

PARAMUS POLICE DEPARTMENT



*ROBERT M. GUIDETTI
CHIEF OF POLICE*

2023
Annual Report



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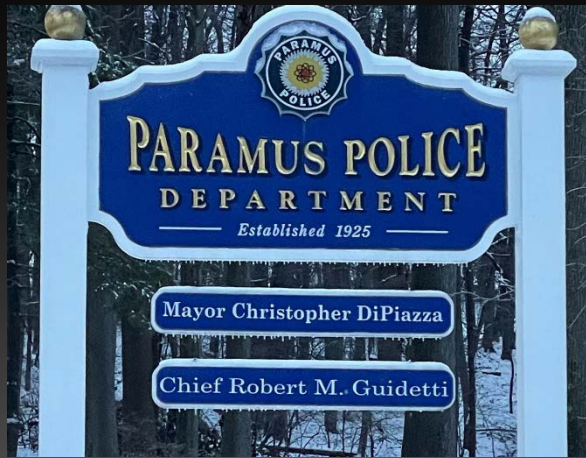
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“WE SERVE”
“SERVIMUS”

MISSION STATEMENT

The Paramus Police Department is committed to preserving the peace, upholding the law and providing quality service in partnership with our community.

We are committed to respecting individual rights, human dignity and the value of all members of the community and the Police Department.

We are guided by the principle that every individual has dignity and worth, and we must show respect for the citizens we serve as well as for the men and women of the Paramus Police Department. The Department recognizes the value and importance of its employees and will ensure that all employees are treated equitably and fairly. We encourage our employees and the community to achieve their greatest potential in an atmosphere that promotes communication, creativity, and participation.

We are committed to nurturing the public trust by holding ourselves accountable to the highest standards of professionalism and ethics.

We are committed to providing the highest quality of professional law enforcement service to the community with the goal of enhancing the quality of life in the Borough of Paramus.

We are committed to empowering our members and the community to resolve problems by creating an environment that encourages a solution that addresses the needs of the community.

We endorse the philosophy of community policing as a means of concentrating the attention, resources, and groups in the community, at all levels in the Police Department and throughout all departments of our local government.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE ADMINISTRATION



OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

I am honored and humbled to serve as the 12th Chief of Police of the Paramus Police Department and to present the 2023 Annual Report. The Annual Report memorializes the Paramus Police Department's accomplishments and provides a comprehensive review of department activities, crime rate, and highlighted stories of community interest. While there were many challenges this year, the Department continued to excel across all fronts, which reflects the men and women of the organization and the professional services they provide to all the community members of Paramus. As we have witnessed, the landscape of policing is continuously evolving. The Police Department is dedicated to analyzing and evaluating ways to utilize technology, training, outreach, and partnerships to serve more effectively and efficiently.

Our Department functions efficiently not only because of the dedication of exceptional employees but also because of the overwhelming support that we receive from the community. We are honored to serve our Paramus community through professional police services and by building positive, police-community relationships. No police organization can effectively serve and protect without the assistance, support, and trust of those we serve. I am proud of the ongoing relationship that the Paramus Police Department has fostered with our community.

In 2023, the Paramus Police Department faced a challenge with a shortage of staff due to attrition, leading to a proactive approach in addressing the issue. In June, Chief Kenneth Ehrenberg retired, prompting the Mayor & Council to entrust me with the responsibility of Paramus Police Chief.

We immediately initiated a strategic plan to bolster our workforce, resulting in nineteen promotions, the hiring of four police officers, one full-time dispatcher, four part-time dispatchers, and five Special Police Officers by the year's end.

Throughout 2023, our focus remained steadfast on enhancing the department's capabilities to respond effectively to various hazards and emergencies, especially concerning public gatherings, faith-based institutions, and schools. This commitment to public safety will persist as a top priority in 2024.

I am deeply honored to lead and collaborate with the dedicated men and women of the Paramus Police Department. Together, we are privileged to serve and protect the wonderful community of Paramus.



Robert M. Guidetti

Robert M. Guidetti
Chief of Police

Member of Bergen County Chiefs Association
New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police
International Association of Chiefs of Police
Accredited Command Executive – N.J.S.A.C.O.P
FBI - Leeda



OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE LEADERSHIP HISTORY

The fellow Police Chiefs that have led the Paramus Police Department since being established in 1924



Barney Martin
April 1925 to April 1936



Carl Jockish
July 1936 to July 1968



John Nicolas
July 1968 to October 1979



George Elliott
October 1979 to June 1981



Joseph Delaney
July 1981 to April 1993



Michael McCormack
April 1993 to June 1995



Claude Majcher
June 1995 to June 2002



Frederick J. Corrubia
August 2002 to January 2007



Richard J. Cary
May 2008 to April 2010



Christopher J. Brock
November 2010 to May 2013



Kenneth R. Ehrenberg
June 2013 to June 2023



Robert M. Guidetti
June 2023 to Present

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE ADMINISTRATION



OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

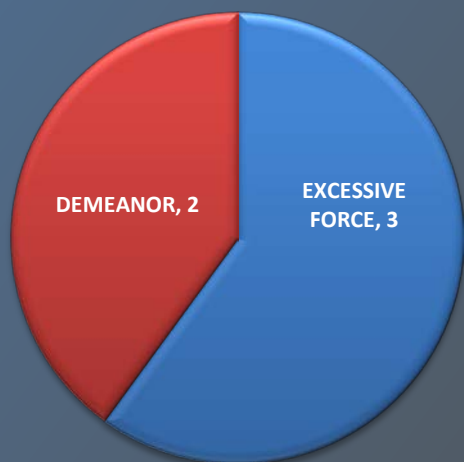
The Office of Professional Standards is tasked with making sure that the Paramus Police Department upholds the law in a fair, just and professional manner. The unit is responsible to verify that all people who come in contact with the Paramus Police Department are treated equally under the law. The members of the Department understand that their credibility and the respect shown to them by the general public, is contingent on their day to day interactions with our citizens. The Office of Professional Standards is comprised of two separate but intertwined functions, the Internal Affairs element and the Policy and Procedure element.

The Internal Affairs function is responsible for investigating all allegations of misconduct by any member of the department and civil claims made against the Department. The unit utilizes a random and risk-based audit process of the body worn camera systems. This formal documented process helps the department to determine whether policy, training, equipment or disciplinary issues need to be addressed. In 2023, there were 5 internal affairs complaints.

The Policy and Procedure function is responsible for ensuring that the Paramus Police Department is adhering to the best practices as subscribed by the New Jersey Attorney General and Bergen County Prosecutor's Office. In addition to those standards, the Paramus Police Department is compliant with the NJ Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission standards and the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies standards.

Complaints from the public, whether substantiated or not, increase the awareness of the leadership of this agency to actual or potential problems, as well as the perceptions of the community. This feedback will ultimately assist in determining whether the mission statement and goals of this agency are being attained.

The members of the Paramus Police Department are committed to providing law enforcement services that are fair, effective and impartially applied.



OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE CEREMONIAL HONOR GUARD



February, 1 1991, Chief Joseph J. Delaney established the Ceremonial Honor Guard, to perform functions and to enhance the professional image of the Paramus Police Department. The Guard provides funeral honors, for fallen comrades, and serves as the “guardian of the colors” by displaying the national flag at ceremonial occasions and at various official functions. The original 13 members of the honor guard led the way by developing some of most endeared traditions of integrity and honor. Although many of these members are no longer active, their legacies and traditions are still honored by every Guardsmen.

In 1993, the unit suffered a tremendous loss as one of its original members; Police Officer Vincent M. Brock was tragically killed in the line of Duty. After this tragedy, a bond was formed with the Police Pipes and drums of Bergen County and the Paramus Police Ceremonial Honor Guard, which then became the official honor guard for the pipe band.

Currently the unit consists of 18 highly trained and disciplined officers who are extremely motivated and maintain exceptional high standards of appearance and conduct. All members of the unit are trained to perform as rifle team (three-volley salute), casket guards, pall bearers, and color guard. Each year the guard participates in a number of parades, civic celebrations, state and local law enforcement memorial services, and line of duty funerals. Over the past 30 years, the Guard has on occasion presented colors during the National Anthem for the NY Giants, NJ Devils, NJ Nets, NY Red Bulls and several local baseball teams. The unit has had the honor of escorting the Police Pipes and Drums of Bergen County at events including the New York City St. Patrick’s Day Parade, Bergen County Chiefs of Police functions and National Law Enforcement Memorial Ceremonies in Washington, D.C. and Police memorial ceremonies in Ocean Grove, NJ, Cleveland, Ohio, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, and Connecticut.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE CEREMONIAL HONOR GUARD

Commanders:

P.O. Daniel De Rienzo

P.O. Gil Maynard



Members:

Lt.. Michael Kelly

Capt. James Teehan

Det. Lt. Craig McEllen

Det. Lt. Glenn Pagano

Det. Mark Pinajian

Sgt. Gregory Hooper

Sgt. Steven Nepola

Sgt. Ryan Hayo

Det. Jon Umanzor

P.O. Diego Cruz

Sgt. Amit Vaidya

P.O. Thomas Holden

P.O. Kevin Grady

P.O. William Stallone

P.O. Theodore Cebulski

P.O. Matthew Orefice

2023 Breakdown

In 2023, the Ceremonial Honor Guards services were in high demand, carrying out 38 jobs. Such a demand is a testament to this units dedication to excellence and ability to render honors under any condition. During 2023, the Guard performed at the following ceremonies:

Parades: St. Patrick's Day in Rutherford, Nutley, Morristown, Bergenfield, New York City, Yonkers, Pearl River, Ringwood, Borough of Paramus July 4th Ceremony, Westwood Holiday Parade

Color teams: Paramus Mayor and Council Re-Organization Meeting, PJBL Opening Day, Charity Boxing Event, Captain Teehan's Swearing in Ceremony, New Officers Swearing In Ceremony, Retirement Ceremony, US Army 1st. Class Goble Escort Ceremony, National Veterans Honor Flight, Lt. Udis Retirement Ceremony, Paramus Police Memorial Service, Paramus Memorial Day Ceremony, West Brook Lead Graduation, OLG Event Fairview, East Brook Lead Graduation, NJ Lead Jackal's Event, Chief Kenneth Ehrenberg's Retirement Ceremony, Chief Robert M. Guidetti's Swearing In Ceremony, NHL Devils Game, Paramus Police Department Promotional Ceremony, NJ POW & MIA dedication, Veteran's Day Ceremony, Westwood Holiday Parade, NJ Veterans Home Appreciation Event, Paramus Police Junior Police Academy Graduation, NJ Veterans Home Wreath Ceremony, New Jersey Honor Legion Ceremony

Funerals: Sgt. Maywood Police Sergeant Liaban's Funeral, Sgt. Kramer Funeral

The Paramus Police Ceremonial Honor guard serves as an example of the high standard of integrity, service, appearance and professional demeanor enjoyed by this department. It shall be the mission of the Paramus Police Ceremonial Honor guard to maintain the highest standard of integrity when representing the Paramus Police Department and aspire to professionalism in all aspects of their operations. In an ever changing world full of uncertainty the Guard stands ready to uphold time tested traditions remembering our fallen heroes, and progressing forward in their honor

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE CEREMONIAL HONOR GUARD



The Guard would not be here without our greatest tradition of all, Honor. A tradition past down from Guardsman and Commanders both past and present. In light of the difficult year we faced, we look to the lessons taught by the leaders of our past to guide us through the future.



