

STRATFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT



COURAGE

INTEGRITY

DEDICATION

2021

Prepared by: Chief Ronald Morello

STRATFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT

MISSION STATEMENT

It is the mission of the Stratford Police Department to provide professional, high quality and effective police service in partnership with the community. We, the members of the Stratford Police Department, believe that our work has a vital impact on the quality of life in our community. To demonstrate our commitment to our profession, on and off duty, we subscribe to the following values:

Integrity

Integrity is defined as being honest, moral, upright and sincere. Public trust can only exist with our integrity and respect for one another. The foundation of the Stratford Police Department is the high level of integrity of its employees.

Commitment to Employees

The Stratford Police Department recognizes that its employees are the vital component to the successful delivery of police service. We believe we can achieve our highest potential by actively involving our employees in problem solving and improving police services. We support an organizational climate of mutual trust and respect.

Community Partnership

Recognizing the fact that police agencies were established as a result of society's voluntary limitation of personal freedoms, we encourage and expect the participation of the community in facilitating solutions to problems of mutual concern. We therefore solicit and support contributions from all members of this community regardless of race, sex, national origin or social status.

Community Sensitive Policing

Department members shall uphold laws in an ethical, impartial, courteous, and professional manner while respecting the rights and dignity of all persons. We shall strive to achieve a balance between enforcement and community needs which reflects both the spirit and the letter of the law.

Professionalism

Recognizing the changing and diverse needs of the community, the Stratford Police Department promotes and encourages a policy of professional and individual excellence which is delivered and enhanced by continuing education and training.

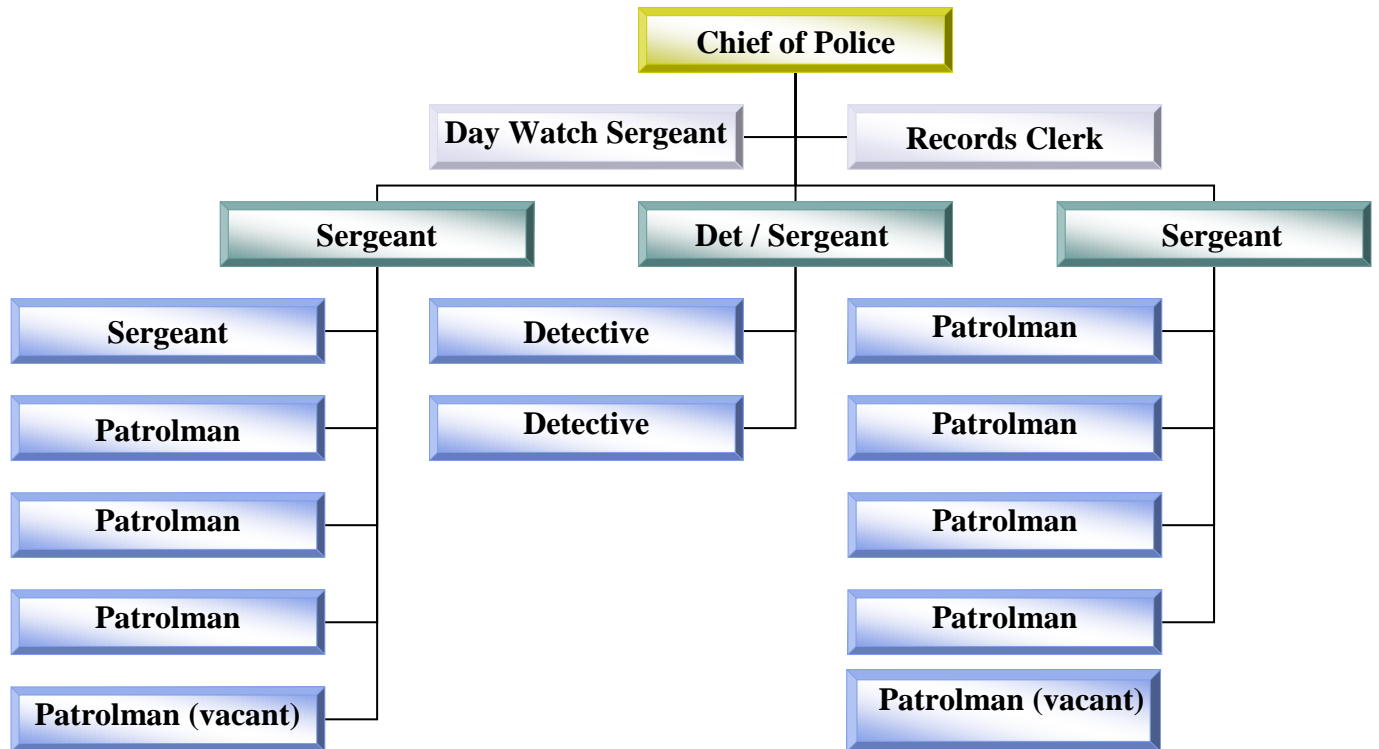
We realize fully that the expression of ideas is meaningless unless actively practiced. The integrity and professionalism demanded of members of the Stratford Police Department shall ensure the proper, lawful and unbiased application of police powers.

ORGANIZATION & PERSONNEL

Personnel

During the year 2021, Sergeant Bret Johnson retired from the department with over 20 years of police service. In October 2021, Corporals' Michael Meyers and Steven Schmidt, were promoted to the rank of Sergeant. Additionally, Patrolmen Patrick Deitz and Patrick Brunett were promoted to full time Police Officers after having served as Special Police Officers for two years.

2021 STRATFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



Chief of Police
Ronald Morello

Captain
Vacant

Corporal
Vacant

Sergeants

Sergeant Frank J. Gagliardi
Sergeant Vincent Jess
Sergeant John Beasley
Sergeant Steve Schmidt

Detectives

Det. Sgt. Michael Meyers
Detective Thomas Farrell
Detective Andrew Rebecca

Patrolman

Patrolman Timothy Butler
Patrolman Caleb Speer
Patrolman Dominic Romeo
Patrolman Dan Camburn
Patrolman Brett Small
Patrolman Patrick Deitz
Patrolman Patrick Brunett
VACANT
SLEO 2 Dylan Jess
SLEO 2 Ronald Morello
SLEO 2 Robert Kelly

School Resource Officers

Stephen McBride
Scott Beasley

CROSSING GUARDS



Our crossing guards play a critical role to the Borough's public safety function. Each school day, **12** crossing guards hit the streets to perform the paramount task of ensuring our children have a safe passage to, and from school. These guards perform especially dangerous tasks under some of the worst atmospheric and driver created conditions. These men and women are serious about their work and are deserving of recognition.

Crossing Guards

1. Christine Osciak (Captain)
2. Naomi Leszezynski
3. Thomas Stone
4. Sharon Boswell
5. Christine Larsen
6. Kim Houseman
7. Lorraine Morello
8. Kay Mayer
9. Bonnie DiDonato
10. Barbara Jess
11. Jessica Farrell
12. Keith Hartley
13. Brooke Levinson
14. Christopher Mote
15. Nicole Trusko
16. Mark Tentarelli

Retirees and other Previous Employee

Below are the most contemporary sworn officers we wish to remember, who all dedicated many years of their lives to Stratford. Their good work still has positive ramifications on the department and our town today. Moreover, since 2016, a cycle of retirements has ensued. Consequently, the department has lost over 120 years of experience in a short period of time. From a police management standpoint, the loss of veteran police officer is operationally challenging.

