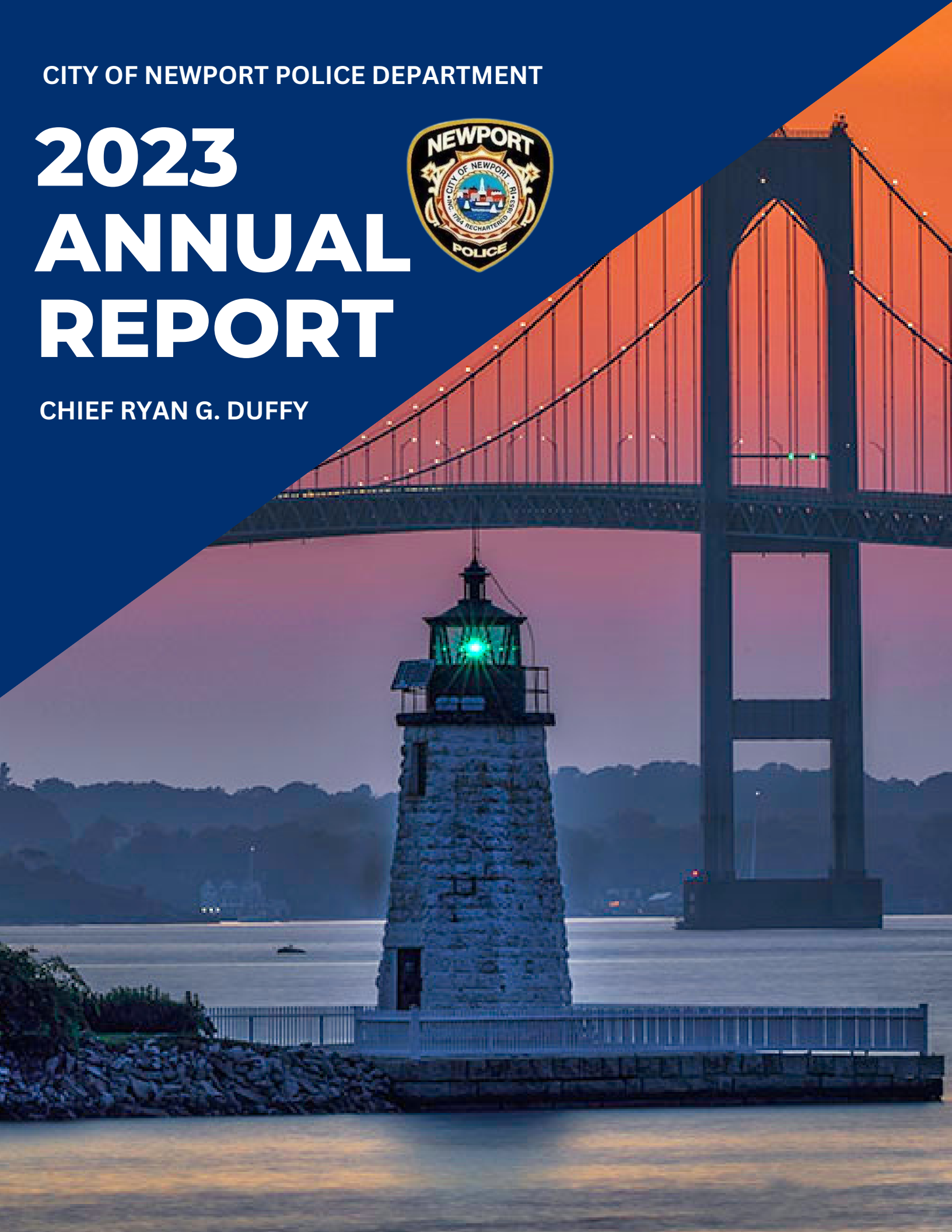


CITY OF NEWPORT POLICE DEPARTMENT

2023 ANNUAL REPORT



CHIEF RYAN G. DUFFY



NEWPORT POLICE DEPARTMENT MISSION STATEMENT



The mission of the Newport Police Department is to provide excellence in police service through aggressive pursuit of violators of the law and the prevention of crime and disorderliness. This will be accomplished by forging a partnership with the citizens of Newport to enhance the quality of life, reduce the fear of crime, preserve the peace, and impartially enforce the law, while maintaining a higher standard of integrity than is generally expected of others, and respecting the dignity of each individual. Our services will be rendered with courtesy, civility, and adherence to the provisions of the Constitution of the United States.



Newport Police Department 2023 Annual Report

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABOUT US

<i>Mission Statement</i>	i
<i>Agency Profile</i>	1
<i>Chief of Police</i>	3
<i>Year in Summary</i>	4
<i>Path Forward</i>	6
<i>Organization Structure</i>	7
<i>City of Newport Demographics</i>	9

PATROL DIVISION

<i>Patrol Division</i>	11
<i>Newport County Special Response Team</i>	13
<i>Animal Control</i>	14
<i>Community Policing</i>	16
<i>LGBTQ+ Liaison</i>	16
<i>Traffic Unit</i>	17

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS

<i>Criminal Investigation Division</i>	19
<i>Administrative Investigations Unit Juvenile Unit</i>	20
<i>Bureau of Criminal Identification (BCI)</i>	21
<i>Prosecution</i>	22

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

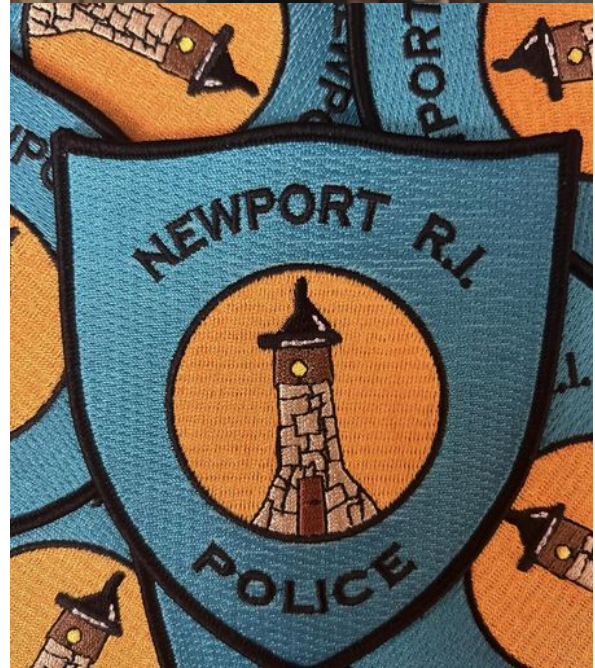
<i>Administrative Services Division</i>	23
<i>Training Unit</i>	23
<i>Quartermaster & Facility Management</i>	23
<i>Information Technology & Records</i>	25
<i>Special Projects</i>	25
<i>Body Worn Cameras (BWC)</i>	25
<i>Intelligence</i>	26
<i>Peer Support/ Officer Wellness</i>	26
<i>Police Chaplain</i>	27
<i>Accreditation</i>	28
<i>Dispatch</i>	28
<i>Use Of Force</i>	29
<i>Vehicle Pursuits</i>	30

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES (CONTINUED)

<i>Fair and Impartial Policing</i>	31
<i>Crime Data</i>	32
<i>Citizen Complaints</i>	33
<i>Hiring Process</i>	34
<i>Promotions</i>	35
<i>Personnel Actions</i>	36



Community patch contest winner,
Tyler Meagher



NEWPORT POLICE DEPARTMENT PROFILE

The Newport Police Department first began to organize in 1841, and continued to evolve to its present structure. It has had four permanent police stations; Market Square (1867 and 1915) 13 Marlborough Street (1965) and 120 Broadway (1985 to present.) It is a full-time agency, and the supervisory rank structure consists of a Chief of Police, 3 Captains, 7 Lieutenants and 14 Sergeants.



The agency is budgeted to have 80 full time active sworn personnel. The organizational structure is comprised of the Uniform Patrol Division, Criminal Investigation Division, and the Administrative Services Division; each division has many sub-components. Full time functions within the police department include Uniform Patrol Officers, Community Policing Unit Officers, Traffic Unit Officers, Investigators, Training Unit Officers, Accreditation Unit Officers, administrative officers and non-sworn professional staff including dispatchers, records clerks and facilities personnel. There are many collateral duty assignments in the police department including Bicycle Patrol, Motorcycle Patrol, Special Response Team, Drone Unit, Officer Wellness Unit and Police Academy Instructors. The police department also has a Retired Officer Corps who help with traffic and special events. The collective bargaining agent is the Fraternal Order of Police for active sworn personnel, and two separate collective bargaining agents for non-sworn staff; RI Council 94 AFSCME, AFL-CIO Local 911 and NEAs of RI, Local 840.

The adopted budget for FY2023 was 18.4 million and the adopted budget for FY2024 was 18.9 million.

Newport Police Department Personnel Totals as of December 2023

- 75 Full-Time Sworn Officers
- 27 Part-Time Retired Officer Corps. Members (ROC)
- 20 Civilians
- 13 Traffic Aides (TA's)



CHIEF OF POLICE GARY T. SILVA



Chief Gary T. Silva, Newport Police Badge 24, retired from the police department on February 24, 2023, after 40 years of service to the City of Newport. In June 1983, Chief Silva, then a Sergeant with the Rhode Island National Guard 1111th MP Company of 365 Thames Street, and a Special Reserve Officer of the Middletown Police Department, was Sworn in as a full-time patrol officer with Newport Police. He was hired to fulfill the vacancy of Officer Ray Clancy's retirement and assigned to Field Training Officer Donn Woods prior to his assignment as an Early Watch (second shift) patrol officer. Chief Silva served as a uniformed patrolman through November 1990, when he was appointed to the Criminal Investigations Division as a member of the Narcotics Office. During his tenure as an investigator, he was highly decorated to include a Citation through the RI Attorney General's Office for his actions in numerous narcotics and weapons related arrests.

