

# New Paltz Police Department



2020 Year End  
Annual Report



# MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

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On behalf of the New Paltz Police Department, I am pleased to submit our first annual Department End of Year Report. Publishing this report was one of my biggest priorities when I was promoted to Chief. Its importance was underscored during the reform and reinvention process. With each meeting, it became apparent that many in our community did not know their police department; the people who make it up, the programs they provide and the events they are involved in on an annual basis.

I would like to thank all the members of the New Paltz Police Department and their families for their dedication and sacrifice in making our New Paltz Community a safe place to live and work, especially in our COVID-19 world. I want to thank Town Supervisor Neil Bettez, the Town Board, Village Mayor Tim Rogers and the Village Board for their unwavering support and confidence in their police department. We are grateful for and value the trust you have placed in us to serve the community. We look forward to working with our Reform and Reinvention Collaborative to identify and implement programs that strengthen our service to the community. Achieving the designation of a New York State Accredited Law Enforcement Agency underscores our on-going commitment to ensuring our community receives the best that twenty-first century policing has to offer.

This publication is yet another step in providing greater transparency to the community. We hope it provides you with a better understanding of how your tax dollars are spent. I invite you to call upon me or any of our staff with comments and concerns on how we can make our community a better place to live. If you have any questions relative to the context of this publication, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you,

Chief Robert J. Lucchesi



# MISSION STATEMENT

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The mission of the New Paltz Police Department is to provide the highest quality police services to our community. We are committed to working with our community to enhance the quality of life for all while preserving peace, order and safety; enforcing laws and ordinances and safeguarding constitutional rights. We are committed to serving the people of our community with respect, fairness, and compassion; upholding the highest regard for the sanctity of life as well as the dignity and liberty of all people. We are committed to the full-time practice of our core values.



In furtherance of our mission, it is the responsibility of all members and employees of the New Paltz Police Department to perform their duties in a manner that ensures we adhere to our values.

**Accountability:** We understand the authority and responsibilities that accompany our duties and are committed to excellence in our personal performance, professionalism, and service we provide. We are accountable for everything we do, to each other and most importantly to the people we serve.

**Compassion:** We care deeply about our community. We will serve compassionately and in a manner that is always mindful of the humanity and dignity of the people of our community.

**Inclusiveness:** We will promote an organizational culture of inclusivity, providing a genuine atmosphere of safety for the entire community regardless of identity. We will strive to create a department that is reflective of the community it serves.

**Integrity:** Our success depends on the trust and confidence of the people we serve; to maintain legitimacy we must continuously model behavior that is beyond reproach and reflects the integrity of police professionals.

**Problem Solving:** We are most efficient when we work with the community to identify and solve problems. We believe in organizational and community teamwork, mutual support and open communication to ensure effective police services in our community. Engaging our community and working together on collaborative solutions demonstrates responsiveness while fostering trust and legitimacy.

We accomplish our mission through our core values which are reflected in our people, policy, training and supervision and oversight, the five essential pillars of the agency.

## DEPARTMENT ACCREDITATION

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The New Paltz Police Department became a New York State Department of Criminal Justice accredited police agency on March 8, 2018. Accreditation is formal recognition that an agency's policies, training and supervision meet or exceed best policing practices as defined by the State of New York Department of Criminal Justice Services. It requires a police agency to continuously evaluate itself with the overall goal of improved performance.

Once accredited, agencies must submit a Compliance Survey each year to document areas of compliance as well as an onsite review for re-accreditation every five years. The New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services (NYSDCJS) Office of Public Safety oversees the New York State Law Enforcement Agency Accreditation Program, which was established as a voluntary program that would provide Law Enforcement agencies with a mechanism to evaluate and improve the overall effectiveness of their agency and the performance of their staff.

The program encompasses four principal goals:

1. To increase the effectiveness and efficiency of law enforcement agencies utilizing existing personnel, equipment, and facilities to the extent possible;
2. To promote increased cooperation and coordination among law enforcement agencies and other agencies that provide criminal justice services;
3. To ensure the appropriate training of law enforcement personnel; and
4. To promote public confidence in law enforcement agencies.

There are 110 accreditation standards that must be maintained by the department and agencies are re-accredited every five years. A copy of the New York State Accreditation Standards is available on our website. The department is scheduled for re-accreditation in 2023.



2018 Accreditation Award  
Ceremony  
Albany, NY

## POLICY AND PROCEDURE

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Department policy and procedures is the second of five pillars – people, policy, training, oversight, and discipline – in which the agency is built upon. The Policy and Procedure Manual is a collection of approximately 150 policies and procedures used to guide members with respect to their prescribed duties and responsibilities. This manual governs the actions of all personnel in their various roles and provides a mechanism to ensure we provide the best policing services possible and that our people conduct themselves with the utmost integrity and provide public confidence and legitimacy.

Many of the department policies and procedures were developed using model policies and updates from the Municipal Police Training Council (MPTC). The MPTC is part of the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services (NYSDCJS), and its function is to provide the most up-to-date training and guidance to police officers throughout New York State.

In accordance with best practices our policies and procedures are reviewed and updated based upon developments in police practice, case law and legal statute changes and the needs of our community. The review of existing policies and evaluation/implementation of potential new ones is an ongoing process and is something that does not end. Additional resources include the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF), Americans for Effective Law Enforcement (AELE), Daigle Law Group, and Legal and Liability Risk Management Institute (LLRMI).

Our website, <https://www.townofnewpaltz.org/police/pages/department-policy-and-procedure>, contains many of our policies. We encourage the community to visit our website as we are continuously updating and adding to the policies on the site.

## ABOUT THE NEW PALTZ POLICE DEPARTMENT

[WWW.TOWNOFNEWPALTZ.ORG/POLICE](http://WWW.TOWNOFNEWPALTZ.ORG/POLICE)

The New Paltz Police Department is a full-time department that operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The department is broken down into three divisions as outlined in this report. It is comprised of; 21 full time sworn personnel, including a Chief and a Lieutenant, 7 part-time police officers, 3 full time dispatchers and 7 part-time dispatchers.

The gender and race breakdown of the department is:

- 78% sworn personnel white
- 22% sworn personnel black
- 86% sworn personnel male
- 14% sworn personnel female
- 24% of department BIPOC
- 32% of department female.