Retired Personnel

Detective Frank Rizzo	D/Chief Nick DiEttore	Sergeant Edward Kane
Chief James McBride	Chief James Fuller	Sergeant Paul Stoffel
Clerk Marie Gahagan	Captain John Brown	Patrolman Fred “Rick” Casario
Chief Jack Joyce	Sergeant Scott Beasley	Captain Stephen McBride
Detective Michael Williams	Captain Robert Kelly	Sergeant Bret Johnson

Injuries and Accidents

Stratford Borough is self-insured for workers compensation claims. In order to ensure the proper level of police services for the citizens of Stratford, there has been a concerted effort by all police officers to reduce incidents of work place injury. Unfortunately, due to the inherently dangerous nature of the law enforcement profession, it often exposes police officers to hazardous situations that are beyond their control, therefore making the potential for injury extremely high. In 2021, there were three cases of a work related injuries, one motor vehicle accident, two others were exposures to pathogens. Throughout 2021, our Police Officers were assaulted on five (5) separate occasions. These felonious assaults on Law Enforcement Officers occurred while police were investigating the following types of incidents: *domestic disturbances, other disturbances, traffic stop*. The Stratford Police Department logged over 110,000 miles driven in department vehicles in 2021; resulting in three (3) traffic accidents one involving a parked vehicle.

CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

Reported Crimes

As can be seen by the figures below, the total police reports have somewhat decreased from 2017 through 2021. The figures below include all reported criminal activity, and instances where officers filed a police report, excluding traffic crashes and summonses.

	2019	2020	2021
Total Criminal Offenses	915	877	1019



Arrests

The figures listed below reflect the number of “individuals” arrested for the previous three years. It should be noted that most times, multiple charges are filed against a single “individual.” The arrests figures listed below reflect the number of persons (Adults / Juveniles) physically arrested by Stratford Police Officers. In approximately 120 additional cases, criminal charges have been filed against suspects, but they have not been yet arrested or were arrested by other law enforcement agencies at the request of the Stratford Police Department.

	2019	2020	2021
Arrests	382	259	301

Drug Offenses

Because drug related crimes remain a high priority to law enforcement, the Stratford Police Department is continuing in its proactive enforcement efforts concerning drug use and distribution. Since the Overdose Prevention Act was enacted, many more drug offenses have been recorded. But according to the Overdose Prevention Act, police officers are powerless to arrest or charge certain drug offenders under some circumstances. In 2021, changes in legislation resulted in the legalization of cannabis (marijuana) and for the most part, it is not illegal to possess, or use cannabis.

Year	Drug Offenses
2005	84
2006	86
2007	110
2008	84
2009	70
2010	68
2011	75
2012	94
2013	101
2014	98
2015	75
2016	98
2017	113
2018	98
2019	109
2020	79
2021	73

Uniform Crime Reports (UCR)

The Uniform Crime Reporting Program is a nationwide, cooperative statistical effort of more than 17,000 cities, county and State law enforcement agencies reporting data on crimes brought to their attention. It was established in 1930 to gauge the state of crime in the nation. There are eight (8) main offense classifications, known as Part I Crimes, used as part of the Uniform Crime Reporting Program. The eight (8) crime classifications are divided into two categories; Violent Crimes and Property Crimes. The offenses, which constitute the Violent Crime category, include Murder and

Non-Negligent Manslaughter; Forcible Rape; Robbery; and Aggravated Assault. The offenses, which constitute the Property Crime category, include Burglary; Theft; Motor Vehicle Theft; and Arson. Below is a chart highlighting the eight (7) identified crime classifications and the respective number of offenses for Stratford Borough for the last seven (7) years.

Offense	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
HOMICIDE	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
RAPE / SEX CRIME 1		0	2	8	2	1	1
ROBBERY	3	3	2	4	7	2	0
AGG ASSAULT	8	7	11	12	12	11	13
BURGLARY	16	17	15	4	5	3	7
MV THEFT	1	7	4	7	1	6	1
THEFT	135	183	131	112	117	147	128

Historical Crime Data - Stratford Borough

I am often asked how 21st century crimes in Stratford Borough compares to criminal trends from the 1970's 1980's and 1990s. For informational purposes, the below table details historical crime data including population figures from those eras.

YEAR	CRIME INDEX	VIOLENT CRIMES	NON-VIOLENT	PER 1000
1970	Not available	---	---	---
1980	Not available	---	---	---
1990	307	6	301	40.3
2000	165	24	141	22.7
2010	160	13	147	22.7
2020	Not available	--	---	---

There are a number of law enforcement calls for police services that are time consuming. Below are the most frequent calls for municipal police services / activity for the patrol division:

Activity	% of activity 2021
Suspicious Incidents	10%
Other Complaints	26%
Medical Assist	5%
Ordinance Violations	3%
Follow Up Investigations & Reports	33%
Patrol / Traffic Enforcement / MVA's	23%

Domestic Violence

Acts of Domestic Violence are crimes the entire world must face and Stratford Borough is no way exempt. Domestic Violence consists of a host of crimes committed by family members, which is extended to any two people who have ever resided together. Domestic violence also governs those who have engaged in a dating relationship. Across the country, a large percentage of law enforcement officers who have been killed in the line of duty have resulted from responses to domestic violence incidents. By standard operating procedure, at least two police officers must respond to domestic disturbance calls. This is particularly challenging to the Stratford Police Department because there are hours which only one police officer is on duty. It is during these times that we must rely on mutual aid from neighboring police departments. In order to effectively deploy manpower resources when they are most needed, the administration of the Stratford Police Department has identified below, when most acts of Domestic Violence occur within our jurisdiction. It comes as no surprise that reported acts of Domestic Violence mirror those days when most drunk drivers are arrested. Once again, over 45% of Domestic Violence acts during 2021 involved alcohol consumption or drug use on behalf of the actor, victim or both. These statistics ticked up by about 5% from the prior years. In 2021, over 225 hours were spent resolving these disputes by either arrest, emergency restraining orders, court appearances or mutual separations. Virtual crimes have increased in recent years. Cyber harassment, stalking and intimidation crimes have become very common forms of domestic violence.

CRIMINAL FILINGS

Between **July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021, 788 Criminal charges** were filed in the Borough of Stratford. On average, **2.15** criminal charges per day were investigated, prepared or signed by the Stratford Police Department, and passed onto to the Records and Municipal Court staff for processing. Once filed, criminal charges may be sent to State Court or may be returned to the municipal court for disposition. For this same time period, a total of 5992 court cases were filed by the Stratford Police Department.

TRAFFIC

Accidents

Traffic Accident Six Year Comparison

	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>
Injury Accidents	50	49	77	73	56	77	73	65	77	71	58
Fatal Accidents	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	1	0
# of Accidents	323	288	291	296	255	321	341	365	369	342	242

Traffic Summonses issued by Category (7/2018 – 6/2019)

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>+ / -</u>
Moving & Non	4953	4759	5275	5047	7847	4011	5382	+1371
DWI	206	148	142	98	107	68	62	- 6
Ordinance Summonses	148	161	133	136	84	60	77	+17

PATROL



Patrol is the largest Division and core law enforcement function of the Stratford Police Department. Its primary responsibility is responding to calls for service from the community. These calls can range from neighborhood disputes, domestic violence incidents, traffic accidents, burglaries in progress, robberies and sudden death investigations.