Chief Silva received numerous letters of commendation throughout his career highlighting his thorough and diligent work effort. In succession of his decorated and successful time in patrol and investigations, Chief Silva would go on to serve in multiple leadership roles within the agency as a result of his strong command presence, organizational skills and reliability noted by his direct supervisors. His leadership rolls would include promotions to Sergeant in February of 1995, Lieutenant in September of 2001 and Captain in July of 2004. As a Captain, he served as the Patrol Division Commander and later as the Administrative Services Division Commander. He was appointed Chief of Police in July of 2011 and served in that position until his retirement. In addition to 25 Department Accommodations, the Chiefs Award and 2 meritorious Service Awards, he also leaves behind a lineage of countless letters of thanks and gratitude throughout his career from members of this community whom he had directly impacted in his work.

Chief Silva served as an armorer, Field Training Officer, Honor Guard Member, and member of the Special Response Team. He was officially recognized for his supervision on department recruitment efforts, the Tall Ships events, the US Women's Open, multiple RI Interlocal Trust and RIPAC Accreditation Inspections as well as the care and safeguarding of 2 presidential visits, Presidents George W Bush and President Barack Obama.

Chief Silva attended numerous Leadership, School Safety, Incident Command and Law Enforcement collaborative enhancement schools to include the FBI Executive Development Course. He used these skills fostering the continuing relationship between the Newport Police Department, surrounding law enforcement and other City Agencies, as well as the numerous civic and local organizations with which he had built long standing relationships to stand for years to come.

Chief Silva hired or promoted every serving member of the Newport Police Department at the time of his retirement reinforcing his hands on approach to leadership and the one-on-one treatment of the individuals he has mentored.

CHIEF OF POLICE RYAN G. DUFFY

Upon retirement of Chief Silva, Captain Ryan Duffy was appointed Interim Chief of the Police Department while the city administration facilitated a formal application and hiring process. On June 9th, 2023 Captain Duffy was appointed the permanent position of Chief of Police.

Prior to becoming a police officer, Chief Duffy was already a part of the public safety family having been a fire fighter and paramedic for many years. Chief Duffy attended the 2000 – III session of the Rhode Island Municipal Police Training Academy and graduated as the class valedictorian. Chief Duffy worked every shift as a patrol officer until his appointment as an Investigator in 2011. Chief Duffy was promoted to Sergeant in 2012, Lieutenant in 2016 and Captain in 2021. Chief Duffy worked in every division of the department and has had many assignments and gained experience in every area of Newport Policing. During his career, Chief Duffy's assignments included, Patrol Officer, Crime Scene Investigator, Detective, Street Supervisor, Watch (shift) Commander, Training Unit Supervisor, Special Projects Supervisor, Police Academy Instructor, Patrol Division Commander and Administrative Services Division Commander. Chief Duffy spent 19 years of his career as a member of the Department's Special Response Team finishing his tenure in this collateral duty assignment as the team's Commander from 2014 to 2021. Chief Duffy has a Bachelor's Degree from Roger Williams University in Criminal Justice and is completing his Master's Degree from Salve Regina University in Leadership Dynamics and Practice. Over the course of his 23 year career, Chief Duffy has achieved a variety of training certifications, executive development certifications and on-the-job organizational experiences.



YEAR IN SUMMARY HIGHLIGHTS

2023 has been a successful but challenging year for the Newport Police Department. Similarly to police departments across the state and across the nation, the Newport Police Department experienced a significant decrease in applicants looking to join our noble but demanding profession. The police department, in conjunction with the City's Human Resources Department have begun to reimagine the application and testing processes for police applicants to include app-based applications and using statewide testing resources. We have incentivized potential applicants with signing bonuses and initiated a separate lateral hiring process for applicants that are already POST certified officers. Lastly and most importantly, the police department has invested great effort sending officers to every local and statewide job fair, police testing process and community group to help people truly understand what policing is all about.

As the new Chief of Police, Chief Duffy met with department staff to re-evaluate, recalibrate and reinforce the department's Mission, Values, Vision and Goals moving forward. For the first time, the department identified and published 4 top core values of the Police Department. These values include Integrity, Empathy, Professional Competence and Accountability. It is expected that all department staff provide service consistent with these main values and numerous others consistent with the profession of policing.

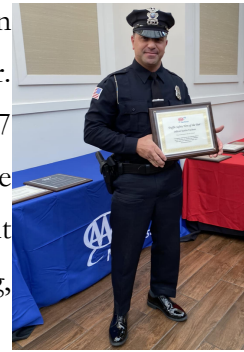
This year the police department shifted gears in the area of community engagement and emphasized using our social media platforms and increased our efforts facilitating events focused solely on police and community contact with the intention of building relationships and trust.

The community clearly communicated their expectations to the police department through direct contact and through their representative City Councilors. They asked for an emphasis on enforcement targeting quality of life issues such as excessive vehicle noise, speeding and traffic violations, as well as disorderliness. Community feedback also indicated a desire to see more officers walking the beat in their neighborhoods. The police department deployed resources to address all of these issues. In doing so, the staff of the police department collaborated on unorthodox scheduling and collateral duty assignments and sharing of responsibilities to accomplish these tasks in the face of our unprecedented staffing shortages.

In 2023, the police department purchased new technology to assist with investigations that had to be outsourced previously. The use of this technology led to several successful prosecutions.

YEAR IN SUMMARY HIGHLIGHTS CONTINUED

Several of our police department staff were the recipients of several awards in 2023. Officer Justin Vachon received the AAA Traffic Safety Officer of the Year. Justin is a 19-year veteran police officer who has been with Newport Police since 2017 after transferring from Richmond PD to our city's service. Officer Vachon leads the department in traffic enforcement. He routinely participates in directed enforcement of motor vehicle violations most directly related to traffic safety, including speeding, seatbelt enforcement, vehicle inspections and texting while driving.



Officer Justin Vachon



Officer Mark Lubin

Officer Mark Lubin received the ASIS Public Safety Officer of the Year. ASIS International is a global community of more than 38,000 security practitioners, each of whom has a role in the protection of assets – people, property, and/or information.

Officer Merrie Scott, was awarded the 2023 City of Newport Employee of the Year. This honor is the most prestigious award offered by the city. It is a peer nominated award open to all employees that work for the City and is decided upon by an awards committee of previous winners. Merrie is a 17-year veteran of the Newport Police Department assigned to the Community Policing Unit. Merrie receives the award for her incredible positive impact to the City of Newport in all that she does.



Officer Merrie Scott



Officer Kenneth Conti

On March 8, 2023 Officer Kenneth Conti received the 2022 Rhode Island Police Accreditation Commission (RIPAC), Chief Anthony M. Pesare Leadership Award. The award recognized Officer Conti's dedication to the accreditation process for The Newport Police Department and going above and beyond to assist the commission, commission staff, as well as accreditation professionals across the State.

OUR PATH MOVING FORWARD (FUTURE CHALLENGES)

The Police Department Command Staff in Conjunction with the City’s Human Resource Office and City Administration will continue the diligent efforts to improve police staffing. This includes but is not limited to exploring the hiring of non-sworn professional staff to fill specific administrative positions currently held by sworn staff. These civilian positions will allow sworn staff to concentrate on areas of responsibility that require an officer to facilitate. This will be an important measure as



we continue to face a shortage of persons aspiring to be police officers. The application and background process for police candidates currently takes 3 to 4 months from the time the application process opens. The police academy runs 2 sessions per year. Each academy session is 22 weeks long. After successfully completing the police academy the officer then begins their 12- week field training program with the agency. From the moment an applicant submits an application, the process is about one year before that applicant is ready to be counted as a contributing member of the department. It is imperative to place new candidates in advance of vacancies to maintain replacement pace and continuity of services.

Newport City Council has identified its strategic priorities for the management of our great city. The Police Department will focus on those priorities that overlap into public safety, quality of life enforcement issues and crime. The department will catalog crime data, complaints and non-crime calls for service. We will use this data to structure evidence-based deployment strategies to bring the citizens of Newport an efficient policing service that reflects the priorities set by our City Council. Collaboration will continue between the City’s Management Information Systems Department (MIS) and the police department by exploring new technologies to tackle quality of life issues.



OUR PATH MOVING FORWARD (FUTURE CHALLENGES)

Community concerns relating to topics like noise violations, traffic violations, parking violations and crime can be mitigated by the latest in automation technology, software systems and camera technology. The policing profession continuously evolves. Continuing education and training for our sworn and professional staff is a priority and the path to maintaining contemporary professional competence.

The last few years of social discourse on policing has left officers uncertain about the public expectations on use of force. De-escalation techniques intertwined with the professional application of force has shown to be a confidence deficiency in some of our police officers. The Police Department will be investing time and resources into identifying professional trends, continuing education, scenario training and closing a feedback loop to officers on related decisions they make in the field.

The police department greatly emphasizes its commitment to staying connected within the community and striving to remain informed of all local concerns. Increasing contact with our city's residents through youth and adult community outreach programs is a priority. The dividends these programs produce in terms of a better understanding of our community's policing needs and increasing the community's trust and approachability of our police officers is paramount to achieving the police department's mission. The Newport Police Department will continue to prioritize authentic community contact by developing new and increasingly effective means of community outreach in the months and years to come.



