

2019 ANNUAL REPORT



Lawrence Township
Police Department

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INTRODUCTION

The Lawrence Township Police Department is committed to providing exceptional police service to all members and visitors of the Lawrence Township community. The department strives to provide appropriate services, referrals and active enforcement of New Jersey state laws, as well as all Township ordinances. Our goal is to serve our community in a manner that helps improve the quality of life for all.

In 2019 the Lawrence Township Police Department continued on a strong path of embracing all members of our community, working effectively to complete our mission with the support of our citizens. This is only possible with all members of our department acting as the true professionals that they are.

The command staff of the department collaborates to review our policies and procedures to ensure that the best possible services are provided to the community we serve. Each year, it is the goal of the department to improve all facets of police operations. There are many areas of importance, including reviewing calls for service, analyzing past critical incidents and keeping abreast of developing criminal trends both locally and nationally that help our department remain on the cutting edge in the field of law enforcement.

The report contained on the following pages represents a summary of the department's activities during the calendar year of 2019. The entire staff of the Lawrence Township Police Department wants the public to know that we promote a professional, dedicated and knowledgeable approach to help solve the problems that face our town. This summary of operations is only a small portion of each officer's commitment to the overall service to the community.

Additionally, the department acknowledges the continued appreciation and support of the Mayor, Township Council, Township Manager, and community in our efforts to provide the best possible services to all persons. A police agency cannot maximize its efforts without the support of the community and governing body. In Lawrence Township, our job is made much easier by having such support.

If anyone has any questions regarding the material presented in this report, please feel free to contact Chief Brian M. Caloiaro with your inquiries.

Thank you.





Our Mission

The mission of the Lawrence Township Police Department is to improve the community by practicing problem solving strategies against crime and quality of life issues. We are committed to conducting pro-active policing strategies to reduce crime and the fear of crime in our town. We believe in, and are committed to, developing partnerships within the community to improve the quality of life within Lawrence Township.

Our Vision

The vision of the Lawrence Township Police Department is to work in partnership with the citizens and businesses of our community to uphold the Constitution of the United States, the State of New Jersey and the ordinances of Lawrence Township.

We will be pro-active in addressing quality of life issues by utilizing innovative problem solving techniques. We will solicit input from our residents and businesses alike to address all concerns that may arise.

We are committed to providing the utmost professionalism and integrity in the services that we provide.

Our Values

Honor-Integrity-Knowledge

Honor: We will honor our police powers. We understand that our police powers are derived from the community in which we serve.

Integrity: We are committed to the highest standards of honesty and ethical conduct, which are the cornerstones of our profession. We are dedicated to upholding the highest moral and ethical standards.

Knowledge: We will continually strive to maintain a high level of professional development through continuous learning and specialized in-service training.

OVERVIEW

For the 2019 calendar year, the goals for the Lawrence Twp. Police Department were to continue working on Law Enforcement Accreditation, reducing motor vehicle crashes, and continuing our efforts to engage the community which were all achieved.

In an effort to improve the manner in which we interact with those we police, the officers conducted non-enforcement activities in our community. These activities were:

- A Community Egg Hunt in March at Lawrence Township Central Park where over 5,000 eggs were spread out in the fields. The event was well attended with gifts for all who participated.
- A Youth Police Academy was held in July. The academy was geared towards high school students in an effort to provide its participants with firsthand knowledge of the duties and responsibilities that are required of a Police Officer. The Academy involved classroom activities, hands on techniques and police demonstrations. The academy also helped build self-confidence and discipline in its participants as well as prepare them for a career in law enforcement.
- National Night Out - "America's Night Out against Crime" was held in August at the Municipal Building. The annual event provided food, music, children's activities and a resource for community partners to provide information to our residents.
- Trunk or Treat was held at Lawrence High School in October. The successful event was enjoyed by both parents and children from our community. Food Trucks, music and sweets were available for all who attended.

The police department had 59 sworn officers and two in the training academy in 2019. Detective Kevin Reading was promoted to the rank of Sergeant in January.

During 2019, the Lawrence Township Police Department initiated or responded to 35,296 calls for service. This is a 9.7% increase in the number of calls for service compared to 2018 when 32175 calls for service were answered.

Every law enforcement agency in the State of New Jersey is required to submit monthly crime statistics to the New Jersey State Police Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program. The crimes reported to the New Jersey State Police UCR are: Homicide, Rape, Robbery, Burglary, Assault, Larceny/Theft, Motor Vehicle Thefts and Arson. During 2019, there was a 2% decrease in reported UCR crimes in Lawrence Township. There were 645 reported UCR crimes in 2019 compared to 656 reported crimes in 2018.

The complete statistics on crime in Lawrence Township for the year 2019 can be reviewed in the Uniform Crime Report section of this report.

In 2019, the Lawrence Township Police Department continued our efforts in deploying our officers to locations where crime and traffic incidents most frequently occur. Our proactive policing initiatives have led to significant decreases in crimes and substantial increases in patrol activities, including more narcotics arrests and traffic enforcement posts being conducted.

The police department strongly believes crime in our town can be reduced by arresting potential criminals wanted on outstanding warrants before they have an opportunity to commit a new crime. During the course of 2019, Lawrence Township Police Officers arrested persons wanted on warrants a total of 741 times.

Domestic violence can happen to anyone of any race, age, sexual orientation, religion and gender. It occurs in couples who are married, dating or living together. It affects people of all socioeconomic and education levels. In 2019, the Lawrence Township Police Department investigated 158 cases of domestic violence, which is a 13% decrease from the 181 domestic violence cases investigated in 2018. In an effort to assist victims of domestic violence the police department has partnered with Womanspace, who oversees the department's Domestic Violence Victim Response Team (DVVRT). The DVVRT provided informal counselling and referrals to 28 victims of domestic violence in 2019.

The police department continues to work with our community organizations taking an active approach to solving problems that affect us all. Additionally, the officers of the Lawrence Township Police Department are committed to reducing not only crime, but the fear of crime through active enforcement of our laws, as well as ensuring any quality of life issue that comes to the department's attention is handled promptly and professionally.

Throughout 2019, the police department worked tirelessly to ensure quality service to our citizens regardless of the nature of the problem, time of day, weather conditions or other factors uniquely present in each citizen's need for police service.

Moving into 2020, the police department is confident that we will continue our track record of providing excellent police service. Continuing our work to reduce motor vehicle crashes, building stronger community ties, and improvement in all areas of operation are the goals for the upcoming year.

**LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT
CRIME STATISTICS**

CLASSIFICATION OF OFFENSES (UCR)	YTD	YTD	% CHANGE
	2018	2019	
HOMICIDE	0	0	0%
RAPE	4	10	150%
ROBBERY	7	11	57%
ASSAULT	110	119	8%
BURGLARY	49	73	49%
LARCENY-THEFT	473	408	-13%
MV THEFTS	12	22	83%
ARSON	1	2	100%
TOTAL	656	645	-2%
CALLS FOR SERVICE			
Accidental Injury	6	6	0%
Alarms	1902	2107	11%
All Other Offenses	72	82	14%
Criminal Mischief	47	59	26%
Disorderly Conduct	4	6	50%
Disturbances- Domestic	48	52	8%
Disturbances	132	155	18%
Domestic Violence	181	158	-13%
DWI	33	36	9%
DV Response Team Assignment	61	28	54%
Escorts- Prisoner	208	156	-25%
Escorts- Other	18	28	56%
Fixed Posts	1656	1878	13%
Forgery and Counterfeiting	19	24	26%
Fraud	68	72	6%
Harassments	106	130	23%
Hazards (Total)	875	731	-16%
Health (Total)	226	212	-6%
Internal Investigations	34	49	44%
Investigations	465	246	-47%
Liquor Laws	0	1	100%
Mischievous Children	2	10	400%
Missing Persons	36	32	-11%
Narcotic Drug Laws	159	209	31%
Noise Abated (Total)	245	273	11%
Property Damage (Total)	90	82	-9%
Receiving Stolen Property	16	15	-6%
Recovered Property	119	111	-7%
School Posts	190	235	24%
Sex Offenses	7	8	14%
Shoplifting	256	197	-23%
Suspicious Persons	466	597	28%
Traffic Enforcement	928	776	-16%
Traffic Stops-Commercial Vehicles	153	254	66%
Traffic Stops	5001	5425	8%
Trespassing	45	47	4%
Violation of Twp. Ordinance	74	128	73%
Warrant Arrest	784	471	-40%

PERSONNEL

As of December 31, 2019, the Lawrence Township Police Department employed fifty-eight (58) Sworn Police Officers, two (2) in the Training Academy, two (2) armed court attendants who are hourly employees, one (1) Administrative Clerk, two (2) Account Clerks, one of which is a part time employee (1) one Confidential Secretary and one (1) Records Support Technician that manages the Police Property and Evidence function. The Department has fifteen (15) Crossing Guards and two (2) reserve guards. The reserve guard is utilized when a full time crossing guard is unable to make their assigned post.

The Township's decision to contract with the iXP Corporation for the police department's dispatching services has proven to be beneficial to the community. The privatization of the communications center has allowed police officers, who were previously used in the communications center to fill in for communications operators, to return to patrol duties and other necessary police functions.

The Police Department has seen a reduction in staff over the course of the past several years as reflected on the chart on the next page. Positions once held by sworn officers have either been eliminated or are now held by civilian or part time personnel. Many of these changes are outlined in the following pages of this Annual Report.

The staffing of the department cannot be reduced to any lower a level without having a negative effect on the police response time to calls for service. Neighboring municipalities have steadily increased their Public Safety personnel levels to address the needs of their communities. Safe Neighborhood Units and a fully staffed Training Bureau are areas in which the Lawrence Township Police Department could benefit its officers and the community.

The Department had one retirement in 2019 and one death of an active duty officer and the resignation of an officer.

As of December 31, 2019, there were three sworn officers eligible to retire.

Looking ahead, the Police Department anticipates a high rate of officers to retire. The five year projection is that 21 officers will retire in the next 5 years. It takes approximately one year to hire and train new officers. This means that if an officer retires, their replacement will not be ready until 11 to 12 months later. It is crucial that the Township allow the Department to increase its staffing level well before these retirements occur so we will be able to properly address the needs of our community.