As the first responder to criminal complaints, patrol officers are responsible for seeing to the medical needs of anyone involved, interviewing witnesses, recognizing and preserving evidence, determining whether, in fact, a crime has occurred, and identifying and ultimately arresting those responsible.

Officers in the Patrol Division are also expected to provide proactive services such as traffic enforcement, crime detection and suppression, and initiating contacts with community members to our commitment to Community Oriented Policing. We are even called upon to unclog toilets, discipline children, unlock car doors, and change flat tires. While these tasks are not usual police functions, these represent some of the needs of our vulnerable population and our officers our proud to serve the needs of our residents.

Officers assigned to the Patrol Division are divided into two (2) Teams. Both teams are responsible for 24-hour patrol coverage, seven days a week, 365 days a year. Sergeant Vincent Jess and Sergeant John Beasley supervise the A-Team. Sergeant Steven Schmidt supervises the B-Team. Sergeant Frank Gagliardi is assigned to the day watch shift while Sergeant Mike Meyers oversees the Detective Bureau. Each Team has a total of five (5) police officers. The officers in the patrol division work 10 hour work days.

Community Oriented Policing Programs & Strategies

In the mid 1990's under the leadership of Chief James McBride, the Stratford Borough Police Department identified a need to implement community-oriented / problem solving strategies to assist in more effectively addressing citizen concerns about crime, safety and quality of life issues. While still embracing traditional policing practices such as random patrol and rapid response to calls for service, the department recognizes that there must be a collaborative problem solving approach between the police and the community in problem identification, prioritization and resolution of community concerns. More recently, these strategies have been greatly enhanced by our current police department leadership. Our more recent goals are to reduce crime and increase the quality of life by seeking citizen involvement, cooperation and support. One of the most important aspects of this philosophy is to identify and solve community problems rather than simply treating the symptoms. Operationally, we seek to implement our strategy and accomplish our goals through various programs including but not limited to:

- Attendance at Community Meetings
- Child Seat installation & Safety
- School Safety Programs
- Drunk and Drugged Driving Education
- Pre-K thru 12 Educational Programs
- PTA / PTO Participation
- Youth Sports Participation
- Child Identification Programs
- Officer Phil Program
- Red Ribbon Program
- Drunk Driving Enforcement
- Drug Enforcement Operations
- Code Enforcement
- Targeted Traffic Enforcement
- Volunteer Fingerprint Programs
- Crime Prevention Programs
- Town Watch Program (as needed)
- Bicycle Patrol
- Traffic Studies

Field Training

All police officers hired by the Stratford Borough Police Department must attend a state certified police academy. Upon graduation from the academy, all officers return to the department and are required to successfully complete a Field Training Program (FTO). The FTO program is an additional 2 months of supervised, intense training and evaluation in which the probationary officer is partnered with an experienced officer who has been carefully selected and trained as a Field Training Officer. It is the goal of the FTO Program to prepare and develop Probationary Officers to act efficiently, effectively and safely in a solo patrol capacity, which is an absolute essential function of the Stratford Police Department. Because there are many instances where an officer is unassisted during a patrol function, each and every member of the police department

must have the knowledge, skills and abilities to properly handle any situation that may arise. To fill those voids, supervisors and detectives are on call to respond to or communicate with the duty police officer handling an incident or crisis. These detectives and supervisors perform this function without additional compensation 24 hours a day, 365 days per year. Sergeant Frank Gagliardi, Patrolman Caleb Speer and Sergeant Steven Schmidt, are designated as Field Training Officers.

DETECTIVE BUREAU



The Detective Bureau is charged with the responsibility to review all Police Investigation Reports and intelligence sources in order to prioritize and investigate criminal activity. The Detective Bureau also serves as the Stratford Police Department's Counter-Terrorism, Narcotics, Megan's, Firearms and Intelligence Liaisons' and they meet regularly with other local, state and federal authorities in these regards. Additionally, members of the Detective Bureau instruct DARE Classes, Investigate Firearms Applicants, Investigate Business Licenses Applicants, secure and process all department evidence, and other property. The Detective Bureau is also responsible for providing for 24 hour a day, 365 days per year "on call" coverage. Detectives frequently are called during off hours to investigate serious active or recent crimes. The Detective Bureau works closely with the Camden County Prosecutors Office, and is reportable to that agency regarding all indictable crimes and investigations.

The Detective Bureau is staffed by three police officers who have undergone weeks of specialized training in their function.

Detective - Sergeant Michael Meyers	24 years experience
Detective Thomas Farrell	19 years experience
Detective Andrew Rebecca	18 years experience

Property Stolen and Recovered

Property offenses include Burglary, Theft, Criminal Mischief and Shoplifting. The exact amount of value in theft related offenses is difficult to determine as officers and victims usually estimate the value of property stolen and recovered. The chart below reflects the estimated value of property stolen and recovered for the previous eleven (11) years. With the Borough of Stratford hosting three financial institutions and one check-cashing agency, the dollars lost to theft and fraud can be significant.

Year	Stolen Property	Stolen Property Recovered
2010	\$181,331.00	\$99,428.00
2011	\$245,106.00	\$77,267.00
2012	\$109,480.00	\$15,877.00
2013	\$227,793.00	\$382,79.00
2014	\$140,250.00	\$38,159.00
2015	\$138,610.00	\$77,672.00
2016	\$74,145.00	\$46,195.00
2017	\$102,972.00	\$52,730.00
2018	\$66,934.00	\$58,902.00
2019	\$118,655.00	\$50,751.00
2020	\$100,433.00	\$46,049.00
2021	\$104,419.00	\$95,304.00

Criminal Investigations

From 11/01/2020 to 10/31/2021 the Detective Bureau was assigned **220** cases.

Burglaries (vehicles, home, commercial)	21
Thefts	35
Identity Theft / Frauds	30
Robberies	0
Assaults, Threats	2
Narcotics	9
Sex Crimes	12
Stolen Motor Vehicles	2
Non- Classified	47
Missing Persons	6

Sudden Death / Overdose	10 / 6
Fires / Arson	0
Criminal Mischief	11
Homicide	0
Shoplifting	19
School Investigations	3
Applicant Investigations	7

Arrests

19 suspects were arrested or charged by the Detective Bureau.

Non-Criminal Investigations

In addition to the criminal investigations, Stratford Police Detectives also handled **376** Non-criminal Investigations and the below regulatory investigations.

Firearms Licenses / Backgrounds	122
Handgun Permits	134
Identification Cards	65
Applications Received	122
Denial	5
Mercantile License	5
Vendor	8
Backgrounds, Vendors, Festivals	8

Megan's Law

Detectives registered **7** Megan's Law offenders from 11/1/20 to 10/31/21. We currently have **6** registered Megan's Law offenders living in Stratford. Detective's delivered **34** Megan's Law notices this year.