CHIEF OF POLICE

PLANNING & BUDGETING



CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DIVISION

GENERAL ASSIGNMENT

JUVENILE

PROSECUTION

VICE

MUNICIPAL COURT

UNIFORM PATROL DIVISION

UNIFORM PATROL

COMMUNITY POLICING UNIT

TRAFFIC UNIT

SPECIAL RESPONSE TEAM

ANIMAL CONTROL

RETIRED OFFICER CORPS

VIN INSPECTIONS

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIVISION

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

ACCREDITATION

TRAINING

DISPATCH

COMPUTER MANAGEMENT & RECORDS

FACILITY & PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

CUSTODIAN SERVICES

VEHICLE SERVICES



Chief Ryan G. Duffy

- Executive Assistant Tracy DeSantis
- Administrator April Amaral



Captain Charles Silvia
Criminal Investigations

- LIEUTENANT JASON KLEINKNECHT
- LIEUTENANT ROBERT SALTER
- SERGEANT JOSEPH LAVALLEE
- SERGEANT RYAN DOYLE
- DETECTIVE ROBERT SPELLMAN
- DETECTIVE JOSHUA WILDES
- DETECTIVE JACK BILLINGS
- DETECTIVE BRETT MISTURADO
- DETECTIVE MATTHEW SARDINHA
- DETECTIVE JASON ROACH
- DETECTIVE JASON THURSTON
- DETECTIVE SETH MOSELEY
- DETECTIVE ROBERT COOPER
- DETECTIVE CAITLIN POPLAWSKI
- DETECTIVE JARED JOHANSEN
- DETECTIVE PATRICK WALSH
- DETECTIVE BRADFORD COYLE



Captain Michael Naylor
Patrol

B Watch

- LIEUTENANT JASON BROWN
- SERGEANT MAURICE SELLERS
- SERGEANT JACQUELINE WUEST
- OFFICER ZIAD ABDALLAH
- OFFICER ANDREW ANDERSON
- OFFICER MATTHEW CLARIZIO
- OFFICER ALYSSA COATES
- OFFICER SETH FAILS
- OFFICER CHRISTOPHER HORWOOD
- OFFICER RICHARD JUSAYAN
- OFFICER PATRICK LEARY
- OFFICER MICHAEL SHERMAN
- OFFICER DONALD WARNER
- OFFICER JUSTIN VACHON
- ACO JULIA SWEENEY

Traffic Unit

- SERGEANT JASON HEAD
- DETECTIVE DAVID TURMEL
- DETECTIVE JOHN SULLIVAN

Community Policing

- LIEUTENANT JOSEPH CARROLL
- OFFICER FRANK PIRRI
- OFFICER BRITTANY RIPKE
- OFFICER MERRIE SCOTT
- OFFICER NICHOLAS ST LAWRENCE

A Watch

- LIEUTENANT ERIC BARDEN
- SERGEANT STEPHEN CARRIG
- SERGEANT CHRISTOPHER SLOAN
- OFFICER ADAM BALLANTINE
- OFFICER ALESSANDRO SAN ANTONIO
- OFFICER ALEX WHITE
- OFFICER BRIAN RAYNER
- OFFICER JACOB EPSTEIN
- OFFICER JAISEN COLE
- OFFICER KYLE CAVALLARO
- OFFICER MICHAEL MAGGIACOMO
- OFFICER MICHAEL MCCABE

C Watch

- LIEUTENANT ROBERT CARUOLO
- SERGEANT MATTHEW CLARK
- SERGEANT MICHAEL HORN
- OFFICER CRYSTAL AREL
- OFFICER BRAD BISHOP
- OFFICER ETHAN BOGHIGIAN
- OFFICER ALEXANDER DUCKER
- OFFICER MICHAEL ETHIER
- OFFICER MARK FANELLA
- OFFICER MARK LUBIN
- OFFICER PATRICK MICHAUD
- OFFICER NEIL SULLIVAN



Captain Kevin Moreira
Administrative Services

- LIEUTENANT DANNY TURMEL
- SERGEANT ANSON SMITH
- SERGEANT CHRISTOPHER MCGREGOR
- SERGEANT GREGORY BELCHER
- SERGEANT SCOTT MOODY
- SERGEANT SETH GODEK
- OFFICER GREGORY HUTSON
- OFFICER KENNETH CONTI
- OFFICER MARC CONSTANTINEAU
- RECORDS CLERK JULIE CARLISLE
- RECORDS CLERK DEIDRE SHARP
- RECORDS CLERK CHELSEA DIOGO
- RECORDS CLERK AMANDA BOURQUIN
- CUSTODIAN IAN ASHTON
- CIVILIAN NICHOLAS KLEINKNECHT
- NATHAN WHIPPLE

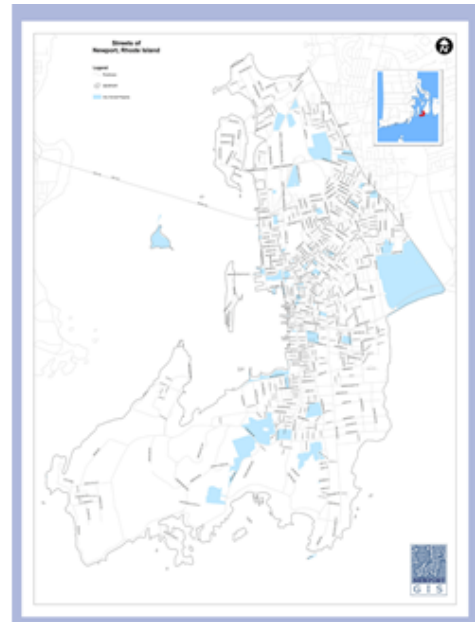
Dispatchers

- ALAN ATEN
- JUSTIN DECOSTA
- PAMELA FOURNIER
- MEGAN HEAD
- MATHEW JOSLYN
- CHYANA LACEY
- MEHLER MALONEY
- SEAN ROBERTS
- CHASITY SIMON
- ANDREA STOUT

CITY OF NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND

In 1639, Newport officially became a town, and later, in 1854, it earned its city status. Nestled at the southern tip of Aquidneck Island in Narragansett Bay, this welcoming city sits about 30 miles southeast of Providence, the state’s capital. Bounded by the Atlantic Ocean to the east and south, Narragansett Bay to the west, and the Town of Middletown to the northeast, Newport covers a total area of 11 square miles—7.7 square miles of land and 3.3 square miles of inland water.

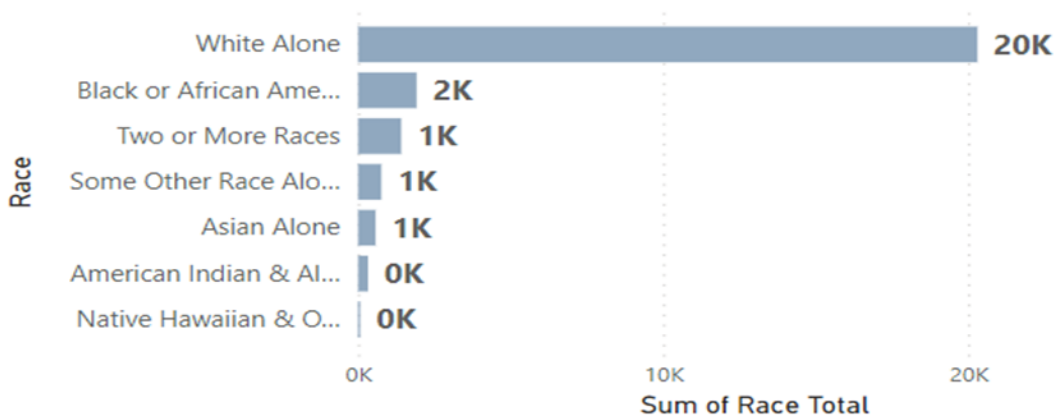
Getting here is a breeze. Interstate 95, with the help of the Jamestown and Newport Pell bridges, connects Newport to the west. Head north, and you'll find Routes 24 and Interstate 195, accessible via the Mount Hope and Sakonnet River bridges.



In the administrative realm, Newport follows a City Council – City Manager system. Seven council members, duly elected, come together to appoint a mayor. The City Manager, appointed by and answerable to the City Council, holds the reins as the chief administrative officer.

Home to around 25,000 residents, Newport's unique charm attracts a multitude of visitors, swelling its population to approximately 3,500,000 visitors annually, thanks to a bustling special events and tourism industry. As of the July 2020 Census, it revealed a population of ~25,300 people, 10,898 households, and 4,982 families. With a population density of 1,758.9 per square mile, Newport is a vibrant city with a mix of residential and cultural richness. Approximately 10.7% of the population faces economic challenges, falling below the poverty line.

Newport, RI Demographics by Race



PATROL VISION STATEMENT

“Newport Police Department patrol officers are committed to collaborating with our community to combat crime through walking, bicycle, and mobile beats that foster direct community engagement. The police department will combine input from our citizens and our patrol officers’ professional knowledge/skills to enhance the quality of life and well-being of our residents and visitors through the enforcement of city ordinances and state law. We will maintain transparency and accountability in our operations with the use of technology and documentation.”

The Uniform Patrol Division is commanded by a Captain and is composed of 3 patrol shifts providing 24/7 public safety coverage to the community 365 days per year. Patrol is the most visible component of the Police Department. The Patrol Division also has a Community Policing Unit, a Traffic Unit, and an Animal Control Officer. We have a new collateral duty Newport County Special Response Team (SRT), Bike Patrol Officers, Motorcycle Officers, Honor Guard, Drone Program, and Water Enforcement Team. In 2023, we had various bicycle patrols, walking beats, motorcycle patrols and directed enforcement dealing with quality-of-life issues.

The makeup of the patrol shifts was 9 officers on 1st shift, 11 officers on 2nd shift, and 9 officers on 3rd shift. When accounting for days off, the minimum staffing on the 1st shift and 3rd shift is 5 officers, on 2nd shift the minimum staffing was 7 officers on shift. These staffing minimums increased in June, July, August, and part of September. The 2nd shift always includes a swing shift from 6 PM to 2 AM, historically based on data it proves to be our busiest time for calls for service.

The police department had an unusual number of staffing shortages which resulted in officers being ordered in and forced to work overtime shifts 40% of the time throughout summer months. These shortages were attributed to a myriad of reasons including retirements, injuries on duty, injuries in general, and officers on military leave. An additional contributing factor was the limited number of seats the police academy would allow each agency for new recruits. This was due to an unusually high demand to try and make up for high numbers of retirements across the state.

