



Lower Township Police 2014 Annual Report

**Over 50 years of service to our
community.**





LOWER TOWNSHIP POLICE COMMEMORATED THE 20 YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF FALLEN COMRADE DAVID C. DOUGLASS, SR.

On February 18th, 2014, the Lower Township Police Department commemorated the 20 year anniversary of fallen comrade, Officer David C. Douglass, Sr., who was killed in the line of duty on February 18, 1994, after exchanging gunfire with a suspect who had just burglarized a home and then set it on fire.

Officer Douglass was dispatched to a suspicious person call in the area of North Cape May. As he pursued a burglary suspect on foot, the suspect turned and shot him. Officer Douglass was able to return fire, striking the suspect in the hand and was able to make it back to his patrol car to call for assistance, but did not survive the attack. Following an intensive investigation, Lower Township Police, along with several other assisting agencies, arrested the actor in New York City in April 1994.



**LOWER TOWNSHIP POLICE REMEMBER
ARTHUR E. TREON**



Arthur Treon died in the line of duty after responding to a multi-alarm fire in North Wildwood. Art was the County Fire Coordinator and a member of the Town Bank Fire Company since the 1970s. Art was well known and respected in his community and will be greatly missed.



Report Prepared by

Chief William Mastriana

Captain Thomas Beeby

Lt. Martin Biersbach

Lt. Patrick Greene

February 25, 2015



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LOWER TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Lower Township Police Department is to enhance the quality of life in the Township of Lower by working cooperatively with the public and within the framework of the Constitution. Our officers will work to enforce the laws, preserve the peace, reduce fear and provide for a safe environment. We will provide service with understanding, response with compassion, performance with integrity and law enforcement with vision.

ORGANIZATION & PERSONNEL

New Hires

Police Officers Michael Nuscis, Shawn Lafferty, Jordan Saini and Anthony Micciche were hired and attended the 2014 Cape May County and Gloucester County Police Academies.

Retirements

Detective First Class Mel Hedum, Corporal William McPherson, Sergeant Kenneth McGurk and Detective Sergeant Ernest Macomber



Current Sworn Employees

The following list reflects the Department Personnel as of December 31, 2014.

Chief of Police

William Mastriana

Captain

Thomas M. Beeby

Lieutenants

Martin Biersbach

Patrick Greene

Detectives

DFC. Michael Majane

Dallas Bohn

Joseph Boyle

Brian McEwing

Michael Perry

School Liaison Officers

Darrin Hickok

William Barcas

Patrol Sergeants

John Chew

Donald Vanaman

William Priole

Corporals

David Fisher

T. Shaun Whittington

Robert Hartman

Douglas Whitten

Patrolmen

Kevin Lewis

Matthew Gamble

Ryan Hansberry

Eric Coombs

Michael Nuscis

Edward Edwards

Jennifer Anzelone

Robert Smith

Robert Fessler

Michael Szemcsak

Charles Ryan

Kevin Boyle Jr.

Shawn Lafferty

Anthony Greto

James P. McNulty

Matthew Dickinson

Brian Donahue

Jordan Saini

Stephen E. Flitcroft

John T. Armbruster

Kaitlin Black

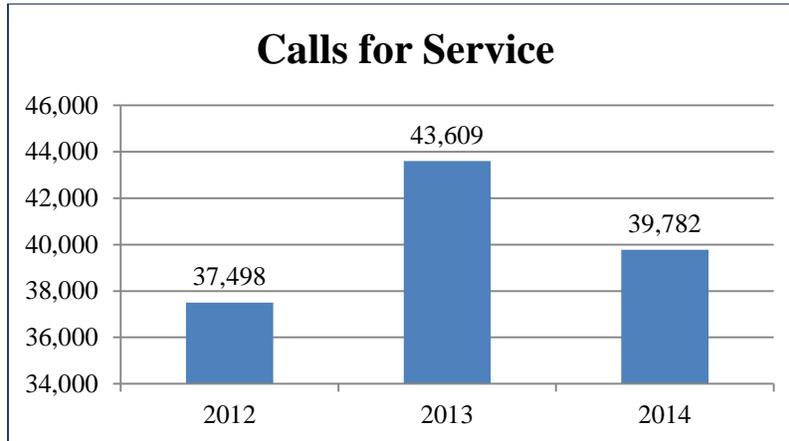
Michael James

Louis Bartleson

Anthony Micciche

CALLS FOR SERVICE & CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

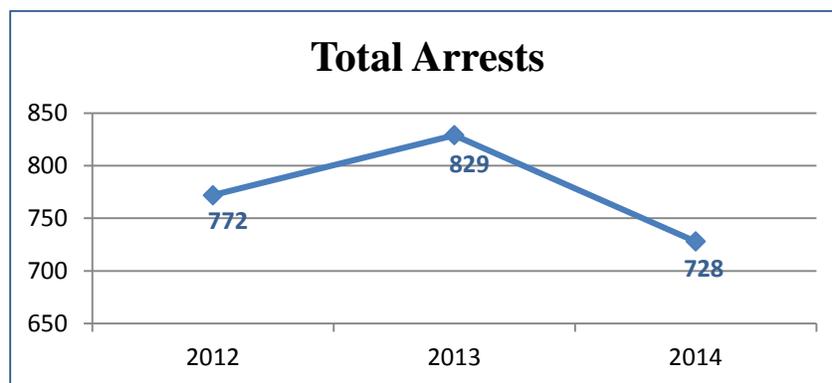
	2012	2013	2014
Calls for Service	37,498	43,609	39,782