Evidence

Detectives processed **206** Property Reports that were turned in and logged. This resulted in **635** items logged in. **Four** property reports for Field notes were also logged and secured.

2021 Notable Cases

1. From November of 2020 through October of 2021, Stratford Police Detectives investigated **10** Sudden Death cases. One of these cases involved fatal drug overdose. There have been over **6** other cases of drug overdoses.
2. In November of 2020, Stratford Police Detectives followed up on a Shoplifting investigation at the Dollar General. Initial investigation revealed that two female suspects shoplifted approximately \$400.00 worth of merchandise from the business. Upon their arrest, the females were also found to be in possession of a large quantity of clothing. Detectives conducted an investigation and learned that the clothing came from the Gap Store located in Cherry Hill, NJ. Furthermore, the investigation yielded that the clothing, totaling \$1,470.00 was in fact stolen. Both subjects in this matter were additionally charged with Possession of Stolen Property.
3. In December of 2020, Stratford Police Detectives responded to a Burglary in progress at the Above and Beyond Day Care. Upon arrival, Detectives assisted patrol units as the establishment was surrounded and searched. A male suspect was located inside of the day care and ultimately placed under arrest for Burglary. The male was arrested and charged accordingly.
4. In January of 2021, Stratford Police Detectives assisted patrol officers at the Stratford Post Office for a report of two males utilizing stolen credit cards. The investigation into the males activity revealed that they were attempting to purchase numerous money orders in large dominations with the stolen credit cards. Both males were arrested and charged accordingly.
5. In February of 2021, Stratford Police Detectives were alerted of illegal narcotic sales that were occurring at a residence within the Borough. Detective's learned that a male was delivering narcotics to this residence as he operated an older model blue Ford Mustang. Over the course of two weeks, Detectives surveilled the residence and observed the target vehicle in question. An illegal narcotics transaction was observed and the target vehicle was stopped by assisting patrol units. As a result of the investigation, a large quantity of Illegal Narcotics were seized. The male suspect was arrested and charged accordingly.
6. In May of 2021, Stratford Police Detectives assisted patrol officers and members of the Somerdale Police Department with an Armed Robbery that occurred on the White Horse Pike. Officers learned that a male suspect fled across the White Horse Pike and was last seen running down a roadway in Stratford. A Stratford Police Supervisor located the male suspect where a foot pursuit ensued. The male suspect was apprehended and after a brief struggle, a loaded "Ghost Gun" with a large capacity magazine was removed from

his waistband. The male suspect was also found to be in possession of a large quantity of Illegal Narcotics. The male was arrested, charged accordingly and remanded to the Camden County Jail.

7. In June of 2021, Stratford Police Detectives were notified of a vehicle Burglary that occurred at a residence in Stratford. Initial investigation yielded that the suspect unlawfully entered an unlocked motor vehicle and removed numerous personal items belonging to the victim. Video surveillance footage was obtained and a suspect was identified. The suspect, who was arrested a few days prior after committing numerous other vehicle burglaries, was charged accordingly and remanded to the Camden County Jail.
8. In August of 2021, Stratford Police Detective's provided assistance to patrol officers from Stratford and the Somerdale Police Department with a large protest in the middle of the White Horse Pike. Detective's assisted with crowd and traffic control during the civil unrest. Ultimately, four subjects were arrested and charged accordingly.
9. In August of 2021, Stratford Police Detectives investigated the Sexual Assault of a 38 year old female. During interviews with the victim, it was learned that the assault had taken place in this jurisdiction and that the suspect was a mutual friend. The suspect was arrested, charged with Aggravated Sexual Assault and remanded to the Camden County Jail.
10. In October of 2021, Stratford Police Detectives investigated the Theft of a large quantity of prescribed narcotics at the Stratford Nursing Home. Through a thorough investigation, Detective's identified the suspect as a temporary nurse. The suspect was charged accordingly and her nursing license has been temporarily suspended.

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER INITIATIVE (SRO)



STRATFORD SCHOOL BOARD PROPOSAL

The Board of Education of the Borough of Stratford, in the County of Camden (School District) is authorized to raise an additional, \$76,000.00 for two (2) School Resource Officers to provide security to students at each building within the school day. Each resource officer would be a full time position, working the hours of the school day at a salary of \$38,000.00, with no benefits. Approval of these taxes will result in a permanent increase in the districts tax levy increasing the appropriation line 11-000-266-110 Security Personnel Salaries.

YES
NO

On November 6, 2018, the taxpayers of Stratford spoke loudly and clearly, when they convincingly authorized a referendum to fund two Resource Officers to protect our public schools. This measure finalized a pilot program instituted in July of 2018. In July of 2020 the Stratford Mayor & Council unanimously agreed to renew the agreement with the school district and continued to place officers in Yellin and Parkview School. The Stratford Police Department is proud to provide for the safety and security of our children and staff. We hope our presence is conducive to learning and eases safety concerns of our parents and educators.

MEGAN'S LAW UNIT

Megan's Law

Although not “officially” a unit, the task of handling Megan’s Law registrants within the borough is vested with the Detective Bureau. Detective Thomas Farrell primarily oversees the registrants. Registrants are required to re-register anytime they move to a new address within the borough, even as minimal as a change to a different apartment. Registrant’s must also register upon moving into the Borough of Stratford from another area as well as notify our agency when they are moving to another jurisdiction.

We have registered a total of 6 sex offenders as of December 31, 2021, we have 6 sex offenders living in Stratford.

We currently have 0 new registrants in 2021.

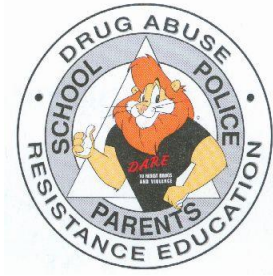
We have 1 offender that has been relived of obligation to register.

We have 6 offenders register annually and 0 offenders register every 90 days.

We have 4 Tier I offenders and 2 Tier II offenders, none others are pending a Tier Hearing

Detective Farrell delivered 35 Megan’s Law notices to schools, daycares, civic groups and alike.

DARE PROGRAM



The Stratford Police Department has conducted the DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance and Education) Program in the Stratford School district since **1990**. To date, over 4000 Stratford students have gone through the DARE Program. The program is taught to 5th grades at Yellin and John Paul II Schools. This program is 12 weeks long and trained officers visit their assigned class once a week and teach a prescribed curriculum. In 2020, approximately (**116**) students were taught in the DARE Program. DARE was not taught in 2021 due to the COVID 19 pandemic.

Officers who taught the DARE Program in 2020 were:

Ptlm. Caleb Speer (Program Coordinator)
Ptlm. Tim Butler

Det. Andrew Rebecca
Ptlm. Dan Camburn

To celebrate the students accomplishments, the Stratford Police Department and JP II School host the annual DARE Graduation Night at the carnival. Very graciously and in support of the program, the PJP II School donates rides and food to the current year graduates.