First Shift Patrol	Second Shift Patrol	Swing Shift	Third Shift Patrol
9 officers	9 officers	2 officers	9 officers
3 Supervisors	3 Supervisors	1 Supervisor	3 Supervisors

There is a high demand for police services in the summer months from the end of May to the beginning of September. Therefore, the patrol division staffs additional officers on 1st and 2nd shifts. This additional staff facilitates walking beats and bike patrols on Friday nights, Saturdays, and Sundays before holidays.

2023 TOTALS	
CALLS FOR SERVICE	28,166
INCIDENT REPORTS	5,988
ARRESTS	967
TRAFFIC TOTALS	
ACCIDENTS	1,235
PARKING COMPLAINTS	2,927

MOTOR VEHICLE STOP DATA							
OUTCOME	Asian/Pacific Island/East Indian	BLACK HISPANIC	BLACK/ AFRICAN AMERICAN	NATIVE AMERICAN	WHITE	WHITE HISPANIC	TOTALS
M/V Arrest	0	1	2	0	2	3	8
M/V Municipal	15	5	71	2	433	15	541
Notice & Demand	1	2	14	0	18	4	39
RITT - Civil	10	13	203	1	905	56	1,185
Voids	0	0	0	0	4	0	4
Warning	66	53	572	9	2868	128	3,696

NEWPORT COUNTY SPECIAL RESPONSE TEAM (NCSRT)

In 2023 we collaborated with surrounding agencies and formed The Newport County Special Response Team (NCSRT). NCSRT is an essential collateral duty position that handles critical situations where circumstances present a high-risk and specialized training is required or specialized safety/tactical equipment is needed. The NCSRT increases the all-around safety of the public and officers. The NCSRT team was activated 8 times in 2023 which also included 1 dignitary protection detail. The NCSRT provided security for the Touro Synagogue on multiple occasions for their religious services. The team now consists of officers from Jamestown, Middletown, Newport, Portsmouth and Tiverton. This effort has been in the works for several years. Previously, we had a total of 22 officers: 3 Command Staff, 11 Tactical Unit Operators, 4 Negotiators and 4 Marksman/Observers. With the formation of the NCSRT, we currently have 38 officers: 3 Command Staff, 25 Tactical Unit Operators, 6 Negotiators and 4 Marksman/Observers.

We have also incorporated drones from Newport, Portsmouth and Tiverton into the Newport County Special Response Team. Newport has 2 drones and 7 pilots; Portsmouth has 1 drone and 3 pilots and Tiverton has 2 drones and 2 pilots. Having the drones incorporated into the NCSRT affords all of the departments the use of drones for a multitude of uses (missing persons, storm damage evaluation, locating persons in crisis, as well as surveillance, when necessary, etc.).



ANIMAL CONTROL

The Animal Control Division is part of the police department's Patrol Division. It is responsible for responding to animal related calls throughout the city. The city employs one animal control officer. They respond to calls for service and follow up on calls the patrol officers respond to during Animal Controls off hours. The primary focus of the Animal Control Department is public safety and the well-being of domestic animals within the city. This is accomplished by educating citizens and enforcing city and state laws related to restraint, cruelty, neglect, and the suppression of rabies. Animal control collaborates with many other city and state agencies in both the public and private sector. Some of these collaborations include, The Department of Health, The State Veterinarian's Office, The Potter League for Animals, private and public shelters, as well as other animal control offices and police departments throughout the state and the SPCA.

The Potter League is contracted by The City of Newport to be our municipal shelter for animals. In 2023, they received 81 stray animals that were found in Newport and transported to the shelter by animal control/police or private citizens, these include 33 dogs, 43 cats and 5 exotic/small animals. Animal control and the shelter were able to reunite 49 of these animals with their owners. Upon expiration of the mandatory stray holding period, custody/ownership of the remaining unclaimed animals automatically transferred to The Potter League for the purpose of becoming part of the shelter's adoption program. Additionally, animal control and the police were able to avoid a trip to the shelter for 44 animals. This is due to the owners either promptly reporting their pet missing or ensuring proper ID and licensing was attached to their pet's collar, Additional calls for service include 41 animals in a vehicle, 40 reports of bites, 48 unleashed dog complaints, 61 barking complaints, 63 welfare/health related complaints and 107 wild animal related calls.



COMMUNITY POLICING

There are four Community Oriented Police Officers (COPs) overseen by a supervisor of the Community Oriented Policing Unit. Each officer is assigned to specific neighborhoods in the city to identify and resolve relevant problems in cooperation with residents, businesses, social groups, and other government agencies. Building community relationships, problem-solving and proactive crime reductions are the central missions of the Community-Oriented Police Officer in an effort to provide effective and long-lasting positive community impacts. The Community-Oriented Police Officers are each assigned to the schools and universities in the city as school liaisons. The Community Oriented Policing Unit conducts meetings with agencies and groups throughout the year. Several community-related projects were implemented as outreach programs for the local youth. Additionally, the Community Policing Unit collaborates with the Criminal Investigation Division, Training Unit, and Traffic Unit on problems that arise in the community to be a direct resource and contact for the community when issues are ongoing. The unit coordinates with detectives to make the appropriate sex offender notifications to the community; posts on social media (FaceBook, Twitter & Instagram, Next-door) tips for citizen awareness; coordinates with the Training Unit to organize and train new operators for the Drone program and the bike patrol unit.

Community Policing Programs

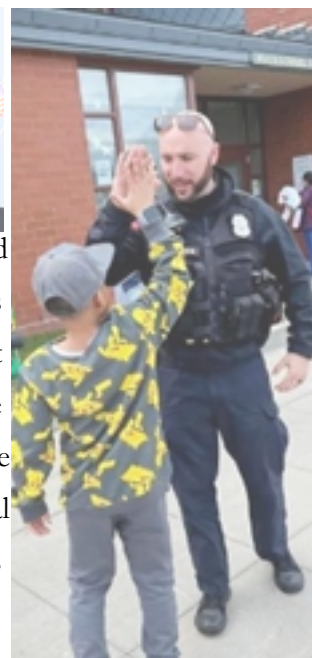
- **Good Neighbor meetings with Salve students living in the community**
- **Women's Self-defense classes**
- **Child & Family Service snow shoveling**
- **Alcohol & Tobacco establishment checks**
- **Bar meeting for training and information on underage drinking and fake IDs**
- **Dare classes**
- **Easter egg hunt**
- **Police Explorers**
- **Youth Driven programs**
- **Proactive enforcement of special events such as the annual St. Patrick's Day Parade**
- **Line dancing at the Edward King House**
- **ALICE training**
- **Coffee with a Cop**
- **Holiday coat drive**
- **Mock DUI car crash with Salve Regina University Safety Day**
- **Broadway Street Fair**
- **Trunk or Treat**
- **Holiday train**
- **Christmas toy drive**
- **Two separate weeks of summer camp for children in the community**
- **Fall festival**
- **Aquidneck Night Out**
- **Drug take back**



COMMUNITY POLICING



The Community Policing Unit followed up on calls involving noise and neighbor disputes and worked with the schools regarding issues and problems that arose throughout the year with students. Additionally, the COP unit facilitated the department internship program for universities. Throughout the year the unit conducted alcohol & tobacco compliance checks for underage violations, initiated coat, and can drives, and worked with the community mental health programs for affected citizens. COP officers also help handle patrol calls for service during times when the call volume is high.



LGBTQ+ LIAISON OFFICER

In 2022 Detective Caitlin Poplawski was appointed as the LGBTQ+ Liaison for the Newport Police Department. The LGBTQ+ Liaison is a point of contact and support for the LGBTQ+ community that fosters positive relationships, builds trust and addresses concerns and needs of community members. The liaison acts as a resource for both law enforcement personnel and community members, providing guidance on LGBTQ+ related issues and ensuring that the rights and safety of the community are respected and protected. There is active collaboration with community organizations to organize annual Pride events and update policy and procedure within the police department to promote equality and fair treatment within the law enforcement system.



TRAFFIC UNIT



The Newport Police Department Traffic Unit is staffed by a supervisor, an investigator (2 Investigators since mid-October) and one civilian employee who coordinates police details. The unit proactively and reactively responds to city needs based on analysis, observations, citizen complaints, and public safety concerns. Additionally, specialized functions of the Traffic Unit include accident reconstruction, hit and run investigations, directed traffic enforcement, special events, review of surveys for traffic and engineering needs, Rhode Island Traffic Tribunal (RITT), Prosecution, review of school safety crossings, bus stops, and licensing issues, police vehicle odometer and radar calibration, administration of Highway Safety Grants, liaison to School Crossing Guards, Traffic Aides Supervisor, as well as trends, rates, and conditions contributing to accidents and injuries.



Special Events - The Traffic Unit develops plans and staffs large-scale special events throughout the year. Significant planning and coordination are required to fulfill needs with single-and multi-day events requiring in excess of 200 staff hours. In 2023 there were several high-profile multi-day events including the Folk Festival (700+ staff hours), Jazz Festival (500+ staff hours), the Audrain Concourse (200+ staff hours) as well as other annual and one-off events. Single-day events include road races such as the Newport and Amica Marathons (150+ staff hours), parades such as the Aquidneck Island Police Parade (~100 staff hours), and The Broadway Street Fair (100+ staff hours).

Road Work/Traffic Interruption Details - The Traffic Unit developed traffic abatement plans with vendors performing small to large-scale projects in the city. Projects such as the Pell Bridge realignment require collaboration with vendors and other stakeholders (RIDOT/RITBA). Staffing needs and traffic plans and evaluations required some degree of constant monitoring. The Pell Bridge project required 100+ staff hours/week on average. Pell Bridge was the largest ongoing project; however, there are several others annually with similar needs in addition to daily smaller projects with staffing and planning requirements. The Traffic Unit also manages the Detail Tracking System, a web-based scheduling system utilized for deployments of officers, ROC's, and dispatchers for overtime and details.