2019 Personnel

Lawrence Twp. Police Department Personnel as of December 31, 2019

<u>Chief of Police</u>	<u>Detectives</u>	<u>Police Officers</u>	<u>Armed Court Attendants</u>
Brian Caloiaro	Matthew Grossi	Dean Sawasky	Mark Boyd
<u>Lieutenants</u>	Daniel Gladney	John Stever	Richard Kulak
Joseph Amodio	Andrew Lee	Bartosz Chojnowski	<u>Civilians</u>
Timothy Drew	Ryan Dunn	Paulina Way	Kathleen Catogge
Joseph Caloiaro	<u>Police Officers</u>	Alicja Tara	Monica Seabridge
Joseph Lech	Ronald Buchanan	Mracin Plegza	Jennifer Thomas
Christopher Longo	Edwin Podbielski	Mark Eggert	Mary Martinette
<u>Sergeants</u>	Christopher DiMeglio	James Gorski	Christopher Quaste
Michael Whitmore	Shawn Carroll	Robert Janoski	<u>Academy Recruits</u>
Steven Simon	Thomas Everist	Shane Hickey	Nigel Davis
Richard Laird	Robert Wagner	Piotr Bystrek	Michael Hammond
James Smith	Shawn Sudol	Richard Lamont	
Scott Stein	Hector Nieves	Steven Austin	
Scott Caloiaro	Kelly St. Clair	Timothy Wallace	
Kevin Reading	Suzanne Girard	Liubove Bjorklund	
<u>Detectives</u>	Marc Caponi	Charles Morreale	
David Burns	Marc Poveromo	David Kraszewski	
David Dalle Pазze	Lauren Laux	<u>SLEO's</u>	
Joseph Radlinsky	Andres Mejia	Frederick Doldy	
Robert Potter	Shaun Sexton	Michael Cseremsak	
Todd Caruso	Jose Corado	Christopher Jackson	
Sean Kerins	Dylan McClister	George Hendersen	

PATROL DIVISION

In 2019, the Patrol Division was commanded by Lieutenant Joseph Caloiaro and Lieutenant Christopher Longo. Each assigned Lieutenant commanded a patrol platoon and reported directly to the Chief of Police. In 2019, the Patrol Division was comprised of six sergeants and thirty-two patrol officers.

The Patrol Division continued to work a compressed work week schedule. On this schedule, officers worked seven 12-hour days in a fourteen-day period. With this schedule, there are two-day squads with nine officers on each squad and two evening squads with eight officers on each squad. Each squad has a sergeant assigned to it. There is one relief sergeant who assists the squad sergeants and covers their leave periods. They also provide extra supervision during peak call volume hours when the two primary platoon sergeants are both in service. Each platoon had officers specifically trained as Alcotest operators, evidence technicians, field training officers, and patrol rifle operators. The Patrol Division will continue to work this schedule in 2020. During 2019, the Patrol Lieutenants worked a variation of the twelve-hour patrol schedule with modified work hours and rotation of work days and regular days off.

The Patrol Division had two civilian Armed Court Attendants to handle municipal court security. The Armed Court Attendants are responsible for security inside the court room and assist civilian attendants with exterior security issues when necessary. The Armed Court Attendants help the court staff, the municipal prosecutor and police officers in the preparation of cases for court, which is generally held three to four days a week. The creation of these positions has proven to be a great asset to the Patrol Division. It enables supervisors to reassign officers who previously had to handle court room security to street patrol and other assignments that better serve the public.

The Patrol Division handled the vast majority of the 35,591 calls for service received or initiated by the Police Department in 2019. This is an increase of 2876 calls for service represents an increase of approximately 8.7% as compared to 2018.

The Patrol Division continued to assign daytime officers to a specific zone for an entire year. This is done so officers will become familiar with a particular area of the Township, as well as problems specific to certain neighborhoods. The assigning of officers to the same zone for a year holds officers more accountable to that area and provides officers with a sense of ownership of their respective zone. The night officers were rotated on a quarterly basis to ensure that as younger officers, they had a solid familiarity with all areas of the township.

Officers continued to investigate many violations of Township Ordinances and the Land Use Ordinance. Agent Richard Kulak provides assistance to the Patrol Division, following up on many of these violations and freeing patrol officers for other assignments. There were 106 investigations of ordinance violations in 2019, including illegal dumping, snow

removal violations, underage consumption of alcohol, noise violations, false alarm activations and unregistered vehicles on private property.

The Patrol Division utilized many resources in solving quality of life issues. Police officers often interact with other Township departments in the interest of providing the best possible service to the residents and merchants of Lawrence Township. The Lawrence Township Health Department, Recreation Department, Code Enforcement, Public Works, Engineering and Planning Department, Tax Office, and Municipal Court have all provided support, cooperation and assistance in the efforts of our department. Federal, state and county agencies have also been utilized by the Police Department to provide service to residents.

In an effort to further engage the community, the police department continued the initiative for officers to make citizen and business contacts while on patrol. The contacts provide an opportunity for the officers to share information and work to build trust and legitimacy with the public. During the contacts the public has the opportunity to share concerns with the officers. Ultimately, the contacts result in the officers and the public getting to know each other better. The officers conducted 1920 documented self-initiated citizen and business contacts during 2019. The department continued its community outreach efforts by hosting its yearly Easter Egg Hunt, National Night Gathering and Halloween Trunk or Treat event. These events were attended by a large number of Patrol Division officers, displaying their continued commitment to connecting with members of the community in positive ways that are enjoyable both to the community and our agency's officers.

The Patrol Division continued to utilize the Domestic Violence Victim Response Team (DVVRT) to assist domestic violence victims in 2019. After completion of training, each DVVRT member is able to provide informal counseling to victims of domestic violence. The DVVRT member informs victims as to what services are available to them and makes the appropriate referrals. The volunteers respond on a rotating basis to domestic violence incidents that occur in the Township. The response teams in Mercer County were consolidated into regional teams and the volunteers that respond to Lawrence Township are part of the Central Regional Domestic Violence Victim Response Team. The Central Regional Team includes members from Lawrence and Princeton Townships. The team members, along with a law enforcement liaison from each municipality, meet on a regular basis to discuss team issues and receive in-service training. In 2019, the Central Region DVVRT responded to forty-nine calls for their services in Lawrence Township.

In 2019, patrol officers took part in numerous hours of mandatory training in firearms, domestic violence, pursuits and use of force. During these training days officers also received case law updates, harassment in the work place training, diversity training, Autism awareness training and information on subjects important to law enforcement. Throughout the year, officers attended training on such subjects as work zone safety, internal affairs, police supervision, field training officer, cyber security, citizens with special needs/mental health issues, missing children with special needs, commercial vehicle enforcement, report writing, intoxicated driver detection, firearms instructor

certifications, evidence collection and processing, crossing guard train the trainer, narcotics interdiction, Glock certified armorer and crash investigation.

As in previous years, patrol officers handled traffic control for several township events including the Colonel Hand March, the Memorial Day parade, the 4th of July fireworks and the Red, White and Bang Kids' Triathlon. Officers also assisted the Lawrence Township Public Schools, Notre Dame High School, and St. Lawrence Rehabilitation Center with active shooter and shelter in place drills throughout the school year.

During 2019, the department investigated 299 incidents involving all types of illegal drugs from illegally obtained prescription pills, heroin and cocaine to marijuana. A vast majority of the incidents were self-initiated by officers from the agency, generally through car stops, and stops of suspicious persons. The majority of the investigations ended in the arrest of suspects and the issuing of criminal complaints against them. Several of the investigations also yielded dangerous weapons that were permanently removed from the street. The aggressive nature of the department's stance toward narcotics interdiction helped to reduce the amount of illegal drugs on the street, available for sale to our citizens and avert an undeterminable amount of other crimes such as burglaries, thefts and violent crimes that are known to stem from drug abuse.

The Patrol Division investigated 36 incidents of driving under the influence of alcohol or a controlled dangerous substance. Every time an intoxicated driver is removed from the street, there exists a strong possibility that Motor Vehicle Crashes were prevented and innocent lives saved.

Two officers, were assigned primarily to conduct traffic enforcement within the Patrol Division in 2019. The ultimate goal of this is to increase traffic safety by reducing the number of motor vehicle crashes through enforcement of traffic law violations. Another effect of this is the reduction of crime. Studies have shown that aggressive traffic enforcement causes downward trends in criminal activities in specific target areas.

Below are some examples of the excellent police work done by members of the Patrol Division in 2019:

On March 16, 2019, at approximately 1658hrs, Officer Bartosz Chojnowski was patrolling the area of Mulberry St & Princeton Ave. Officer Chojnowski observed a male walking in that area that was dressed in military style clothing and had a two-way radio attached to his belt. Based on Officer Chojnowski's observations, he approached the male and engaged him in conversation. The male was found to be in possession of a replica Glock 17 airsoft gun in a police style holster, an FBI badge around his neck, a two-way radio and a tactical gun flashlight. The male was subsequently charged with impersonating a police officer and possession of an imitation firearm.

On May 3, 2019, Ptl. Sawasky and Ptl. McClister were on patrol on Brunswick Pk. They observed a dark colored Mercedes Benz swerve out of its lane numerous times, made sudden accelerations and several lane changes without signaling. Based on signs of

nervousness, and possible drug use, the officers asked the driver for consent to search the vehicle. Once inside the vehicle, Sawasky and McClister located a semiautomatic handgun with a fully loaded magazine and spare bullets in the center console of the vehicle. The operator and his passenger were subsequently charged with illegal possession of a firearm and possession of handgun ammunition without a purchaser's ID card.

On July 8, 2019, at approximately 0246 hours, Officer Piotr Bystrek conducted a motor vehicle stop on Brunswick Pike southbound. K9 Officer James Steimle arrived to assist. During the course of the stop, the officers conducted a probable cause search of the vehicle during which Officer Steimle noticed a portion of a firearm inside a hidden compartment installed in the vehicle. Officer Steimle obtained a search warrant for the vehicle in question and subsequently recovered a loaded Glock 17 with an aftermarket "ghost" frame and no serial number, a thirty-one (31) round extended large capacity ammunition magazine and hollow nose ammunition.

