



As the calendar turned to 2022 we entered the new year with a sense of curiosity as to what the new normal would be. Two items left us wondering where our priorities would be and what affect it would have on the organization.

The new Police Reform Bill in Massachusetts entitled An Act Relative to Justice, Equity and Accountability in Law Enforcement in the Commonwealth signed by Governor Baker on December 31, 2020 produced several new guidelines and mandates. Most of these new requirements were focused on certification of police officers, specifically related to training standards and accountability. The Department demonstrated that we were ahead of the curve in our level of training. As a result, we had no issues with satisfying this mandate. The mandated guidelines relating to accountability proved to be a little more challenging.

The provisions of the guidelines relating to accountability required a review of police complaints for every active member as well as the update of several policies. The research and gathering of data took a tremendous amount of hours to accomplish due to the amount of years to cover and the format the data was stored. Developing policies continue to be a challenge but have become a priority.

The law enforcement profession continues to be the subject of scrutiny with actions of other law enforcement officers throughout the country. The Natick Police Department continued to be ahead of the trend by working with the community and committing to transparency of our operations. We are working to develop methods to ensure that our decisions and processes are open and available for review by anyone who desires access. We will be utilizing our website for this purpose.

The negative affect of this continued scrutiny has been the ability to retain and hire qualified police officers and public safety dispatcher. 2022 we had a large number of departures (see below) and the efforts to hire replacement has become a burden that has circumvented work on new projects. We as an organization have committed to not lowering our standards but the other side to this is that you are shortanded for a longer period of time.

Mental health responses continue to rise in our community. There has been much discussion about the effects of COVID on the mental wellbeing of society. The Natick Police Department and the Town of Natick have remained proactive in its commitment to have access to services a crucial element of our public service response. This response included approval of a second embedded clinician with the police department to augment our Co-Responder Program. With our full-time clinician responding with our officers to allow for on-scene crisis intervention in 2022 there were 306 referrals, 19 with behavioral health were diverted from the criminal justice system (estimated cost savings \$47,880)

and 69 diverted from Emergency Room (estimated cost savings \$276,000). Total estimated cost savings in 2021 was \$323,880.

**Personnel Updates**

The Natick Police Department saw a lot of staff movement as described above. We had the retirement of long serving members Ronald Richardson, Richard Vieira, Brett Conaway and Ryan Payne. We also saw the departure of Cara Rossi, Jennifer Stoller and Jared Abbruzzese and the tragic loss of Michael Mabardy. Five new Officers joined the ranks of the department, Patrick Donahue, Adam Mooney, Ervis Nunez, John Delehanty and Stephen Delehanty. The Natick Police Department also had its appointment of the first Deputy Chief in department history of Brian Lauzon.

**Department Activity**

During 2022, 921 criminal complaints were forwarded to the Natick District Court for prosecution. In addition, the Records Division staff processed 1,631 Offense Reports, 596 motor vehicle crash reports, and 1,933 traffic citations.

The Natick Police Department received 20,573 Calls for Service. The Natick Public Safety Dispatch Center answered 7,452 911 Line Calls; 19 Text to 911 Calls, 423 7-Digit Emergency Line Calls and 366 abandoned Calls requiring call back, for a total of 8,245 Emergency Calls Answered. Of these calls 99.66% were answered within the goal timeline (10 Seconds).

The following illustrates traffic enforcement and crash data for FY2022 as compared to FY2020 and FY2021 data:

<b>Violation Breakdown</b>	<b>FY2020</b>	<b>FY2021</b>	<b>FY2022</b>
Civil Motor Vehicle Infractions	123	313	470
Written Warnings	1,125	1,060	1103
Arrests	71	54	76
Criminal Complaints	241	278	330
OUI	38	23	30

<b>Crash Particulars</b>			
Total Crashes	612	510	595
Fatal Injury	1	0	1
Non-Fatal Injury (incapacitating)	9	7	6
Non-Fatal Injury (non-incapacitating)	24	47	62
Possible Injury	14	52	50

**Animal Control**

The following is a list of Animal Control activity during CY2022:

<b>Domestic</b>		<b>Wildlife</b>	
Unrestrained Dog	27	Sick /Injured Raccoons	6
Barking Dog Complaints	31	Sick/Injured Skunks	6
Dogs Struck By Motor	3	Sick/Injured Possums	5
Stray Dogs Reported	69	Sick/Injured Woodchucks	2
Dog Bites Reported	15	Sick/Injured Squirrels	4
Lost Dogs Reported	20	Coyote/Fox Sightings	12
Lost Cats Reported	22	Sick/Injured Fox	2
Stray Cats Reported	19	Sick/Injured Birds Of Prey	25
Cats Struck By Motor	7	Sick/Injured Rabbits	2
Cat Bites Reported	1	Sick/Injured Bats	1
Lost Exotic Birds	0	Deer Struck By Motor	25
Lost Ferrets	0	Deceased Animals Removed (Roadways)	55
<b>Informational Statistics</b>			
Animal Cruelty Cases Investigated	36		
Wild Animals Removed	10		
Citations Issued	15		
Written Warnings Issued	28		
Mutual Aid To Other	3		
Assistance Calls For Service	121		
Informational Calls	34		
Livestock Complaints	0		
Farms/Barns Inspected	0		
Kennels Inspected	2		

**Internal Affair Complaints CY2022:**

Types: Violation Policy - 4  
 Violation Rules - 2  
 Conduct Unbecoming - 3  
 Excessive Force - 1

Disposition: Sustained - 5  
 Not Sustained - 4  
 Exonerated - 1