Directed Enforcement - Traffic posts were staffed in response to analysis and citizen complaints with more than 600 documented posts in 2023. DOT Enforcement Grants funded an additional 200+ hours of enforcement. Additionally, a new online Traffic Complaint page was set up on the city website giving the public another avenue to report all types of traffic concerns to the police department.

Accident & Traffic-related Criminal Investigations - In addition to hit-and-run accidents resulting in minor property damage, criminal hit & run investigations, evading/fleeing, and felony motor vehicle violations are investigated by the Traffic Unit. All motor vehicle accidents resulting in major bodily injury and/or fatalities are also investigated by the Traffic Unit to include Accident Reconstruction analysis when needed. There were 3 fatalities in 2023, and there are ongoing investigations from previous years.

Additional Traffic-Related Safety and Quality of Life Improvement Initiatives - After conducting several speed studies throughout the city, the Traffic Unit has been researching and vetting vendors for automated

enforcement initiatives, i.e., school zone speed cameras. Additionally, the traffic unit conducted noise pollution testing with street-legal police motorcycles with the intent to better educate officers on how to recognize and enforce violations as well as educate the public on what constitutes a violation. Currently, the unit is in the early stages of researching the potential for automated noise violation enforcement through various vendors.

TOTAL ACCIDENT REPORTS	1,235
FATALITIES	3
TOTAL INJURIES	143
PEDESTRIAN INVOLVED	12
BICYCLIST INVOLVED	16
PARKING COMPLAINTS	2,927
DUI	41



TRAFFIC UNIT CONTIUNED

Parking Enforcement - The Traffic Unit hires/manages seasonal Traffic Aides. Staffed by 8 civilians, however, busier times of the year call for increased staffing up to 12 aides who are tasked with proactive parking enforcement throughout the city. Traffic Aide parking enforcement generated more than \$670 thousand in revenue in 2023.

ITC/TRC - The Traffic Unit is a member of and participates in the Interdepartmental Traffic Committee and Technical Review Committee to offer input as needed and stay abreast of impacts to the city’s traffic flow and needs as well as any potential public safety concerns related to changes and/or interruptions to the normal flow of traffic.



CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS VISION STATEMENT

“Newport Police Department detectives will conduct professional, thorough investigations of crimes using the latest technology and investigatory techniques. Criminal cases will be prepared for prosecution and we will work with municipal, state, and federal agencies to provide the best possible outcome for the victim of crimes.”

The principal functions of the Criminal Investigations Division (CID) are to conduct thorough and in-depth follow-up investigations of crime and delinquency committed in the City of Newport. Additionally, CID is responsible for the recovery of stolen property, processing of crime scenes for evidence, and preparing criminal cases for prosecution. CID members maintain a constant analysis of ongoing crime trends and work collaboratively with the other divisions in the department to facilitate proactive measures reducing crime through concentrated investigation of specific crimes and/or criminals.

The Criminal Investigation Division consists of General Assignment, Juvenile Investigations, Prosecution, Bureau of Criminal Identification, and the Administrative Investigation Unit. The CID Commander and supervisors plan, inspect, and coordinate all activities of these different units. Appointment of personnel to these positions is performed by the Chief of Police. General Assignment detectives facilitate the investigations of the majority of crimes including but not limited to assaults, larcenies, frauds, financial crimes, and domestic violence crimes.

Action	Totals
Assigned for Follow Up	422
Assigned to Case	575
Felony Packet Assignment	219
HIT & RUN FOLLOW UP	73
Total	1,289
Arrest Report Status	Totals
Closed	414
Open	554
Total	968
Incident Case Status (Of	Totals
Closed	295
Closed By Arrest	141
Incident Unfounded	5
Investigation Suspended	76
No Crime Involved	3,823
Open	1,648
Total	5,988
Warrant Status	Totals
Arrested	106
Denied By Court	4
Open	15
Pending	1
Recalled by the Court	2
Total	128

The Administrative Investigations Unit (AIU)

The Administrative Investigations Unit is run by a supervisor who reports directly to the CID Commander. This unit is responsible for the investigation of those criminal activities designated by the CID Commander and for gathering criminal intelligence data. Within the spectrum of investigative responsibilities of the AIU are the investigation of “vice crimes”. Vice crimes are those that offend the morals of the community, which include investigations relating to; narcotics, gangs, prostitution, gambling, organized crime and weapons related offenses. These are often long-term investigations and are accomplished by conducting covert surveillance, undercover operations, and intelligence gathering. During the calendar year 2023, members of the AIU conducted over 50 investigations which led to numerous arrests, including 21 arrests for offenses related to the use, delivery and/or possession with intent to deliver a controlled substance and possession of illegal firearms. These arrests resulted in the seizure of a large quantity of drugs, including cocaine, crack cocaine, fentanyl, marijuana, methamphetamine and counterfeit pills. These investigations also resulted in the seizure of numerous illegal guns as well as seizures of monies, cars, and other items related to the trafficking of illegal narcotics.

The AIU supervisor is also responsible for overseeing Task Force Officers (TFOs) assigned to various outside agencies. The Newport Police Department currently has TFOs assigned to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and the United States Marshals Service (USMS). AIU Detectives work regularly with these federal agencies on investigations. AIU Detectives have assisted the USMS with apprehending numerous violent fugitives who were hiding in the city, including those wanted in other jurisdictions for felony assaults, sexual assaults and murder.

The DEA TFO is also an AIU investigator. AIU members often assist the DEA and other police departments with other state and federal investigations with connections to Newport. These investigations often result in arrests and seizures of drugs, guns, and money in other jurisdictions and help to quell the flow of illegal narcotics and guns into the City of Newport. One case of note, during 2023 AIU assisted another local police department with an investigation into an individual who was supplying cocaine to Aquidneck Island. AIU Detective took on an undercover assignment for this investigation and successfully identified the cocaine supplier and developed information which led to the identification of other large scale drug traffickers working in the New England area. As a result of this cooperative investigation with local police departments and the DEA, several individuals were arrested for trafficking cocaine to Aquidneck Island and a large quantity of cocaine was seized along with a large sum of US currency related to narcotics trafficking.

Juvenile Unit

The Newport Police Department Juvenile Unit within the Criminal Investigation Division handles cases concerning suspects and victims under the age of 18-years-old. The unit also conducts its own prosecution through Newport County Family Court for Wayward (Misdemeanor) cases and works with prosecutors from the state's Attorney General's Office for Delinquent (Felony) cases. The goal of the unit when addressing juvenile offenders is restorative, not punitive. It is the mission of the juvenile unit to investigate and address juvenile offenders with careful attention to the nuances in each case and formulate the best courses of action for each individual juvenile involved. The unit has several options at its disposal for restorative actions in juvenile cases including but not limited to: Petition Referral to Family Court, Intake/Diversion, Juvenile Hearing Board, and direct corrective counseling by juvenile detectives. During the course of 2023, approximately 91 juvenile cases had to be resolved by arrest. These cases were referred via petition to Family Court; however, a majority of those cases were diverted through intake for restorative measures without forcing offenders to appear in court. Many cases involving Juvenile Offenders are resolved through the Juvenile Hearing Board which is a community-based group that seeks restorative measures for juveniles with no prior criminal record who are willing to acknowledge their offenses and avoid involvement with the court system. Additionally, some cases are resolved through a personal approach from investigators meeting with juveniles and parents for corrective counseling sessions where all parties involved formulate strategies to divert juveniles away from further incidents. Juvenile Detectives also work closely with several social service agencies (DCYF, Child & Family Services, Day One, and Family Services of RI) to help juvenile survivors, victims and their families by providing any necessary treatment, intervention, education, advocacy and prevention services.

Bureau of Criminal Identification

The Newport Police Department's Bureau of Criminal Identification (BCI) Unit is responsible for the processing of crime scenes, the documentation and preservation of any and all evidence seized pertaining to criminal investigations, the preliminary testing and preservation of all narcotic and firearm evidence, civilian background checks, the expungement of evidence and the supervision of the registered sex offenders currently living within the City of Newport. The Detectives assigned to the BCI Unit are also members of the Rhode Island Violent Fugitive Task Force which aides in the detection and apprehension of some of Rhode Island's most wanted and violent persons. In 2023, the BCI Unit conducted 101 sex offender registrations and/or compliance checks of registered sex offenders both residing within the City of Newport and those visiting. The BCI Unit was also involved in 44 investigations and at least 4 arrests as members assigned to the Rhode Island Violent Fugitive Task Force. In 2023, the BCI Unit was also responsible for the handling, field testing, storage and preservation of approximately 268 pieces of narcotic evidence as well as the handling, storage and preservation of approximately 39 firearms.

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION

Prosecution Office

A CID supervisor oversees the Prosecution Office and reports directly to the CID Commander. The Prosecution Office works collaboratively with the City of Newport’s Solicitors Office and the RI Attorney General’s office. Members of the police department’s prosecution office are responsible for court case preparation, a liaison for witnesses and victims as their case moves through the legal system, and a coordinator for investigators and officers as their cases navigate the legal system. The Prosecution Office is also responsible for generating subpoenas, assisting in the preparation of felony screening



packages for the Attorney General when certain felony cases are presented to a Grand Jury, maintaining warrant and protective order records as well as prisoner transportation. The Prosecution Office is staffed by a Detective with the assistance from the CID secretary. The Prosecution office is managed by a Detective Lieutenant. Special services include the preparation and mailing of discovery packages to the public defender and defense attorneys and the expungement of criminal charge files upon legal notice of the courts.