Arrests

The figures listed below reflect the number of “individuals” arrested for the follow two 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 Lower Township Police Officers. The numbers below do not reflect a tabulation of multiple charges filed against an individual.

	2012	2013	2014	% Change (2013 to 2014)
Total Arrests	772	829	728	-12.2%



Indictable Complaints received from Lower Township Police Department to the Cape May County Prosecutor’s Office for the year of 2014 (**367**).

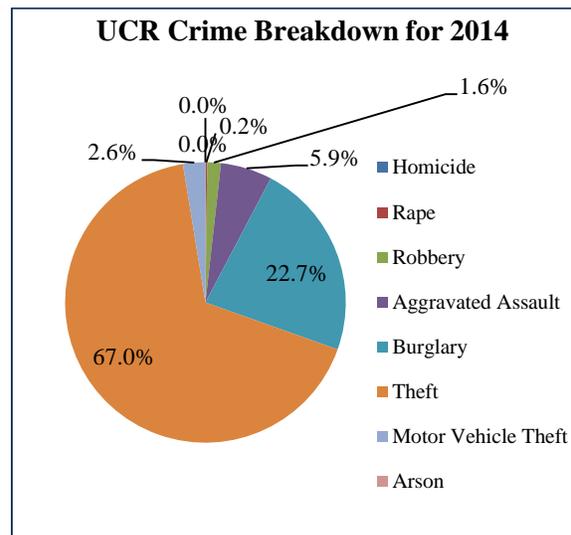
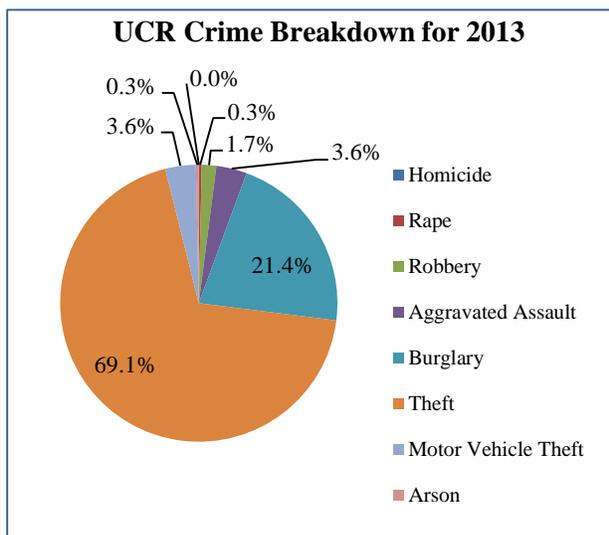
Uniform Crime Reports (UCR)

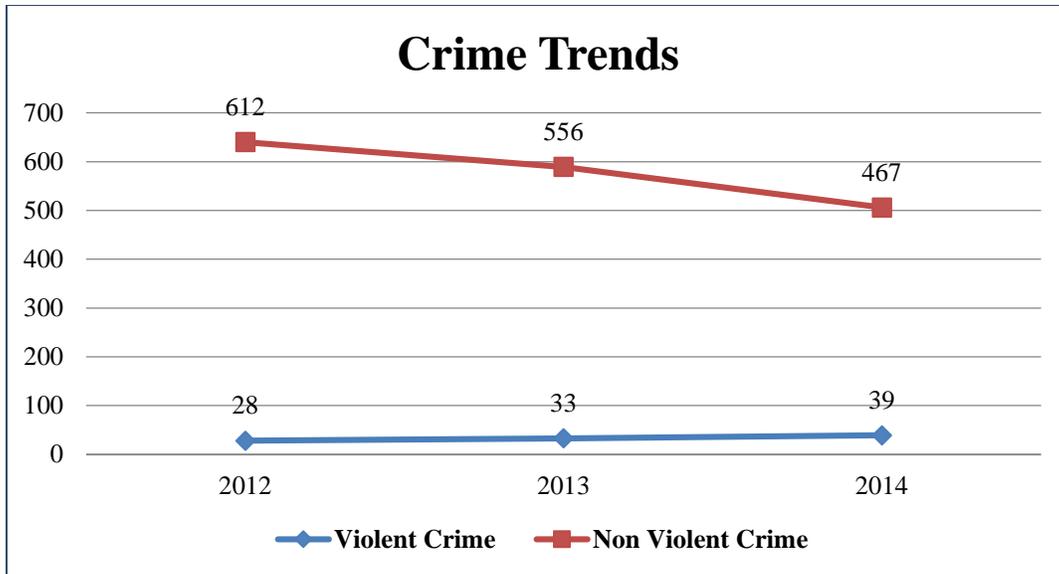
The Uniform Crime Reporting is a nationwide, cooperative statistical effort of more than 18,000 cities, college/university, county, tribal, state and federal law enforcement agencies reporting data on crimes brought to their attention. It was established in 1930 to gauge the state of crime in the nation. There are 8 main offense classifications known as Part I Crimes, used as part of the Uniform Crime Reporting Program.