On July 18, 2019, Officer Sexton was assigned to the Quaker Bridge Mall. He heard a report of a disturbance over the mall security band. Officer Sexton found the suspects on his camera monitors. He responded to his vehicle to give chase and observed them enter a dark colored sedan. Officer Sexton maintained visual contact with the vehicle. At that point, he received information that a party inside the mall was robbed of his cell phone by the subjects in a strong arm robbery. Officer Sexton stopped the vehicle, confirmed the description of the occupants against that of the actors and then observed the stolen phone inside the vehicle. One occupant was charged with robbery, the other three were charged with theft by receiving stolen property.

On July 29, 2019, at approximately 2159 hours, Officer John Stever conducted a suspicious vehicle stop at Colonial Lake Park. Officer Piotr Bystrek arrived to assist. During the course of the stop, Officer John Stever conducted a probable cause search of the vehicle. Located inside of the vehicle were nine hundred twenty-five (925) bags of Heroin, approximate ¼ ounce of Cocaine, \$6,740.00 in US Currency and one digital scale.

On October 7, 2019, at approximately 2211hours, Officer James Gorski observed a vehicle driving on Ohio Ave that appeared to be suspicious. During Officer Gorski's attempt to conduct a motor vehicle stop of the suspicious car, the driver exited the vehicle and began to run from his car. After a brief foot chase, Officer Gorski apprehended the driver of the suspicious vehicle who was in possession of 16 bricks of heroin (841 bags) as well as crack cocaine and promethazine.

On July 21, 2019, at approximately 0320 hours, Officer John Stever and Officer James Gorski were patrolling the area of Spruce St. The officers observed two males run from in-between homes in Lawrence Township and continue running at a full sprint into the City of Trenton. One of the males was carrying a large backpack and the other male was carrying a woman's purse. The officers gave verbal commands for the males to stop running, however they continued. After a foot chase through several backyards and over

fences, Officers Stever and Gorski arrested the two males. Through further investigation the officers found that the men were running from a home in Lawrence Township where they had just brutally beaten a male victim who suffered serious bodily injury and required medical treatment. A third suspect was later identified and all were charged with aggravated assault.

QUAKER BRIDGE MALL SUBSTATION

In February 1993, the Township of Lawrence and management team of the Quaker Bridge Mall signed an agreement to provide a permanent police presence at the Quaker Bridge Mall. Mall management agreed to reimburse the Township for the cost of a full time police sergeant at the mall. This agreement has remained in effect since its inception.

In 2019, the Quaker Bridge Mall continued its contractual agreement with the police department and funded a position dedicated solely to the Quaker Bridge Mall. In the past this position used to be a sergeant. In 2013, the police department began permanently assigning police officers to the mall. The two police officers are assigned to the Investigation Division, and rotate weekly providing the mall with at least 40 hours of coverage each week.

The Quaker Bridge Mall has over 90 stores and is considered one of the largest malls in New Jersey. The Quaker Bridge Mall is considered a premier shopping destination and continues to draw a significant crowd of patrons on a daily basis, adding to its on-site population.

In 2019, Lawrence Township Police Officers Shaun Sexton and Robert Wagner were assigned to the Quaker Bridge Mall Bureau as Officers in Charge. While acting as the officer in charge of the substation, Officers Sexton and Wagner were responsible for handling calls for service, investigating criminal activity, and preparing criminal complaints. They also responded to motor vehicle accidents, medical calls, disturbances and handled other requests. Officers Sexton and Wagner handled all investigations that occurred at the mall and followed them through to prosecution. The incidents that occurred at the mall while the officers were not on duty were assigned to them for follow up.

Quaker Bridge Mall management requested and paid for additional supplemental patrol officers on a regular basis. These officers are paid a Special Duty Rate, which is set by Township Ordinance. The officers generally work Friday and Saturday evenings to provide additional security at the mall during peak shopping hours. Officers worked the mall Special Duty Assignment for a total of _____ hours during the 2019 year.

In 2019, there were a total of **1,062** calls for service at the Quaker Bridge Mall, as compared to **1,286** calls for service in 2018. This constitutes an approximate 17% decrease in calls for service between 2019 and 2018. The police department has continued to maintain a strong presence at the mall, conducting fixed posts in and around the mall due to domestic preparedness initiatives and terrorism prevention, as well as crime prevention.

A total of **260** criminal offenses were reported at Quaker bridge Mall in 2019. There is a slight decrease in reported crime at the mall, when compared to **264** criminal offenses reported in 2018. In addition, **107** adults and **11** juveniles were arrested at the mall for various criminal offenses in 2019. Officers Sexton and Wagner as well as other officers

assisted mall security in enforcing code of conduct violations, as well as trespassing violations on mall property. These combined efforts have resulted in a significant increase in safety for patrons and employees.

In 2019, there was 1 auto theft at Quaker Bridge Mall. There was one 1 theft reported in 2018; no auto thefts reported in 2017 while there was 1 motor vehicle theft in 2016 and no reported auto thefts between the years of 2013-2015 at the mall.

One of the mall officers' responsibilities is to conduct periodic crime prevention seminars with mall merchants. The purpose of the seminars is to inform merchants within the mall of the latest crime prevention techniques, with the goal of reducing overall crime within the mall. The seminars also provide the mall officers with an excellent way to meet the merchants and develop a working relationship, towards the ultimate goal of making Quaker Bridge Mall a safe environment for citizens to shop. Throughout 2019, crime prevention programs were presented to mall merchants and management. These informative programs focused on active shooter protocols, counterfeit currency identification, and initiatives to increase shoplifting awareness.

The Quaker Bridge Mall Bureau officers work closely with mall management and their security representatives. Meetings are regularly held with mall management and security. The meetings allow us to review past practices, brainstorm new ideas and implement new security measures to make the mall a safer place. In addition, Officers Sexton and Wagner have a working relationship with the loss prevention officers employed by the mall's three major department stores.

Officer Sexton and Wagner were honored by Allied Universal Security Services who currently has the contract with the Quakerbridge mall as a result of their commitment and Service to the patrons of the Quakerbridge Mall throughout 2019.

In September of 2019 the Lawrence Township Police Department in conjunction with the Quaker bridge mall security officers conducted an active shooter drill. The drill is done annually and is a practical exercise utilized by the police and security officers to asses readiness in the event an active shooting incident occurred within the mall.

The police department looks forward to continuing our customer service oriented policing style of law enforcement at the Quaker Bridge Mall in 2019 and for many years to come.



CANINE UNIT

The Lawrence Township Police Department has maintained a Canine Unit since September of 2004, when the department received a Homeland Security grant to purchase an explosive detection canine. Since that time the Canine Program has expanded to include canines certified in patrol duty (building searches, missing person and article searches etc.) Officer Ronald Buchanan has been the designated canine handler and trainer since the Program's inception.

In 2019, "Ty", a Belgian Malinois, continued his certifications as an explosive detection and patrol canine. Officer Buchanan maintained his certification as a Canine Handler and Trainer. Over the course of 2019, Officer Buchanan and K9 Ty completed approximately two hundred and fifty proactive searches for the year.

During the year, our police canine teams completed proactive patrol activities for explosives detection, searches for fleeing suspects and assisting outside agencies and organizations with searches for the same. They also performed protective area sweeps to ensure safety prior to and during high profile events. Some of these events include the Rider and Princeton University Commencement Exercises and the Anchor House Ride for Runaways to mention a few. They also regularly sweep high value targets such as shopping centers and malls, utility providers, storage facilities and transportation infrastructures.

Throughout 2019 Officer Buchanan and Ty worked in conjunction with numerous police agencies operating in the area, these include the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Amtrak Police, New Jersey State Police, NJ Transit Police, Princeton Police Department, West Windsor Police Department, East Windsor Police Department, and Trenton Police Department to name a few. In addition to the many responsibilities held by Officer Buchanan, he is also part of the New Jersey "Render Safe" Task Force. The task force is made up of numerous canine teams from throughout the State. The primary goal of the task force is to provide security and explosive detection/protection to large public areas such as malls, schools, and other venues that could be possible terrorist targets.

As a certified Police Canine Trainer, Officer Buchanan assisted the NJ State Police K9 Unit with numerous training and qualification sessions in which many agencies throughout the Central Region of NJ participated. He and Officer Steimle regularly re-certify their dogs at New Jersey State Police Canine Unit sponsored training programs throughout the state. Officer Buchanan's expertise as a Police Canine Trainer has also been called upon to help area agencies with selecting dogs to be purchased for departmental use.

Officer Buchanan and K9 Ty often conduct impromptu demonstrations in shopping centers and malls, parks and neighborhoods. They are often requested for demonstrations in area schools. Officer Buchanan and Ty are always a crowd favorite with adults and children alike. These demonstrations provide an excellent opportunity for

community outreach and to demonstrate the wide range of capabilities of the dog – handler team.

In 2018, the Lawrence Township Police Department added Canine Brix, a two year old German Shephard handled by Officer James Steimle. Officer Steimle and his partner Brix successfully completed the Narcotic Detection certification program at the New Jersey State Canine Police Academy. Officer Steimle and Brix have continued to serve our community by preventing and detecting illegal drugs that may pass through our town. Officer Steimle is very proactive and aggressive with motor vehicle stops and will be a valuable asset in completing this task.

Officer Buchanan, has trained Officer Steimle and Brix as a patrol search, detection and apprehension canine team. This gave the police department the ability to have both Ty, and Brix on patrol for officer protection during the apprehension of dangerous and violent suspects. Both dogs also have the capability to locate by tracking lost or missing persons. Over the course of the last year and a half, Officer Steimle and canine Brix have been an integral part of the agency's canine program. Officer Steimle's and Brix's efforts have not only kept the officers of our agency safe, but also our residents. Having a competent canine narcotics detection unit in town is a huge deterrence to all criminal activity conducted by individuals who regularly carry narcotics on their persons and vehicles.