	Arraignments	Case Disposed	PAYMENT OF FINE
ATTORNEY GENERAL NEWPORT	72	51	N/A
2ND DISTRICT COURT	649	461	N/A
NEWPORT SUPERIOR COURT	3	0	N/A
MUNICIPAL COURT	248	9	471
RHODE ISLAND TRAFFIC TRIBUNAL	437	400	2

Data regarding court totals data reflects cases adjudicated during the calendar year 2023. Some of these court cases resulted from arrests made in previous years. Disposition of charges is reflective of each charge in a case. Most cases have multiple charges associated with them.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES VISION STATEMENT

“The Newport Police Department administration is committed to positive employee retention and recruitment progress by creating a sought-after working environment. The police department administration will facilitate effective training, wellness, and support programs for all personnel to create a healthy and professional work environment. The Newport Police Department strives to increase diversity among our ranks, is committed to innovation, and provide exceptional police services consistent with our core values.”

The Newport Police Departments Administrative Services Division (ASD) is commanded by the Administrative Services Captain. ASD includes the following sworn personnel; 1 Lieutenant, 5 Sergeants, and 3 Officers. ASD also includes the following non-sworn personnel; 4 Records Clerks, 9 Dispatchers, a Custodian, and a Property Aid. Over the last several years, as a result of a public call for more oversight and more transparency from police departments, the administrative functions of police departments have grown significantly and the importance of their work has become a pivotal aspect of the operation of a police department. The Captain of the Administrative Services Division is responsible for all functions within the ASD, including the Office of Professional Standards, Accreditation, Training, Records Management, Fleet Management, as well as Property and Facilities.

During the 2023 calendar year, the ASD oversaw the Newport Police Department accreditation, the implementation of 40 new Body Worn Camera systems, and the replacement of 5 police cruisers in addition to its other everyday responsibilities. The Administrative Services Lieutenant is assigned to the Office of Professional Standards, their primary responsibility is to help ensure the integrity of the police department by investigating allegations of misconduct against members of the police department as well as managing the other functions of the ASD. There are currently 5 Sergeants assigned to the ASD who are each assigned varying tasks. In 2023, the peer support and wellness unit was restructured and an intelligence unit was created in an effort to keep all officers and staff well informed of criminal activity as well as events within the city and across the state that may have an impact on police operations.

The Training Unit

The training unit is staffed by a Sergeant and a Training Officer. The Training Unit is responsible for facilitating training that focuses on current tactics, techniques, and procedures in modern policing in order to keep up with current legal, ethical, and liability-based practices. Additionally, training unit members instruct at the Rhode Island Municipal Police Training Academy (RIMPTA), coordinate field training exercises, prepare new officers for their patrol assignments as well as provide progressive training and support to officers of every rank. The Training Unit also manages and coordinates "mandatory in-service" training and external training, which include but are not limited to de-escalation, domestic violence, traffic enforcement /accident reconstruction, and use of force.

In 2023 the Training Unit facilitated the training of 4 new Officers who graduated from the Police Academy as well as the training of 1 Police Officer who transferred from another Police Department.

The Training Unit is responsible for ensuring that all personnel are up to date with their required trainings as well as tracking all personnel training records. The table to the right shows a list of some of the types of training staff received in 2023.

Quartermaster & Facility Management

The Quartermaster and Facilities office is managed by a Sergeant. The office is responsible for managing the everyday maintenance and upkeep of the Newport Police Department facilities, police radio equipment, issued equipment and the fleet vehicles. The Quartermaster also oversees the Custodian and Property Aides. In 2023, the Quartermaster Office’s Sergeant was instrumental in procuring the purchase of 4 replacement police cruisers. This included getting quotes for the cost of the vehicle, designing the vehicles, and getting them outfitted with modern equipment. The office oversaw the implementation of a new Patrol Rifle deployment and storage area and updating of several office spaces with cosmetic updates.

Training /Certificate Name	Total Awarded
2023 Annual Pursuit Policy Review	89
Language Line Solutions	85
2023 NARCAN REFRESHER TRAINING	85
Alcohol Offenses ST Patrick's Day 2023	83
2023 St. Patrick's Day Op Order	83
Rhode Island Energy 2023 Safety Brief	82
Rogers HS Evacuation and Fire Drill Plan	81
Repeater Training-RISCON 800MHz	80
Guardian Tracking Update-All Peronnel	74
2023 Spring Range Pre-Work	73
2023 Legal Update DLG Mental Health & Tact Ops	72
2023 Implicit Bias / Biased Based Profiling	72
2023 Bar Check Procedures	72
2023 Civil Disturbance Refresher	72
2023 Spring Range-Firearms	72
2023 Noise Meter Refresher Training	72
2023 Spring Range- Less Lethal	71
2023 NPD DUI & Breathalyzer Recert	69
2023 Fall Low Light Range	69
Code of Ethics Review	69
FATS 2023	68
Harassment	55
Guardian Tracking	54
Diversity and Inclusion	53
Mutual Aid	52
All Threats	49
Body Worn Camera Admin Training 2023	45
2023 ASHE/ RTF Practical	38
PowerDMS Accreditation Tasks	31
2023 Bike Patrol Certification	26
Guardian Tracking Update-Supervisor	19
Implicit Bias Training Refresher	16
All Hazards Plan 2023	13
Crisis Intervention Team Training - Thundermist	10
Background Investigation	10
DEAF and Hard of Hearing Video Phone	8
Holding Facility Training	7
State Accreditation process Training	7
Confidential Informant/Sources	7
NTOA Mission Planning Webinar	7
NEOA 55th Annual Regional Investigation School	6
Mental Health & the Role of the First Responder	6
DLG Background Webinar	6
2023 Bike Patrol Practical	6
2023 Financial Crimes Symposium (RIMPTA)	5
2023 Team Arrest Vehicle Extractions	5

Information / Technology (IT) & Records Management

The IT and records management office is responsible for facilitating all the IT needs of the Newport Police Department. This includes, but is not limited to, the upkeep and maintenance of the following IT systems within the police department; our RMS/CAD system, Mobile Data Terminals in the police cruisers, RILETS as well as dealing with any other IT issues within the police department in coordination with the City's IT staff and vendors. The IT Sergeant also oversees the Records office, which includes 4 civilian employees. This office also oversees all Access to Public Record Act requests (APRA) involving police interactions. The IT Sergeant is the point of contact for the Rhode Island State Police for both the National Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (NLETS) and the Rhode Island Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (RILETS).

Special Projects

The Special Projects Sergeant's primary responsibilities include conducting background investigations on gun purchase applicants who live in the City of Newport, Concealed Carry permit applications for residents as well as several monthly reports including NIBRS reporting and NARCAN Administrations. The Special Projects Sergeant is also responsible for overseeing the Police Dispatch Center which consists of 9 civilian employees who are required to staff the dispatch center 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. During the 2023 year, the Special Projects Sergeant was responsible for conducting approximately 349 background checks on applicants who wished to purchase a firearm as well as approximately 22 concealed carry permit applicants.

Body Worn Camera (BWC) Program

In 2023, the ASD Lieutenant was pivotal in securing funding through the State-Wide BWC grant program, enabling the acquisition of 40 new Body Worn Camera (BWC) systems. These additions, combined with the existing 22 BWCs, elevated the Newport Police Department's total number of BWCs to 62. This strategic enhancement ensures that every officer, whether in a Uniform Patrol Capacity or Plain Clothes assignment is equipped with a Body Worn Camera. Furthermore, four additional cameras have been designated as administrative units, serving the remaining members of the PD, particularly those with the rank of Lieutenant and higher.



The oversight of the BWC program falls under the responsibility of a dedicated Sergeant. Post-grant approval, the BWC Sergeant diligently managed the inventorying and distribution of the new equipment to officers. Additionally, the Sergeant facilitated comprehensive training sessions on BWC usage and coordinated updates to departmental policies. Notably, the implementation of the BWC system introduced a new application by the vendor. The application allows officers to capture photographs, statements, and digital evidence on-site, streamlining the evidence collection process. Axon's web-based platform ensures secure storage and replaces the traditional method of physically uploading evidence to the station's Y-drive. Moreover, replacing handwritten statements, the new system enables officers to record audio statements during interactions with victims or witnesses.

Intelligence

In 2023, the formation of an Intelligence "Intel" Unit, overseen by the BWC Sergeant, marked a significant development. The unit is comprised of two Patrolmen, three Detectives, and a Sergeant, all supervised by the Administrative Services Captain. One Detective from the "Intel" unit is assigned to the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF), facilitating the exchange of relevant information. The unit laid the groundwork for a weekly Crime/Intel brief to keep the entire Police Department informed about potential issues affecting the community. The "Intel" unit also developed a tool for officers to send mass text message notifications, linking directly to the records management system and promoting communication on suspects, vehicles, crime trends, and wanted individuals. Plans for 2024 include expanding communication with Middletown and Portsmouth PDs to establish an Aquidneck Island Intel Unit. The unit is also responsible for ensuring all employees have access to information-gathering systems for suspect information as well as communication with the State Fusion Center.

Peer Support/Wellness

In 2023, the Peer Support team transformed, welcoming new members and embracing a new direction. A Wellness Unit was integrated into the Police Department, featuring the same members as Peer Support, with an additional focus on promoting health and overall wellness among employees. The Wellness Unit successfully obtained a treadmill for the gym and secured various gym deals throughout the city to encourage health, wellness, and exercise. The unit focuses on assisting with debriefings after critical incidents and focuses on following up with personnel when necessary. Surveying all employees, the Wellness Unit identified individual needs within the Police Department. The team also established contact with the RI CISM Team, allowing volunteer professionals to assist in debriefing officers after traumatic events. Two officers went to RI CISM Training in February 2024 to enhance the professional debriefing atmosphere within the department.



Police Chaplain

At the beginning of the summer of 2023, Father Frank O'Loughlin retired as a sworn member of the police department in the role of Police Chaplain. He served for over 27 years. Father O'Loughlin was not only our department Chaplain but also the Fire Department Chaplain and we commend him for his service not only to the community but to both the police and fire department. When Father O'Loughlin was retiring we were fortunate to be approached by Father Kevin Beesley, the Rector of Zambriskie Memorial Episcopal Church located at 61 Poplar Street in The Point section of Newport. Father Beesley has a first responder background himself and he was interested in developing a relationship with the first responders of Newport and bringing a service of support to the women and men of the Police and Fire agencies as well as support for the community in any crisis situation.