Recognition of Past Commanders

- Commander Vincent Brock 1991-1993
- Commander Robert Wright 1991-2006
- Commander Robert Guidetti 1993-2009
- Commander Dennis Niland 1998-2001
- Commander Thomas Damato 2002-2008
- Commander David Lagrone 2008-2012
- Commander Michael Kelly 2013-2018
- Commander Diego Cruz 2018-2019



OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE CEREMONIAL HONOR GUARD

MISSION

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IN MEMORIAM



Eric "Randy" Kremer, retired Police Captain, passed away on September 18, 2023. Captain Kremer served the department from his appointment on December 15, 1963 until his retirement on June 1, 2000. He rose through the ranks becoming the Traffic Captain on April 14, 1992.



Richard "Dick" Musso aka Richie Moser, retired Police Officer, passed away on November 30, 2023. Officer Musso served the department from his appointment on April 13 1964 until his resignation on July 14, 1967 to become a Federal Special Agent in N.Y.

XI

Vinny Brock was a cop's cop, an incredibly decent human being and will be forever remembered by those who knew him as someone special beyond his line of duty death.

So much of what Vinny Brock was involved in 30 years ago and his devotion to his brother and sister officers is evident in what we see today within the Paramus Police Department.

Vinny's untimely death, though meaningful in the Paramus Police's history, does not come close to defining him. While it has been over 30 years, for those that did not have the opportunity to know or work with him, you should know how Vinny lived, what he cared about, and why he is missed by so many.

I met Vinny in the late summer of 1981, he was a long-haired bass guitar player, who like me had just been notified that he was being hired by the Paramus Police Department.

Vinny did not resemble the average police recruit and in October when he, Brian Smith, Andy Rizzo, and I headed off to Seagirt, I had my doubts that Vinny was cut out for it. Vinny's honest and "real" approach made him a standout in many ways, and the meanest and gruffest of instructors were quickly won over by Vinny.

Vinny was a founding member of the Honor Guard. He was instrumental in transitioning us from revolvers to automatics. He was a member of ESU's forerunner, SOT, and was one of the department's first 9-1-1/Communications instructors to be certified by the State.

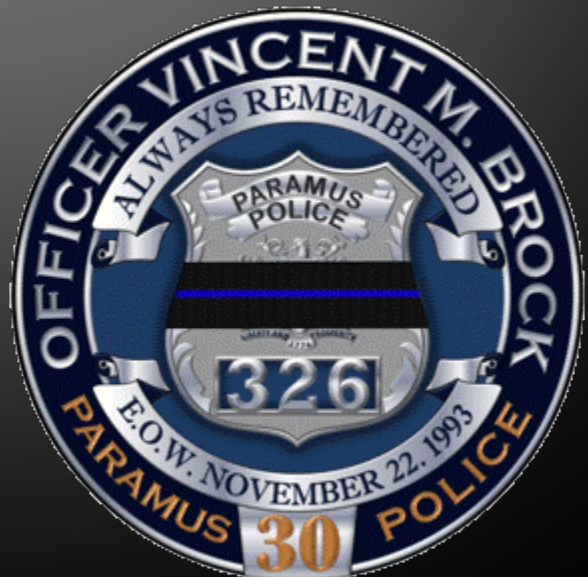
Vinny loved being a cop and was always striving to get more training. He was devoted to being tactically sound but had a calm and kind demeanor that surprised those who mistook it for weakness.

At home Vinny was devoted to his family, and like for many of you, his death robbed his children of the chance to know him. I think he would be surprised, and I am sure honored, to see the turnout every year at his gravesite on November 22nd, both by his friends and the members of the force who never met him, yet never forget him.

This year when we remember Vinny on the 30th anniversary of his death, I hope we all remember beyond the tragedy of his death and acknowledge how special he was as a friend, brother, son and father, a police officer, and the rock star he was to all that knew him.

I know he would thank you all for thinking of him and he would be honored that on his LOD anniversary, his memory is with all of you, and he would hope that his memory is still contributing to the department he would be proud to see has become one of the finer agencies in the state.

Vinny lived and died a Paramus Police Officer, and your remembrance honors his life and sacrifice.



OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE RECORDS BUREAU

The Records Bureau is responsible for the control, maintenance, and release of all police incident and arrest paperwork. Any call generated by the Police Department is assigned a call type, logged into the Records Management System and then filed by the Records Bureau personnel. The Records Bureau personnel have a number of important responsibilities with regard to both hard and electronic copies of paperwork.

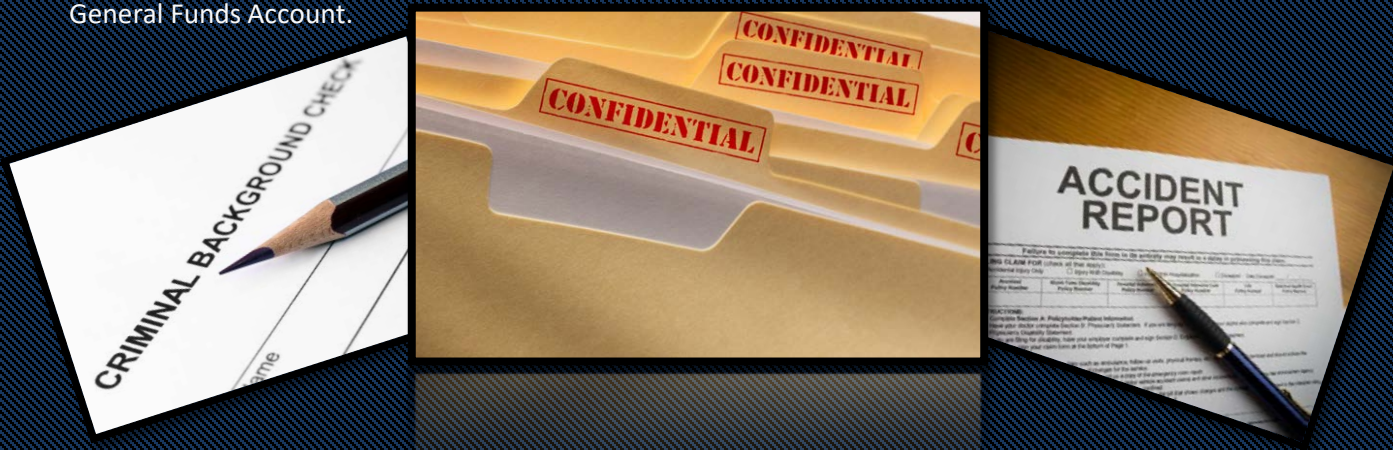
Records personnel duties include:

- Maintaining the confidentiality and integrity of reports, arrests, and criminal history information
- The dissemination of Information to police agencies, the general public, insurance companies, attorneys, and other government agencies.
- The release of confidential information must be compliant with state and federal laws and guidelines.
- Fulfilling OPRA requests that must be answered with the appropriate responses to ensure compliance
- Creating the annual report each year
- Payroll processing for all sworn officers and civilians
- Crime mapping for our Intelligence Unit

Each year, the Records Bureau handles thousands of telephone calls, walk-ins, and email requests for incidents and arrest reports, statistics and general information. In addition the Records Bureau fulfills discovery requests, expungement orders, alarm enforcements as well as handles the application process for firearms identification cards, hand gun permits, government background checks, and temporary handicap placards.

The Records Bureau provides statistical information to various outside agencies. These include the Federal Cleary Act for all college and universities in the Paramus jurisdiction. The Uniform Crime Reporting System to the State Police each month. Compiling spreadsheets of criminal and motor vehicle statistics for grants provided to us by government agencies (“Click It or Ticket” and Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over and Pedestrian Safety “).

The Records Bureau generates thousands of dollars through accident report requests, false alarm billing, firearm fees, and attorney discovery requests. These fees and fines are deposited into the Boroughs’ General Funds Account.



OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE DIGITAL REDACTION UNIT

In October of 2023, the Paramus Police Department deployed 97 Motorola V300 Body Worn Cameras to all sworn personnel and upgraded 27 fleet vehicles with state-of-the-art Motorola M500 In-Car Camera systems. These technological advancements align with the department's policy of electronically recording audio and video during an officer's performance of duty, demonstrating the commitment to both community trust and officer accountability.

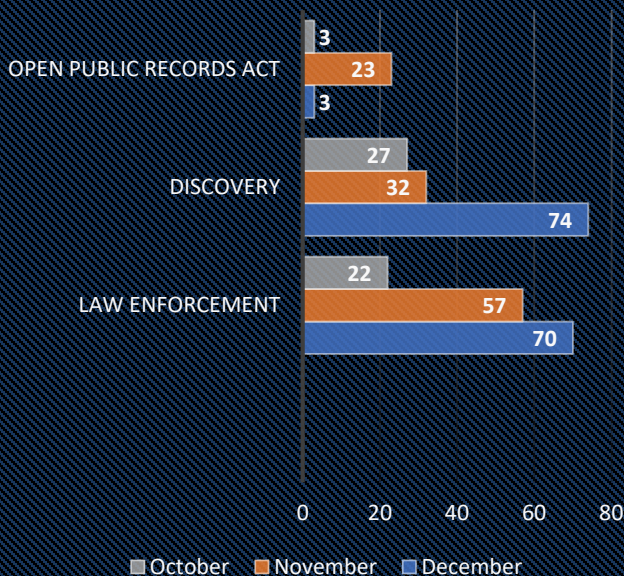
To effectively manage the substantial volume of digital evidence generated, Chief Guidetti, supported by the Paramus Mayor & Council, established the Digital Redaction Unit in November of 2023. The unit currently consists of four part-time digital redaction technicians and two sworn supervisors, ensuring oversight of the evolving digital evidence landscape.

Redaction is the withholding of confidential and protected information from a document. Its purview extends beyond documents to encompass audio and video recordings that are maintained by the Paramus Police Department as it complies with Open Public Records Act requests.

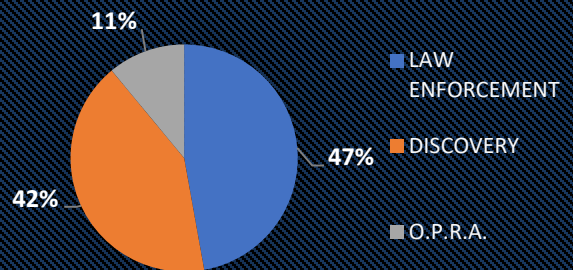
Additionally, the Digital Redaction Unit is tasked with the essential responsibility of delivering mandatory training to department personnel. Furthermore, the unit is responsible for the upkeep of equipment and promptly addressing any reported malfunctions.