INVESTIGATION DIVISION

The Investigation Division is comprised of the Detective Bureau, Juvenile Bureau, Property and Evidence Bureau and the Quaker Bridge Mall Bureau. A Lieutenant is the commander of the division.

The Detective Bureau is comprised of a one part-time account clerk, four general assignment detectives and an Intelligence Officer. The Juvenile Bureau is comprised of one juvenile detective. The Property and Evidence Bureau is comprised of one property/evidence detective and one civilian employee. The Quaker Bridge Mall Bureau is comprised of two police officers.

ADMINISTRATION

In 2019, the Investigation Division Commander was Lieutenant Joseph Lech. In addition to supervision of all investigation division employees, he served as the Drug Task Force Coordinator, Megan's Law Coordinator, Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Officer, Public Information Officer and Supervisor of the Evidence/Property Management Bureau. Lieutenant Lech also ensured the annual investigation of alcohol beverage licenses and new towing license applicants. Throughout the year, inspections are performed on establishments that serve alcoholic beverages to ensure compliance with the law and Township ordinance. Towing inspections are conducted on approved towing agencies throughout the year to ensure proper compliance. A complete background for new towing applicants to become an authorized towing agency for the police department is conducted.

The part-time Account Clerk transcriber assigned to the Detective Bureau prepared 170 criminal cases that were presented to the Mercer County Prosecutor's Office. A total of 860 vehicles were towed by Lawrence Township Police Officers due to motor vehicle accidents, disabled vehicles, and traffic and criminal offenses in 2019 as compared to 851 vehicles in 2018. Of these 851 vehicles, 58 were not claimed by their owners and had to be investigated against liens, re-titled and then exposed for sale at auction. These duties and other clerical tasks were performed in the past by detectives.

GENERAL ASSIGNMENT DETECTIVES

The general assignment detectives in 2019 were Joseph Radlinsky, Todd Caruso, Daniel Gladney, Sean Kerins and Andrew Lee.

Each detective handles a variety of offenses and serves as on-call detective every fifth week. Each detective also has specialized training to develop further expertise in areas such as arson, sex crimes, computerized voice stress analysis, counter-terrorism, homicide investigation, fraud, financial crimes, interviewing, human trafficking and hostage negotiations. Throughout 2019, the general assignment detectives handled 337 cases; this is a 2% increase over the 332 cases they handled in 2018.

The clearance rate of cases for the general assignment detectives in 2019 was 56%. Cases are considered cleared when they have been solved. To be considered cleared, the cases can be categorized as Cleared, which is when the suspect has been identified and complaints have been signed; Exceptionally Cleared, which is when the suspect has been identified but for some reason no complaint has been signed by an officer (such as the offender committed suicide, victim declines prosecution, etc.); Unfounded, which is when it is discovered that no crime occurred; and Closed, which is when a case that is not a crime is solved (such as a missing person is located). The 44% of the cases that were not cleared remain Open and currently under investigation, or they are classified as Inactive. A case remains Inactive until further information, leads, witnesses and/or evidence is located.

The following incidents are examples of some investigations conducted by the General Assignment Detectives in 2019:

- In May of 2019, serial burglar Billy Woodard was apprehended by a Task Force formed by the Mercer County Prosecutors Office which included Lawrence Detectives. Detective Daniel Gladney, Detective Todd Caruso and Detective Joseph Radlinsky had previously investigated four overnight occupied residential burglaries that occurred within the north end of Lawrence Township between October 2018 and May of 2019. The apprehension of Woodard by the task force and thorough investigative work by Detective Gladney and the detectives assigned to the investigations resulted in Woodard being charged with all four of the incidents, which included four counts of Burglary and 4 counts of Theft.

Woodard is a serial burglar who committed in excess 35 burglaries throughout Mercer County during his latest spree in 2019 after serving 7 years in prison for a similar residential burglary spree in 2005.

- Between April and May of 2019 the Colonial Lake Land neighborhood was targeted by a serial overnight burglar who also targeted occupied residences. Det. Radlinsky and Det. Gladney were assigned the three residential burglary investigations. In addition to the residential burglaries, there was a report of an attempted burglary to a vehicle in the 1800 block of Princeton Ave where the owners of the vehicle interrupted the suspect. This incident was handled by Detective Andrew Lee and later connected to the serial burglary investigation being handled by Detectives Gladney and Radlinsky.

After the month long investigation detectives with the assistance of Lawrence Township patrol officers ultimately identified the burglar for the aforementioned incidents. Keith Williams of Maryland was arrested on May 28, 2019 while waiting for a NJ Transit bus on Princeton Pike. Patrol Officer Marc Poveromo recognized Williams from an alert posted by Lawrence Detectives and detained him. Williams was arrested and charged with multiple counts of burglary and theft as well as motor vehicle thefts. Williams had been previously charged with residential burglaries in his past and was temporarily working in Lawrence Township during the burglary spree.

- Between June of 2019 and August of 2019 Det. Gladney and Det. Radlinsky investigated four commercial overnight burglaries that occurred within Lawrence Township at Win Place and Smoke, Quick Check, Lucky 7 Deli and the RT 1 Exxon Station convenience store.

During the three month investigation detectives were able to establish that all four burglaries had a similar pattern and were able to identify the suspect responsible for the incidents.

In addition Lawrence Detectives alerted surrounding Mercer County Police Departments to the identification of the suspect, Michael Ruiz of Trenton as well as the vehicle he was using to commit the crimes. On August 13, 2019 Ruiz was arrested as he attempted to burglarize a convenience store in Hamilton, NJ. Lawrence Detectives were ultimately able to charge Ruiz with four counts of burglary and theft. Ruiz a resident Trenton had been on a several month long burglary spree within Mercer and Burlington County and had been released from the correction center multiple times as a result of bail reform.

- On Saturday October 19, 2019 at approximately 7:00 am Detectives from the Lawrence Township Police Department were assigned by Chief Brian Caloiaro to initiate an investigation regarding a Bias Incident that occurred at the Lawrence High School Football game on Friday October 18, 2019.

The report received by the Lawrence Police Department indicated that during the 3rd quarter of the football game a Bias Incident had occurred in the auxiliary/overflow section of the bleachers on the Lawrence High school side of the field. Victim(s) reported that students in the bleachers were using racially derogatory language towards them as well as other juveniles in the immediate area. There were also reports that some of the victim(s) may have been urinated on by other students.

Once the incident was determined to be a Bias Investigation, the Mercer County Prosecutors Office Bias Crime Investigative Division was contacted and detectives responded to assist with the investigation.

Detective Daniel Gladney, Detective Ryan Dunn, and Detective Dave Burns of the Lawrence Township Police Department along with Detective Dominique Harris of the Mercer County Prosecutors Office conducted the investigation.

During the course of the investigation (4) juvenile victims had been identified. Detectives responded to each of their residences in an attempt to formally interview them regarding the incident and offer any assistance they or their family may need.

Throughout the day detectives obtained formal statement's from the victim's regarding the specific events as they occurred on the night of October 18, 2019 at the Lawrence high

school football game. In addition to taking the statements, Detectives also received and investigated several tips from concerned citizens of the Lawrence Township community regarding the investigation.

(2) videos were sent to the Lawrence Police Department which were obtained from a social media site which displayed a portion of the events that occurred within the bleachers at the Lawrence High School football game. The social media video was reviewed by Detectives as well as the victims during the course of the day long investigation.

All of the information developed throughout the day which included, the formal statements obtained from the victims, the video(s) which displayed a portion of the events that occurred within the bleachers at the Lawrence High School football game and information obtained by the Detectives investigating the incident was reviewed by Assistant Prosecutor's Hadley and Moran of the Mercer County Prosecutor's Office.

A joint decision was made at that time to formally charge and arrest two 17 year old males of "Indian decent" who reside in Lawrence Township and attend Lawrence High school for their actions that occurred at the Lawrence High school football game on Friday October 18, 2019.

Lawrence Township Police Detectives apprehended both suspects at approximately 7:15 pm on October 19, 2019 without incident. The 17 year old suspects were transported to the Lawrence Township Police department and were formally interviewed once their parents arrived at police station.

Upon completion of the statements one of the 17 year old males was charged with:

- 4 counts of Bias Intimidation 2C:16-1a(1), 4th degree
- 4 counts of Harassment 2C:33-4a (PDP)
- 2 counts of Lewdness 2C:14-4a., (DP)

The second 17 year old male was charged with:

- 4 counts of Bias Intimidation 2C:16-1a(1), 4th degree
- 4 counts of Harassment 2C:33-4a (PDP)

After a lengthy investigation conducted by the Lawrence Township Police Department and the Mercer County Prosecutor's Office, no evidence was obtained to support the allegations that students attending the Lawrence High School football game on October 18, 2019 were urinated upon.

The investigation has obtained evidence that supports the allegations that students had some type of liquid, possibly water or soda, not urine thrown in their direction while they were in the vicinity of the auxiliary/overflow section of the bleachers.

As a result of the investigation an additional charge of Harassment was filed against another 17 year old juvenile defendant.

The aforementioned investigation received National news and resulted in Lawrence Township being swarmed with national media.

- On October 23, 2019 a residence located in southern section of the town was burglarized during the overnight hours while the home owners slept inside. Three days later the same suspect attempted to burglarize the same residence but was thwarted when the home owners were alerted by their surveillance system as to the attempted burglary. Det Todd Caruso was assigned both investigations and was ultimately able to identify the suspect responsible as a John Exner of Bordentown, NJ. Exner had been arrested multiple times for Burglary and Theft in the past within Mercer and Burlington Counties. Exner was arrested in Bordentown NJ on Nov 12th transported to Lawrence PD and charged with 2 counts of Burglary and Theft.
- Between September 2019 thru January 2020 ten residential burglaries were reported by Lawrence Township residents. All of the burglaries were similar in nature occurring between 4:00 pm and 9:00 pm. The suspect utilized a similar modis operandi to enter each residence usually taking cash or jewelry. All of the detectives assigned to the Investigative Division assisted in the initial aspect of the investigations.