The Chief's met Father Beesley to introduce their agencies and get to know Father Beesley as well as identify their idea of the role of a Police / Fire Chaplain and to get Father Beesley's ideas of the role of Chaplain for the police and fire departments. It was an excellent discussion, Chief Donnelly and Chief Duffy felt that all their ideas meshed. It was also good to hear about Father Beesley's experiences prior to becoming a priest. Father Kevin Beesley was a Police Officer in Cleveland Ohio and a Corrections Officer for Licking County Sheriffs in Ohio. He later moved to being a police officer in Pataskala Ohio assigned to patrol. There he was promoted to Sergeant where he served in patrol. As a police officer, Father Beesley served as a member of the Honor Guard, a member of the Tactical Team, was a Field Training Officer and the supervisor of the Community Policing Unit. Father Beesley received a Medal of Meritorious Service for serving in Gretna, Louisiana during Hurricane Katrina. Father Beesley is currently married with two adult sons.

In general, Police Chaplains serve as a support system for law enforcement agencies in times of crisis. They can be volunteers or sworn officers. They come from all faiths and are fully ordained. It's well-known that officers can be guarded by nature and can have trouble opening up about their trauma to a psychologist or other mental health professional in a formal environment. Similar to peer support programs, police chaplains can be effective in these cases because they offer a more informal source of support for the affected officer or civilian staff member. A police chaplains role is primarily to listen and offer emotional and spiritual support to those in need. Police chaplains have a range of responsibilities that vary from agency to agency. In addition to supporting officers struggling with issues such as burnout, stress or trauma, some chaplains also assist officers with some of their duties. These duties can include tasks like death notifications, crime victim support and people experiencing homelessness outreach.

As we develop our relationship with Father Beesley, we will identify what works best between Father Beesley and Newport Police. Father Beesley has helped with making the Chaplain transition seamless for both agencies in 2023 and we look forward to continuing our partnership

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIVISION

Accreditation

The BWC Sergeant is also responsible for supervising the office of Accreditation. The office of Accreditation is staffed by 2 Sworn Officers. Accreditation is the recognition from an accrediting entity (RIPAC) that the agency voluntarily complies with best practices and professional standards. Professional standards are set forth by the Rhode Island Police Accreditation Commission (RIPAC). These standards aim to ensure that the agency is delivering professional police services and following industry best practices. In 2023, the RIPAC accreditation manual was updated from a list of 214 standards to 213. With the update, certain Newport Police policies and procedures have been updated as to align with the updated standards to maintain best practice. These standards address all areas of the agency, including non-sworn personnel. Other benefits associated with maintaining accreditation are; improved citizen confidence in the agency, recognition for excellence, formalize management procedures, greater accountability, fair, non-discriminatory personnel practices and improve service delivery. It is the job of the accreditation office to ensure that all standards are met to ensure top tier professionalism to the community.

Dispatch

Our dispatch center is staffed 24 hours a day and 7 days a week by a minimum of 2 dispatchers. They provide assistance to anyone who calls the emergency and non-emergency station lines or 911. Dispatchers triage the calls that come in and allocate the necessary resources to provide assistance to the public. They are responsible for answering the radio and communicating with officers on their calls for service. The Newport Police Department has 9 full-time dispatchers.



Year 2023: Calls For Service by Call Source

ALARM SYSTEM	3
CELLULAR	14
E-911	1827
OTHER	1559
OFFICER INITIATED	13,686
RADIO	478
TELEPHONE	9452
WALK-IN	1147
TOTAL	28,166

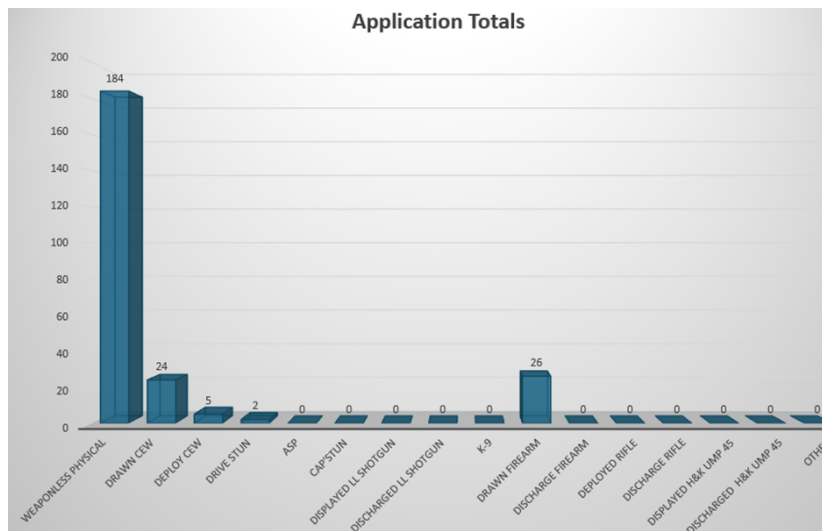
Use of Force

In 2021, the Newport Police Department along with many other police agencies across the state adopted the state's model use of force policy which was developed by The Trust's Law Enforcement Initiatives Workgroup. Their workgroup consisted of The Trust law enforcement experts, representative of law enforcement agencies throughout the state, the Commission on Accreditation, and the Rhode Island Attorney General's Office, among others.

Year: 2023	
TOTAL	YTD
Total Call for Service	28,166
Total Incident Reports	5,989
Total Arrests	968
Calls For Service Where Force Was Used	114
**Number Of Force Types	241

* Use of Force Incidents is the total number of incidents where an Officer used some type of force.
 Use of Force Types is the total number of forces types used during those incidents, as some incidents involved more than one Officer using a type of force or an Officer using more than one type of force.

In 2023, Newport Police Department had 28,166 calls for service, of which 967 resulted in an arrest. Of the 28,166 calls for service in which police personnel was involved, 114 of these calls resulted in officers having to resort to some type of use of force option(s). Of the 114 calls for service where use of force was utilized, 22 incidents were non-arrest incidents and 92 were an arrest incident which resulted in an arrest. In these 114 incidents, there were 241 types of force used**. These Uses of Force include all officers involved in the incident who used a categorized type of force. In some of these incidents, there were multiple officers using force or switching to another forms of force. The uses of force by all Newport Police Officers conducted in 2023 were within the Use of Force Policy. On an annual basis, the agency conducts an analysis of its uses of force. This analysis is the systematic process of reviewing agency records, reports, processes, and procedures to identify and analyze patterns or trends. As a result of the agency's continuous efforts to ensure best practices are being followed, there were follow-up and procedural updates provided to staff. In 2023, no member of the Newport Police Department, other than during the course of training or for the purposes of euthanizing an animal, discharged a firearm in the performance of their duty.



Vehicle Pursuits

All officers involved in a vehicle pursuit complete a written report detailing their involvement. In order to provide an ongoing process of evaluation, documentation, and accountability, a Pursuit Review Board is established after each pursuit. The Board will provide a formal mechanism for evaluating departmental pursuit policies, and ensure compliance. This board is composed of the Patrol Commander, the Training Supervisor, and the pursuit officer's Shift Commander provided the Shift Commander was not involved in the pursuit. The Board conducts a thorough review of all police pursuits by this Department, including those that do not result in accident or injury. In doing so, the Board will:

- *Interview and/or review all reports from officers, dispatchers, the OIC, and all supervisors involved in the pursuit.*
- *Interview witnesses if any are known.*
- *Review the dispatch tape recording of the pursuit.*
- *Determine whether or not officers, dispatchers, and supervisors followed departmental guidelines and policies.*
- *Determine whether or not departmental guidelines and policies are effective or in need of change.*
- *Determine and identify what, if any, training needs are necessary*
- *Determine and identify what, if any, equipment needs are necessary*
- *Upon completion of the review process, the Pursuit Review Board will submit a report, including its findings and recommendations to the Chief of Police within twenty-one (21) days of the pursuit.*

Total Pursuits	2
Not Terminated by the Agency	1
Terminated by agency	1
Policy Compliant	2
Policy Non-compliant	0

Reported Injuries	
Officer	0
Suspect(s)	0
Third Party	0

Reason For Pursuit	
Traffic Offense	1
Felony	1
Misdemeanor	1
Other	0

Fair And Impartial Policing

The Newport Police Department collects motor vehicle stop data electronically and the information is reviewed by supervisory personnel. This process permits the ability to view information collected by individual personnel and the ability to identify patterns and trends, or lack thereof, with regard to gender, race, and/or ethnic background. It also permits the ability to discern employee activities that may be of concern, and compliance with policy and best practices.

Associated aspects also include geographical areas of activity, the basis for interaction, and any directed enforcement initiatives. Review and analysis of data from the agency's records management system inherently provides an aspect of transparency and complements the Newport Police Department's commitment to fair and impartial policing and respectful interaction with citizens. The police department has a long-standing practice of performing diversity training as part of annual in- service programs.

Monthly race data reports for the calendar year 2023 were compiled by the administrative services division. Of the 4,820 vehicles the Newport Police Department stopped during this time period 3,475 (72.1%) of the operators were identified as being White, and 693(14.4%) identified as Black. The remaining 652(13.3%) were identified as being White Hispanic, Black Hispanic, Asian, and Native American. During the year 124, (2.6%) of the vehicles or occupants of the vehicle were searched; the occupants or operators of those vehicles were identified as 57 (1.6%) White, 44 (6.3%) Black, 4(5.3%) Black Hispanic, 18 (3.8%) White Hispanic, 1 (1.1%) Asian and none were identified as Native American. The reasons for the search included; incident to arrest, probable cause, the odor of alcohol/drugs, terry frisk, plain view contraband, reasonable and articulable circumstances, and inventory search in preparation for towing the vehicle.