RECORDS DIVISION



The Records Division of the Stratford Police Department supports the operational efforts of the detective bureau, patrol division and administrative sections. Along with performing a variety of other services, including but not limited to

- Data Entry & filing
- Prosecutors Office Case Preparation
- Processing of Automated Red Light Enforcement Offenses and Discovery
- Report Maintenance/Filing/Retrieval
- Issuing Licenses, permits
- Copy reports for Civilians/ Insurance Companies/Attorneys
- Isolating Expunged Files
- Issue Handicap Placards
- Process Firearms Applications
- Coordinate Background Investigations
- Process Fingerprint Cards
- Process Juvenile Complaints
- Receiving incoming emergency and non-emergency calls
- Screening walk-in complaints
- Compile monthly statistics
- Municipal Court case preparation

The chart below highlights a small percentage of the work processed by the Records personnel in 2021. The records division is responsible for creating and maintaining over 20,000, records annually. The records clerks process each and every case, accident, summonses and documents which are ultimately passed on to the municipal court office that is staffed by two full time and one part time employee. In accordance with Stratford's paperwork reduction philosophy, during the month of October 2012, our records room began making motor vehicle crash reports available online. This initiative has found to be convenient for the public and efficient for the police department. There are no associated costs to the borough for this service. In late 2014, the Stratford

Police Department entered into a shared service agreement with Bellmawr Borough where as Stratford purchased a State of the Art Records Management System (RMS) Effective January 2015 Stratford and approximately 33 other law enforcement agencies in Camden County will have the benefit of instantly sharing crime data, including arrests and investigation. Much of costs associated with the purchase of the RMS system was paid for with grants, forfeiture funds and sources.

	2021
○ *Reports Copied	2900
○ *Firearms Applications Processed	122 (in all)
○ *Background Checks Completed	66
○ *Juvenile Complaints Processed	6
○ *Handicap Placards Processed	25
○ *Prepares Cases for Court Office	1500

**denotes estimated*

COMMUNICATIONS

The Stratford Borough Police Department does not directly employ police dispatchers or communications officers. Our primary communications function is provided to Stratford by the Camden County Police Communications Center, which is located in Lindenwold NJ. The Communications Center is staffed 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Despite all appearances, when calling 911, the process of dispatching a police officer is nearly immediately underway. Officers of the Stratford Police Department respond to most emergency and non-emergency calls within 120 seconds of receipt from the Communications Center. 95% of Camden County municipalities utilize the Camden County Communications Centers with the exception of four larger townships who are Gloucester Township, and Cherry Hill Township. However, during business hours, our Records Clerks will receive, screen and dispatch 10 to 50 emergency and non-emergency calls for service per week. These calls are handled by the Stratford Police Department when a reporting person dials the police administration building directly instead of the non-emergency line or 911. Because the offices are closed 16 hours a day, and all weekend long, the Stratford Police Department discourages the public from calling the administrative offices to report crimes in progress.

Calls for Service

Calls for service are operational incidents that the police department can track and monitor. These include 911 calls, emergency and non-emergency requests for service, and “on-sight”

criminal/public service activity by officers. The chart directly below reflects the number of calls for service handled by the Stratford Police Department for the previous five (5) years. As previously stated the vast majority of calls for police service are channeled through the Camden County Communications Center.

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	change
Calls	8482	8332	6774	5674	7925	+2251

MISCELLANEOUS

Overtime

For the calendar year of 2021, officers of the Stratford Police Department worked approximately 900 hours of locally budgeted hours of overtime and or compensatory time. The Police Department budgeted overtime is utilized and necessary for the patrol division and detective bureau for purposes such as the *replacement of personnel out sick, injured or on other approved leave such as attendance at mandatory or other training, completion of assignments, the investigation of serious offenses, or to work a special assignments such as parades, and other public events.* In years past, severe weather events have seriously taxed the overtime budget; however, the police administration remains committed to ensuring police personnel are deployed where and when our citizens need them. For accountability purposes, overtime must be approved by a Sergeant and by the Chief of Police. For accounting purposes, the Chief Financial Officer logs a running tally of overtime used. Categories for overtime are as follows:

Extended Tour - time worked in addition to and consecutive with one's regular 10 hour work day (examples include time at the end of a tour of duty to complete an arrest, assignment or reports).

Extra Tour - time worked in addition to one's regular workday (examples include replacing an officer on sick leave or a Detective called in to work on a serious case).

Court - To provide testimony in municipal, state or federal court (examples include mandatory court appearance, which does not coincide with an officer's regularly scheduled workday). Since 2014, the municipal court increased their court session to four sessions per month.

Training - attendance at in-service training courses not available during workdays or contractual uncompensated days (examples include CPR / AED Training, Alcotest Certification, Search &

Seizure Updates and Criminal Law Refresher) Very limited overtime for training has been expended in the past 4 years.

Crash Investigation Team - assistance provided to the Camden County Prosecutors Office investigating fatal accidents county wide. The Camden County Prosecutors Office reimburses the Stratford Police Department when our trained officer is used out of Stratford Borough on assignment.

DDEF - Drunk Driving Enforcement Fund: a state funded grant utilized to place additional police officers on the road to target drunk drivers (examples include extra patrols on holidays, weekends and nights when instances of drunk driving are inherently increased).

Other Grant Overtime – Overtime used for extra patrols for seatbelt and speed reduction campaigns. Overtime in this category is generally reimbursed through state and federal grants.

Other Overtime – Overtime expended through the Borough paid for by private vendors (traffic construction, school events, fall festival, traffic control, security posts, and security details).

Compensatory Time-Hours: Compensatory hours are actually overtime hours worked in which the police officers elects to bank hours which can be later used as time off. Compensatory hours per Federal Law can be accrued up to 480 hours.

The chart below reflects the Stratford Police Department’s estimated overtime, by category for 2021:

Overtime by Category:

	Hours				
Extended Tour	240				
Extra Tour	380				
Court	120				
Training	160				
Records Coverage	0				
County Reimbursement	80				
DDEF & Task Force	300				
Other & Grants	60				

Training and Education



One of the most important responsibilities of a law enforcement agency is the training and education of all personnel. It is well settled that training increases safety and reduces civil liability. The Stratford Police Department has in place a comprehensive police-training program, which provides for the annual training of all officers on topics determined to be critical to police officers of this agency. The men and women of the Stratford Borough Police Department attended a wide variety of in-service training courses throughout 2021 including:

- Blood-Borne Pathogens
- Property & Evidence
- Firearms Qualifications
- Child Abduction Response Training (C.A.R.T.)
- SRT Team Training
- Patrol Rifle Training
- Basic SWAT
- Active Shooter Response
- Report Writing
- EMT Recertification
- Arrest Search & Seizure
- Right to Know
- Use of Force
- High Risk Traffic Stops
- Advanced Crash Investigation
- Field Training Officer
- Evidence Technician Training
- DNA Gathering
- Criminal Law & Procedure
- Cell Block Updates
- Domestic Violence
- Attorney General Guidelines
- DWI Detection & Prosecution
- Alcotest Training
- PBT Training
- NCIC Training

- Handle With Care
- Vehicle Pursuit
- Interview & Interrogation
- HAZMAT
- NIMS
- Policy Training
- School Drills
- RMS Operators Course
- CED (Taser) Training
- Criminal Justice Reform Updates
- AED/CPR Training
- ODARA (risk assessment)
- DNA Gathering
- COVID 19 Training
- Body Word Cameras
- ABLE
- ICAT
- Radar Operator Training
- Missing Child Investigation
- Work Zone Safety
- OC Spray Training
- Autism Awareness
- NCIC Updates
- Narcan Training
- Below 100 Training
- 21st Century Policing Training
- De-Escalation Training
- CJ Reform Risk Assessment
- ERPO Training
- Handle with Care
- Use of Force
- Culture Diversity
- Dealing with Drug Dependents

Internal Affairs & Professional Standards

The Stratford Borough Police Department is committed to providing law enforcement services that are fair, effective, and impartially applied. Toward that end, officers are held to the highest standards of official conduct and are expected to respect the rights of all citizens. Officers' adherence to these standards, motivated by a moral and professional obligation to perform their job to the best of their ability, is the ultimate objective of this agency. The effectiveness of a law enforcement agency is dependent upon public approval and acceptance of police authority. The department must be responsive to the community by providing formal procedures for the processing of complaints from the public regarding individual officer performance.