The department generated 21,225 video events from October through December 2023 and anticipates generating approximately 85,000 video events in 2024

NUMBER OF VIDEOS PROVIDED BY REQUEST



TOTAL REQUESTS FOR VIDEO

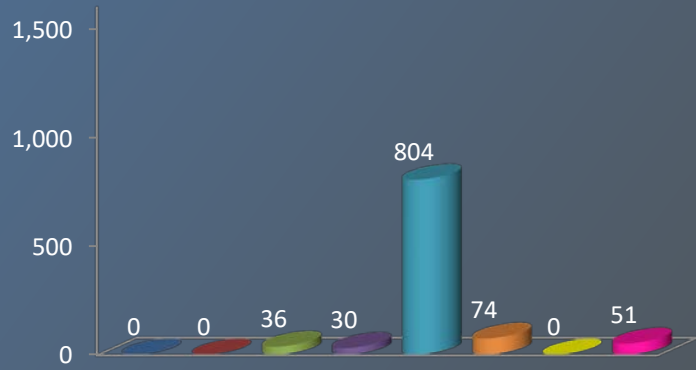
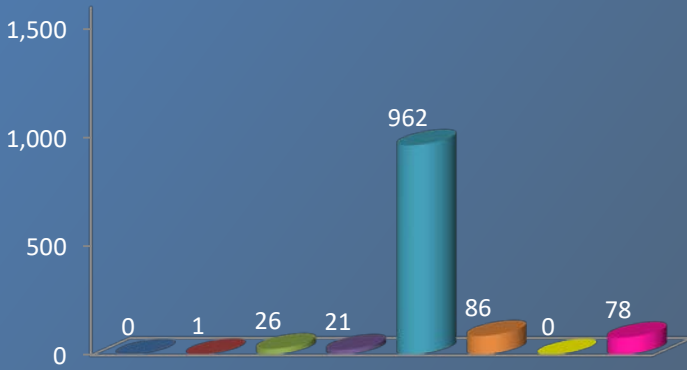


OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

NIBRS

2022

2023



■ Murder	■ Rape	■ Burglary - Residential
■ Burglary - Commercial	■ Theft	■ Theft of MV
■ Arson	■ Assault	

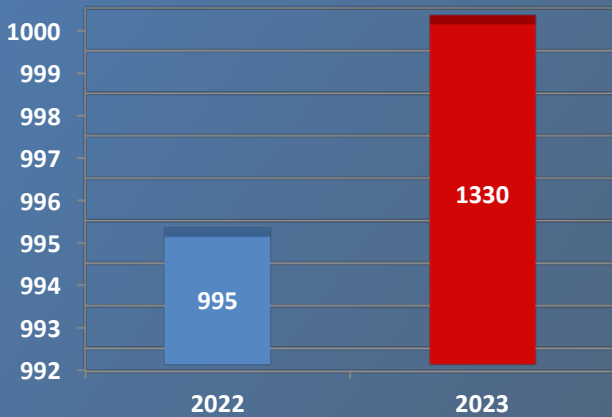
**Note: Figures are based on U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigations, Crime in the United States Publication. Known offenses include: Homicide, Forcible Rape, Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Burglary, Motor Vehicle Theft, Theft., and Arson.



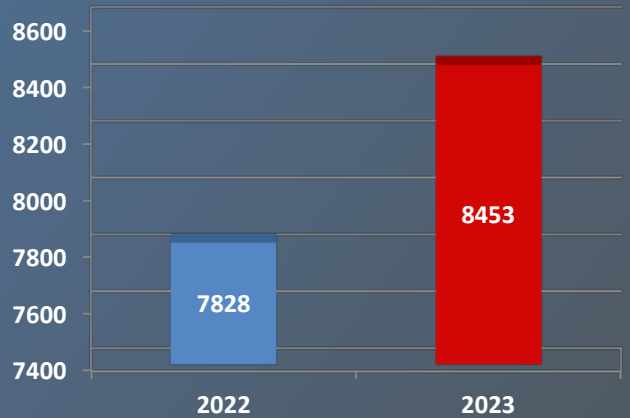
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE STATISTICS

COURT STATISTICS

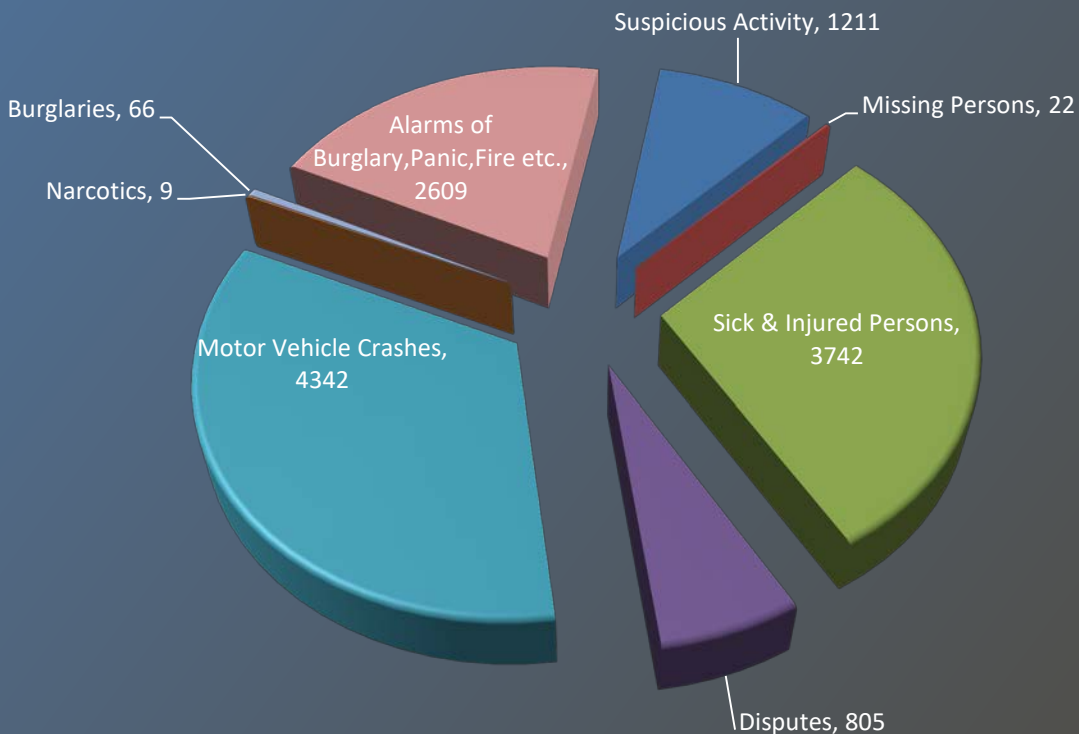
Criminal Complaints



Summonses



FREQUENT CALLS FOR SERVICE THROUGHOUT THE YEAR



OPERATIONS DIVISION OPERATIONS



**CAPTAIN
JOHN DEVINE**

The Paramus Police Department's Operations Division, under the command of Captain John Devine, continues to be the largest and most diverse division within the department. The Operations Division is comprised of the Traffic Safety Bureau and the Training Bureau. The Operations Division is in charge of addressing several large-scale events and related traffic issues that occur through out each year. Each of these events require sight safety evaluations, security assessments and traffic control plans. Some of the more memorable special events from 2023 that the Traffic Safety Bureau, the Training Bureau and other divisions within the department worked together on, include:

- May 25th thru June 11th LEAD Carnival in the west lot of the Garden State Plaza
- 4th of July Parade down Farview Avenue
- August 27th Fireworks display at the Cliff Gennaralli Sports Plex
- August 1st National Night Out at the Paramus Library
- October 15th Terri Roemer / Paramus Run around Paramus Park and Midland Avenue
- October 26th Paramus Fire Department Food Truck Fest at Paramus Pool
- October 30th & 31st Mischief and Halloween Nights throughout the borough
- December 3rd Winter Wonderland at Borough Hall
- December 7th thru the 15th Menorah concerts, parade and lightings
- November and December annual holiday traffic details throughout Paramus

The Operations Division is currently in the process of starting a Crash Investigation Unit that will investigate serious, near fatal and fatal motor vehicle crashes within the jurisdiction of Paramus. They will be tasked with working with the Bergen County Fatal Accident Investigation Unit. The Crash Investigation Unit is comprised of officers from the Traffic Safety Bureau, the Detective Bureau and the Patrol Division.

The Traffic Safety Bureau is comprised of Lt Brian Linden and Traffic Officers Christopher Esposito, Andrew Cofone, Michael Mullay and Sgt Dean Avagnano – who recently retired after a 30-year career in law enforcement. These dedicated Traffic Officers investigated over 400 Hit & Run Motor Vehicle Crashes per year, perform hundreds of targeted enforcement details, and wrote over 900 motor vehicle summons in 2023. Traffic Officers supervise all road constructions jobs and review site plans for all new commercial and large-scale residential projects in an attempt to identify any potential future traffic or parking issues. Residential site plans reviewed in 2023 include the complexes on Soldier Hill Road, on the Joy's Farm property, east lot of the Bergen Town Center, west lot of the Garden State Plaza, and the parking lots between Paramus Park and Valley Hospital. Traffic Officers are also tasked with supervising a diverse group of units that cover a broad range of responsibilities, including the:

- Traffic Maintenance Unit – Tasked with keeping Paramus' 120 miles of roads safe by maintaining most of the traffic lights, traffic road signs and street markings.
- Class 1 Special Officers – These Officers are called upon to assist our regular Patrol Officers with traffic control issues in an effort to enable our patrol Officers to be able to concentrate on more serious issues.
- Crossing Guards – Our Crossing Guards have the duty of crossing Paramus' youth and parents to and from Paramus' 8 public schools each day.
- Towing Companies – The towing companies that are contracted thru the Borough are monitored by a Traffic Safety Officer.

OPERATIONS DIVISION OPERATIONS

The Training Bureau, under the direction of Lt Norman Gin, works around the clock to make sure all 100 Paramus Police Officers are properly trained and equipped to handle a wide array of daily situations. Their work starts with monitoring the hiring process of each new officer. They then are tasked with keeping each officer up to date with the ever changing Federal, State, County and Borough regulations. This training continues all the way thru until the officer's retirement, and sometimes afterwards. The Training Bureau is constantly testing and evaluating the latest police technology for possible implementation into the Police Force. Two of the highest trained units within the Paramus Police Department, the Emergency Services Unit and the Strategic Response Unit, are trained, equipped and supervised by these officers. The Training Bureau also conducts Risk Assessments and makes safety recommendations to all local schools, houses of worship and some businesses.



OPERATIONS DIVISION TRAFFIC BUREAU

The Paramus Police Traffic Bureau has evolved expeditiously, from only enforcing motor vehicle violations, into a group of highly trained officers with special skill sets that are tasked with managing multiple units.

Police Services and Expense Reimbursement

Outside duty police services are coordinated and managed solely by the Traffic Bureau and are one of the largest revenue generators for the entire Borough. When companies require police assistance for traffic control or planned security, the Traffic Bureau ensures that these services are paid for by the respective entities and not by the Borough. In 2023, the Traffic Bureau scheduled over 25,391 man-hours and billed \$3,503,958 for services rendered which turned a net profit of over \$660,166 which is a 24% increase from 2022! Separate from police services, drivers and their insurance companies are billed to reimburse the Borough for our traffic signals damaged in crashes. Our goal is to have the parties responsible pay for the repairs. In 2023, the Traffic Bureau recovered \$23,239.32 in signal repair costs.

Traffic Enforcement & Engagement

The duties and responsibilities of Traffic Officers encompass much more than mere traffic enforcement. On a daily basis, they employ the three E's of traffic safety – Engineering, Education, and Enforcement. Engineering designs are analyzed to find areas of the Borough in need of improvement. Education is often provided via variable message signs in addition to devices that display vehicle speeds. Ultimately, enforcement is conducted to ensure compliance, benefiting the motoring public, as well as the residents and pedestrians. Traffic Engagement is combining the three E's, Traffic Officers, and the public to ensure our roads are as safe as possible.

Crash Investigations

The Paramus Police Department, commonly referred to as the hub of Bergen County due to its centralized location, investigates more crashes than 98% of all police agencies in New Jersey and more than any other agency in Bergen County. All traffic officers conduct investigations on every hit and run and serious motor vehicle crashes. Additionally, several Traffic Officers have training in accident reconstruction and a Paramus Traffic Officer is assigned, as a per diem, member of the Bergen County Prosecutor's Office Fatal Accident Investigation Unit.

The Paramus Police Department prides itself on being one of the very few agencies that investigates every Hit and Run collision. In 2023 the Bureau investigated 446 crashes as compared to 352 in 2022 which is a 26% increase. Every investigation takes anywhere from a single day to several months to investigate, depending on the severity, evidence available, and cooperation of the parties involved.

OPERATIONS DIVISION TRAFFIC BUREAU

Event Planning

Event planning begins and ends with the Paramus Police Traffic Bureau. The Borough of Paramus is frequently the home of large-scale events such as concerts, professional golf tournaments, and fireworks displays. From grammar school parades to the PGA playoffs, the Traffic Bureau's logistics team coordinates with event organizers to address safety concerns, potential security threats, and traffic related issues, to ensure a safe and fun venue. They are always evolving and adapting strategies, such as a new and more effective traffic plans for the annual fireworks display and Big Santa lighting, as well as large-scale emergency incidents.