There are several methods of reaching the New Paltz Police Department:

- Main Phone: **(845) 255-1323**
- Tip Line: **(845) 255-1357**
- Toll-Free: **(877) 677-3911**
- Detective Division: **(845) 255-1357**
- Administration: **(845) 255-7112**
- Fax: **(845) 255-2648**
- Website: <https://www.townofnewpaltz.org/police>

Visit us on Facebook at:

[https://www.facebook.com/  
NewPaltzPolice](https://www.facebook.com/NewPaltzPolice)

Visit us on Twitter at:

[@NewPaltzPD](https://twitter.com/NewPaltzPD)





**COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION**

The Communications Division is the heart of our department. It is staffed by three full-time and seven part-time communication specialists. In addition to dispatching calls for service, the communication specialists are the initial point of contact at our 24-hour service window. They are also responsible for most of our data entry as well as receiving and directing administrative telephone calls. Our dispatchers go through a rigorous in-house training program that gives them the ability to handle all your needs and at the same time have the local knowledge of the area that can sometimes make a difference.

**PATROL DIVISION**

The Patrol Division is the face of our department. There are 13 full-time and 7 part-time officers assigned to patrol along with 4 uniformed patrol sergeants. These members provide 24/7 service to the residents, businesses, and visitors of our community. The Patrol Division is often the first encounter of the police that most citizens experience. The overall tone of the experience with law enforcement is established from this very first impression. It is imperative for officers to model the department's core values; accountability, compassion, inclusiveness, integrity, and problem solving when interacting with the community.

Additionally, all officers are trained at a minimum level of First Responders and carry automated external defibrillators. These officers can provide lifesaving medical assistance to those that are injured or sick.

**DETECTIVE DIVISION**

The Detective Division is responsible for investigating all major crimes, unattended deaths, serious motor vehicle accidents and minor crimes that require more time than patrol officers can reasonably provide. Additionally, detectives oversee evidence processing, maintain our agency's sex offender registry, and ensure discovery material is provided to the court. The division is comprised of a Detective and Detective Sergeant, both of whom have received extensive investigative training. Detectives are also responsible for coordinating all department cases with the Ulster County District Attorney's Office.

In 2020 the Detective Division handled 144 cases, compared to 107 the previous year. The division successfully investigated and closed 130 cases.

NEW PALTZ POLICE PERSONNEL

[WWW.TOWNOFNEWPALTZ.ORG/POLICE](http://WWW.TOWNOFNEWPALTZ.ORG/POLICE)

**Chief of Police**

Robert J. Lucchesi

**Lieutenant**

Scott D. Butler

**Administrative Assistant**

Theresa Hart

**Sergeants**

Keith Lewis   Patrick Koch   Matthew Sutton   Carmine Fuoco   Brianne Quigley

**Detectives**

Joseph Judge

**Officers**

Baity, Terrell	Benjamin, Cheryl	Bernhardsen, Eric	Bulson, Ryan
Bunce, Duke	Carpinelli, Daniel	Dugatkin, David	Halstead, Calvin
James, Channon	Kraus, Phil	Marsh, Caelan	Milton, Jerome
Mitchell, Zachary	Pece, Tyler	Redmond, Evan	Sisco, Robert
Towne, Jonah	Yant, Terance	Yeager, Michelle	