The purpose of the Department's Internal Affairs Policy is to improve the quality of law enforcement services. Citizen confidence in the integrity of the police department increases through the establishment of meaningful and effective complaint procedures. This confidence engenders community support for the police department. Improving the relationship between the police and the citizens they serve facilitates cooperation vital to the department's ability to achieve its goals. An effective disciplinary framework also permits police officials to monitor compliance with department policies and procedures. Adherence to established policies and procedures assists officers in meeting department objectives while a monitoring system permits managers to identify problem areas requiring increased training or direction. Finally, the Internal Affairs Policy ensures fairness and due process protection to citizens and officers alike. The internal affairs process is also used to identify and correct unclear or inappropriate agency procedures. In addition, it will highlight organizational conditions that may

contribute to any misconduct, such as poor recruitment and selection procedures or inadequate training and supervision of police officers.

In 2021, there were 7 Internal Affairs Investigations. The categories of these investigations included rule violations and demeanor. There were no Use of Force Complaints against our police officers.

As per the protocol established by the Camden County Prosecutors Office, the Internal Affairs function conducted random drug testing of 20% of the police department. All random drug tests of police officers were negative.

ADMINISTRATION



Pursuant to state law, the ordinances of the Borough and the regulations and policies established by the Chief of Police, the responsibilities of the Police Chief shall include the responsibility to:

- a) Conduct and manage the day-to-day operations of the Police Department including the work schedules of all members of the police department.
- b) Administer and enforce rules and regulations, act as the chief executive officer and appropriate authority for all matters and personnel assigned to the police department, and special emergency directives regarding the disposition and discipline of the police force, its officers, and personnel to include administrative statutes:
- c) Have, exercise, and discharge the functions, powers and duties of the police force:
- d) Delegate such of his authority as he may deem necessary for the efficient operation of the force to be exercised under his direction and supervision:
- e) Prescribe the duties and assignments of all subordinates and other personnel: and
- f) Report monthly in writing form, to the Borough an overview of police activity for the preceding month.

Police Policy Manual

By law and Attorney General Guidelines, every police department shall adopt certain policies, which govern how law enforcement operations are carried out. Although the mandatory policies are few, the Chief of Police believes that policies are a critical element of an effective law enforcement agency. Since 2002, the Chief of Police has developed a comprehensive policy manual, which consists of, the below chapters:

Read & Initial Board	Organizational Structure	Written Orders
Court Appearances	Uniforms	Command
Police Chief Notifications	Detective Notifications	Secondary Employment
Use of Police Vehicles	Discipline	Accident Reporting
Mission Statement	Ethics	Property & Evidence
Body Armor	Authorized Leave	Training
Harassment in the Workplace	Police Reporting	Juvenile Holding
Criminal Complaints	Alternate Care for dependents	Domestic Violence
Amber Alert	Response to Bank Alarms	Strip Search
DWI Processing	Vehicle Impound	Detective Affairs
Death Notifications	Ordinance / Parking	Internal Affairs
Juvenile Processing	Vehicle Pursuit	Fingerprints
Bias Incidents	Officer of the Year	DYFS Matters
OC Spray	Anti-discrimination	Special Events
Fata MVA	Use of Force	AED & CPR
Missing Persons	MDT	Transportation
Release of Impounds	Mutual Aid	Hostage Situations
Bomb Threats in School	Holding Room Policy	NCIC Entry
Family Crisis Matters	Haz-Mat Incidents	Traumatic Events
Telephone Warrants	Home Firearm Security	Station House Juveniles
NCIC Computer Security	Blood borne Pathogens	Sexual Harassment
SWAT Team	Rapid Response Team	School Lockdowns
School Evacuations	Portable Breath Testing	Drug Testing of Police
Computer Email Policy	Immigration Notification	Emergency School Operations
Emergency Driving	ViCAP Policy	Domestic Violence (LEO)
Patricia's Law (Missing Persons)	Dealing with the Mentally Ill	Social Media
Field Note Retention	Eyewitness Identification	Fire Investigations
Medical Marijuana Investigations	School Critical Incidents	Blood Evidence
Overdose Prevention Act	DWI Telephonic Warrants	CED Policy
Naloxone (Narcan)	Injured on Duty Policy (IOD)	De-confliction
DNA Gathering	Surreptitious Recordings	Immigration Trust Policy
Extreme Risk Protection Order	Interactions with Transgender	Handle with Care
COVID Practices	Body Worn Cameras	

During 2008, the Stratford Police Department stopped issuing paper policies. Each officer has been issued a password protected thumb drive and all departmental policies and directives have been converted to PDF format. This initiative has resulted in a cost savings while making the comprehensive patrol guides available to the officer while in the field / patrol vehicles. During the year 2021, the police department issued 12 Special Orders to issue guidance and direction for our officers to navigate the COVID-19 global pandemic and other evolving situations

Law Enforcement Grants

Because of local fiscal restraints, the Stratford Police Department relies heavily upon State and Federal Grants to continue to function at a high level. In addition, because the effective delivery of law enforcement services depends greatly upon training, equipment and effective use of manpower, the Stratford Police Departments literally operates on a shoestring budget supplemented by grant funds. The following is a partial list of grants applied for, and received by the Stratford Police Department during the year of 2021:

1. DWI Enforcement Patrols	\$11,900.00
2. State Bullet Proof Vests	\$3200.00
3. NJ Safe & Secure Manpower	\$16,00.00
4. DWI Check Point	\$2800.00
5. County DWI Task Force	\$43,000.00
6. Other Traffic Enforcement Grants	\$15,000.00
7. SJ Gas Community Public Safety Grant	\$5000.00
8. NJ State Body Worn Camera Grant	\$55,000.00

Since 2002, the Stratford Police Department estimates having received well over one million dollars in grant awards, which include manpower hours, law enforcement training and equipment.

Personnel Assignments

In addition to those core responsibilities and police function, the Stratford Police administration has issued the below Personnel Assignments. These assignments are reviewed quarterly by the Chief of Police, officers are at times reassigned in the spirit of learning, and to ensure each officer is multi-faceted.