During the week of January 27th Detective Gladney who had been investigating several of the aforementioned burglaries was able to connect the Lawrence burglaries to a pattern of residential burglaries occurring in North Jersey in the towns of Woodbridge, Edison and Carteret. Det. Gladney was able to compare surveillance video from a reported Lawrence residential burglary which occurred in December of 2019 to surveillance video of the identified suspect in the reported North Jersey burglaries. Det. Gladney also confirmed that the suspect was residing in a motel in Lawrence Township at the time of some of the reported burglaries. The suspect was confirmed to be a Steven Ehnnot of Newark NJ. Ehnnot currently had outstanding warrants for his arrest for several residential burglaries occurring in the North Jersey towns.

On January 31st Det. Gladney, Det. Radlinsky, Det. Kerins, Officer Wagner and Sgt. Whitmore all assigned to the Investigative Division set up surveillance on the Motel 6 motel in Lawrence after learning that Ehnnot had been residing at the motel for several weeks. After a lengthy surveillance and investigation, Ehnnot and his co-defendant Tommy Dormevil were arrested. A vehicle utilized in multiple residential

burglaries was seized, an assortment of burglar's tools including pry bars and ski masks were confiscated. Approximately 175 bags of Heroin were seized and \$50,000.00 worth of stolen jewelry was recovered in Ehnnot's possession. Ehnnot

and Dormevil were arrested and eventually charged with multiple counts of burglary and Theft in Lawrence Township. In addition Ehnot was charged with an excess of 30 residential burglaries in Middlesex and Monmouth Counties.

TASK FORCE PARTICIPATION

Violent Crime is a major problem in our society. These types of crimes and the criminals that commit them don't know a City or a Township border. The Mercer County Prosecutor's Office, who is the head law enforcement agency in Mercer County, has spearheaded several task forces to address crime issues within the County. The Lawrence Township Police Department firmly believes that participating in regional task forces is beneficial in combatting crime where it is occurring in an effort to keep our town and its citizens safe.

In 2019 the Lawrence police department participated with the Mercer County Narcotics Task Force in "Operation Capital City Co-Op". The Mercer County Narcotics Task Force, along with a host of local, county, state and federal law enforcement agencies concluded a six-month multi-jurisdictional investigation which resulted in the arrest of 10 individuals on assorted drug charges.

As a result of this investigation, two heroin mills were dismantled along with two separate drug trafficking organizations. Officers seized approximately 650 grams of cocaine, almost two kilograms of raw heroin, a kilogram of fentanyl, approximately \$75,000 in cash (along with several frozen bank accounts), four vehicles, and several items of value.

In light of the opioid epidemic that has plagued our nation, Mercer County Prosecutor Angelo Onofri stated that he was extremely proud of the fact that this case resulted in the dismantling of two separate heroin mills here in Mercer County.

Officer Shaun Sexton and Officer Robert Wagner who are both currently assigned to the Investigation Division as well as the Quakerbridge Mall participated in "Operation Capital City Co-Op". Each officer was assigned to the Task Force on their scheduled week in the detective division. The knowledge, contacts and experience that these officers gained during these six months has continued Lawrence Township Police Departments mission in participating in regional task forces which is beneficial in combatting crime where it is occurring in an effort to keep our town and its citizens safe.

INTELLIGENCE OFFICER

Detective Sean Kerins is the Intelligence Officer currently assigned to the Investigation Division. Detective Kerins also investigates prostitution, human trafficking and homeland security related cases. Prostitution has been linked to Human Trafficking and organized crime in New Jersey. Detective Kerins gathers intelligence throughout many sources, investigates criminal activity throughout Lawrence Township, and utilizes his partnerships with Federal, State, County and local law enforcement agencies. As narcotics distribution

may involve several jurisdictions, Detective Kerins shares information with the Mercer County Narcotics Task Force to de-conflict cases and utilize their assistance on larger scale investigations. This positive working relationship between Lawrence Township and the Mercer County Prosecutors office continues to combat narcotics activity in Lawrence Township.

Detective Kerins role changed significantly in the past two years and he has taken a dual role as a general assignment detective handling any investigation assigned to him in addition to being the intelligence officer. Detective Kerins was involved in significant investigation regarding an Aggravated Assault which occurred on October 8, 2019 in the vicinity of the Delaware Raritan canal. The investigation is still ongoing and Detective Kerins along with the Mercer County Prosecutors office have worked tirelessly in an attempt to apprehend the suspect responsible for this appalling incident

PROPERTY & EVIDENCE OFFICER

During 2019, the property custodian was Records Support Technician Christopher Quaste. The property custodian is responsible for the maintenance and legal disposal of all property and evidence received by the department. In years past Detective Mark Harmon was assigned as an evidence officer and was responsible for evidence processing at major crime scenes, as well as evidence brought to headquarters. Detective Harmon's other primary function was to transport evidence to the NJSP laboratories and maintain the correct records of chain of custody of any evidence transported in and out of LTPD.

Unfortunately, Detective Harmon passed away on September 16, 2019 after a long battle with multiple myeloma. As a result of Detective Harmon's illness Records Support Technician Christopher Quaste was tasked with doing both jobs for all of 2019. Civilian Technician Quaste not only completed his job exceptionally well but he has also handled Detective Harmon's tasks and thoroughly embodied the role of Property and Evidence Technician. Civilian Technician Quaste's exceptional ability to multi task and work with minimal supervision has afforded the Investigative Division the ability to continue to function on a daily basis. The Property room and Evidence aspect of the division should be a handled as a two person position, however Technician Quaste has managed to successfully handle the task. Technician Quaste is an essential part of the Investigative Division and Records Division. As additional tasks are requested of him he continues to complete them and fulfill both positions at a high level worthy of recognition.

Using the B.E.A.S.T (Bar-coded Evidence, Analysis, Statistics and Tracking) computer system, the Department collected 3,724 pieces of property and evidence during 2019 up 72 pieces from 2018.

Of the total amount of evidence taken in, 544 pieces involved narcotics or narcotics paraphernalia up 5 items from 2018.

A total of 1,220 pieces of evidence were destroyed or returned to owners during 2019 down 504 items from 2018.

A total of 341 pieces of evidence were submitted to the New Jersey State Police laboratory for analysis in 2019 up 89 pieces from 2018's statistics. Utilizing this property management system ensures that evidence integrity and control is maintained, which is essential in law enforcement. It allows for orderly tracking of evidence when it is needed for court, if it is being returned to the owner, being destroyed, or sold at auction.

JUVENILE DETECTIVES

Juvenile Detectives are assigned all crimes and investigations committed by and against juveniles that occur within Lawrence Township. The Juvenile Detectives investigated 138 cases in 2019, which is a 5% decrease over the 146 cases handled in 2018. The clearance rate of cases handled by the Juvenile Officers was 44% in 2019. In 2019, the Juvenile Detectives were Detective David Burns and Detective Ryan Dunn.

The Juvenile Detectives conduct investigations originating in the public and private schools located within Lawrence and other youth related activities in the Township. Detective Burns and Detective Dunn consistently visit the Lawrence Township Public Schools on a regular basis to engage with students during the school day. Our presence, in the schools has established a positive working relationship with the administrators and faculty members to ensure a safe learning environment for the children of Lawrence Township.

Detective Burns and Detective Dunn assisted with the Lawrence Township Safety Town program which is a two-week camp held during the summer recess for pre-kindergarten children. The Lawrence Township Recreation Department coordinates the program. The children are taught safety lessons to prepare them for school.

Detective David Burns is assigned as the Megan's Law officer. In this assignment, all sex offenders required to register by law must report to Detective Burns, who also coordinates notification and exchange of information with the Mercer County Prosecutor's Office.

Detective Burns and Detective Dunn also conducted investigations on citizens requesting permits to purchase and carry firearms. As required by state law, all applicants that wish to purchase firearms must have a thorough background check performed prior to the issuance of the permit by the Chief of Police.

Det. Burns and Det. Dunn implemented the Drug Abuse Resistance Education Program during the fall of 2019 also known as D.A.R.E. The eight week curriculum was provided to every fifth grade student at both Lawrence Intermediate School and St. Ann's School. Approximately 350 students participated in the instructional program that prevents drug use by developing basic or core skills needed for safe and responsible choices in life. Some of the core concepts taught over the course of the eight week program included responsibility, decision making, peer pressure, stress, risk & consequences, and effective communication. The course culminated in a graduation ceremony where all student participants were provided with a certificate of completion.

As previously stated in the General Assignment Section Detective Ryan Dunn and Detective David Burns were an essential part of the Bias Harassment investigation which occurred at Lawrence High School in October of 2019. Both Detective Burns and Detective Dunn's ability to coordinate with Lawrence Middle School and Lawrence High School officials allowed the investigation to proceed smoothly and afforded the Lawrence Police ability to thoroughly and quickly resolve a volatile situation in a timely manner.

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER AND SPECIAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

Special Law Enforcement Officer Class III (SLEO III) officers are a new category of security within New Jersey school systems as of 2018. They are armed, retired law enforcement officers who previously served as fully trained, full-time officers in New Jersey. They are hired with the major focus of being a visible presence in the school and helping to keep students and staff safe from an outside intruder.

Lawrence Town Council, Lawrence Township Police Department and the Lawrence Board of Education joined forces to find funding within their respective budgets for a Class III officer at Lawrence Middle School, Lawrence Intermediate School, Notre Dame High School and our Elementary schools.

School Resource Officer Suzanne Girard has continued as the S.R.O at Lawrence High School for a 2nd year and has continued to build relationships with the young adults who attend Lawrence high school. Officer Girard also assisted the Investigative Division during the Bias Harassment investigation in October of 2019. Officer Girard's connection with the students allowed for information to freely flow from the student body and assisted detectives as they investigated the incident. Officer Girard also assisted the faculty with a "Vaping and Marijuana" presentation presented during gym class which encompassed the entire student body.

Currently the Lawrence Township Police Department has four Special Law Enforcement Officers, or SLEO'S. Frederick Doldy (SLEO III) is assigned to Lawrence Middle School. Michael Cseremsak (SLEO III) is assigned to the Lawrence Intermediate School. Christopher Jackson (SLEO III) is assigned to Notre Dame High School and recently hired George Henderson, (SLEO III) is assigned to the elementary schools. These officers work closely with school administrators and faculty to engage the students in a positive way and ensure a safe learning environment.