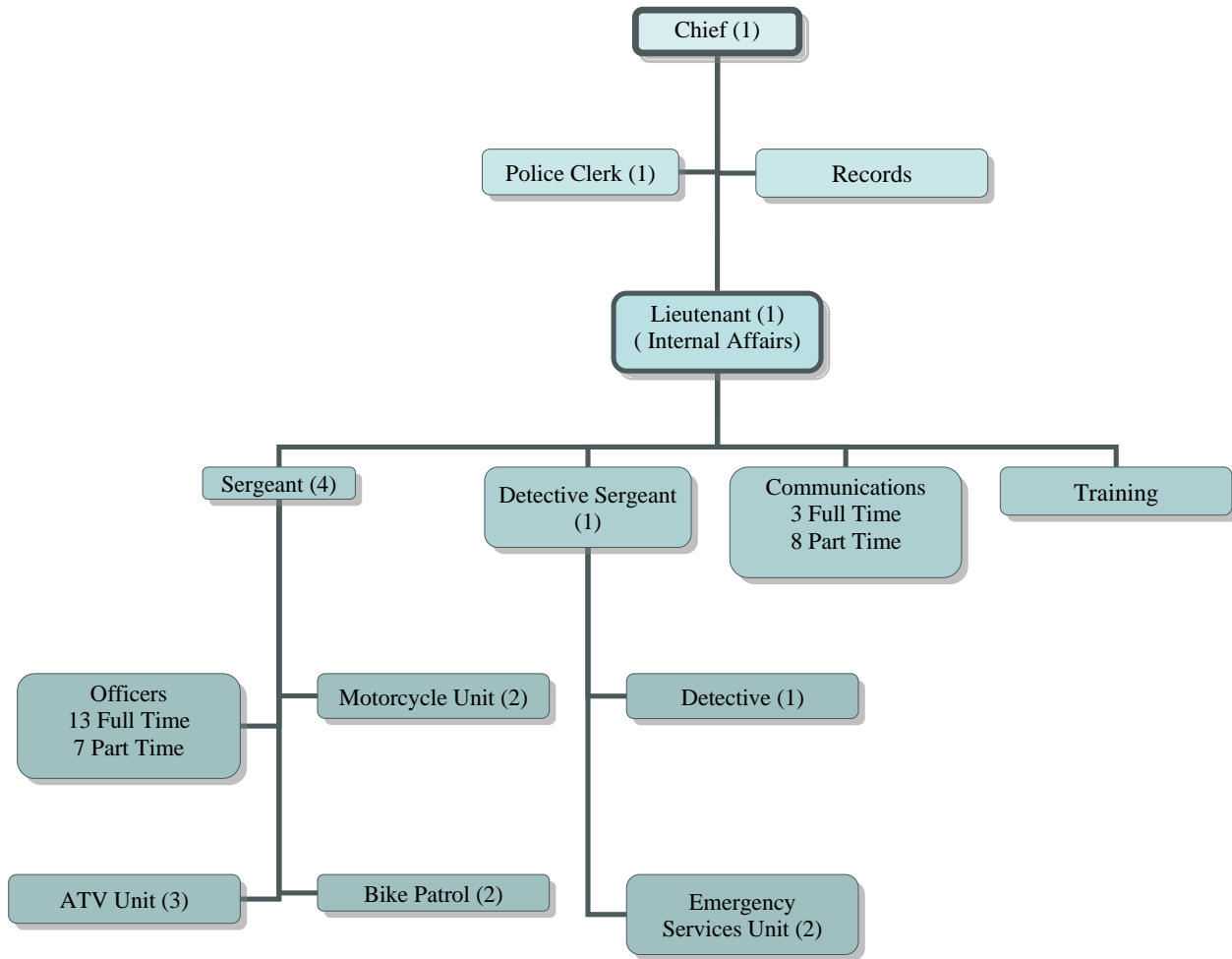
**Dispatchers**

Caputo, Catherine	Claud, Tiffany	Constable, Beth	Hart, Theresa
Kane, Alyssa	Luyando, Elaina	Maher, Colleen	Palmateer, ToniAnn
Reilly, Kaitlyn	Rosado, Luis	Vernon, Joshua	



# NEW PALTZ POLICE ORGANIZATION CHART

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## NEW PALTZ POLICE 2020 TRAINING

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Training is the third pillar of the agency. The demands of the twenty-first century police officer requires extensive training. Well trained, educated law enforcement officers, are better suited to serve our community. Department members spent 2,588 hours in training in 2020. This includes academy, outside, online, specialized unit and in-service training. Our training curriculum is centered upon our department Policy and Procedure Manual which governs how we operate. Policy dictates training, supervision, and oversight of the agency.

Our department in-service training program is grounded on an instructional philosophy of “good, better, best” encouraging officers to continuously evaluate and strive to improve their performance. It stimulates critical decision making on the part of the officer which will help them better cope with tense and dynamic incidents. Our program integrates training disciplines because real world incidents do not fall into a single category. For example, CIT and de-escalation are an integral part of our firearms and defensive tactics training.

Accreditation requires a minimum of 21 hours of in-service training each year on various topics including mental health, legal updates, defensive tactics. Accreditation also requires all supervisors to receive more than the minimum 21 hours of training. Sergeants receive an additional 10-20 hours of training on subject matter that includes leadership, use of force investigation and legal updates.

Each month the Chief of Police prepares a training report for the Police Commission detailing the trainings attended by members. Highlights of the year’s training include:

### **Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Training**

CIT is more than just teaching officers active listening skills and de-escalation techniques. It is intended to create connections between law enforcement, mental health providers, hospital emergency services and individuals with mental illness and their families. Through collaborative community partnerships



and intensive training, CIT improves communication, identifies mental health resources for those in crisis and ensures officer and community safety. Officer Phil Kraus is a certified CIT instructor and in 2020 three members completed the 40-hour training.

Currently, 40% of the department is certified in CIT with the goal of 85-95% certified by the end of 2021.



### **Police Mental Health Crisis/De-Escalation Training**

Since 2014, the department has conducted a police mental health crisis/de-escalation training as part of its in-service training curriculum. This biennial training is co-instructed by Officer Phil Kraus and Christopher Dennehy, the Clinical Director of Step One. This is a 24-hour training that incorporates role playing to help train officers in recognizing and helping those who are experiencing a mental health crisis. The department also integrates this training in its reality-based scenario, defensive tactics, and firearms training.

### **Reality Based Scenario Training**

The department has maintained a reality-based training curriculum for over 15 years. It initially began as “active shooter” training and has evolved into a multi-faceted reality program that integrates de-escalation, CFR, and other trainings. Lieutenant Butler and Detective Judge were part of the initial NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services pilot RBT Instructor program.

The department’s program focuses on teaching members de-escalation and critical decision making by maximizing the use of time, distance, and cover. In the last 4-5 years training has focused on teaching officers to differentiate active violence from non-active violence and when applicable, use distance, cover, time, and outside resources like Mobile Mental Health to resolve situations.

### **NYMIR Training**

To help offset the reduction of in-person training due to COVID, the department is working with the town’s insurance carrier, New York Municipal Insurance Reciprocal, to offer regular on-line training. These trainings are intended to supplement existing in-service and/or serve as stop gap for training opportunities lost due to COVID. Topic areas include firearms safety, responding to domestic abuse calls, blood borne pathogens, COVID-19 response, mental health awareness and response.

### **Additional 2020 Training**

Emergency Vehicle Operations Course (EVOC)	Firearms/Defensive Tactics Training
Legal updates for Supervisors	Sexual Harassment/Workplace Violence
Domestic Violence	LGBTQ Awareness
Law Enforcement Disabilities Awareness	Sex Offense Trauma Informed Response
Ignition Interlock Device	Implicit Bias Training
Bail and Discovery Updates	DCJS Course in Police Supervision
DCJS Principled Policing Train-the Trainer	DCJS It’s Not Drama, It’s Trauma
Perspectives on Police Reform	

## NEW PALTZ POLICE COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

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Our idea about protecting and serving the community is about much more than making arrests. It is about forming multi-discipline partnerships and working collaboratively to address problems in our community. A successful police officer in this century must adapt to the needs of the community and always be willing to re-evaluate themselves to do so. We're proud of our officers and their ability to do just that. We view ourselves as guardians, willing to help our community on multiple levels. Our officers take pride in the non-law enforcement programs they have created and are involved in. The New Paltz Police Department offers and participates in several non-enforcement/Restorative Justice programs. Here are just a few:



### OPIOID PREVENTION

Substance abuse prevention and education is a priority for the New Paltz Police Department. We have participated in the DEA National Drug Take Back program for almost 10 years and were one of the first agencies in Ulster County to install a have Med Return™ Drug Collection Unit. (Drop Boxes) The unit was purchased and installed through the Greater New Paltz Community Partnership (Community Partnership) DFC grant. Since its installation in 2013 the department has collected and disposed of over 3,500 pounds of unused/unwanted medications.