Infrastructure Improvements

Traffic officers review architectural plans for proposed building projects to ensure compliance with current traffic regulations and more importantly, to address the impacts these projects will have on our community. As these projects are reviewed, requests are made for developers to either alter plans to better suit our community and or contribute to the costs of infrastructure improvements needed to accommodate growth. In 2023, the Traffic Bureau reviewed over 50 site plans.

Grants

Federal and State grants are requested and administered by the Traffic Bureau and can often be tied to these building projects to help improve the Borough's infrastructure. Other grants provide funds to educate the public to the dangers of drunk driving, distracted driving, aggressive driving and more. Pedestrian safety efforts throughout the Borough continued as more crosswalks were outfitted with highly effective push button activated flashers. Traffic Officers frequently conduct pedestrian decoy details to enhance pedestrian safety.

Crossing Guards

The Traffic Bureau is responsible for nearly 30 crossing guard posts and our 'Safe Routes to School' program. The overarching principle is that there is a safe, planned route for each and every student to walk to and from school. There are many laws and regulations that must be adhered to and it is of the utmost importance that we meet and exceed these standards for both safety and liability purposes. Not a single crossing post goes unmanned.

Motorcycle Unit

The second largest police motorcycle unit in Bergen County is the Paramus Police Motor Unit. The Unit regularly provides dignitary and funeral escorts and participates in many events such as the 4th of July Parade, Special Olympics, National Night Out, Toys for Tots, just to name a few. Our motor officers are certified through the Maryland State Police Motor Officer School, which is arguably the hardest training in the nation. Officers learn how to expertly maneuver their motorcycles under all types of speed and stressful conditions. In 2023, the motor unit provided over 50 funeral escorts. These escorts hopefully ease the pain and sorrow of loved ones during their time of mourning by providing a safe and clear passage to a final resting place. The countless thank-you letters received clearly shows the impact these escorts have on the friends and families.

OPERATIONS DIVISION TRAFFIC BUREAU

Traffic Maintenance

Traffic control signs are manufactured and produced in our in-house work shop by the Traffic Maintenance Unit. After production, they are installed to comply with strict state and federal regulations. Traffic Maintenance is also responsible for the variable message boards around town as well as installation and repair of all borough-owned traffic lights. From street painting to ground signs and overhead traffic signals, this unit possesses the technical expertise required for signals that utilize computer driven electronic components. By performing these functions in-house, the cost reduction is insurmountable. Many surrounding towns contract with this unit and, as a result, receive our shared services and rapid response times. The taxpayers of Paramus benefit, as these services generate positive cash flow and thus help keep Paramus taxes down.

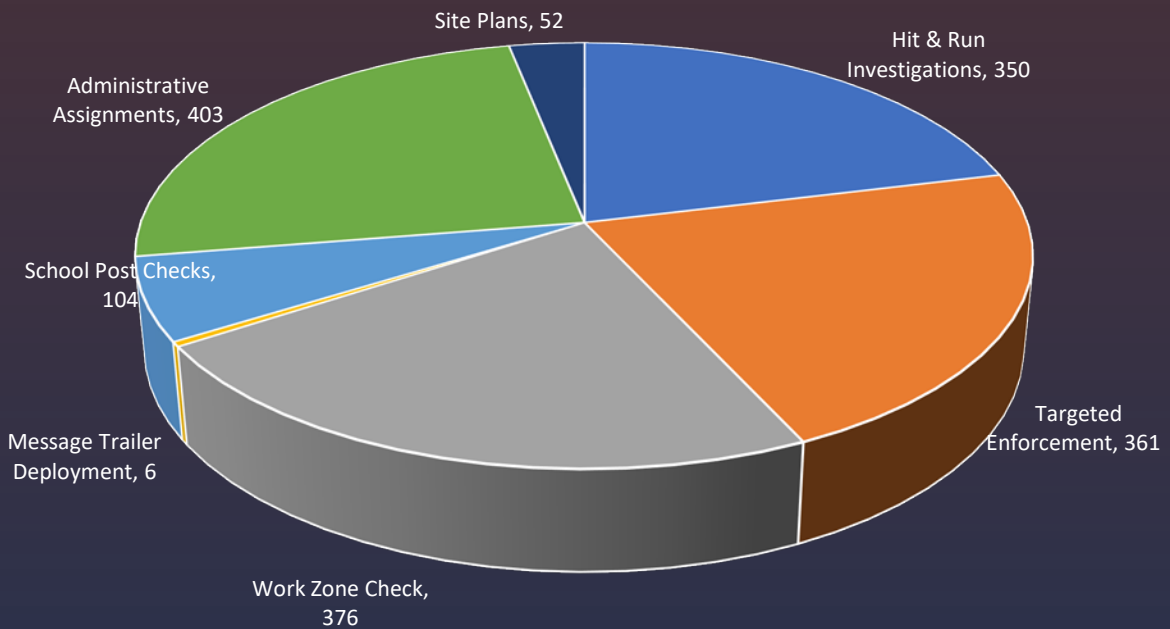
Special Officers

Class One Special Officers are managed and scheduled through the Traffic Bureau. Nearly 30 Special Officers are employed by the Borough and are called upon daily to assist regular officers. Special Police Officers are trained in traffic control, security details, first aid, court duties, pedestrian crossings, borough park checks, and other miscellaneous activities which free up our fulltime officers to focus on their law enforcement duties. During the holiday season, Special Officers are assigned to strategic locations to help mitigate traffic. They also work during inclement weather and natural disasters.

In November 2023, the Traffic Bureau bid farewell to their beloved Traffic Sergeant, Dean Avagnano, after 25 years of loyal service to the Borough. They wish him all the best in his retirement and smooth sailing. The Traffic Bureau continues to tirelessly work behind the scenes to ensure the smooth operation of events, increased vehicular and pedestrian safety, well maintained traffic signals, and mitigation of traffic congestion. Despite increases in call volume, they stand ready to conquer any challenge and possess a special skill set that is par none.



OPERATIONS DIVISION TRAFFIC BUREAU STATISTICS



For the year 2023 the total revenue received for Police Service Contracts was \$3,228,165.00

OPERATIONS DIVISION TRAINING UNIT



**LIEUTENANT
NORMAN GIN**

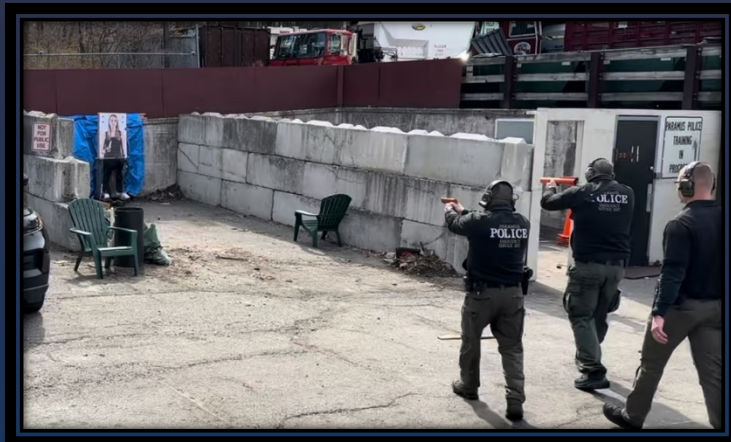
The mission of the Paramus Police Department Training Unit is to enhance the skills, knowledge, and service delivery of its sworn and civilian employees. Recognizing the high value of training, the Paramus Police Department is committed to providing the best training available to all personnel. The Training Unit facilitates year-round training and support, assisting officers and civilians with registering for outside professional development courses. In 2023, 76 officers attended 73 professional development courses.

The Training Unit is also responsible for maintaining the Paramus Police Department's 10-port indoor pistol range and managing its rental program for other law enforcement agencies. The range was leased 187 times over 167 days, providing a valuable resource for neighboring municipal, state, and federal agencies, as well as generating revenue for the Borough.

Additionally, the Training Unit prepares the Department's In-Service Lesson Plans and assists with the monthly preparation and training of the Paramus Police Emergency Service Unit (ESU). The unit also maintains department equipment and conducts research on new equipment.

The Training Unit manages the Federal Law Enforcement Support Office Program (LESO) for the Paramus Police Department, the unit facilitates the transfer of excess Department of Defense property to law enforcement agencies across the United States and its territories, as authorized by the National Defense Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 1999.

The Paramus Police Training Unit also provides training to outside agencies. In 2023, it conducted a Small Unit Tactics Class with instructors from the New Jersey State Police, attended by partner agencies. Members from our tactical partners participated in Paramus ESU Rifle Training during the year. Additionally, the Paramus Police Department hosted two meetings with our tactical partners in the county.



OPERATIONS DIVISION EMERGENCY SERVICE UNIT

The Paramus Police Emergency Service Unit (ESU) has been providing dedicated service to the Borough for 17 years. The officers in this unit are deeply committed to their mission, investing countless hours in both training and deployments. The specialized skills and equipment possessed by Paramus ESU make it one of the most capable units in the county and state. As a result, ESU has become an essential part of the Paramus Police Department.

Despite the Borough of Paramus covering only 10 square miles, it encompasses a diverse mix of industries, educational institutions, residential neighborhoods, houses of worship, and major highways. The ESU model ensures an immediate emergency response by specially trained officers within the Borough and provides assistance to surrounding law enforcement partners.

ESU Origins and Structure

Founded in 2006 by Captain James Sheehan, then Commanding Officer of the Paramus Police Department Operations Division, Paramus ESU consists of officers from the Patrol, Detective, and Operations Divisions. Since 2007, ESU has deployed a specialty response truck 7 days a week, staffed by officers from the Patrol Division. Acting as a force multiplier within the Department, ESU responds to all high-risk calls for service.

2023 Activities and Collaboration Deployments

In 2023, Paramus ESU responded to 3,051 calls for service. Some notable incidents include:

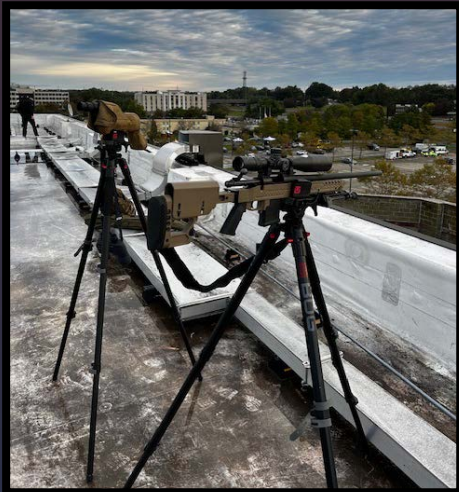
- ❖ **Motor Vehicle Accidents:** ESU responded to 12 accidents involving motorists trapped in their vehicles. Using the “Jaws of Life” and other forcible entry tools, ESU officers extricated trapped individuals. The quick intervention during these accidents, often referred to as the “Golden Hour,” significantly increased the chances of survival for the victim.
- ❖ **Elevator Entrapments:** ESU handled 18 elevator entrapments, ensuring the safety and rescue of those involved.
- ❖ **Mental Health Crisis:** The unit responded to over 100 calls involving individuals in mental health crises.
- ❖ **Soft Target Threats:** ESU was deployed to schools, malls, and houses of worship in response to threats, particularly stemming from the conflict in Israel. The unit also continued proactive Target Hardening Response and Emergency Activation Team (T.H.R.E.A.T.) deployments over the 2023 holiday season.
- ❖ **Vice Presidential Visit:** In 2023, Paramus ESU assisted the Secret Service with planning, logistics, and security during the Vice President’s visit to the Borough.
- ❖ **Mutual Aid:** ESU provided real-time tactical responses to requests from mutual aid partners.

