

MILFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT
19 Garden Street, Milford, NH 03055 (603) 249-0630
2015 Annual Report

I am pleased to present the 2015 Milford Police Department Annual Report. I would first like to acknowledge the men and women of this department for their dedication, performance, and professionalism that they displayed throughout the year.

This past year has proven to be another busy year for our department. Along with the new challenges that law enforcement is facing, our department also experienced the retirement of Captain Christopher Nervik, who had 25 years of law enforcement experience. I would like to thank Captain Nervik, who spent 22 years of his law enforcement career with the Milford Police Department, for his commitment and dedication that he gave to the Town of Milford and the law enforcement profession.

With the retirement of Captain Nervik, Sergeant Shawn Pelletier was promoted to the rank of Captain and is currently responsible for the Support Bureau. Captain Pelletier has adapted to his new assignment and continues to transition into his new position. Along with Captain Pelletier's promotion, Officer Joshua Joki was promoted to the rank of Sergeant. He is currently assigned to the Patrol Division, where he has continued to progress and successfully transition into a first line supervisor.

In 2015, the department hired two new employees. With the departure of Prosecutor Michael McCall, who was with our department since December of 2005, Karinne Brobst was hired on July 31, 2015, as the new prosecutor for our department. Prosecutor Brobst came to our department from the Hillsborough County Attorney's Office. She is a very dedicated and committed employee and she has been very successful in her transition to our department. We also hired Officer Seth Parmeter on December 28, 2015. Officer Parmeter is currently attending the New Hampshire Police Training and Standards Academy.

As our department continues to change, our sworn officers and employees have remained very positive and professional. They have continued in their efforts to build a partnership with the community to ensure that our citizens are receiving the highest degree of police services. Our civilian employees continue to provide support and customer service to our divisions as we could not function efficiently without them.

In 2015, the Milford Police Department had a 7% increase in crimes against persons and a 12% decrease in crimes against property. The slight increase in crimes against persons can be attributed to an overall increase in Intimidation related calls.

The Milford Police Department is committed to reducing crime and improving the quality of life for our citizens. Throughout 2015, the men and women of the Milford Police Department were dedicated to this commitment, which resulted in the 12% decrease in crimes against property. Our department did experience an increase in robberies in 2015. The department responded to

and investigated six robberies that occurred within the town. Officers and Detectives were able to clear five of the robberies with arrests.

In 2016, our department will continue to build on our partnership with the community and remain diligent in our efforts to decrease and deter criminal activity in the Town of Milford.

Statistics

Activity	2014	2015	Change
Total Calls	44,915	52,838	18%
Incident Reports	2,228	2,115	-5%
Total MV Stops	5,292	6,284	19%
Warnings	5,017	5,581	11%
Summonses	275	703	156%
Criminal Arrest	450	365	-19%

Offenses Reported

Group A Crimes - Against Persons	2014	2015	Change
Homicide	0	0	n/a
Kidnap/False Imprisonment	0	2	n/a
Sex Offenses	21	8	-62%
Aggravated Assault	18	15	-17%
Simple Assault	98	97	-1%
Intimidation	76	105	38%

Group A Crimes - Against Property	2014	2015	Change
Robbery	0	6	n/a
Arson	2	2	0%
Burglary	26	22	-15%
Theft	191	174	-9%
Vehicle Theft	12	10	-17%
Counterfeit/Forgery	4	11	175%
Fraud	55	50	-9%
Stolen Property	12	5	-58%
Destruction of Property	145	114	-21%

Group A Crimes - Against Society	2014	2015	Change
Drug/Narcotic Offenses	97	75	-23%
Drug Equipment Violation	0	3	n/a
Pornography	2	6	200%
Weapon Violations	5	5	0%
Group B Crimes	2014	2015	Change
All Other Offenses	258	195	-24%
Bad Checks	5	11	120%
Curfew/Loitering/Vagrancy	3	2	-33%
Disorderly Conduct	45	26	-42%
Family Offenses	9	8	-11%
Liquor Law Violations	31	25	-19%
Drunkenness	26	11	-58%
Runaways	23	3	-87%
Trespassing	85	59	-31%
DUI Arrests	48	35	-27%

Operations:

The Patrol Division is considered the backbone of the organization and the men and women assigned to the division are the face of the agency and are tasked with the responsibility of deterring crime, educating the community, and enforcing the laws and ordinances of the State of New Hampshire and the Town of Milford. Responding to calls and conducting preliminary investigations, traffic crash investigations, traffic enforcement/education and interacting with the public are all parts of their daily responsibilities.