A poster for a Zoom training session. The poster is white with a blue header and footer. The header says "New Paltz Opioid Prevention &amp; Response Team" and "Offering help &amp; hope to those navigating through the rough waters caused by opioid use disorders and addiction." The main text says "Live Narcan Training via zoom" and "Friday, July 24th 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM". Below that, it says "The New Paltz Opioid Prevention and Response Team is offering an online Narcan training for the greater New Paltz community, Ulster County residents, and persons residing within the neighboring counties of Dutchess, Orange and Sullivan." It also says "Free Narcan kits will be provided via community pick-up locations, as well as home delivery to addresses within the following counties: Ulster, Dutchess, Orange and Sullivan." and "Please visit the website to register by Thursday, July 23rd. http://opioidpreventionnp.org". At the bottom, it says "Contact Phoenix with questions: pkawamoto@townofnewpaltz.org" and "This training is brought to you by our community partners:" followed by logos for various organizations including NPSAFE.

In response to the increase in opioid overdoses in 2020, the department expanded its prevention, education, and outreach efforts by becoming a proud partner of the New Paltz Opioid Response Team. This interdisciplinary team provides the community with prevention, treatment, education, and outreach programs. Even through COVID, the Response Team offered virtual Narcan trainings. Narcan kits and drug destruction pouches are available at the station to those who complete the training. Officers have also helped distribute Narcan kits and drug destruction pouches to the community.

Our 2020 opioid prevention efforts culminated with the installation of a sharps kiosk in the NPPD lobby. The kiosk is part of the NYS DOH Sharps Collection Program, and it is the only alternative site in Ulster County where community members can dispose of sharps. Adding the kiosk to the existing med return program allows residents to dispose of meds and sharps in one location.

The department is working with Catholic Charities COTI program to serve as a “port in the storm” for anyone who is seeking help and does not know where to turn. An individual in need of assistance can walk into the police station and ask for help. They will have a safe supportive environment while they

wait for COTI peer support advocates who will work with them to assess their needs and connect them to services.

The police department also works with Ellenville Regional Hospital to track opioid overdoses in the community and connect patients with peer advocates who can help them find treatment resources. As part of this endeavor the agency has an officer assigned to the Ulster County High Risk Mitigation Team. The High Risk Mitigation Team works closely with those struggling with addiction to ensure they receive comprehensive, personalized support and services. Services include linking to peer services, treatment, harm reduction measures, medication assisted treatment, OUD prevention education, and recovery services.

We encourage the community to visit and avail themselves of the resources of the Opioid Prevention and Response Team. The website is <https://www.opioidpreventionnp.org/> and there is a link available on our website.



### **CERTIFIED FIRST RESPONDER (CFR) PROGRAM**

The New Paltz Police Department CFR program was initiated in 1998. It was the first and remains the only certified law enforcement medical program in Ulster County. The medical program has evolved through the years to include the administration of Tactical Casualty Care. Currently, police





personnel are certified in ASHI Advanced First Aid, CPR and AED for Professional Rescuer. Our medical program is under the supervision of a licensed physician.

In 2014, we became the first department in Ulster County to certify all personnel in the administration of Narcan. Our certified instructors have assisted with community Narcan training.

### **TAVERN OWNERS ASSOCIATION**

The Tavern Owner's Association was created in 1998 to address underage drinking and other issues surrounding the night life in New Paltz. The Association is comprised of the various village tavern owners that meet on a regular basis to discuss issues/concerns in the village. Representatives from SUNY NP, Ulster County Crime Victims and the Office of Town Wellness are members.

Programs include the Good Vibes, Good Neighbors Initiative to educate the community about quality of life issues to reduce complaints/arrests and the Tavern Owners Agreement regarding the sale of alcohol to reduce underage and excessive drinking.

### **CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY (CPS) SEAT PROGRAM**



The police department has maintained the CPS program for over 10 years. We currently have 4 members certified as CPS technicians. These officers can inspect and install child passenger safety seats. Members of the public can contact NPPD to make an appointment. Additionally, the department participates in two car seat events where members of the public can drive up and have a seat inspected and/or installed. The funding for this program comes from our existing budget as well as a grant from the New York State Governor's Traffic Safety Committee. The grant funds enable us to provide new seats to members of the community who cannot afford one.

Due to COVID-19 the department suspended inspections/installations at our station and no safety seat events were scheduled for 2020.

- The four CPS technicians are; Sergeant Brianne Quigley and Officers Duke Bunce, Robert Sisco and Tyler Pece.
- 9 safety seat inspections/installations were conducted in 2020
- 1 seat was given away in 2020

### **INSTRUCT TRAINING FOR INTERVENTION PROCEDURES (TIPS)**



The Instruct Training for Intervention ProcedureS (TIPS) program was initiated about 10 years ago through a federal DFC grant from the New Paltz Community Partnership. The police department partnered with local tavern owners and staff to provide an educational program and training for the responsible service, sale, and consumption of alcohol. Proven effective by third-party studies, TIPS is a skills-based training program designed to prevent intoxication, underage drinking, and drunk driving.

The department typically conducts 3-4 trainings per year. Some of this time has been donated to the New Paltz Community Partnership and NP SAFE DFC grants as in-kind service hours. Recently the department has partnered with NP SAFE, a SUNY New Paltz DFC program, to offer TIPS University classes.

In 2020 the department conducted two in-person classes, training a total of 36 people. The last class conducted on March 11, 2020. Due to COVID, there were no other classes conducted. In 2019 the department conducted five classes training a total of 93 people.

### **BYSTANDERS AGAINST SEXUAL ASSAULT (BASA)**

The BASA program was initiated by Ulster County Crime Victim Assistance in 2018 and the New Paltz Police was the first agency to partner with them to implement the training. BASA is the first program in New York State to provide free “bystander” training to bar staff with the goal of proactively deterring sexual assaults by providing those on the frontlines with the skills necessary to intervene in situations that could lead to a sexual assault. Additionally, the program trains participants about consent and sex offender behavior.



The department also speaks with Crime Victim Assistance volunteers as part of their initial training.