Type	Asian/P	Black His	Black/Africa	Native Am	White	White Hisp	Grand Total
M/V Arrest		1			4	1	6
M/V Municipal	13	5	66	2	366	53	505
Notice & Demand	1	2	13		12	4	32
RITT - Civil	7	13	117	1	477	88	703
Voids					2		2
Warning	72	53	493	8	2605	324	3555
Grand Total	93	74	689	11	3466	470	4,820

The most recent residential demographic data from census.gov quick facts for the City of Newport shows the full- time residents to be 75.5% White, 13.6% Black, 19.1% Hispanic or Latino, 3% two or more races, 6.3% Asian, and 1.3% Native American. These demographic statistics do not account for the significant transient population with the motoring public. The City of Newport is an international tourist destination and has a university as well as a Navy base and temporary naval communities. The traffic pattern in Newport has a choke point and is a pass-through to the Newport Bridge linking all island communities with the mainland of Rhode Island. Considering the transient population, there is a nuance to comparing the known residential demographics to race data obtained from vehicle stops.

Crime Data

On a monthly basis, the Administrative Services Division generates a monthly crime report. These reports are intended to ensure that all agency personnel is made aware of any trends of particular types of crimes. It provides the agency administration the ability to ensure that personnel are deployed in the most effective manner possible to increase police visibility in areas that appear to indicate a particular need for some type of police intervention.

Property Crime	Totals
Larceny	233
Shoplifting	46
Theft from Building	41
Larceny from Auto	48
Motor Vehicle Theft	13
Arson	0
Vandalism	230

Noise	Totals
Amp. Noise comp.	300
Non-Amp. Noise comp	139

Crime Data	Totals
Murder	0
Sexual Assault	12
Robbery	3
Aggravated Assault	38
Burglary/B&E	39
Simple Assault	312
Disorderly Conduct	787
Drug/Narcotic viol.	72
Weapon Law viol.	43
Liquor Law viol.	155
All other Offenses	444

Citizen Complaints

It is the policy of the Newport Police Department to investigate all complaints of alleged employee misconduct to fairly determine whether the allegations are valid or invalid and to take appropriate action. A primary objective is the duty and responsibility to preserve the confidentiality, rights, and privacy concerns of all involved and the integrity of the investigative process. All allegations of misconduct are investigated regardless of their source.

FINDINGS

At the conclusion of an internal investigation resulting from a citizen complaint, the complainant will receive written notification of the findings. There are five potential findings:

- 1. Unfounded:** The investigation determined that the act or acts complained of did not occur.

- 2. Exonerated:** Acts did occur, but were justified, lawful, and proper under the circumstances.

- 3. Not Sustained:** The investigation fails to discover sufficient facts to clearly prove or disprove the allegations made in the complaint.

- 4. Sustained:** The investigation disclosed sufficient facts to clearly prove the allegation made in the complaint.

- 5. Not Involved:** The investigation establishes that the individual subject of the complaint was not involved in the incident.

Complaint Type:	Total
Administrative	11
Criminal	2
Totals	13

Complaint Initiated By	Total
Citizen	9
Internal	4
Totals	13

Investigated By	Total
Internal Affairs	7
Division	6
Totals	13

Personnel Type	Totals
Sworn	9
Civilian	4
Totals	13

Dispositions	Total
Exonerated	9
Not Sustained	1
Sustained	3
Pending Investigation	1

Hiring Process

In 2023 the City of Newport conducted 2 recruitment drives seeking POST-certified police officers and entry-level police officers. POST-certified police officers receive their certification through standards set by The Rhode Island Police Officers Commission on Standards and Training (POST). The POST establishes rules, regulations, policies and standards for certification and training of municipal and state criminal justice personnel, maintains records of law enforcement training, and serves as a resource to municipalities and the state to improve the quality of law enforcement pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws. POST-certified police officers in good standing with their agency can transfer from one agency to another. This type of hiring process yields a shorter turnaround from the application process to the candidate being ready for solo patrol on the road. This is largely due to the fact that certified officers already attended the 20-week police training academy and met all POST requirements. Depending on a certified officers years of service they may receive an abbreviated FTO training period.

There were two recruitment processes in 2023 that were completed, four recruits were hired from the first process, and for the second process, 5 candidates were hired and are currently attending the Rhode Island Municipal Police Training Academy. One female officer was selected from a list from 2022 and graduated from the Rhode Island Police Training



Academy on May 26, 2023, this applicant was on our 2022 list. 3 males and 1 female candidate were also selected and graduated from the most recent police academy in December. The candidates who successfully complete their field training will be ready for solo patrol in early March 2024.

There are currently 5 recruits attending the Rhode Island Municipal Training Academy, upon successful conclusion of the Academy and a 12-week Field Training Program, the candidates will be ready for solo patrol in late August of 2024. There were no certified police officers hired in 2023. Recruitment and Retention has become a priority for the agency and we continue to look for new ways of recruiting exceptional personnel.

Promotions

The City of Newport’s Human Resource department administers the promotional examination process in accordance with the Fraternal Order of Police collective bargaining agreement. Examinations for promotions are given every two (2) years unless the previous promotional list expires prior to the expiration of that two-year period or the eligibility list is reduced to two (2) names. In those cases, a new examination process begins. Examinations to establish eligibility for promotion shall be structured as follows:

Written Exam.....80%

Seniority Points.....20%

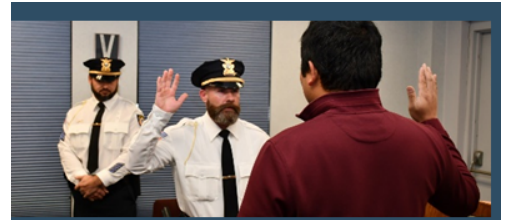
Points per prior years of service:

Sergeant One (1) Point per each full year of Service as a Patrol Officer through the date of the written Promotional Examination, plus 1/2 Point per each six (6) months of Service as a Patrol Officer.

Lieutenant One (1) Point per year of Service as a Sergeant through the date of the written Promotional Examination, plus 1/2 Point per each six (6) months of Service as a Sergeant.

Captain One (1) Point per year of Service as a Lieutenant through the date of the written Promotional Examination, plus 1/2 Point per each six (6) months of Service as a Lieutenant.

In 2023 the Human Resources Department proctored 1 promotional exam process. The testing process was for the rank of Captain. This eligible list remains active with an anticipated testing process for Captain again in the fall of 2025. In the Fall of 2024 or unless other circumstances arise, the City's Human Resources Department will proctor a Sergeant’s and Lieutenant’s promotional exam process.



Tests	
Tested	In 2023 There was on promotional examination for the Rank of Captain
	Race/Sex
	Caucasian/Male
	Caucasian/Female
	Black/Male
	Black/Female
	Hispanic/Male
Hispanic/Female	
Totals: 4	

Promotions	
2 Sergeants and 2 Lieutenants	
Race/Sex	# Promoted
Caucasian/Male	4
Caucasian/Female	0
Black/Male	0
Black/Female	0
Hispanic/Male	0
Hispanic/Female	0
Totals: 4	

Appointments	
1 Detective, 1 Accreditation Officer and 1 Training Officer	
Race/Sex	#Appointments
Caucasian/Male	3
Caucasian/Female	0
Black/Male	0
Black/Female	0
Hispanic/Male	0
Hispanic/Female	0
Totals: 3	

Tested in 2022	
Caucasian/Male	30
Caucasian/Female	3
Black/Male	1
Black/Female	1
Hispanic/Male	0
Hispanic/Female	0
Totals: 35	

Current Eligible List for Sergeant and Lieutenant	
Caucasian/Male	26
Caucasian/Female	3
Black/Male	1
Black/Female	0
Hispanic/Male	0
Hispanic/Female	0
Totals: 30	

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIVISION

Personnel Actions

The Newport Police Department currently utilizes the Guardian Tracking software system as an early intervention tracking system. A comprehensive Personnel Early Intervention System is an essential component of a well-managed law enforcement agency. The early identification of potential problem employees and a range of remedial actions can increase agency accountability and offer employees a better opportunity to meet the agency's values and mission

Personnel Actions	2023
Type	Totals
Suspension	1
Demotion	0
Resigned	3
Termination	0
Retirements	3

statement.

The agency initiates entries in the system when certain types of incidents occur. On an annual basis, the agency conducts an evaluation of collected material. Such material may include, but not necessarily be limited to agency performance evaluations, citizen complaints, disciplinary actions, use of force incidents, internal affairs cases, and pursuits.

In 2023 the agency implemented "Impactful Events". Information on the use of this category was sent out and reinforced to all supervisor staff. It was essential to recognize its proper use. This category is intended as a means for the agency to account for officers who have been involved in an emotionally significant incident. This category, along with others, is one mechanism utilized by the agency to monitor officer wellness. The information below is what is tracked in the recognition and early warning system

Early Warning System

Total Entries	808
Interventions	53
Impactful Events	42
Categories	
Attendance Related	162
Attendance Flag 30 Response	11
Attendance Flag 365 Response	5
Award Nomination	4
BWC Policy	21
Citizen Compliment	15
Counselling Session	18
General flag 30 EI	14
General flag 180 EI Response	3
General Flag 365 EI Response	18
General Recognition	20
ILD Report	4
Job Well Done	37
Letter of Commendation	1
M/V Accident	12
M/V Pursuit	2
Peer Recognition	8
Performance Appraisal	12
Supervisor Recognition	124
Use of Force 30 Response	18
Use of Force 90 Response	15
Use of Force 180	10
Use of Force 365	34
Use of Force Entry	197



The Newport Police Department publishes this annual report in an effort to foster transparency and be informative to the citizens of Newport, its visitors and any interested parties. The women and men of the Newport Police Department have answered a professional calling and embody the essence of professionalism, empathy, bravery and commitment to public service.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ryan G. Duffy".

Ryan G Duffy
Chief of Police