Commitment to Excellence

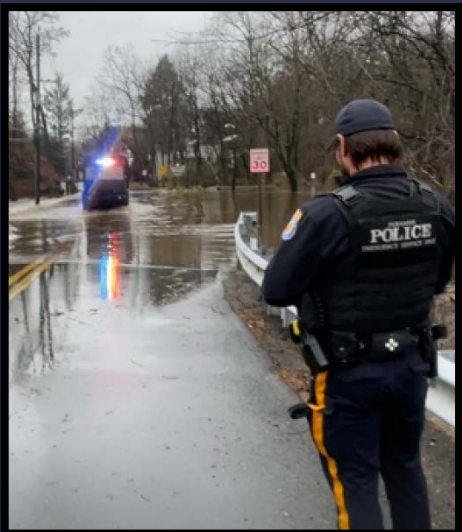
The high levels of training and dedication exhibited by the members of Paramus ESU enhance the Paramus Police Department’s goal of providing a safe and secure environment for residents, workers, and visitors. The unit’s ability to respond quickly and effectively to emergencies makes it a vital component of the Borough’s public safety infrastructure. The Paramus Police Department remains committed to maintaining the highest standards of service and professionalism, ensuring that the ESU continues to be a crucial asset in safeguarding the community.



OPERATIONS DIVISION EMERGENCY SERVICE UNIT



Paramus ESU Officer Matthew Orefice Graduation from PAPD ESU Academy



DETECTIVE DIVISION CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION BUREAU



**CAPTAIN
FRANK SCOTT**

The Paramus Police Department Detective Division is commanded by Captain Frank Scott. The Detective Division is comprised of the Criminal Investigation Bureau, Juvenile Bureau, Bureau of Criminal Identification, and Special Investigations. Each unit is staffed by Detective supervisors and Detective investigators. The Detective Division Commander is ultimately responsible for staff scheduling, reviewing of reports, and providing effective follow up solutions.

The mission of the Detective Division is to provide a timely follow-up investigation, solve crimes, and assist victims. Paramus Police detectives wear plain clothes and drive unmarked cars. The detective position is a higher-ranking position than police officer, as it requires more experience and knowledge. A detective reviews reports, interviews suspects, witnesses and victims as they try to piece together the story of how the incident or crime occurred.

In 2023 the Detective Division investigated 3,225 incidents resulting in 808 arrests.

The Bureau of Criminal Identification (B.C.I.) received 391 firearm permit applications and 28 concealed carry firearms applications, 15 total applications were denied. In total 419 applications were investigated in 2023

Duties and Tasks include:

- Conduct investigations and solve criminal cases.
- Analyze completed police reports to determine if additional investigative work is needed.
- Obtain summary of incident from crime scene officers.
- Prepare charges and reports for prosecution.
- Obtain facts and statements from complainants, witnesses, and suspects that may be recorded interviews.
- Prepare, serve, and execute search/arrest warrants.
- Preserve, process, and analyze items of evidence.
- Record progress of investigation, maintain files, and form plans of action with supervisors.
- Analysis and sharing of data whereby crime patterns are detected.

The Detectives go to advanced schools and continuing education courses. Each Detective has received specialized training to handle specific crimes. The crimes include: Bias, Narcotics, Auto theft, Financial (Fraud, Identity theft, Credit card Fraud, Counterfeiting) and Property crimes (Residential and Commercial Burglary, Theft, Shoplifting, Computer crimes, Pattern crimes).

The Special Investigation/Intelligence unit handles targeted investigations. The unit is responsible to collect intelligence data, ultimately reviewing, evaluating, and disseminating to sworn personnel. The unit works with other local, state, and federal agencies, such as the Bergen County Prosecutors office, N.J. State Police, F.B.I, D.E.A, Joint Terrorism Task Force, and the I.R.S.

DETECTIVE DIVISION CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION BUREAU

2023 Noteworthy Investigations:

Pharmacy Burglary - Detectives were able to identify two subjects who committed a pharmacy burglary taking oxycontin and promethazine syrup. The burglary fit a state-wide pattern of pharmacy burglaries and during the course of their investigation, obtained warrants for electronic data that allowed them to identify the subjects being at seven separate burglaries though out the state. Detectives charged the subjects with Burglary, Theft, Criminal Mischief and Leader Of An Organized Retail Theft Ring.

Jewelry Store Burglaries - Detectives investigated two separate commercial burglaries at the same jewelry store for which proceeds for both burglaries were in excess of \$80,000. Detectives worked in conjunction over several months with another jurisdiction who had similar burglaries and suspect descriptions. After a joint investigation and returns from electronic data warrants Detectives were able to identify, confirm and ultimately charge one of the suspects involved in both of our burglaries with Burglary, Theft and Criminal Mischief. Detectives located the subject who was incarcerated in another state for similar offenses.

T-Mobile Thefts - Detectives identified and charged T-Mobile theft suspect, with Shoplifting and Organized Retail Theft Enterprise, regarding numerous Apple watch thefts through the months of November, December and February, from the T-Mobile stores totaling \$6,819 in proceeds. During one of the thefts, the suspect fled on foot, entering what was later identified as a awaiting Uber car. Detectives obtained the Uber account information of the subject who ordered the ride share. Open source information was checked further and accounts linked to the suspect were identified where they located images showing the subject wearing the same distinct clothes in each of the three prior theft incidents. Detectives reviewed historical intelligence information and were able to identify the subject in eight other jurisdictions requesting assistance identifying a suspect in thefts.

Vehicle Burglaries – Detectives investigated five motor vehicle burglaries that occurred in one day with proceeds of over \$80,000 in clothing, currency and jewelry at area shopping centers. During their investigation Detectives were able to locate a vehicle used in the burglaries while reviewing video surveillance as well as two subjects committing the burglaries and thefts. The following day, the suspect vehicle was observed parked unoccupied in an area mall at which time Patrol Officers and Detectives began a surveillance on the vehicle and were able to take the subjects into custody as they entered the vehicle. The subjects were charged with five counts of burglary and theft.



DETECTIVE DIVISION CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION BUREAU

Burglary (Residential) – On December 10th and 23rd, Patrol and Detectives arrested (6) subjects for (2) two separate residential burglaries.

On December 10th Officers responded to a report of a resident viewing a subject in his house on video surveillance. Upon approval of Patrol, a male and female subject were located in a vehicle outside of the resident's house attempting to hide from officers within the vehicle. The home was determined to be entered by forcing a rear window causing the locking mechanism to break. Both subjects were taken into custody on conspiracy to commit burglary charges.

On December 23rd, Officers responded to a report of a burglary in progress which was called in by an alert neighbor advising subjects wearing all dark clothing were entering the rear of a property and a 3rd subject was parked in a vehicle outside the home. Investigation found that entry to the home was made through a forced rear door. A total of (4) four subjects were taken into custody, (2) two in separate motor vehicles with fictitious registrations and (2) two after being involved in a foot pursuit.



DETECTIVE DIVISION

SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS INTELLIGENCE UNIT

The Paramus Police Special Investigation Intelligence Unit (SIU) oversees and coordinates all major criminal investigations within the Borough of Paramus. These investigations include robbery, burglary and homicide. SIU is headed by Detective Lieutenant Schroeder. This unit works closely with the Bergen County Prosecutors Office, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Drug Enforcement Administration, New Jersey State Police and NYPD. The hallmark of this unit is their proactive collaboration with other Federal, State and local law enforcement agencies. Through the sharing of resources and intelligence, Detectives work with units such as NYPD Operation Sentry, Newark Corr-Stat Region Real Time Crime Center and have officers assigned as Task Force Officers with the Bergen County Prosecutors Office, New Jersey State Police Auto Theft Task Force and DEA.

These task force officers have been instrumental in solving many major investigations within Paramus and the tri-state area. As task force partners the Borough of Paramus shares in any seized assets that were the results of criminal activity.

During 2023, SIU Officers assigned to the various State, County and Federal Task Forces led or participated in investigations resulting in numerous arrests and seizures of contraband and assets.

Narcotics: Officers seized over 650 pounds of narcotics including cocaine, heroin, fentanyl, methamphetamine, chemical cutting agents and marijuana. In addition, officers seized 5 handguns, in excess of \$1,228,000 United States currency and 18 vehicles including 16 with hidden trap compartments used in the commission of these crimes.

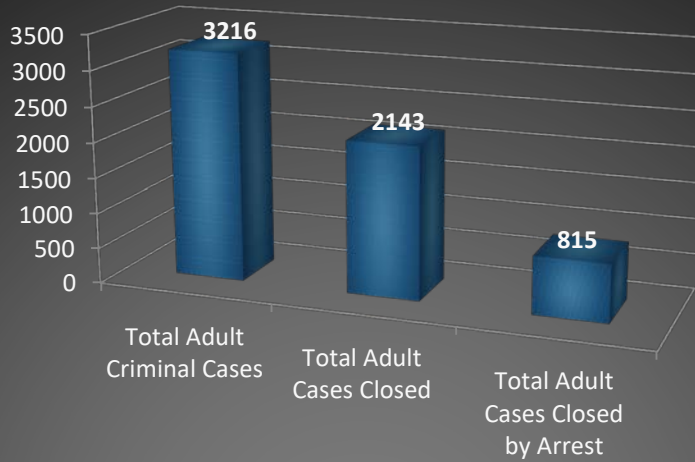
Auto Thefts: Officers recovered over 200 stolen vehicles, 94 arrests and 10 handguns during the course of their investigations.

SIU Detectives investigating a state-wide pattern of retail thefts from an organized theft crew that were responsible for in excess of \$23,000 in thefts of high-end jackets and purses in Paramus. Officers arrested three subjects during a robbery where store personnel were assaulted during the course of a theft. Subsequent investigation by Detectives were able to identify additional subjects from previous thefts as well as provide intelligence to other agencies to further their investigations.

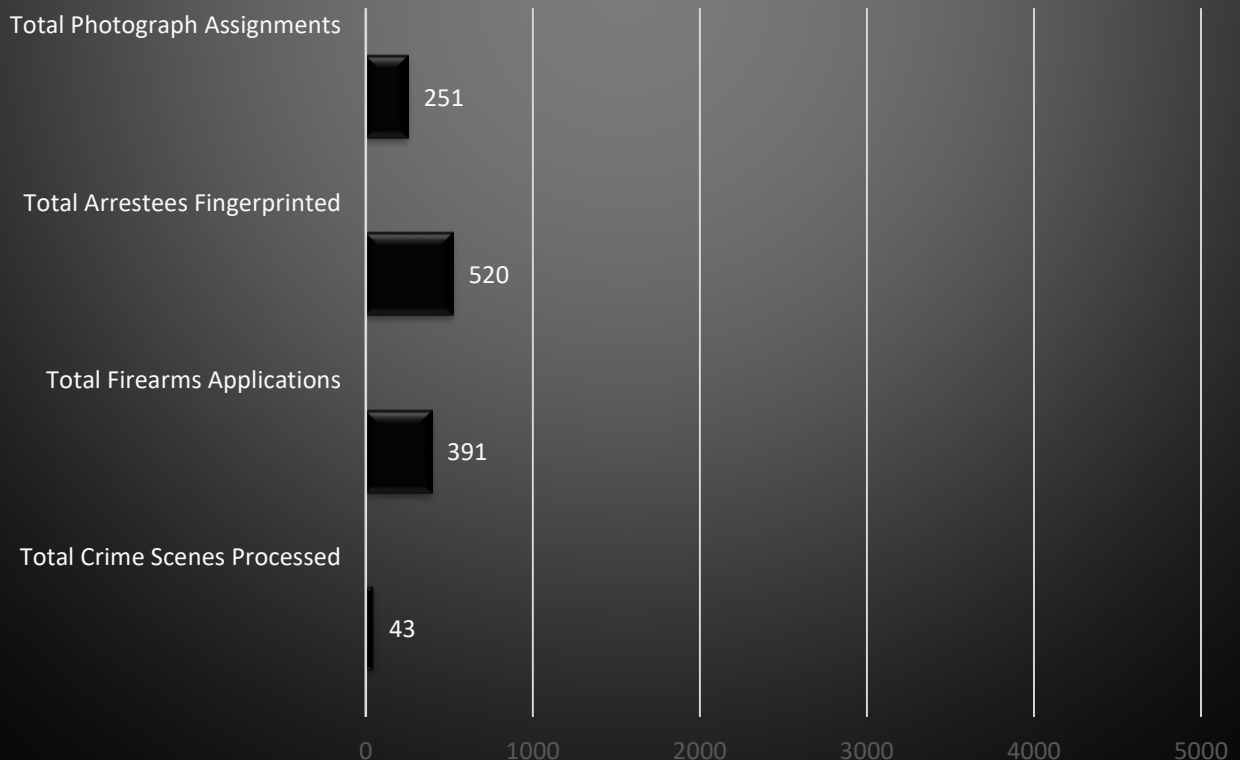
SIU Detectives investigating thefts of in excess of \$10,000 of over the counter medications were able to arrest two subjects for running an organized retail theft enterprise. Detectives consulted with agencies with similar thefts as well as a New York based intelligence center. Through the sharing of information, video and electronic tracking data Detectives were able to identify and charge the subjects.