### **ULSTER COUNTY SEQUENTIAL INTERCEPT MODEL (SIM) DIVERSION COMMITTEE**

The department is a member of the Ulster County Sequential Intercept Model (SIM) Diversion Committee. The goal of SIM is to improve how the behavioral health and criminal justice systems interact in Ulster County to achieve the following mutual outcomes:

- Reduce unnecessary overcrowding in Ulster County Jail - whenever behavioral health services, supports, and resources are a more appropriate response
- Prevent avoidable hospital admissions & recidivism
- Achieve the Triple Aim - improved health, better care, greater efficiencies - for Ulster County’s behavioral health crisis response system
- Create a welcoming gateway to Ulster County’s broader health and human services system, in line with the principles and practices of Integrated Ulster

The SIM Committee meets monthly to review cases and determine which may best be suited for a diversion program.

### **ULSTER COUNTY CRITICAL INCIDENT STRESS DEBRIEFING TEAM**

Several members of our department are certified in critical stress debriefing. These officers are part of the Critical Incident Stress Debriefing Team which is maintained by the Sheriff’s Office. This team is deployed to assist first responders who encounter highly stressful situations such as a child death or serious motor vehicle accident. They are an initial response to assist these responders and can help direct them to mental health professionals.

### **ULSTER COUNTY INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE INTERVENTION (IPVI)**

The Ulster County Intimate Partner Violence Intervention program is a restorative justice program that began in the City of Kingston through a federal grant. At its core, the strategy of IPVI is forming a partnership between community members, law enforcement, and social service providers. Engagement



is focused on small groups of people who commit multiple acts of violence. Then, the partners communicate strong community norms against violence, offer opportunities for help, but also make clear that any future violence will be met with strong enforcement sanctions.

Unlike traditional domestic violence programs which are victim centric, IPVI focuses its attention on the abuser's behaviors, while simultaneously ensuring that victims have consistent access to structures of safety and support. Our department is the third law enforcement agency in Ulster County to participate in the program.



### **ELECTRONIC SIGN**

Throughout the year the New Paltz Police Department deploys our InstAlert 24 sign at various locations in the community. The sign is used for numerous purposes. During the February Water Emergency Crisis and throughout the pandemic we have used our sign to notify the community as well as encourage the community to follow public health safety guidance. It is used to display messages to alert motorists of different traffic patterns, road closures, hazards or different events happening throughout the community. The sign has also been deployed to address vehicle and traffic complaints in the Town and Village.

### **ORGANIZATIONAL WORK**

In addition to the programs outlined above, the department works with several community organizations to proactively address issues that face our community. These organizations include:

- Community Partnership
- NP SAFE Committee - NP SAFE (Substance Awareness for Everyone) coalition's mission is to make the community safer and healthier by implementing effective strategies to reduce availability and problems associated with college drinking, substance use and misuse of prescription drugs.
- Ulster County Underage Substance Abuse Prevention Team
- Ulster County Domestic Violence/Human Trafficking Committee



Each year the department recognizes individual members for their actions in the preceding year. Unfortunately, we were unable to hold our annual awards dinner due to COVID-19. The 2020 award recipients are as follows:

**Exceptional Duty Citation**

- Officer Duke Bunce
- Officer Zachary Mitchell
- Dispatcher Catherine Caputo
- Sergeant Patrick Koch

**Unit Citation**

- Officer Duke Bunce
- Officer Zachary Mitchell
- Dispatcher Catherine Caputo
- Sergeant Patrick Koch
- Detective Sergeant Scott Butler
- Detective Joseph Judge
- Lieutenant Robert Lucchesi
- Chief Joseph Snyder

**Life Saving**

- Sergeant Brianne Quigley

**Meritorious Police Investigation**

- Officer Terance Yant
- Officer Eric Bernhardsen
- Detective Sergeant Matthew Sutton
- Lieutenant Scott Butler

**Honorable Discharge Retirement**

- Officer Robert Knoth

**Educational Achievement Award**

- Chief Joseph Snyder – Master’s Degree in Public Administration
- Lieutenant Robert Lucchesi – Master’s Degree in Public Administration

**Police Academy Citation**

- Officer Jerome Milton

**Community Recognition Award Plaques**

In 2020 the department awarded plaques to individuals and businesses within our community as recognition for their work and support of the department’s mission.

- |  |                           |
|--|---------------------------|
| Retired New Paltz School Superintendent Maria Rice | Robert Downs              |
| P&G’s Restaurant                                   | McGillicuddy’s Restaurant |
| Ariel Dentistry                                    |                           |



## NEW PALTZ POLICE DEPARTMENT EVENTS

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### **RETIREMENT OF CHIEF SNYDER**

Chief Joseph Snyder made his final walkout on April 24, 2020. Chief Snyder began his career with the department over 32 years ago and rose through the ranks, becoming Chief in 2008. He served in a variety of roles including; Patrol Officer, DARE Officer, Detective, Patrol Sergeant, Detective Sergeant, Lieutenant and Chief.

Throughout his career, Chief Snyder demonstrated an unwavering commitment to the department and the New Paltz community. Under his leadership we established several collaborative relationships with residents and community organizations that helped us understand and meet the needs of our community.



### **HIRING AND PROMOTIONS**

“People” is the first pillar on which we are built and the members of the agency are its most important and scarcest resource. 2020 saw several hirings and promotions that enhance our ability to serve the community. Hired were full-time police officers Zachary Mitchell, Jerome Milton and Michele Yeager, part-time police officers Caelan Marsh and Jonah Towne, full-time dispatcher Kaitlyn Reilly and part-time dispatchers Luis Rosado and Tiffany Claud.

Promoted this year were Robert Lucchesi – Chief of Police, Scott Butler – Lieutenant, Matthew Sutton – Detective/Sergeant and Brianne

Quigley – Sergeant.





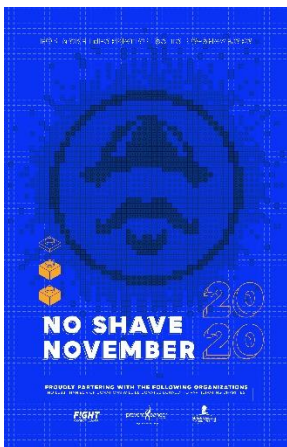
### **CONVERSATIONS WITH THE POLICE**

The department began the “Conversations with the Police” program in June as part of a larger effort to hear from the community. These are informal monthly gatherings that enable the public to meet their officers, ask questions and provide suggestions on how we may serve the community more effectively. The meetings were temporarily stopped for the winter. We are appreciative of the feedback we received and look forward to resuming these outdoor gatherings in March or April.