The ability to have a SLEO in every school has afforded the department instant communication within the schools in the event of a true emergency as in an active shooter or life threatening situation along with the relationship building with school officials and faculty.

NARCOTICS INITIATIVES

A service the police department provides to the community is Project Medicine Drop. Project Medicine Drop is a program offered in conjunction with the New Jersey Division of Consumer Affairs that allows citizens to dispose of unused, expired or unwanted medications 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. The Lawrence Township Police Department has conveniently installed a drop box in the lobby of the Police and Courts Building. Citizens are urged to dispose of their unwanted medication in the drop box to prevent them from falling into the hands of those who might make them available for abuse, and to prevent them from being flushed into the water supply or thrown into the trash where they could contaminate the environment. In 2019 the Lawrence Township Police Department collected 698 pounds of medications in our drop box. The program has existed since January of 2014, and in that time 4433 pounds of medications have been collected and properly destroyed. The program is ongoing and citizens are urged to clean out their medicine cabinets and dispose of their unwanted medications in our drop box.

There has been an increase in Opioid deaths in New Jersey due to the high potency of Heroin and Fentanyl. Lawrence Township works hard to fight the war on drugs. This includes working with local, county, state and federal agencies to eradicate drugs in our communities.

The Mercer County Prosecutors Office, in conjunction with Capital Health Systems supplied the drug Naloxone, more specifically the brand name Narcan, to be carried in all Lawrence Township Police vehicles. Narcan reverses the effect of an opioid overdose and saves lives.

In 2019, our department utilized Narcan 13 times to revive patients from drug overdoses. This is three less than the 16 Narcan saves in 2018. In 2019, two deaths were associated with drug overdoses.

Narcotics addiction touches families in many communities. Narcotics addiction has no boundaries and affects many different cultures. Lawmakers enacted the Overdose Protection Act to help individuals with narcotics addictions to get medical treatment when an overdose occurs. The Overdose Protection Act protects the patient from being charged criminally and allows them to get medical help and treatment services. Anyone that suspects a friend or family member is experiencing an overdose should call 9-1-1 immediately without fear of arrest.

In October 2017, the Lawrence Township Police Department initiated Lawrence Community Addiction Recovery Effort (C.A.R.E.) with Recovery Advocates of America. This partnership with Recovery Advocates of America will assist individuals that come in contact with the members of the Police Department to get help with their addiction disorders. Lawrence C.A.R.E. offers a pathway to recovery by providing resources, access to treatment and guidance from a trained counselor to assist the person with addiction disorder to get the help they need. Information regarding this valuable resource is available at the Station or by contacting Lt. Joseph Lech at 609-844-7128.



FIREARMS APPLICATIONS

Throughout 2019, there was an overall 16% increase in firearms related applications/investigations. The Investigation Division performed a background check on every applicant before issuing or denying a firearms permit. The background investigations include state and federal background checks, as well as a departmental check on the applicant. Upon completion of the background check, a report is written and forwarded to the Chief of Police for final approval. In accordance with state guidelines, every effort is made to complete an applicant's request within 30 days from receiving the completed application. The 30 day period is adhered to unless there is a need for further background investigation, which causes a delay in the application process. Below is a summary of applications for the year 2019.

APPLICATION	2018	2019	% CHANGE
Firearms Identification Card	100	91	-9%
Permit to Purchase a Handgun	280	364	30%
Retired Officer Permit to Carry	20	19	-5%
Duplicate Firearms Identification Card	26	21	-19%
Permit to Carry	4	5	25%
Other	1	1	0%
Total	431	501	16%

MEGAN'S LAW

Offender Registration

Megan's Law provides for a central registry of sex offenders and a community notification procedure that requires county prosecutors to place offenders into one of three categories based on the risk of re-offense by the offender. Those categories are as follows:

Tier 1 is used when determined that the risk of re-offense is low. Notification is to law enforcement personnel only.

Tier 2 is used when determined that the risk of re-offense is moderate. Notification is to law enforcement agencies, community organizations, agencies and groups that have registered with the county prosecutor's office. All local educational institutions, licensed day care centers and summer camps that are likely to encounter the offender are notified.

Tier 3 is used when determined that the risk of re-offense is high. In addition to the notifications in Tier 2, members of the public who are likely to encounter the offender are also notified.

In accordance with the Mercer County Prosecutor's Office, the Investigation Division of the Lawrence Township Police Department follows the firm guidelines for registration of Megan's Law violators. It is the Investigation Division's obligation to fingerprint, photograph, track, and maintain meticulous files on these offenders. The Investigation Division conducts random inspections on Megan's Law offenders to ensure no violations are being committed. This information is regularly reported to the Mercer County Prosecutor's Office. The Investigation Division also maintains a master registration book that includes documentation of offenders from other municipalities in addition to offenders in our town.

The Investigation Division of the Lawrence Township Police Department processed registrations for **(28)** Sex Offenders in 2019. Over the course of the year, the actual number of registrants being tracked fluctuates. This is due to sex offenders moving, committing a criminal offense, being incarcerated or dying. As of December 31, 2019 there are currently **(12)** sex offenders being tracked by the Lawrence Township Police Department. Of the registrants being tracked at the end of 2019, **(6)** are Tier 1 and **(5)** are Tier 2. One registrant is in the process of being classified by the Mercer County Prosecutors Office.



MEGAN KANKA

A seven-year-old girl from Hamilton, NJ who was raped and murdered by her neighbor in 1994. Her parents fought to have a law passed that would inform communities of sex offenders living among them. "Megan's Law" was passed within months of her murder and was later adopted by numerous other states.

OFFICER ACCOUNTABILITY BUREAU

The goal of the Lawrence Township Police Department is to provide the most professional police services possible to the citizens of Lawrence Township and the State of New Jersey. Honesty and integrity are paramount to this goal. The mission of the Officer Accountability Bureau is to fully and impartially investigate all complaints about police officer conduct. Lieutenant Timothy Drew commanded the Officer Accountability Bureau and is designated as the Internal Affairs Officer.

Police procedure mandates that complaints about police officer conduct be accepted 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Complaints are accepted from all persons regardless of race, color, creed, sex or handicap. Complaints are also accepted from juveniles and arrested persons, as well as other law enforcement organizations. In addition, complaints can be received in person, by telephone, mail, email or anonymously.

Complaints received about police officer conduct are generally broken down into nine categories. These categories include allegations of committing a crime, excessive use of force, improper arrest, improper entry and improper search. They also include differential treatment and demeanor complaints, as well as serious and minor rule infractions. All complaints are investigated fully using a variety of investigative techniques. During 2019, the Officer Accountability Bureau received 49 complaints about officer conduct. Those complaints are broken down into the following categories: 9 complaints for demeanor, 35 for other rule violations, 4 alleging differential treatment, and 1 alleging other criminal violations. The results of these 49 complaints are: 14 were sustained, 14 were exonerated, 10 were not sustained, 0 were unfounded and 5 cases were administratively closed (this generally occurs when the complainant voluntarily requests that the complaint be withdrawn). As of the end of 2019, 6 cases are still under investigation.

2019 Internal Affairs Complaint Dispositions

Type of Complaint	Sustained	Exonerated	Not Sustained	Unfounded	Admin. Closed	Total Dispositions
Excessive Force						
Improper Arrest						
Improper Entry						
Improper Search						
Other Criminal Violation					1	1
Differential Treatment		3				3
Demeanor	2	4	1		2	9
Domestic Violence						
Other Rule Infraction	12	7	9		2	30
TOTAL	14	14	6	0	5	43

Sustained: The investigation disclosed sufficient evidence to prove the allegation against the officer by a preponderance of the evidence.

Exonerated: The alleged incident occurred, but the actions of the officer were justified, legal and proper.

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

Unfounded: The alleged incident did not occur.

Administratively Closed: Examples include situations when a complainant withdraws the complaint or the subject officer terminates employment.

In accordance with the New Jersey Attorney General’s Guidelines on Internal Affairs, police agencies are required to publicly report when an officer has received a fine or suspension of 10 days or more. During 2019, no Lawrence Township Officer received a suspension of 10 days or more.

The Officer Accountability Bureau reviews each Use of Force incident that occurs to ensure proper levels of force were utilized by the officers. In 2019 Lawrence Township Police Officers arrested 1,179 individuals for various crimes and offenses. Of these 1,179 arrests, officers had to use force on 26 occasions. In total, 98% of the force used was limited to physical force. Physical force involves contact with a subject beyond that which is generally utilized to affect an arrest. Examples include wrestling a resisting subject to the ground, using wrist locks or arm locks, striking with the hands or feet, or other similar methods of hand-to-hand confrontation. One of the incidents required the officers to use mechanical force. Mechanical force involves the use of some device or substance, other than a firearm, to overcome a subject’s resistance. Examples include the use of a baton or other object, canine physical contact with a subject, or chemical or natural agent. The single use of Mechanical Force in 2019 utilized by Lawrence officers was by the use of a chemical agent (O.C. Spray/Mace). None of the incidents required the use of deadly force. Deadly force is force which a law enforcement officer uses with the purpose of causing, or creates a substantial risk of causing, death or serious bodily harm. Significantly, there were no serious injuries sustained by any arrestee during any of the use of force incidents.

2019 Use of Force Report

Total Number of incidents necessitating the Use of Force	26
Total number of persons against whom force was used	27
Total number of incidents involving officer use of Physical Force	25
Total number of incidents involving officer use of Mechanical Force	1
Total number of incidents involving officer use of Deadly Force	0

Another function of the Officer Accountability Bureau is to conduct random drug testing of sworn police personnel at least twice in a calendar year. The first random test took place in February. The second took place in November. During these drug tests, officer names are randomly selected and an impromptu drug test is conducted. During this year, all officers tested were negative for any use of illegal drugs. No officers were tested under the suspicion of using illegal drugs.

In conclusion, the Bureau strives to ensure all complaints brought to the attention of the department will be investigated fully and impartially. The utilization of the WatchGuard in-car video cameras and the WatchGuard body worn cameras has assisted in the investigation of the majority of the complaints. Information gained from complaints and investigations is used to train officers, review procedures, and plan for the future.