SIU Detectives investigating a retail theft that turned into a robbery when the subject was detained by loss prevention who were assaulted by the subject. The subject ultimately produced what was believed to be scissors threatening loss prevention and fled the area in a vehicle with a fictitious registration. Detectives utilizing several law enforcement databases were able to locate the true registration for the vehicle. The Bergen County Prosecutors Office Intelligence Unit as well as NYPD were contacted and Detectives were able to obtain information on previous law enforcement encounters with occupants of the vehicle. Through this information sharing, Detectives were able to identify and charge the subject with the robbery.

DETECTIVE DIVISION CRIMINAL IDENTIFICATION BUREAU



Bureau of Criminal Identification



DETECTIVE DIVISION JUVENILE BUREAU



LIEUTENANT
MICHAEL CEBULSKI

The Paramus Police Department's Juvenile Bureau, commanded by Detective Lieutenant Michael Cebulski, is committed to the positive development of the youth that live and visit our jurisdiction. The detectives assigned to the Juvenile Bureau work to ensure that the rights of juveniles are protected while balancing community safety, and youth development.

The Juvenile bureau also provides intervention services and helps to provide a safe environment for our youth. We see our young people as a vital component of our community and its future. The Paramus Police Department's Juvenile Bureau is mandated by the State to prevent juvenile delinquency, and to protect the public by holding the youth accountable for offending behavior and by providing the opportunity to learn to prevent future acts of delinquency. By utilizing the juvenile justice system, as well as other resources, we continue to provide minors with the necessary skills to become productive, responsible, and law-abiding citizens.

The Borough of Paramus has a unique school base population that operates within the borders of Paramus. The approximately 24,500 students attend one of 28 schools located within Paramus. These twenty-eight schools can be classified as state, county, municipal, private, public, or special education facilities. Within the borough, there are four colleges, six high schools, eleven elementary/middle schools, and seven special needs educational facilities. In addition, there are 23 nursery and daycare facilities that operate in Paramus.

In 2019, a major change to juvenile law was enacted in New Jersey with the implementation of a Regional Stationhouse Adjustment Program.

A **stationhouse adjustment** is an alternative process that law enforcement agencies may use to handle first-time juvenile offenders who have admittedly committed minor juvenile delinquency offenses. The intent of the stationhouse adjustment program is to provide for immediate consequences, such as community service or restitution, and a prompt resolution for the victim, while at the same time helping the juvenile by avoiding the stigma of a formal juvenile delinquency record. This early intervention can deter the youth from continuing their negative behavior. However, a victim always has the right to sign a complaint if he or she objects to a stationhouse adjustment.

As with most guidelines, since the inception of the Stationhouse program, there have been several updates and changes to better improve upon the program; to help the community, best serve the victims and satisfy the requirements and objectives set forth by the law.

The Paramus Police department's juvenile bureau is highly versed in all aspects of juvenile law. Due to the high transient juvenile population visiting our malls daily, the number of juvenile interactions within our borough ranks highest in Bergen County.

DETECTIVE DIVISION JUVENILE BUREAU

From 2021 - 2023, juvenile cases increased by 124%, while our juvenile cases closed by arrest soared by 750%, and we had a 98% overall case closure rate in 2023.

Juvenile Case Load, Year over Year

Calendar Year	Total Juvenile Cases	Closed Cases	Closed by Arrest
2022	101	99	34
2023	140	139	61
% Increase	38.6%	40.4%	79.4%

**Closed by Station House Adjustment 2023 = 36*

Our Juvenile Bureau commands the following segments of law enforcement:

JUVENILE INVESTIGATIONS: Conduct investigations on police interactions involving juveniles.

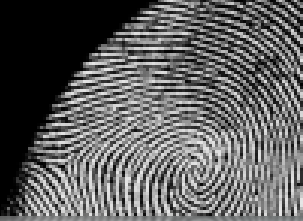
CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS: Process crime scenes, collect physical evidence, prepare criminal complaints, and file same with the Paramus Municipal Court and the Bergen County Superior Court of New Jersey.

NON-CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS: Meet with juveniles, and their families, develop a plan to address the inappropriate behavior of the juvenile and/or parents and develop a conflict resolution plan that is agreeable to all involved.

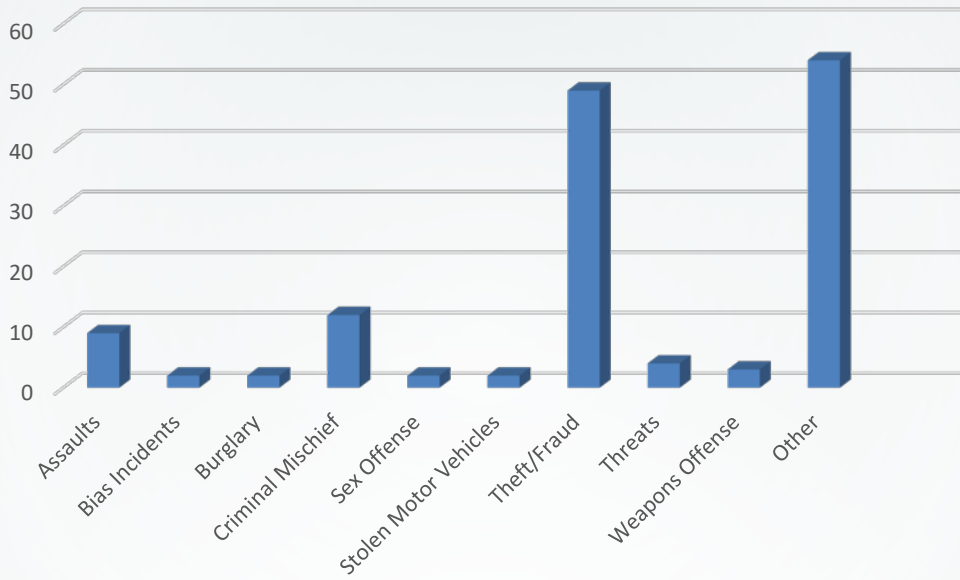
CIVILIAN COMMITTEES: The Juvenile Bureau Detectives are extremely involved in various civilian-assisted committees, including the Juvenile Conference Committee, SALT (Seniors and Law-enforcement Together), Substance Abuse Committee, Community Outreach Unit, Project Medicine Drop, National Night Out, the Annual Holiday Toy Drive Program, and maintaining the Paramus Police Departments Facebook, Instagram and Twitter accounts. The Juvenile Bureau assists the Human Services Department with its goal of providing a safety net for residents in need, including the elderly, disabled, unemployed, single-parent households, and those dealing with mental health or substance abuse issues.

MEGAN'S LAW: Enacted in 1994, Megan's Law is named in memory of Megan Kanka, a seven-year-old girl who was raped and murdered by a neighbor who was a convicted sex offender. The law is intended to inform members of the public about the presence of sex offenders in their community. Sex offenders who have been convicted since Megan's Law went into effect on October 31, 1994, or who were serving a sentence on the effective date of the law are required to register. The Juvenile Bureau is charged with the duties of making contact and registering all sex offenders fitting the guidelines who reside within the Borough.

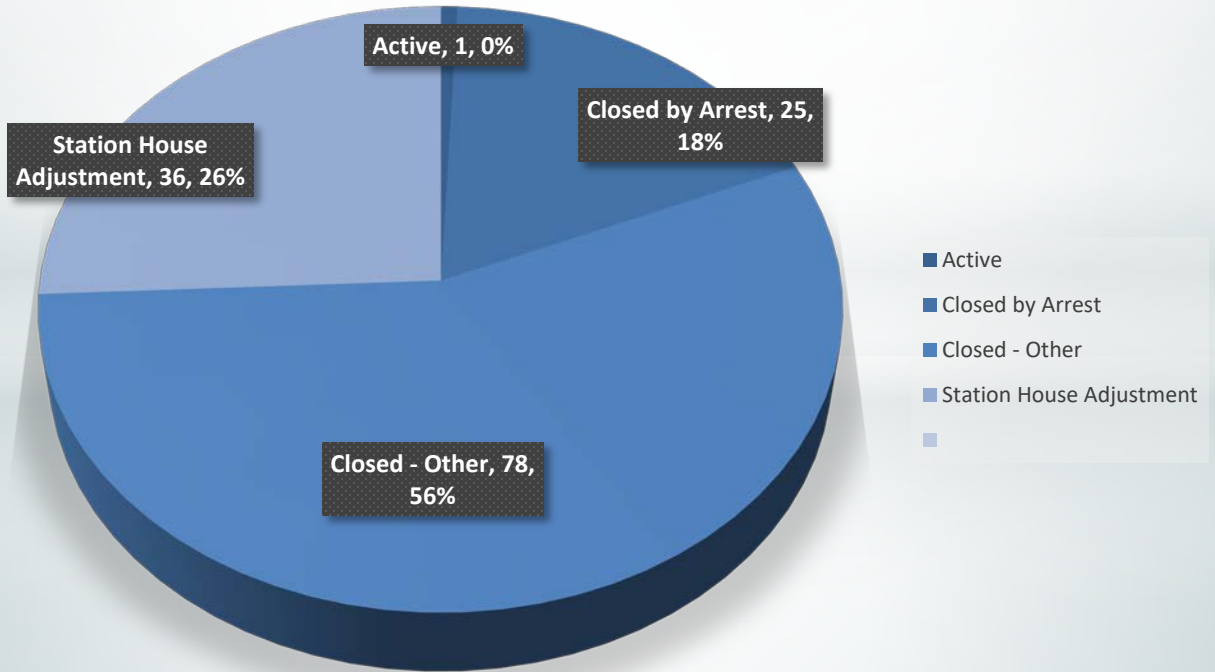
SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION: The Juvenile Bureau coordinates programs for school-aged children and local organizations. Programs include the Middle School L.E.A.D. (Law Enforcement Against Drugs), Elementary School "Red Ribbon Week", High School #notevenonce opiate awareness initiative, and "Park, Walk and Talk" programs within each public school every day, assist with an internship program, and provide awareness talks and tours of the Paramus Police Department for various youth organizations, and help to coordinate the new "Handle with Care" Initiative in accordance with the Attorney General's office.