### **BIRTHDAY DRIVE-BY'S**



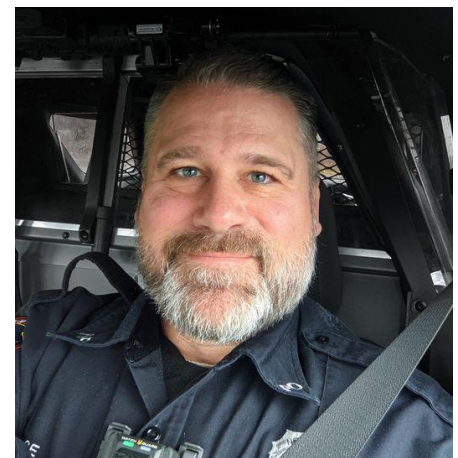
Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic many families had to forgo their usual birthday celebrations for their children in the interest of safety. With the assistance of the New Paltz Fire Department and the New Paltz Rescue Squad, the New Paltz Police Department participated in many birthday drive-by parades at the request of families with children. The looks on the children’s faces as the emergency vehicles drove past their homes with lights, sirens and music playing was very rewarding.



### **NO SHAVE NOVEMBER**

Members of the department participated in No Shave November. This is the eighth year the department has participated in this national cancer awareness fundraiser.

The goal of No-Shave November is to grow cancer awareness by embracing our hair, which many cancer patients lose, and letting it grow wild and free. The member who raises the most money keeps their facial hair for the remainder of the year.



This year’s winner was Officer Duke Bunce. Duke has raised the most money in seven of the eight years.



### WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

Members of the department were proud to participate in this year's Wreaths Across America ceremony on December 19<sup>th</sup> at the New Paltz Rural Cemetery.

Along with the SUNY NPPD, Town of Lloyd PD, the VFW, American Legion, Girl and Boy Scouts and countless members of our community over 900 wreaths were placed to honor our veterans.



### BODY WORN CAMERAS



The department launched its body worn camera (BWC) program in 2020. The department purchased Watch Guard VISTA WiFi body cameras that synchronize with the existing in-car camera system in all marked New Paltz police patrol vehicles. The cameras along with the hardware and software for the program were purchased using funds from the department's seized asset account, alleviating the taxpayer of any costs. The BWC's are not a panacea for police-community legitimacy issues but provide another layer of transparency for the

public. BWC's are a useful training tool for officers and an invaluable source of evidence in criminal prosecutions. Most importantly, they promote professionalism, accountability, and transparency by documenting officer performance and interactions with the public. Our BWC and In-Car Camera policies are available on our website.



### ADOPT A FAMILY

Since 2015 the New Paltz PBA has sought out families with young children that could use a little help around the winter holiday season.

This year the PBA adopted 3 families this year as part of their annual Adopted Family Program. The families received gifts that the kids said they wanted and gifts that the parents said they needed.





NEW PALTZ POLICE DEPARTMENT 2020  
BUDGET

WWW.NEWPALTZPOLICE.ORG

**2020 BUDGET INFORMATION**

Revenues

- Police Traffic Safety Grant \$5,244.00
- CPS Grant \$1,500.00
- STOP DWI Grant \$11,200.00
- Crash Logic \$2,500.00

Total Revenues \$20,444.00

Expenses

- Personnel Services (Staff Salaries)
  - Police Personnel \$1,849,372.00
  - Communications Personnel \$243,208.00
  - Clerical Personnel \$44,799.00
  - Total Personnel Services Expenses \$2,137,379.00
- Contractual Expenses \$403,279.00
- Equipment \$6,500.00

Total Expenses \$2,547,158.00

A copy of our annual budget containing an itemized breakdown of contractual and equipment expenses is available on our website under the “Budget Information” tab.

NEW PALTZ POLICE DEPARTMENT

USE OF FORCE

[WWW.TOWNOFNEWPALTZ.ORG/POLICE](http://WWW.TOWNOFNEWPALTZ.ORG/POLICE)

The Department has a policy requiring the report and investigation of any use of force by a member. The policy is entitled, “Officer Defensive Action” is available on our website. The policy details permissible and proscribed use of force, the reporting requirements of the officers and the review by first line supervisors, the Lieutenant, Chief of Police and Police Commission. Additionally, the Department reports use of force to New York State and the FBI monthly.

New York State Executive Law Section 837-R requires law enforcement to report any occurrence in which an officer uses the following force:

- When an officer engages in conduct which results in the death or serious bodily injury of another person. Serious bodily injury is defined as bodily injury that involves a substantial risk of death, unconsciousness, protracted and obvious disfigurement, or protracted loss or impairment of the function of a bodily member, organ, or mental faculty.
- When one of the following is initiated by an officer:
  - Display a chemical agent – to point a chemical agent at a person or persons.
  - Use/Deploy a chemical agent – the operation of the chemical agent against a person or persons in a manner capable of causing physical injury as defined in PL Article 10.
  - Brandishes a firearm – to point a firearm at a person or persons.
  - Uses/Discharges a firearm- to discharge a firearm at or in the direction of a person or persons
  - Brandishes an electronic control weapon – to point an electronic control weapon at a person or persons
  - Uses/Deploys electronic control weapon – the operation of an electronic control weapon against a person or persons in a manner capable of causing physical injury as defined in PL Article 10.
  - Brandishes an impact weapon – to point an impact weapon at a person or persons
  - Uses/deploys an impact weapon – the operation of an impact weapon against a person or persons in a manner capable of causing physical injury as defined in PL Article 10
  - Uses a chokehold or other similar restraint – any application of sustained pressure to the throat or windpipe of a person in a manner that may hinder breathing or reduce intake of air. *(The use of chokeholds is expressly prohibited in our policy and by law. However, NYS still requires law enforcement agencies to report any use.)*

New York State intends on making this data publicly available in 2021 and the department will notify the public when NYS has released this information.