Officer Assignment / Responsibility

Sergeant Frank J. Gagliardi

1. Day Watch, Patrol, Administration, and Operations
2. Internal Affairs Officer
3. Traffic Safety Officer / DWI Checkpoint Plans
4. Crossing Guard Coordinator
5. Special Events Coordinator
6. Outside Employment Coordinator
7. Detective Bureau Commander
8. C.E.D. Officer / Records Custodian

9. Use of Force / Motor Vehicle Pursuit Records Custodian / Review
10. OC Instructor / Report Custodian
11. Radar Instructor
12. Baton Instructor
13. Terminal Agency Coordinator
14. N.C.I.C. Validations
15. V.I.C.A.P. / LEO Liaison
16. RMS Coordinator / Liaison
17. Body Worn Camera Project Manager
18. Gun Violence Intelligence Liaison Officer

Sergeant Vincent Jess

1. B Team Commander
2. Civil Disturbance Team / Special Response Team (S.R.T) Leader
3. Primary Juvenile / Stationhouse Adjustment Officer – Reporting
4. Primary Internal Affairs Officer
5. Alternate Motor Pool Officer
6. Primary Domestic Violence Instructor
7. Fire Department Liaison Officer
8. Secondary Crossing Guard Coordinator
9. C.E.D. Officer
10. Junk Motor Vehicle Enforcement Officer – Town Wide

Sergeant John Beasley

1. A Team Commander
2. Alternate Outside Employment Coordinator
3. Warrant Service Officer
4. Radar Instructor
5. Patrol Room Officer
6. Civil Disturbance Team Member
7. C.E.D. Officer / Instructor / Maintenance
8. Business Listings Custodian
9. Junk Motor Vehicle Enforcement Officer – Town Wide

Det. Sergeant Michael Meyers

1. Alternate Accident Investigator (3)
2. Vehicle Repair / Fleet Officer
3. Evidence Custodian
4. Alternate Fire Department Liaison
5. Civil Disturbance Team Member
6. Primary Equipment Repair – Replacement Officer
7. Firearms Investigations
8. Megan's Law Officer

Sergeant Steven Schmidt

1. A Team Commander
2. Alcotest Coordinator
3. Court Liaison Officer / Court Docketing
4. Special Response Team Member (SRT)
5. Primary FTO Officer
6. Primary Firearms Instructor / Records Custodian
7. Radar Instructor / Tuning Fork Recertification Officer
8. D.R.E. Officer
9. Alternate Terminal Agency Coordinator (T.A.C)
10. Armorer
11. Junk Motor Vehicle Enforcement Officer – Zone #2
12. Secondary Crossing Guard Coordinator

Detective Thomas Farrell

1. CPR / AED Instructor
2. Alternate Accident Investigator (2)
3. Ambulance Liaison Officer
4. MDT Maintenance & Repair
5. Evidence Custodian
6. Megan's Law Officer
7. Firearms Investigations
8. Terrorism Officer
9. Narcan Coordinator
10. Picture Link Coordinator
11. Blood Borne Pathogens Coordinator
12. Primary Live Scan Liaison
13. RMS Coordinator / Liaison

Detective Andrew Rebecca

1. DARE Officer
2. Primary UCR Coordinator
3. Alternate Terminal Agency Coordinator (T.A.C)
4. Evidence Custodian
5. Megan's Law Officer
6. Firearm's Investigation

Patrolman Timothy Butler

1. Junk Motor Vehicle Enforcement Officer – Zone #1
2. Patrol Room Officer
3. Apartment Listings
4. Alternate DARE Officer
5. Crime Prevention / Town Watch Officer
6. Child Seat Technician Officer

Patrolman Caleb Speer

1. Special Response Team Member (SRT)
2. Primary Serious / Fatal Accident Investigator
3. Patrol Room Officer
4. Junk Motor Vehicle Enforcement Officer – Town Wide
5. Warrant Service Officer
6. DARE Instructor – Coordinator
7. Civil Disturbance Team Member
8. Alternate FTO Officer

Patrolman Dominic Romeo

1. Primary Humane Law Enforcement Officer
2. Junk Motor Vehicle Enforcement Officer – Zone #4
3. Patrol Room Officer
4. Child Seat Technician
5. Bulletin Boards

Patrolman Daniel Camburn

1. UCR Officer
2. DARE Instructor
3. Junk Motor Vehicle Enforcement – Zone #6
4. Juvenile Officer
5. Bulletin Boards

Patrolman Brett Small

1. Junk Motor Vehicle Enforcement – Zone #5
2. DARE Instructor (pending)
3. Parole Listings
4. Patrol Room Officer - Maintenance / Weekly Organization

Patrolman Patrick Brunett

1. Court Security / Alternate Bailiff (3)
2. Traffic Cones / Shed Organization
3. Patrol Room Officer
4. Junk Motor Vehicle Enforcement Officer – Town Wide
5. Bulletin Boards

Patrolman Patrick Deitz

1. Alternate Bailiff (2)
2. Traffic Cones / Shed Organization
3. Patrol Room Officer - Maintenance / Weekly Organization
4. Junk Motor Vehicle Enforcement Officer – Zone #3

Staffing & Patrol Analysis

In these days of rising costs, and a shrinking tax base, staffing of all municipal departments legitimately comes into question. Without question, every municipal employee inclusive of elected officials have a duty to ensure that our taxpayers receive the most effective and efficient delivery of municipal services.

To achieve this mission, the administration of the Stratford Police Department strives to deploy our police officers when and where they are needed most by our citizens. To ensure public safety, the department has elected to employ Temporary & Special Police Officers. These officers currently are not fully trained police officers however they are trained as Special Class Two Police Officers. These officers are hourly employees who are called upon to assist our regular police officers. Special Police Officers are a “special class” of law enforcement officers who are restricted in a variety of ways. However, they clearly serve the needs of our community while defraying overtime costs. Currently the Stratford Police Department employee’s fifteen (15) full time regular police officers and (1) part time officer and two (2) recruits attending the police academy. In addition, the Stratford Police Department employees two School Resource Officers assigned to the public schools.

Statically, the Borough of Stratford enjoys the protection of 2.1 Police Officers, per one thousand residents. The County average in this regard is 2.5 Police Officers, per one thousand residents and the New Jersey State average is 2.3 Police Officers per one thousand residents. Although we may be significantly below the state and county averages regarding the number of police officers we employ, the administration of the Stratford Police Department is confident that our manpower is deployed in an effective and efficient manner, which is continuously analyzed. Should crime or population meaningfully increase, the need for additional police officers may become necessary. However as stated, our manpower and workload is carefully monitored to ensure the safety of our citizens. Consequently, the administration of the police department remains confident that the borough’s public safety obligations are met, and yet fairly balanced against the financial or tax implications to our citizens.