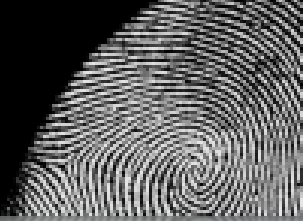


2023 Juvenile Crime Breakdown



Number of Cases





Junior Police Academy



DETECTIVE DIVISION L.E.A.D. UNIT



The Paramus Police Department provides a 12-week curriculum titled "Too Good For Drugs and Violence" to all 5th grade students at East Brook and West Brook Middle Schools. Approximately 300 students were enrolled in the program for the 2022 - 2023 school year. Five specially trained L.E.A.D. officers make up the L.E.A.D. Unit.

L.E.A.D. (Law Enforcement Against Drugs) is a collaborative program in which local law enforcement and local schools join together to teach the students life skills such as setting goals, decision making, identify and manage emotions, and refusing peer pressure. The program also educates the students about the personal, emotional, and social consequences of substance abuse and violence.

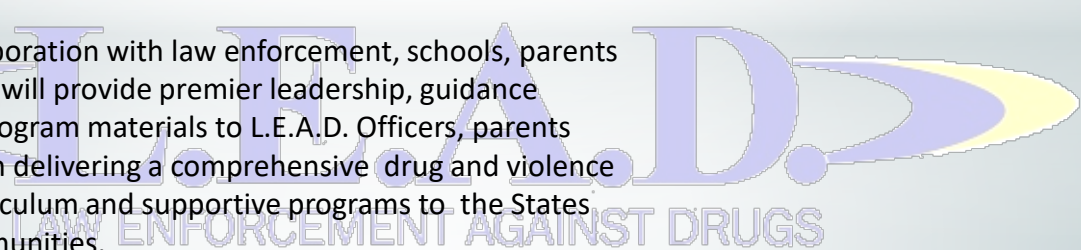
The Paramus Police L.E.A.D. Unit has included family themed trips to local attractions to reinforce the positive alternatives theme that is discussed in class. Positive alternatives remind the students to fill their free time with healthy alternatives to drugs and alcohol such as entertainment, sports, and interactive activities. The L.E.A.D. Unit arranges and chaperones trips to Bounce U, New York Boulders, New Jersey Devils, Medieval Times and the Humdingers Arcade & Bowling Alley. The students are encouraged to attend these trips with their families so that they see officers and parents working together to provide good choices.

The L.E.A.D. Unit also provides a presence at Paramus High School with such programs as #notevenonce (an opiate awareness program), drivers educations class, and criminal justice class visits. The Paramus Police Department L.E.A.D. officers also participate in school-initiated community events such as Senior Mania, Trunk or Treats, Project Graduation, Chief For A Day, and many others.

The Paramus Police Department Participates in the National L.E.A.D. program by hosting a carnival on the property of Westfield, Garden State Plaza annually. This carnival not only supports the national program but also the Paramus Police Department Community Outreach Unit. Officer Louis Cardone has been trained as a LEADer and assists with instructing new officers nationwide.

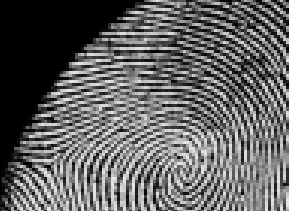
Mission:

L.E.A.D. in collaboration with law enforcement, schools, parents and community will provide premier leadership, guidance direction and program materials to L.E.A.D. Officers, parents and educators in delivering a comprehensive drug and violence prevention curriculum and supportive programs to the States youth and communities.



ON THE STREET AND IN THE CLASSROOM

DETECTIVE DIVISION L.E.A.D. UNIT



DETECTIVE DIVISION SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS

The primary mission of the School Resource Officer (SRO) is to provide a visible and positive image for law enforcement among students. SRO's provide confidential counseling for students concerning the problems they face, and help students make positive choices in their lives. SRO's strive to ensure a healthy school environment where teachers feel safe to teach, and students feel safe to learn.

The SRO Program is a collaborative effort by certified law enforcement officers, educators, students, parents and the community to offer law related educational programs in the schools in an effort to reduce crime, drug abuse, and violence while providing a safe school environment.

The Paramus Police Department has nine trained School Resource Officers:

- Capt. James Teehan
- Det. Lieutenant Keith DiMascio
- Sergeant Sal Cosentino
- Sergeant Benjamin Fox
- P.O. Anthony Liggio
- P.O. Gil Maynard
- P.O. Lou Cardone
- P.O. Jamie Piccinich
- P.O. Thomas Keough
- P.O. Brian Doughty
- P.O. Clario Sampson

Two Officers work on a rotating basis with nine additional officers to supplement the unit. Several of the tasks that an SRO performs during the school year include one-on-one counseling with students, responding to calls for sick and injured students, crisis preparedness planning, attending school safety meetings, conducting security assessments of all school campuses. The SRO's routinely educate students by providing classroom instruction of driver education, criminal law, the dangers of vaping, as well as the dangers of illicit drug use. The SRO's chaperone at evening school events, act as guest speakers on subjects such as crisis planning and internet safety. SRO's provide a familiar face to students during school lockdowns, evacuations, bomb threats and active shooter drills.



DETECTIVE DIVISION COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Through our community outreach unit we feel that we can nurture the relationships we have built with our residents. During the implementation of various quality of life programs such as Coffee With A Cop, S.A.L.T. (Senior's and Law Enforcement Together), Operation Medicine Drop, the Disabled Resident Identification Program, National Night Out and the Junior Police Academy, the Paramus Police Department provides constant interaction with our community. Our Community Outreach Unit assists residents with issues that affect their quality of life while living and working in the Borough of Paramus.

Community Outreach Unit Programs

Coffee With A Cop – A planned “meet and greet” with the community over a cup of coffee. No speeches, no agenda's or presentations at this event. Coffee With A Cop is meant to have a one on one conversation with Paramus residents to discuss our effort to enhance our community

Lock Box Program - In 2018 the Lock Box program was instituted for seniors. A coded lock box is offered as a point of access for police into a resident's home for emergency purposes

Disabled Resident Identification Program - A registration program for our disabled residents fosters communication between our emergency services and our residents with special needs. A photograph and basic information is provided by the resident which is kept in a secure database which is used to assist with any type of emergency call involving the resident

National Night Out - A yearly event sponsored by the Paramus Police Department usually held on the grounds of the Paramus Public Library. Community members come together to share information amongst our residential, professional and emergency services community

Torch Run – Every year the Paramus Police Department joins approximately 3,000 police officers throughout the state in a run to raise money for the Special Olympics. The donations collected make it possible for the athletes to train and participate in the Olympic events with no cost to them or their families

S.A.L.T. (Senior's and Law Enforcement Together) - A monthly meeting between the Paramus Police Department and representatives of our senior citizens in the community. S.A.L.T. provides two way communications that enhance the lives of our senior residents. Topics of discussion include: Personal safety and security, common scams, as well as general quality of life issues

Junior Police Academy – The Paramus Junior Police Academy is designed to provide young adults with a better understanding of police in today's society and increase awareness and appreciation of law enforcement and the Paramus Police Department. The “JPA” consisted of a week of learning about all aspects of law enforcement through trips and classroom presentations

Operation Medicine Drop - The Community Outreach Unit maintains an expired or unused medicine drop box located at police headquarters as well as a portable unit that is brought to community events in order to encourage our residents to clean out their medicine cabinets. The turned in medication is destroyed in an environmentally safe manner at a New Jersey State Police collection site or through the DEA

Not Even Once - #NOTEVENONCE is a collaborative effort between law enforcement and educators with the goal of informing students about the dangers of opiates before they leave for college or enter the work force. This course is taught at the Paramus high school by Paramus Police Officers

DETECTIVE DIVISION COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Red Ribbon Week - Red Ribbon Week is an awareness campaign that gets information to the general public about the dangers of drug use. A presentation is given to all kindergarten through 4th grade Paramus school students by Paramus Police Officers. This presentation includes important topics such as stranger danger, pedestrian safety, seat belt and school bus safety, and internet safety

Video PSA's – This year the Paramus police Department created the first, of hopefully many, video public service announcements. The PSA was created to inform residents of the uptick in package thefts during the holiday season. This video received over 15 thousand views on Facebook and worldwide media coverage.

Toy Drive – Every December the Paramus Police Department participates in the PBA toy drive. Thousands of gifts are donated from schools, businesses, and local area residents to help the less fortunate during the Holiday Season. Police officers then sort through the donations to be given to families in need, the U.S. Military, orphanages, Hackensack Children's Hospital and many others

Chief for a Day – Chief for a Day is an inspirational program that offers local children with chronic health conditions and special needs a behind-the-scenes look at law enforcement

Letters to Santa Mailbox – This December the Paramus Police Department created a mailbox for children's letters to Santa Claus.



S.A.L.T. (Senior's and Law Enforcement Together)



Red Ribbon Week



Letters to Santa Mailbox

DETECTIVE DIVISION COMMUNITY OUTREACH



Coffee With A Cop



National Night Out



Toy Drive



Tank Pull



PATROL DIVISION



**CAPTAIN
BRIAN MCGOVERN**

The Patrol Division is the largest Division within the Paramus Police Department. The Patrol Division is divided into two platoons with each platoon having a day and a night tour. The Patrol Division is the only Division that is on duty 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and on every single day of the year. The officers of this Division are the first to respond to all emergency calls and typically operate marked police vehicles and are outfitted in full uniform.

The mission of the Patrol Division is to deliver exceptional service to the residents of the Borough as well as anyone who works, shops or travels in our Borough. The uniformed officers of the Patrol Division are responsible for responding to calls for medical assistance, injured persons, motor vehicle accidents, crimes in progress and all public assistance calls.

Officers in this division also enforce the motor vehicle laws, apprehend criminals and investigate suspicious incidents.

When new officers begin their careers with our department, they are assigned to the Patrol Division for training with a Field Training Officer. Working closely with the Training Division, new officers are immersed in a comprehensive and structured field training program. They are partnered with specially trained and experienced patrol officers to ensure each new officer has the tools to provide the highest level of service for the community. Once completed with their training, they are permanently assigned to the Patrol Division.

Officers in the Patrol Division have been, and continue to be, assigned to various county, state and federal agencies to supplement their personnel. These assignments have proven to be an integral part of Paramus Police Department as a whole. The officers assigned to these agencies have gained a higher level of experience and knowledge which provides a tremendous benefit to Paramus to ensure the safety of our residents, commercial establishments and visitors to our community.

Listed below are some of the more remarkable incidents that the Patrol Division responded to in 2023. These calls for service give a snapshot of the variety of calls for service the Patrol Division responds to and the outstanding work performed by our patrol officers.

- On Saturday, February 4, 2023, at approximately 2033 hours, PO M. Mordaga conducted a motor vehicle stop in the Garden State Plaza. During his investigation, PO Mordaga discovered an altered VIN number on the vehicle. The vehicle was confirmed stolen out of Sea Bright, NJ. The vehicle was impounded and a search warrant was granted. A search of the vehicle led to the discovery of two hidden electronic compartments which contained a Ruger 9mm pistol and \$147,040 in US currency.