The Department also participates in the FBI National Use of Force Data Collection program. This partnership with law enforcement agencies began in 2019 and is intended to provide nationwide statistics on law enforcement use-of-force incidents. The Department reports the following to the FBI monthly:

- The death of a person due to law enforcement use of force.
- The serious bodily injury of a person due to law enforcement use of force.
- The discharge of a firearm by law enforcement at or in the direction of a person not otherwise resulting in death or serious bodily injury.

The most recent data is available on the FBI's Crime Data Explorer website.

Department use of force remains infrequent. The department responded to 17,696 calls for service. Members filed 20 individual reports in response to 13 separate incidents. Members used force in .074% of the calls for service handled in 2020. A 39% decrease in officer defensive action from previous year. There were 36 reports filed in 2019.

- Officer Defensive Action Report Data
  - 3 Taser Deployments (Multiple reports for a singular incident)
    - 2 with dart deployment
    - 1 with Lasering (pointing) only.
  - 11 Physical Direction (Multiple reports for a singular incident)
    - 1 Personal weapons
    - 6 take downs from standing to the ground and then to restraint techniques.
    - 4 physical directions to include restraint in both the standing and prone positions (subject on the ground).
  - 6 Firearms:
    - All involving the drawing of their issued handguns until the subject complied or the threat was mitigated or no-longer present and none of which involved a firearms discharge.
    - 30 firearm discharge reports submitted for 2020 and all involving the destruction of either apparently sick wild animals or wild animals previously struck by motor-vehicles.
  - Further Analysis of each incident (13):
    - Occurrences per shift:
      - A-Line: 9
      - B-Line: 0
      - C-Line: 4
    - Occurrences where alcohol or drug use suspected: 9
    - Occurrences where mental illness is suspected: 3 – Alcohol and/or drugs were also indicated with these 3 reports
    - Occurrences categorized by gender:
      - 15 males
      - 1 female
    - Occurrences categorized by race:
      - 12 white non-Hispanic
      - 4 white Hispanic
      - 1 incident with no subject present. Two officers responded to shots fired/subject armed call and deployed firearms to conduct search.
      - 1 incident with 2 subjects who fled the scene upon being confronted by officers with firearms deployed. No further details available on the individuals.

- Department Policy, Training, Rules Deviations
  - NPPD member's actions were found to have deviated from Department policy, training, or rules pertaining to "Officer Defensive Action Policy" in 2 instances. In both the deviations and corrective actions were documented.
  - There were 6 instances in which NPPD member's actions did not deviate from Department policy, training, or rules pertaining to "Officer Defensive Action Policy" but where improvements can be made.
    - These are areas of policy, practice, and or training where the review showed overall compliance, but room for improvement. These training issues were addressed with the individual officer as needed and documented.
    - This type of introspective review demonstrates our commitment to the training philosophy of "good, better, best". This is practiced in training as well as the handling of actual incidents. It helps us ensure that we are always striving to improve our performances and ultimately the quality of service rendered even in tense, rapidly evolving, and dynamic encounters with members of our public involving the use of force.
- Use of Force Reporting
  - All officer defensive action is documented and investigated. The department forwards Officer Defensive Action Reports to the Police Commission for review monthly. These reports are reviewed publicly at the Police Commission meetings.
  - Department use of force reporting requirements are more stringent than required by either New York State or the FBI.
  - Both NYS and FBI reporting systems require the police agency to log in and file a report even if there are no qualifying UOF incidents to report for the month. This is done to demonstrate that each agency's UOF reporting is current.
    - Seven (7) of NPPD's officer defensive action incidents met the requirements for reporting and each was reported.
    - None of NPPD's officer defensive action incidents met the federal requirements for reporting.

NEW PALTZ POLICE DEPARTMENT  
COMPLIMENTS & COMPLAINTS

[WWW.TOWNOFNEWPALTZ.ORG/POLICE](http://WWW.TOWNOFNEWPALTZ.ORG/POLICE)

**COMPLAINTS**

Personnel complaint can be made in person or by filing a Compliment/Complaint/Suggestion form. The form is available in our lobby, Town Hall, Village Hall and the police department website. Complaints are investigated pursuant to department policy, which is available on our website. All complaints and subsequent investigations are reviewed by the Police Commission.

- There were 9 complaints made in 2020
  - 2 resolved with the complainant
  - 7 investigated by internal affairs
    - 4 unfounded
    - 1 founded
    - 2 open

The New Paltz Police Reform and Reinvention Collaborative has recommended that the number and nature of personnel complaints received each month be publicly reviewed at the monthly Police Commission meeting. Starting in 2021 the Chief will review complaints in the same manner as compliments at the monthly Police Commission meeting.

**COMPLIMENTS**

The Chief publicly reviews compliments at the monthly Police Commission meeting. There were 34 compliments received in 2020.



**ARRESTS BY ETHNICITY AND SEX**

**Total of 187 Arrests**

**White Male (114)**

Hispanic 19

Non-Hispanic 95

**White Female (33)**

Hispanic 4

Non-Hispanic 29

**Asian/Pacific Islander M & F (4)**

Hispanic 0

Non-Hispanic 4

**Black Male (29)**

Hispanic 3

Non-Hispanic 26

**Black Female (7)**

Hispanic 0

Non-Hispanic 7

**VEHICLE AND TRAFFIC**

The Department conducted 1,354 vehicle and traffic stops in 2020. Traffic stops are documented in the department Law Enforcement Records Management System (LERMS) and recorded using in-car and body worn cameras. Marked patrol units are equipped with the New York State Traffic and Criminal Software (TraCS) application for the issuance of traffic tickets and accident reports. Officers on bike and motorcycle patrol continue to issue handwritten traffic tickets.

In their review of department operations, the New Paltz Police Reform and Reinvention Collaborative noted the absence of demographic data of persons stopped for vehicle and traffic offenses. At their suggestion the department directed that members note their observation of the race and gender of the person stopped. This information will be included in future annual reports.