Our department has continued to work with the community to reduce criminal activity and increase the quality of life for our citizens through community policing initiatives. In 2015, Sergeant Fiffield, who is responsible for our community policing programs, initiated the following events:

- Three neighborhood Watch Groups were maintained throughout the year.
- The department partnered with McDonalds and the Milford High School to host two Coffee with a Cop events. Both events were very successful. The event at the Milford High School allowed students and officers a place and time to interact in a positive setting.
- Two drug awareness presentations were held during 2015 by Sergeant Fiffield. The first one was held at the Wadleigh Library and the second was held during a neighborhood watch meeting.
- The department held a Citizens Police Academy. The Citizens Police Academy allows participants to learn about the training and responsibilities of being a Police Officer. The

academy is 6 weeks in duration and is instructed by different members of the Milford Police Department. In 2015, we had 14 people who participated in the academy.

- Sergeant Siekman instructed a RAD (Rape Aggression Defense) class for females. She also instructed a Safety Awareness Seminar for females that were graduating from high school.

The department has also participated in several other community related events that were not listed above.

Motor Unit:

The Motor Unit is used as a patrol function with a high priority placed on motor vehicle enforcement and education. Throughout 2015, the department deployed the motor unit to enforce and educate drivers on traffic related issues in areas such as: high traffic zones, school zones, and construction zones. The motor unit is also used to effectively patrol roadways where the department has received complaints from concerned citizens as well as for daily road patrols.

In addition to traffic related enforcement, the Motor Unit is used for special events and escorts. Some of the special events that our unit is involved with include: Pumpkin Festival, Memorial Day, Labor Day and Veterans Day Parades, and other town related functions. The unit also assists in funeral escorts and events that have occurred within the Town of Milford and the State of New Hampshire.

Motor Unit Activity	2014	2015
MV Stops	511	540
Arrests	8	8
Parade/Special Events	4	4
Funeral Escorts	2	1
Total Miles Patrolled	2231	2835

K-9 Unit:

Officer Jason Palmer and K-9 Oryx are assigned to the Milford Police Department K-9 Unit. In 2015, the K-9 Unit logged approximately 266 hours of training along with working patrol shifts and special assignments. Currently our K-9 Unit trains at the New Hampshire Canine Academy under the guidelines of the United States Canine Association through the Working Dog Foundation.

Our K-9 Unit is very involved with community related events. Throughout 2015, Officer Palmer and K-9 Oryx were involved in public demonstrations, school related events and community

policing initiatives. These events have educated our citizens on our K-9 program and have fostered a positive relationship between the unit and the community.

The Milford Police Department K-9 Unit continues to be an important resource for our organization and the surrounding area departments. Through mutual aid, our K-9 Unit has assisted other departments and communities on calls, investigations, and community events.

K-9 Unit Activity	2014	2015
Building Searches/Alarms	52	205
Security/ Search Warrant	80	55
Field Searches	4	10
Public Demonstration	8	13
Mutual Aid/ Assist other	12	11

Mountain Bike Unit:

The Milford Police Department uses the Police Mountain Bike Unit as part of its Community Policing initiative. Currently, our department has nine officers who are certified and trained to ride the two Fuji Mountain bicycles that the department has. Having officers on bicycles allows them to get to some calls and locations quicker, and it also makes our officers more approachable than the traditional police officer in a marked patrol vehicle.

Deployment of our Mountain Bike Unit varies depending on the availability of manpower. This unit is seasonal and generally operates from April through November. When deployed, our Mountain Bike Officers can be seen on daily patrols throughout the town roadways, parking lots, neighborhoods and trails. These patrols often place our officers in the community where they are most available to the public. Officers are then able to work side by side with the people within our community to promote a positive working relationship and reduce crime related activity.

In addition to the daily patrols, officers assigned to this unit are also involved in community events and special assignments, to include: July 4th events, parades, 5K runs and Pumpkin Festival, along with directed patrols and surveillances.

Mountain Bike Unit Activity	2014	2015
Arrests	3	2
Traffic Stops	23	37
Pedestrian Contacts	1200	2300
Hours Ridden	100	182
Business Checks	45	108
Area Checks	106	196

Support:

The function of the Support Bureau is to provide investigative and administrative support to the police department and community. Responsibilities of this bureau include Investigations, Prosecution, Training, School Resource and Juvenile Officers, civilian employees, and the hiring of new employees.

In 2015, the Support Bureau experienced changes throughout the year. Captain Shawn Pelletier was assigned to the Support Bureau, due to the retirement of Captain Nervik. Officer David Duquette was assigned to the Detective Division from the Patrol Division. Karinne Brobst was hired as the new prosecutor for the department.