Patrol Vehicle Replacement Program



As a matter of business, the borough of Stratford strives to replace one patrol car on even years and two on odd years. In doing so, the Chief and the designated motor pool officer carefully evaluate the use, mileage, condition of each police vehicle. Generally, the Stratford Police Department will de-commission a patrol car after approximately 10 years of service. Although these decade old cars give a nice appearance, wear, tear, mileage and hard driving clearly takes its toll on these cars. For the safety of the police officers and the public, generally police cars are decommissioned after a decade. Given the very nature of their use, the mileage, and existence of 50 speed bumps, it is remarkable that the patrol cars receive 10 years longevity. Currently our patrol fleet consists of the following patrol vehicles:

YEAR	MAKE / MODEL	CAR #	MILES
2014	Ford Explorer	32-1	101692
2009	Ford Crown Vic	32-2	Decommissioned for SRO Use
2011	Ford Crown Vic	32-3	Decommissioned for Detective Use
2018	Ford Explorer	32-20	18203
2017	Ford Explorer	32-5	34,678
2009	Ford Crown Vic	32-6	+No display
2015	Ford Taurus	32-7	100,096
2014	Ford Explorer	32-8	Decommissioned for Parts
2017	Ford Explorer	32-9	28,420

2009	Ford Crown Vic	32-10	Decommissioned for SRO Use
2020	Ford Explorer	32-11	12502
2012	Ford Expedition	32-12	105,661
2017	Ford Explorer	32-13	25,478
2020	Ford Explorer	32-17	11969
2016	Ford Explorer	32-15	87,727
2016	Ford Explorer	32-16	49,239

\$55,000.00 IN NEW JERSEY GRANT FUNDS RECEIVED TO OUTFIT AND IMPLEMENT A BODY WORN CAMERA PROGRAM FOR ALL POLICE OFFICERS

**PUBLIC NOTICE
THE STRATFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT TO BEGIN USING BODY WORN CAMERAS (BWC'S)**



Using Grant funds from the State of New Jersey, supplemented by the Borough of Stratford, the Stratford Police Department will begin implementing the use of Axon Body Worn Cameras (BWC's) around June 2021. The police department and borough officials believe that the use of body worn cameras will provide an additional level of safety and security for the public and to our police officers.

The use of Body Worn Cameras will also result in the following benefits:

- Document objective evidence of what took place during a police-citizen encounter.
- Discourage all parties from engaging in inappropriate conduct.
- Discourage anyone from offering false information.
- Clearly document the discovery and recovery of all forms of evidence.
- Capturing the physical appearance, language and acts of suspects.
- Documenting witness and suspect statements on scene, as events unfold.
- Use of Body Worn Cameras will supplement traditional police reports.

The use of Body Worn Cameras is regulated by guidelines of the New Jersey Attorney General, State Statute and Stratford Police Department Policies. Laws regarding public access and release of these records are governed by the NJ Open Public Records Act (OPRA)

Miscellaneous Year 12 Special Initiative Camden County Regional DWI Task Force



During the summer of 2009, the Stratford Police Department made application to the New Jersey Office of Highway Traffic Safety to receive federal funding for drunk driving enforcement. Consequently, five municipal police departments along the White Horse Pike corridor joined forces to develop the Camden County Drunk Driving Task Force. As of December 31, 2021, our Task Force has removed over 2675 drunk drivers from our neighborhoods. Remarkably, the Officers of the Stratford Police Department consistently ranked as one of the **top 10** police departments in the state of New Jersey in regards to Drunk Driving Enforcement.

Conducted Energy Devices (Taser)



In early 2014, the Stratford Police Department received authorization from the State of New Jersey to carry Conducted Electronic Energy Devices. Utilizing money confiscated from narcotics seizures, the department purchased three devices. These devices are not carried to replace handguns; however, our supervisors and some patrol officers carry these devices so that we have a less than lethal force alternative. Each activation is recorded by a video camera, which is manufactured into the handle of the device. In July of 2021, the Stratford Police Department added four additional CED devices to our officers. Currently half our officers are training and equipped with a less than lethal option. The administration of the Stratford Police Department hopes to purchase additional Tasers in 2022 and beyond.

Nalaxone Program (Narcan)



During the month of May 2014, the Stratford Police Department joined many other police departments in the country, when we trained and equipped our police officers with nasal mist dosages of Naloxone hydrochloride also known as Narcan. Sadly, the Chief of Police recognized the need for Stratford Officers to be carrying this anti-opiate antidote to save lives. In 2021, Nalaxone was used on 11 occasions, and since the program's inception, officers utilized the antidote on 118 occasions, thus saving the lives of 77 different individuals (some were saved more than once) who had overdosed on illegal drugs. The Stratford Police Department recognizes that the Narcan Program is not a cure to the opiate epidemic, but rather simply an additional lifesaving tool, which furthers the department's core mission of protecting and preserving lives.

Automated External Defibrillator (AED)



In furtherance of our core function of preserving life, each Stratford Patrol Vehicle is outfitted with an AED. All officers are certified bi-annually on their use. Proudly your Stratford Police officers saved or preserved the lives of one resident during 2021 and used the device on two other occasions.



“SPEED BUMPS 24 YEARS LATER”

Amazingly, it has been 24 years since the first speed bump was installed in front of the Borough Hall on Union Avenue. Since 1997, the speed bump program expanded and now 2 ½ decades later Stratford has installed over 75 speed bumps and replaced about a third of them during street improvement projects. Prior to installing the first speed bump, Stratford officials employed several different strategies to solve the problem of residential speeding. However, each quick fix eventually failed, and the problem resurfaced.

In preparing this informational report I reviewed some old data, and came across a 1998 speed and traffic volume survey that was conducted on Vassar Avenue near Hagerty Field. Alarming in 1997, over 900 vehicles per day traveled on Vassar Avenue at an average speeds 37 of miles per hour. Again in late 2002, the same study was conducted which measured similar traffic volume, yet the average velocity was 25 miles per hour. So again, this year, the identical traffic study was conducted. The 2017 study found that traffic volume on Vassar Avenue had increased to almost 1200 vehicles per day, and the average speed was 27 miles per hour.

In 2021, the same study was again conducted, traffic volume decreased by 175, (1075) vehicles per day, and the average speed reduced to 26 miles per hour. This study was conducted during the COVID 19 pandemic, during the third week of May 2021.

While the results may vary somewhat from street to street, the Vassar Avenue study seems to fairly represent the effectiveness of the speed bump program. In addition to the raw data, the number of homeowner complaints, and neighborhood traffic crashes have decreased significantly over the past 20 years. Consequently, speeding tickets on residential roadways are less common in 2021.

Adore them or despise them, 24 years later mostly everyone agrees, that the speed bumps have positively changed the driving culture within our residential neighborhoods.

2021 Year End Police Activity Report

<u>301</u>	Adults Arrests
5	Juvenile Arrests
0	Homicide
8	Assaults to Police
<u>78</u>	Simple Assaults
<u>54</u>	Criminal Mischief Complaints
<u>199</u>	Harassment Complaints
<u>5024</u>	Other Investigations & Complaints
<u>7</u>	Burglaries, (residential or commercial)
<u>0</u>	Robberies by Weapons or Force
<u>128</u>	Thefts (property stolen) <u>\$104,419.00</u>
<u>\$95,304.00</u>	Stolen Property was <u>Recovered or cleared by arrest or otherwise</u>
1	Motor Vehicle Thefts
<u>62</u>	Drunk Driving Arrests
<u>72</u>	Narcotics Arrests
<u>5382</u>	Traffic Tickets issued
<u>342</u>	Motor Vehicle Accidents
<u>58</u>	Injuries from Car Accidents 6 Pedestrian Accidents
<u>0</u>	Fatal Motor Vehicle Accidents
<u>272</u>	Alarm Activations
<u>1019</u>	Total Crime Reports taken
<u>7925</u>	Total Calls for Police Service