NEW PALTZ POLICE DEPARTMENT  
CALLS FOR SERVICE

[WWW.TOWNOFNEWPALTZ.ORG/POLICE](http://WWW.TOWNOFNEWPALTZ.ORG/POLICE)

Count of Call Creation Date and Time	Column Labels	
Row Labels	NY0552700	Grand Total
>New Call<	31	31
7 Digit Call	141	141
911 Abandoned Call	30	30
911 Misdial	29	29
911 No Voice Call	34	34
Abandoned Vehicle	7	7
Accident Personal Injury	83	83
Accident Property Damage	351	351
Alarm Burglary	294	294
Alarm Panic	25	25
Animal Complaint/Investigation	212	212
Assault	10	10
Assist EMS	70	70
Assist Fire	22	22
Assist Other Agency	80	80
Background Investigation	6	6
BOLO	4	4
Brush Fire	6	6
Burglary	24	24
Civil Matter	52	52
CO Alarm	26	26
COPP	26	26
Counterfeiting	2	2
Criminal Contempt	12	12
Criminal Mischief	66	66
Critical	498	498
Custody Dispute	17	17
Death Investigation	1	1
Disabled Vehicle	86	86
Disorderly Conduct	42	42
Dispute	119	119
	28	

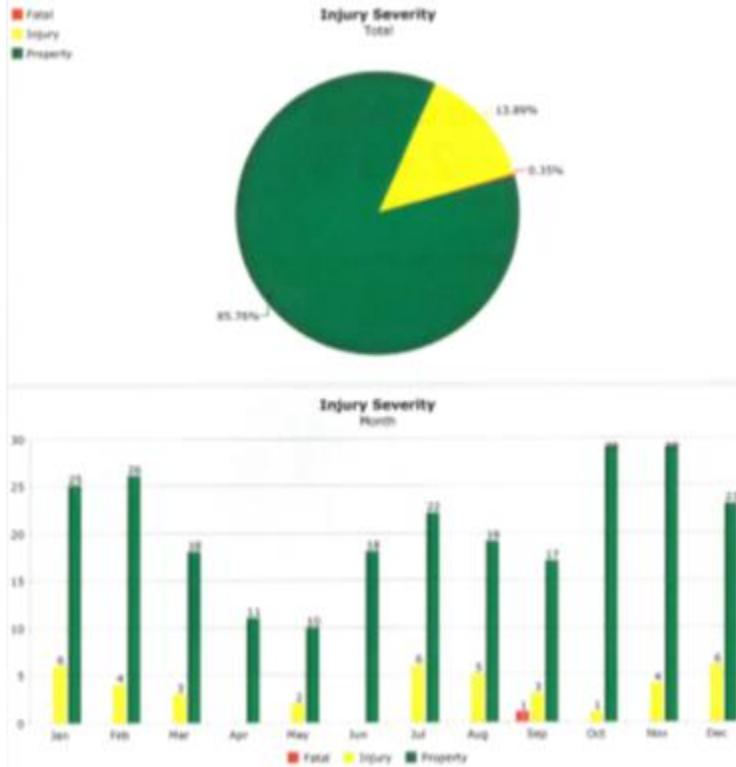


Domestic Dispute	96	96
Drug Offense	1	1
Encon Violation	2	2
Erratic Vehicle	111	111
Error	12	12
Field Interview	30	30
Fight	29	29
Fire Alarm	169	169
Fire Investigation	4	4
Fireworks Complaint	22	22
Foot Patrol	2331	2331
Forgery	1	1
Fraud	36	36
Harassment	116	116
HazMat	24	24
Heating Emergency	5	5
Identity Theft	24	24
Impersonation	3	3
Indecent Exposure	3	3
Information	399	399
Juvenile Complaint	2	2
Larceny	144	144
Local Law Violation	9	9
Lock Out	282	282
Lost or Missing Person	13	13
Medical Alarm	42	42
Menacing	4	4
Mental Health Law	3	3
Miscellaneous Fire	8	8
Noise Complaint	227	227
NYS Pause Enforcement	161	161
Open Door	34	34
Police Public Service	76	76
Police Station Activity	245	245
Property Check	4709	4709
Property Found	72	72
Property Lost	67	67
Property Retrieval	3	3
Psychiatric Emergency	58	58
Public Service	4	4
Reckless Endangerment	1	1
Rescue	7	7
Road Hazard	164	164
Robbery	1	1

School Check	10	10
School Incident	1	1
Serve Papers	16	16
Sex Offender Violation	1	1
Sex Offense	5	5
Shots Fired	36	36
Special Detail	2459	2459
Stable	282	282
Standby	4	4
Structure Fire	21	21
Suicide/Attempted Suicide	5	5
Suspicious	474	474
Suspicious Mail or Package	5	5
Test Call (Not 911)	1	1
Traffic Stop	1354	1354
Transport	1	1
Trespass	68	68
Unknown Police Emergency	6	6
Unknown Type Fire	2	2
Unstable	96	96
Unwanted Subject	12	12
Vehicle and Traffic Complaint	206	206
Vehicle Fire	3	3
Vehicle Repossession	9	9
Warrant Execution	29	29
Water Emergency	1	1
Welfare Check	385	385
Wire-Related/Outdoor Electrical	44	44
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>17696</b>	<b>17696</b>

# NEW PALTZ POLICE DEPARTMENT CRASH STATISTICS

[WWW.TOWNOFNEWPALTZ.ORG/POLICE](http://WWW.TOWNOFNEWPALTZ.ORG/POLICE)



## # Alcohol Related Crashes\*

**7**

Fatal: 1      Injury: 4      Property: 2

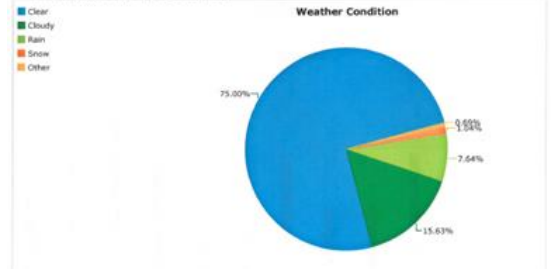
## % Alcohol Related Crashes\*

**2.43%**

Fatal: 14.29%      Injury: 57.14%      Property: 28.57%

\* BAC >= .08, Test refused, or Operator under Influence

\* Results exclude any crash reports requiring manual indexing



**TraCS Solution**



**TraCS**  
Traffic and Criminal Software