Detective Division:

Sergeant Fowle supervises the Detective Division, which is comprised of 2 detectives, one school resource officer and one juvenile officer. This division is responsible for investigating serious cases, to include, drug related investigations, felonies, misdemeanors requiring extensive investigative follow-ups, and all serious non-criminal investigations and most juvenile related crimes and incidents. In addition to these investigations, detectives and officers are also involved with the department's hiring process.

The Detective Division continued to work closely with surrounding police departments, DEA and the Street Crimes Task Force throughout the year in an effort to reduce drug and criminal activity in our area. In support of the department's efforts to combat the illegal use of prescription drugs, detectives also facilitated the department's participation with a National Drug Take Back day.

Detective's Felonies & Serious Investigations	2014	2015
Cases Assigned	121	191
Cases Closed (Overall)	105	128
Cases Closed by Arrest/Indictment	15	28
Cases Suspended	3	12
Cases Still Open	11	23
Does not include all calls, reports, activities		

School Resource Officer:

In 2015, School Resource Officer Michael Dowd continued in building a positive relationship between the Milford Police Department and the students and faculty of the Milford area schools. Officer Dowd is responsible for investigating and managing any school related issues and he continues to be a great resource for both the Police Department and the Milford Schools. Not

only does Officer Dowd mentor and assist the students, he has also been a positive resource for school security.

School Resource Officer	2014	2015
Cases Assigned	93	90
Cases Closed (Overall)	44	32
Cases Closed by Arrest	3	11
Cases Suspended	3	7
Cases Still Open	3	7
Does not include all calls, reports, activities		

Juvenile Officer:

Officer Dan Campbell has continued his efforts in building a working relationship with the children within our community. Officer Campbell is responsible for investigating juvenile related issues, and handles all court cases involving juveniles. He also reviews each juvenile court case to determine whether or not the case would be best addressed in the Milford Area Diversion Program.

Juvenile Officer	2014	2015
Total Cases Involving Juveniles	363	364
Assault Related	37	29
Thefts-Burglaries	29	15
Vandalism	30	18
Alcohol Related	13	11
Drug Violations	13	7
Does not include all calls, reports, activities		

Prosecutor:

In 2015, the Milford Police Department hired Attorney Karinne Brobst as our new prosecutor. Prosecutor Brobst came to us from Hillsborough County Attorney's Office where she prosecuted felony cases. Her trial experience and knowledge has been a valuable asset to the department. Prosecutor Brobst is committed to keeping our officers informed on any law related changes and will also review case law with them. She also assists in training at the New Hampshire Police Training and Standards Council for police prosecutors.

Prosecution Activity	2014	2015
Arrests	448	365
Scheduled Arraignments	467	405
Trials, PC Hearings, Misc. Hearings	1,208	1,004
Juvenile Petitions Filed	38	44
Total for Milford District Court	85	74
Milford's % of Petitions Filed in MDC	45%	59%
MPD Diversion Cases Brought Forward	2	8
Total Diversion Cases in Milford District Court	15	30
MPD's % of Diversion Cases Brought Forward	13%	27%

Crossing Guards:

Julie Desmarais and Jodi Jensen continued to keep the children and parents safe during the school year as our department's crossing guards. Julie and Jodi are an important part of our police department in assisting us in keeping our schools and roads safe during school hours. Throughout the years, Julie and Jodi have garnered a close working relationship with the schools, students and parents.

Training:

The Support Bureau is responsible for ensuring that all of our officers receive on-going training. The bureau provides multiple types of training to our officers, including in house training where our instructors train the officers, or we will bring in professionals from outside of our department to assist in the training. We also provide practical training using the department's certified instructors, or we will send officers out to specialized training. When an officer receives outside specialized training, they are often given the opportunity to share that training with other officers through roll call training and department wide training sessions.

In 2015, officers and employees within our department attended 1894.5 hours of training.

Awards: Congratulations to Officer Luke Bailey voted Officer of the Year by the Souhegan Valley Readers' Choice and to Officer Dana Johnson for Officer of the year runner up! Congratulations to Officer David Duquette for runner up for the Golden Paw Award given by the Bedford Rescue League!

Closing Remark:

In closing, I would like to thank the men and women of the Milford Police Department for their hard work and dedication that they have displayed on a daily basis to the people that live, work and visit the Town of Milford. It is an honor for me to work with each one of you that represent the Milford Police Department and the Town of Milford.

I would also like to thank the citizens and business community for their continued support as we work together to improve the quality of life for our citizens and to provide a safe and secure community.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael J. Viola
Chief of Police



Coffee with a cop, or eight!