ACCREDITATION

On March 9th, 2017, the Lawrence Township Police Department was unanimously approved by the NJSACOP (New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police) Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission to become an accredited agency for the first time in our agency's history.

Accreditation is an ongoing process whereas the department must continue showing proof of compliance and is re-evaluated every three years. The accreditation process is overseen by our Accreditation Manager, Lieutenant Timothy Drew. Sergeant Michael Whitmore assisted Lt. Drew in the re-evaluation process. October marked our first re-accreditation assessment. We are very proud that our assessment was highly successful. We look forward to our Commission hearing in March, and expect re-accreditation approval at that time.

In order to achieve accredited status, all aspects of the police department had to be examined. All policies and procedures had to be updated to be in accordance with accepted standards. Once updated, the police department had to prove they were following the accepted standards. The reasons accreditation was set as a goal for the Lawrence Township Police Department are outlined in the following paragraphs.

An accreditation program has long been recognized as a means of maintaining the highest standards of professionalism. Accreditation is the certification by an independent reviewing authority that an entity has met specific requirements and prescribed standards. Schools, universities, and hospitals are some of the most well-known organizations that are required to maintain accreditation. Law enforcement agencies in New Jersey can now attain accredited status through the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police (NJSACOP) Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission. Accreditation is a progressive and time proven way of helping law enforcement agencies calculate and improve their overall performances. Participating agencies conduct a thorough self-analysis to determine how existing operations can be adapted to meet these objectives. When the procedures are in place, a team of trained assessors verifies that applicable standards have been successfully implemented. Accreditation status represents a significant professional achievement. Accreditation acknowledges the implementation of policies and procedures that are conceptually sound and operationally effective.

The benefits of accreditation are:

- Accreditation increases the law enforcement agency's ability to prevent and control crime through more effective and efficient delivery of law enforcement services to the community it serves.
- Accreditation enhances community understanding of the law enforcement agency and its role in the community, as well as its goals and objectives.
- Citizen confidence in the policies and practices of the agency is increased.

- Accreditation, in conjunction with the philosophy of community policing, commits the agency to a broad range of programs (such as crime prevention) that directly benefit the public.
- Accreditation creates a forum in which police and citizens work together to control and prevent crime. The partnership will help citizens to understand the challenges that confront law enforcement. Law enforcement will, in turn, receive clear direction from the community about its expectations. Thus, a common set of goals and objectives will be arrived at and implemented.

For the Chief, accreditation increases cooperation and coordination with other law enforcement agencies and other branches of the criminal justice system. The accreditation process requires an in depth review of every aspect of the agency's organization, management, operations, and administration to include:

- Establishment of agency goals and objectives with provisions for periodic updating.
- Re-evaluation of whether agency resources are being used in accord with agency goals, objectives, and mission.
- Re-evaluation of agency policies and procedures, especially as documented in the agency's written directive system.
- Correction of internal deficiencies and inefficiencies before they become public problems.

The accreditation standards provide norms against which agency performance can be measured and monitored over time. Accreditation provides the agency with a continuous flow of Commission distributed information about exemplary policies, procedures, and projects. Accreditation provides objective measures to justify decisions related to budget requests and personnel policies. Accreditation serves as a yardstick to measure the effectiveness of the agency's programs and services. The services provided are defined, and uniformity of service is assured. Accreditation streamlines operations, providing more consistency and more effective deployment of agency manpower.

Accreditation requires that agency policies and procedures are in written form and are available to all agency personnel at all times. Accreditation assures employees that every aspect of the agency's personnel system is in accord with professional standards, and that the system is both fair and equitable. The agency is compelled to operate within specific guidelines. It is accountable to the Commission. The agency must stay in compliance with the standards set forth by the Commission in order to retain its accreditation. The morale of the agency is enhanced by increasing the employees' confidence in the effectiveness and efficiency of their own agency. Operations become more streamlined and consistent.

Accreditation policies address officer safety issues and provide for adequate training and equipment of the officers. Accreditation is a coveted award that symbolizes professionalism, excellence and competence. Employees take pride in their agency, knowing that it represents the very best in law enforcement.

RECORDS BUREAU

During 2019, the Records Bureau was staffed by one civilian supervisor and one civilian clerk. Lieutenant Timothy Drew was assigned as the Records Bureau commander. The Records Bureau is responsible for the storage and appropriate dissemination of the public documents generated by the police department. These include investigation reports, operations reports, traffic accident reports and traffic summonses.

The Open Public Records Act (OPRA) allows the public to obtain records to which they are entitled. As a result of this legislation, the personal information of victims and others is also protected against improper use. The Records Bureau ensures the police department is in compliance with the act.

Many duties fall under the control of the Records Bureau. One records clerk handles proper filing of investigation, operations, arrests, juvenile custody, and vehicle reports. The data developed from the investigation, adult arrest and juvenile custody reports are compiled to ensure proper Uniform Crime Reporting.

In 2019, 4,292 reports (investigation, operation, crash, arrest, DWI, vehicle, etc.) were filed by police officers. In addition to these reports, 254 reports were submitted by citizens via the Citizens Online Police Reporting System or Coplogic for short. Coplogic is accessed from the Lawrence Township website and is available for citizens to report incidents that are non-emergent in nature. Once the online report is submitted, a police officer reviews it and determines what additional action is necessary.

Each day the Records Bureau clerks handle numerous requests for reports. Requests generally consist of citizens asking for a motor vehicle crash report or investigation report. During 2019, the Records Bureau handled 2,768 requests for motor vehicle crash and investigation reports. These requests include persons walking up to the Records window, requests by phone, fax, email and those handled by mail. Approximately 1,408 of these requests were processed by email.

Another significant portion of the records clerks' daily assignment consists of processing attorney discovery requests. In 2019, the Records Bureau handled discovery requests on 534 traffic cases. They also handled discovery requests for 596 Lawrence Police criminal cases.

Part of the Records Bureau's duties includes handling requests for fingerprinting. Citizens that work or live in the Township come to the Police Department to be fingerprinted for a variety of reasons. In 2019, the Records Bureau handled 136 requests to be fingerprinted.

All subpoenas issued for officers through the Mercer County Superior Court, Lawrence Township Municipal Court or other jurisdictions are initially handled by Records Bureau staff. In 2019, 224 subpoenas were reviewed and logged. They were then transferred to either the Patrol or Investigation Divisions to be served on officers for a variety of court cases.

The Records Bureau staff continues to conduct general background investigations for other police departments, law enforcement agencies and the various branches of the United States military services. The Records Bureau conducts an estimated 10 to 15 background investigations per week. In 2019, Records Bureau staff completed 29 letters of good conduct

and processed the expungement of 143 records at the direction of the Mercer County Superior Court.

In May 2019, the department entered into an agreement with LexisNexis to utilize their eCrash system. The eCrash system enables records clerks to electronically transfer completed crash reports to the eCrash system at the same time the reports are being uploaded to the New Jersey Department of Transportation. The reports are then available to citizens and insurance companies through the eCrash website for a nominal fee, a portion of which is paid to the Township. Use of the eCrash system comes at no cost to the Township, and has increased the efficiency of the Records Bureau and the convenience to the public. Since May, over 2,500 crash reports have been purchased through the eCrash system, thereby reducing the number of individual requests that records clerks needed to fulfill throughout the year.

The clerks of the Lawrence Township Police Records Bureau are responsible for compiling the court agenda for each court session held in municipal court. This process includes obtaining offense reports, summonses and other data that the municipal prosecutor will need for the preparation of each case. Court is held three days per week, with additional special sessions held on a regular basis. The majority of the court docket requires the services of the Records Bureau to "pull" the applicable records for each court case being heard. Once completed, the records must all be re-filed.

In 2017, the Records Bureau moved to a paperless records system. Records personnel no longer print and file every report and store them on a shelf. All reports are kept in our computerized records management system which tracks and stores records for court, O.P.R.A. and discovery requests.

In conclusion, the Lawrence Township Police Records Bureau continues to provide the citizens of the Township, County and State with efficient record keeping and timely disbursement of all police related information.

COMMUNICATIONS REVIEW

CALLS FOR SERVICE

As mentioned earlier in this report, 32,336 calls for service were generated in 2019, which represented a 1.2% decrease from the 32,715 calls for service in 2018. Also during the course of 2019, there were 15,823 answered 9-1-1 calls. There was an average of 1,319 9-1-1 calls per month. This is a .3% increase from the average monthly number of calls answered in 2018. There were 1,695 abandoned 9-1-1 calls in 2019. There was an average of 141 abandoned 9-1-1 calls per month. This is a 23% increase from the average monthly number of abandoned 9-1-1 calls received in 2018. This type of call occurs when the caller hangs up prior to the communications operator answering. Each of these calls must be investigated, as some abandoned 9-1-1 calls are requests for service, but the caller had to hang up prior to speaking with the police department.

The Lawrence Township Police Department received 1,996 calls reporting alarm activations in 2019, an increase of 94 alarm activations as compared to 2018.

There were 162 NCIC entries made in 2019. This is a decrease of 15 from the 177 NCIC entries made in 2018. Additionally, there were 3 NICB entries. An NICB entry is made when a vehicle is recovered and towed by the Police Department but the owner of the vehicle could not be notified.

2019 COMMUNICATIONS STATISTICS

<u>TYPE</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>DIFFERENCE</u>	<u>% CHANGE</u>
CALLS FOR SERVICE	32,715	32,336	-379	-1.2%
9-1-1 EMERGENCY CALLS	15,777	15,823	46	.3%
9-1-1 ABANDONED CALLS	1,387	1,695	308	23%
ALARMS (BURGLAR, FIRE, HOLDUP, ETC.)	1,902	1,996	94	5%
NCIC ALARM ENTRIES	177	162	-15	-8.5%

** This change is based on monthly averages*

COMMUNICATIONS STAFFING

The Township of Lawrence studied the cost effectiveness of having a private company provide the dispatch services for the Police Department. As such, on April 1st, 2013, iXP Corporation began providing dispatching services. As a result of this agreement many administrative tasks no longer require work from a police employee. For example, iXP staffs the communication center 24 hours per day. If one of their employees needs to take a day off, for any reason, iXP ensures the position is covered.