PATROL DIVISION

- On Thursday, April 6, 2023, patrol officers responded to the north parking deck of the Garden State Plaza on a report of an unconscious male victim, later determined to be a suicide. Officers located the victim who was unconscious, not breathing, and cold to the touch with signs of lividity on his body. The Detective Bureau was notified and reviewed surveillance video where the suicide was captured on video. The scene was turned over to the Detective Bureau and the body was picked up by the Medical Examiner's Office.
- On Sunday, April 9, 2023, at approximately 1945 hours, Paramus patrol officers initiated a motor vehicle stop on a vehicle driven by a wanted person out of Ridgewood. The suspect had just been involved in a domestic violence incident involving a butcher knife. After stopping the vehicle, the suspect barricaded himself in his vehicle while refusing to comply to officer's orders. Eventually, the suspect was taken into custody without incident and turned over to Ridgewood Police Department.
- On Saturday, April 15, 2023, at approximately 0258 hours, patrol officers responded to a motor vehicle crash with injuries on Route 4 West. Officers located a vehicle with significant front-end damage occupied by the driver, who was unresponsive with no pulse. Officers immediately began CPR and applied a defibrillator to the victim, who was wedged under the steering wheel column. The Detective Bureau was notified and responded to the scene. The victim was transported to HUMC, where he was pronounced deceased.
- On Wednesday, May 10, 2023, at approximately 1855 hours, patrol officers responded to the BP Gas Station, located at 640 Route 17 North, on a report of an armed robbery. Upon arrival, officers interviewed the victim, who reported an Asian male attempted to make a purchase at the cash register when suddenly he stuck his hand into his sweatshirt pulling out what appeared to be a handgun or taser. The suspect yelled, "Give me everything!", and the employee subsequently turned over all the cash from the register. Detectives responded to the scene for processing.
- On Monday, May 15, 2023, at approximately 1654 hours, patrol officers were dispatched to the area of South Farview Avenue on a report of an erratic driver who had struck multiple vehicles. The suspect vehicle subsequently crashed into the front yard landscape of 5 South Farview Avenue. Officers rendered aid to one of the victim's, who had sustained a broken right arm. In the meantime, officers located the driver of the suspect vehicle, who was exhibiting clear signs of intoxication. He was subsequently arrested for driving under the influence and charged criminally with assault by auto.
- On Wednesday, June 7, 2023, at approximately 0137 hours, patrol officers were dispatched to Mercedes Benz of Paramus, located at 755 Route 17 South, on a report of several suspicious individuals wearing ski masks on property. Officers became involved in a foot pursuit with the suspects, apprehending three in total. The suspects were charged with burglary and possession of burglar tools.



PATROL DIVISION

- On Wednesday, June 21, 2023, at approximately 0040 hours, PO Bajovic observed a vehicle occupied by several individuals wearing ski masks. A vehicle inquiry revealed that it had been stolen out of Lodi the previous day. PO Bajovic attempted a motor vehicle stop but the suspect vehicle fled onto Route 208 North where it crashed in Wyckoff. Several occupants bailed on foot but with the help of assisting officers all suspects were apprehended and charged accordingly.
- On Wednesday, July 12, 2023, at approximately 1539 hours, patrol officers responded to Erik Jewelry at The Jewelry center on a report of a theft that had just occurred. Officers spoke with the victim, who reported that a black male suspect had requested to look at numerous necklaces from the display case including a 14-karat yellow gold necklace worth \$55,000. Moments later the suspect fled the store with the bracelet in question. The scene was turned over to the Detective Bureau for processing and follow up investigation.
- On Thursday, July 13, 2023, at approximately 1209 hours, patrol officers were dispatched to Music and Arts, 240 Route 17 North, on a report of an armed robbery that had just occurred. Upon arrival, responding officers secured the scene and interviewed the victim as well as store employees. The victim reported being approached by two male suspects in the parking lot, one of which had a handgun. The suspects demanded the victim drive to Chase Bank and withdraw \$10,000 in cash. The victim complied and the suspects fled the scene after receiving the cash. The case was turned over to the Detective Bureau for follow up investigation.
- On Monday, July 24, 2023, at approximately 0208 hours, PO M. Mordaga responded to Biagio's, 299 Paramus Road, on a report of a group of intoxicated people in the parking lot. Upon arrival, PO Mordaga proceeded to interview the group who became uncooperative. An intoxicated female attempted to drive her vehicle and when PO Mordaga restrained her from doing so she assaulted him. He was then assaulted by the female's boyfriend. Responding officers assisted in ultimately placing both suspects in custody. They were transported to police headquarters and charged accordingly.
- On Wednesday, August 9, 2023, at approximately 0432 hours, patrol officers responded to 771 Arbor Road on a check of the welfare. Officers contacted the victim's mother, who reported locating a note in her daughter's bedroom regarding depression. The victim was not at the residence and was reported to have been intoxicated before leaving the home. The victim's phone was pinged and she was subsequently located by Port Authority Police at the north entrance of the George Washington Bridge. The victim was transported to New Bridge Medical Center for further evaluation.



PATROL DIVISION

- On Thursday, August 17, 2023, at approximately 1121 hours, patrol officers responded to 20 N. Farview Avenue on a report of a Robbery. After interviewing all occupants of the apartment, it was determined that four individuals including the resident as well as the original caller had met to have consensual sex. A dispute ensued in which one of the suspects held a participant against his will. After checking the identification of all four parties involved it was revealed that each of them had individual criminal warrants. All four were arrested and charged accordingly by the Detective Bureau.
- On Saturday, August 26, 2023, at approximately 0409 hours, patrol officers responded to 157 Lawrence Drive on a report of an activated burglar alarm. Dispatch reported receiving a 911 call from the resident, who reported several armed individuals inside his home. Upon arrival, the victim reported that the suspects had attempted to steal his Lamborghini and that they had just fled the scene. Sgt. Hayo, while responding, observed the suspect vehicle, which he pursued into Newark until the pursuit was terminated. It was determined that the suspects had used a pry tool to force entry into the victim's home where they stole the key to his Lamborghini, several credit cards, identifications, and other personal belongings.
- On Monday, August 28, 2023, at approximately 2355 hours, patrol officers responded to the BP Gas Station, 220 Route 4 East, on a report of an armed robbery and attempted carjacking. Upon arrival, officers contacted the victim, who reported that while sitting in his vehicle, two male suspects confronted him with a handgun. The suspects ordered the victim out of his vehicle and demanded his wallet and the car keys. The victim's wallet was stolen but the vehicle keys remained with the victim while he ran into



COMMUNICATIONS BUREAU



**DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY
/COMMUNICATIONS
ERIC PICONE**

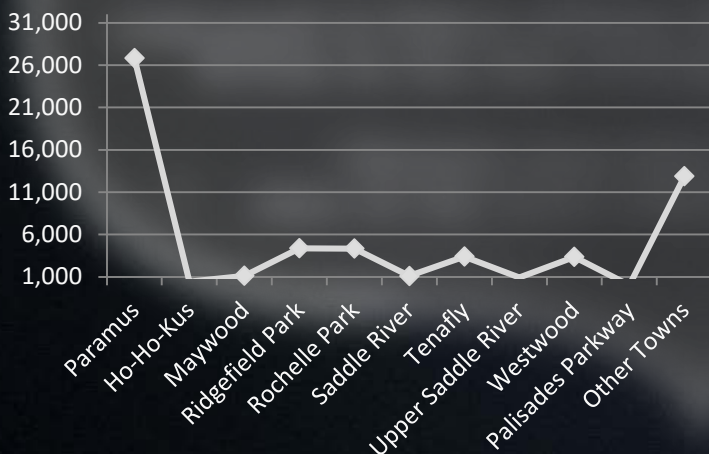
The Vincent M. Brock Communications Center is a regional public safety answering point (PSAP) and the dispatch center for all Borough Emergency Services. The Communications Center provides exceptional 911 answering services to eight towns; Ho-Ho-Kus, Maywood, Ridgefield Park, Rochelle Park, Saddle River, Tenafly, Upper Saddle River, and Westwood, as well as landlines for the Palisades Interstate Parkway. Additionally, Paramus handled nearly 13,000 overflow 911 calls from other jurisdictions. In 2023, the Communications Center answered 58,831 emergency 911 calls.

Dispatcher field calls for all types of incidents, requesting police, fire or medical response. Call-takers will gather all necessary information to determine the appropriate response, allowing dispatchers to quickly send units to the scene. Call-takers also provide pre-arrival instructions, from basic first aid to telephonic CPR. Telecommunicators must learn how to work through stress and emotions to maintain control of these calls and to act effectively and efficiently

TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE THROUGH 2023

PD Calls	FD Calls	EMS Calls
53,240	1,357	4,878

BREAKDOWN OF TOTAL 9-1-1 CALLS BY TOWN ANSWERED FOR 2023



Paramus	26,854	Tenafly	3,399
Ho-Ho-Kus	427	Upper Saddle River	939
Maywood	1,117	Westwood	3,357
Ridgefield Park	4,375	Palisades Parkway	30
Rochelle Park	4,344	Other Towns	12,888
Saddle River	1,101		

COMMUNICATIONS BUREAU

While nearly two-hundred 911 calls are answered every day, telecommunicators also handled 59,475 calls for service in 2023. Once the calls are dispatched, the telecommunicators serve as a relay between responders, and as a hub of information. Dispatchers are a vital link the law enforcement, assisting officers in the field by performing computer checks on persons and property. Subjects are checked for warrants, criminal and driving histories, and other information. Dispatchers will ensure units in the field are safe by maintaining situational awareness and accountability.

Routine and emergency calls can come in at any time. Dispatchers must remain ready to handle the call, and dispatch units quickly and efficiently to promote safety for both the caller and responders. With limited information, dispatchers paint a picture for responders so they can best handle the situation upon their arrival. In 2023, we saw several unique events that Dispatchers were able to work diligently and cooperatively to come to a successful resolution. There were numerous weather events, necessitating coordination between police, fire and emergency management units in evacuating flooded areas and bringing people to safety.

The Communications Bureau continued to improve radio communications throughout the Borough, putting in service new portable radio units for the Paramus Fire Department and Rescue Squad. These new radios are ruggedized, modern radio units that will better support the life safety mission. Planning begun toward a large-scale upgrade of the police radios, as well as all radio and 911 infrastructure, that is planned to begin in 2024





IN MEMORIAM



Lieutenant Harry Carlough
End of Watch: Sunday, January 15, 1956 **Age:** 43
Badge Number: 102 **Incident Details**
Cause of Death: Vehicle pursuit
Date of Incident: Wednesday, December 7, 1955
Weapon Used: Automobile

Lieutenant Carlough succumbed to complications of injuries sustained in a vehicle accident on December 7, 1955. He was assisting other units in a vehicle pursuit that originated in Troy, New York. He was travelling on Route 17 when he swerved to avoid a truck that was entering the highway and his patrol car struck a tractor trailer. Lieutenant Carlough suffered multiple injuries and suffered severe allergic reactions to antibiotics he was placed on as a result. He died from his injuries on January 15, 1956. He was survived by his wife and son.



Patrolman Michael P. McEllen
End of Watch: Sunday, October 3, 1976 **Age:** 27
Tour of Duty: 3 years, 6 months **Badge Number:** 306
Incident Details
Cause of Death: Automobile accident
Date of Incident: Sunday, October 3, 1976

Patrolman McEllen was killed in an automobile accident while responding to an intruder call at 2300 hours. His patrol car hydroplaned on a rain-slicked Route 17, causing it to strike a light pole. Patrolman McEllen had served with the Paramus Police Department for 3.5 years. He was survived by his wife and two children.



Patrolman Vincent M. Brock
End of Watch: Monday, November 22, 1993 **Age:** 39
Tour of Duty: 12 years **Badge Number:** 326
Incident Details
Cause of Death: Automobile accident
Date of Incident: Monday, November 22, 1993
Suspect Info: Arrested

Officer Brock was killed when his patrol car struck a utility pole on Route 4 while he was responding to a false 9-1-1 call from a stolen cellular phone. The suspect who placed the false call was arrested after the cellular phone was reactivated and traced. He was sentenced to five years in prison in connection with Officer Brock's death. Officer Brock had served with the Paramus Police Department for 12 years. He was survived by his wife, two sons, and daughter.



PARAMUS POLICE DEPARTMENT
1 CARLOUGH DRIVE
PARAMUS, NEW JERSEY 07652

WEBSITE: WWW.PARAMUSPOLICE.ORG

GENERAL INFORMATION: 201-262-3400

EMERGENCY **9-1-1**



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****Published without the use of public tax funds**