for 17 separate incidents spread over 69 counts, including armed robbery, weapons offenses and aggravated assault.

On 8/31/2022, police were called to WalMart after 4 suspects were observed utilizing gift cards to purchase large amounts of other gift cards. All four were arrested for obstruction and/or warrants at the scene and a large amount of cash and gift cards were recovered. Detectives were able to track the gift cards that were used and determined that they were all fraudulently activated in various Target stores South Jersey. Detectives also were able to tie the suspects to an organized retail financial fraud ring based in Flint, MI. All suspects were charged with money laundering for their actions within the Township, and the cash and gift cards were seized as proceeds of the crime.



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Yearly Totals



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Case Status	Main	FRY	ID
Assigned Cases	2,025	304	248
Active (at year end)	121	131	28
Active Closed	238	18	35
Clear Arrest/Closed	291	45	21
Unfounded	174	8	24
X/Clear Closed	166	38	11
X/Clear Court	0	0	0
Clear/Arrest Court	291	45	21
Court	0	0	0
Closed	1,062	54	137
Total Cleared	1,901	163	228

Juveniles Arrested = 71

Juveniles taken into short-term custody = 151

Identification Division Activity Report



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Out of Office Investigation:	Criminal	42
	Non-Criminal	25

In-House Investigations	Criminal	16
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Latent Investigations:	Total Items Processed	238
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Photographs Taken:	Criminal (digital)	4,324
	Non-Criminal (digital)	1,157

Persons Fingerprinted:	Criminal	774
	Non-Criminal	118

Fingerprints:	Classifications	74
	Comparisons	740

DNA Swabs:		9
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Municipal Court:	Calendars Processed	0
	CDR Forms	0

Photographic / Darkroom Work	Mugs printed	
	DVA Photos Requested	0
	CD's Burned	4
	Lineups	51
	Digital Photos Downloaded	460
	Digital Photos Printed	460
	8 x 10 Enlargements	444
	Other Enlargements	0

Arrest Reports:	Reports Processed	237
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Arrests by ID Bureau:	Persons Arrested	24
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Fingerprints/AFIS	Matches/Hits	24
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DNA	Matches/Hits	59
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Closed Cases by ID Detectives		137
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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, 3 motor officers, 2 traffic officers, 3 parking enforcement officers, 60 school crossing guards, and a civilian clerk.

In 2022, there were 2,893 State-reportable crashes (where property damage exceeded \$500 and/or someone was injured) and 512 non-reportable crashes. A total of 698 people were involved in crashes in which they reported an injury, and four (4) crashes resulted in a fatality. There were 257 crashes involving property other than vehicles. 542 summonses were issued for violations occurring during motor vehicle crashes.

In 2022, there were 584 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.



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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.



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Traffic Bureau

Major projects reviewed in 2022

1.	735 Rahway Avenue	RBM Realty, Inc.
2.	2900 Vauxhall Road	Abiola Agboola
3.	2329 Rt. 22W/1010 Gelb Ave.	Maxon Hyundai, Inc.
4.	1710 Route 22 East	CS Union, LLC.
5.	501 Green Lane	HESP Solar, LLC.
6.	1010 Jeanette Avenue	1010 Jeanette Realty, LLC.
7.	1252 Stuyvesant Avenue	RHS Hospitality 1, LLC.
8.	2400 Morris Avenue	NY SMSA Limited Partnership
9.	2322 Morris Avenue	Jaeger Lumber
10.	515 Lehigh Avenue	515 Lehigh Ave, LLC.
11.	1225-1227 Morris Avenue	NB Home Improvements, LLC.
12.	495 Brown Avenue	Theodore Jenkins
13.	2013-17 Springfield Avenue	Bellie Holdings, LLC.
14.	470 Chestnut Street	Proud Papa's
15.	1545 Morris Avenue	Needa Asad, LLC.
16.	12 Raymond Terrace	J. Benjamin
17.	1265 Route 22 West	The Bud Shop
18.	517 Chestnut Street	PVC Properties, LLC.
19.	1227 Brookside Avenue	SOCA DEVELOPMENT
20.	1621 Stuyvesant Avenue	Hollywood Memorial Park/Cemetery
21.	2365 Route 22 West	LIDL US OPS
22.	1731 Route 22 West	1731 Route 22 Realities, LLC.
23.	901 Lehigh Avenue	IV1 Union Logistics Center
24.	2270 Morris Avenue	Akzo Nobel Coatings, Inc.
25.	920 Pennsylvania Avenue	T. Sadillo/D. SanAntonio
26.	2389 Vauxhall Road	2389 VAUX LLC
27.	211 Hilton Avenue	211 HILTON AVNUE LLC



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Traffic Bureau

Crash Data - 2020



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DATA	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD Totals
Reportable By Police	219	219	219	219	239	226	257	248	246	272	277	252	2,893
Non-State By Police	39	28	43	50	51	43	21	37	51	61	47	41	512
Citizens' Reports	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL CRASHES	258	247	262	269	290	269	278	285	297	333	324	293	3,405
Total DWI Involved	7	0	3	5	4	1	9	5	3	5	5	3	50
DWI Under 21	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
# Tickets Issued	49	29	50	54	47	43	37	38	45	52	60	38	542
Prop. Other than Veh	30	12	15	18	23	24	21	25	23	28	20	18	257
Lv/Scene By Police	22	27	22	28	32	22	28	26	30	21	35	33	326
Lv/Scene Citizen Rp	23	26	27	14	19	28	26	6	24	17	33	15	258
TOTAL L/SCENE	45	53	49	42	51	50	54	32	54	38	68	48	584
Pedestrian Injured	8	4	2	5	1	2	3	1	1	6	1	1	35
Motorists Injured	56	31	48	46	63	45	64	76	49	66	53	55	652
Bicyclists Injured	0	0	2	1	3	1	0	1	2	1	1	0	12
TOTAL INJURED	64	35	52	52	67	48	67	78	52	73	54	56	698
Crashes w/ Injuries	43	28	37	42	49	28	48	56	41	56	41	39	518
TOTAL KILLED	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	4

Traffic Bureau Crash Data



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CATEGORY	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Total Vehicular Crashes	3,397	3,354	2,361	2,960	3,405
Leaving Scene Crashes	547	528	396	579	584
Pedestrian Injuries	42	47	40	36	35
Bicyclist Injuries	6	14	8	14	12
Total Crashes with Injuries	515	569	508	495	518
Vehicular/Pedestrian Fatalities	1	3	1	2	4
Total Arrests For DWI (Involved in Crashes)	41	58	44	65	51

FIVE YEAR TRAFFIC CRASH & STATISTICAL TOTALS 2018 - 2022		
CRASH INFORMATION	5 YEAR TOTAL	5 YEAR AVERAGE
Total Vehicular Crashes	15,474	3,094
Leaving Scene Crashes	2,634	527
Pedestrians Injured	200	40
Bicyclists Injured	54	11
Vehicular Crashes with Injuries	2,605	521
Vehicular/Pedestrian Fatalities	11	2
Total Arrests For DWI (Involved in Crashes)	259	52