The on-duty Lawrence Township Police Department shift commander retains the day-to-day supervision of the communication center, with the authority to direct the communication operators in their daily activities. Overall supervision for training and

policy review is conducted by Detective Matthew Grossi, who is assigned as the department's NCIC/CJIS Officer, which assures the integrity of computer crime files as required by federal and state standards.

The Lawrence Township Police Department has agreements with Mercer County regarding the dispatching of fire and emergency medical service calls. When calls for service regarding requests for fire or emergency medical services are received in the Lawrence Township Police Department Communication Center, they are answered by iXP Corporation communication operators who then forward the calls to Mercer County Central Communications for the dispatching of fire and emergency medical services. The iXP Corporation communication operator then dispatches police personnel to the scene. These agreements allow for a more effective and efficient dispatching of police, fire and ambulance personnel. Mercer County Central Communications can coordinate fire and hazmat apparatus and mutual aid fire companies, as well as the response of emergency medical personnel, especially mutual aid resources, more effectively than Lawrence Township Police communications operators alone. These actions free the communications operator to direct the police response.



TRAFFIC SAFETY REVIEW

TRAFFIC BUREAU

The Traffic Bureau duties were under the direction of Lieutenant Joseph Amodio, who was designated as the Traffic Safety Officer and Traffic Bureau Commander for 2019.

The police department has two platoons and each platoon has an advanced traffic crash investigator assigned. These officers investigate motor vehicle crashes, conduct motor vehicle enforcement, and assist with other duties as directed.

The Traffic Bureau specializes in assessing the traffic needs of the township. This includes timely deployment of officers based on crash data and traffic complaints. The Traffic Safety Officer also works with contractors and transportation departments to develop, review, and inspect temporary traffic control zones for any work occurring on a roadway to ensure the safe and efficient flow of traffic. The Traffic Safety Officer also coordinates with the Lawrence Township Board of Education to evaluate and assess the traffic safety needs of the district.

The supervision of the adult school crossing guards continues to be a priority for the Traffic Bureau. The Traffic Safety Officer conducts training for the crossing guards two times per school year, once just prior to school beginning in the fall and a refresher course conducted at the beginning of the calendar year. At the present time, Lawrence Township employs 17 crossing guards. There are 15 school crossing posts in the Township. Each post is assigned to a crossing guard. There are two crossing guards who serve as replacement guards and fill in when there are vacancies or other absences (sick, personal leave, etc.). When no crossing guard is available to staff a post it is covered by a police officer.

MOTOR VEHICLE CRASH STATISTICS – 2019

Traffic crashes decreased from 1,382 in 2018 to 1,381 in 2019. The majority of collisions were same direction (rear end) crashes. The most common contributing factor causing the crashes was driver inattention, which was present in approximately 26% of all the traffic crashes. There were a total of 312 injuries reported in the 1,381 crashes in 2019. During 2019 there were 12 crashes involving pedestrians and 2 crashes involving bicyclists. In addition to the total 1,381 crashes investigated by officers, there were 256 “non-reportable” crashes on private property which officers responded to. A crash is considered “non-reportable” by New Jersey Department of Transportation if the crash results in minor damage and no injuries.

In 2019, there were 3 motor vehicle crashes resulting in fatalities. This is an increase from 2 fatalities in 2018 and a decrease from 4 fatalities in 2017.

On July 14, 2019 at 11:18 pm, a motorcyclist proceeded around the Brunswick Circle heading North on Brunswick Pike. A motor vehicle was making a U-turn at Brunswick

Pike at Puritan to go Northbound when the motor vehicle operator observed the motorcyclist coming at him. The motor vehicle attempted to drive onto Puritan Ave. but the motorcyclist crashed into the rear passenger side of the motor vehicle. The motorcyclist succumbed from his injuries at the hospital.

On September 19, 2019 at 1456 hours, a motor vehicle was operating in an erratic manner on Keefe Road striking two motor vehicles as the motor vehicle continued eastbound towards Cold Soil Road. The motor vehicle continued through the stop sign at Cold Soil Road onto the lawn of 110 Cold Soil Road and crashed into the pond submerging into the water. Rescue efforts were conducted for survivors. The driver of the motor vehicle was extracted from the motor vehicle and pronounced deceased at the scene.

On October 24, 2019 at 2056 hours, a motor vehicle was travelling southbound on Brunswick Pike when a pedestrian wearing all dark clothing jumped over the center median as the motor vehicle and the motor vehicle operator did not see the pedestrian striking the pedestrian then striking a utility pole. The pedestrian was deceased at the scene.

In the summer of 2017, the new Whitehead Road Circle was open for traffic. In 2016, there were 19 crashes at the intersection of Brunswick Pike and Whitehead Road. In 2017 there were 9 crashes prior to the opening of the Whitehead Road Circle and 4 crashes after the circle opened, for a total of 13 crashes. In 2018, there were 29 crashes at the Whitehead Circle. In 2019, there were 24 crashes at the Whitehead Circle a slight decrease of 5 crashes.

The location with the single highest number of intersection crashes was Brunswick Pike at Franklin Corner Road/Bakers Basin Road, with 84 crashes. This is a decrease of 2 crashes at this location from the prior year. The second highest intersection crash location was Brunswick Pike/Kelly via Duct, with 72 crashes. This is a decrease from 81 crashes at this location from the prior year. The third highest intersection crash location was the Brunswick Circle at the intersecting roadways, with 49 total crashes. This is a decrease of 3 crashes at this location from 2018.

The roadways with the highest total number of crashes were Brunswick Pike with 447 crashes and Lawrence Road with 147 crashes. 451 crashes occurred on Brunswick Pike as in 2018, and 170 crashes is a decrease of 23 crashes on Lawrence Road from 2018. Police officers are directed to conduct traffic enforcement activities in these areas to help prevent future crashes.

2019 Highest Motor Vehicle Crash Locations at Intersections

1. Brunswick Pike at Franklin Corner Road/Bakers Basin Road..... 84
2. Brunswick Pike at Kelly via Duct..... 72
3. Brunswick Circle..... 49
4. Brunswick Pike at 295 interchange..... 49

5. Whitehead Rd at Trenton Freeway.....	43
6. Brunswick Pike at Quakerbridge Rd.....	39
7. Grovers Mill Rd at Quakerbridge Rd.....	33
8. Princeton Pike at Province Line Rd.....	29
9. Brunswick Pike at Trenton Freeway.....	25
10. Whitehead Road Circle.....	24
11. Princeton Pike at Fackler Rd.....	24

2019 Highest Motor Vehicle Crash Roadways

1. Brunswick Pike	447
2. Lawrence Road	147
3. Princeton Pike	103
4. Quakerbridge Road.....	98
5. Franklin Corner Road.....	52
6. Trenton Freeway.....	49
7. Brunswick Circle.....	38
8. Spruce St.....	32
9. Princeton Avenue	30
10. Grovers Mills Road.....	25

TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT

The total number of motor vehicle summonses issued by our officers in 2019 was 8,927, which was a increase of approximately 40% from 2018, when 6,377 citations were issued.

Additionally, during 2019, officers apprehended 37 intoxicated drivers traveling on the roadways of Lawrence Township. In 2018, officers arrested 33 intoxicated drivers. This represented a 12% increase in 2019.

During 2019, officers conducted 780 documented traffic enforcement posts, which was a decrease of 19% from 2018, when 929 posts were conducted. Traffic enforcement posts create a visual deterrence by motorists observing conspicuously placed marked police vehicles. Traffic enforcement posts target high crash areas and locations where there are a high volume of motor vehicle violations. There is a direct correlation between increased traffic enforcement posts and the decrease of motor vehicle crashes / violations in those specifically targeted areas.

During 2019, the Traffic Bureau continued to have all patrol officers certified in the use of RADAR for speeding enforcement. There are also five officers certified in the use of LIDAR to combat speeding violations. LIDAR is a speed monitoring device that works off of laser technology as opposed to traditional RADAR.

The Lawrence Township Police Department participated in “Click It or Ticket 2019” from May 20, 2019 - June 2, 2019. “Click It or Ticket” is a campaign sponsored by the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety designed to promote and increase seatbelt usage. The Lawrence Township Police Department was selected to receive a grant to fund overtime enforcement efforts throughout the Township. During this campaign, the Lawrence Township Police Department issued 567 motor vehicle summonses, including 257 summonses for seatbelt violations.

The Lawrence Township Police Department received two additional grants from the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety. The “U Text, U Drive, U pay” distracted driving campaign took place between April 1, 2019 - April 21, 2019. During the grant period, officers issued 690 summonses, which included 140 cell phone violations, 60 careless driving violations, 3 Driving While Intoxicated (DUI) violations, 29 suspended driving violations, and 45 speeding violations. The “Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over 2019” drunk driving crackdown took place from December 6, 2019 – January 1, 2020. During this campaign, officers arrested 1 intoxicated driver, 61 careless driving violations, 40 speeding violations, 24 suspended driving violations along with 175 other violations for a total of 312 citations.

The Traffic Bureau also conducted numerous traffic surveys in 2018. These surveys included the following streets within Lawrence Township: Barnett Road, Brunswick Pike, Eggerts Crossing Rd, Darrah Lane, Federal City Road, George Street, Princeton Pike a/o schools, Lawrence Road, Bergen St, Lawrenceville-Pennington Rd, and Lawrence Drive, The results of the surveys are shared with the township engineer’s office for needs evaluation for traffic calming devices or engineering changes. The results are also used to direct motor vehicle enforcement activities by the police officers.

The Traffic Bureau coordinated traffic control for the following community events in 2019: the “Red, White and Bang” Annual Kids’ Triathlon, the Colonel Hand March, numerous Lawrence Township Public Schools pedestrian safety programs, and the Lawrenceville Fire Company Halloween parade. The Traffic Bureau also coordinated traffic control for the Lawrence Township Memorial Day Parade, the Princeton Health Care/ETS five mile race, Terhune Orchards Apple Festivals and the Township’s Fourth of July Fireworks.

Motor Vehicle Crash History