Below is a list highlighting the 8 identified crime classifications and the respective number of offenses for Lower Township for the past 3 years.

Offense	2012	2013	2014
Homicide	2	0	0
Rape	1	2	1
Robbery	7	10	8
Aggravated Assault	18	21	30
Burglary	163	126	115
Theft	441	407	339
Motor Vehicle Theft	8	21	13
Arson	0	2	0
TOTAL UCR	640	589	506
Violent Crime	28	33	39
Non Violent Crime	612	556	467

Comparing 2014 to previous years, finds the overall reportable crime is consistent with previous year's numbers.





The following list shows the classification of the other type of calls for service both criminal and non-criminal in nature handled by the members of the Police Department in 2014.

	2012	2013	2014
Sex Offenses, other than rape	11	15	14
Simple Assaults	187	142	150
Medical Calls	2178	2126	2190
Fire Calls	591	429	511
Animal Complaints	2891	2142	967
Burglar, Fire or Medical Alarms	723	690	695
Death Investigations	38	39	42
Disorderly Conduct Incidents	919	903	746
Fraud, Forgery, Bad Checks	93	64	65
Missing Persons and Runaways	160	192	182
All Other Public Assistance Calls	16,774	21,016	19,912
Assisting Other Agency Incidents	657	620	600
Bias Incidents Investigated	1	2	1
Criminal Mischief Complaints	428	378	331
Residential and Commercial Property Checks	11,635	15,229	14,091

Investigation Reports generated by officers totaled: 1,355

Supplemental Investigations or follow up reports generated: 548

Domestic Violence:

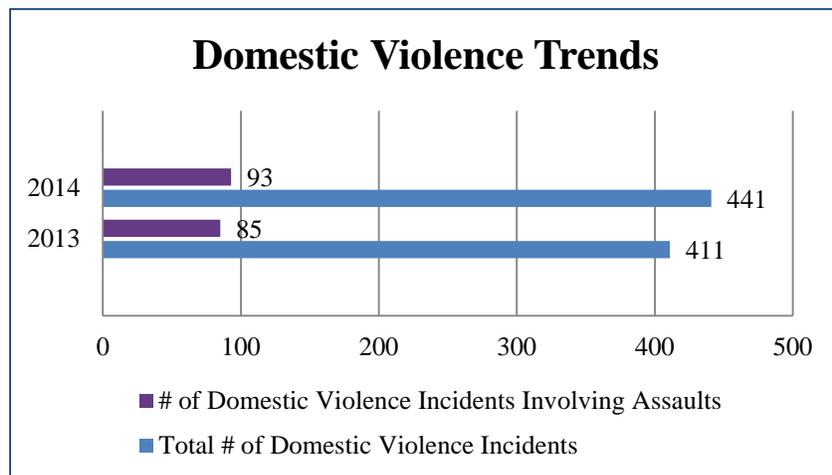
Domestic violence in New Jersey is viewed as a serious crime and carries with it penalties such as fines and prison time. Victims have the right to file restraining orders, both temporary and final, against the accused. Police officers must follow guidelines under the NJ Protection of Domestic Violence Act when arresting suspected abusers. Neglecting the elderly or handicapped can be considered domestic violence in New Jersey.

The Prevention of Domestic Violence Act, passed in New Jersey in 1991, states that domestic violence was a "serious crime against society." The Act provided two forms of relief in the event of domestic violence. The first was civil relief, which allowed victims of domestic violence to obtain a restraining order against their assaulter. The second was criminal relief, which allowed the victim to file criminal charges against their assailant.

By the establishment of a cooperative effort between the Lower Township Police Department, Coalition Against Rape and Abuse (CARA) and community volunteers, a domestic violence victim response team has been developed. This team has been formed to provide the domestic violence victim with the opportunity to be provided with information and services, which exist to help them through the experience of being a domestic violence victim.

Lower Township, like our neighboring jurisdictions, is not immune to the problems and concerns of domestic violence. Listed below are Lower Township's statistics related to domestic violence.

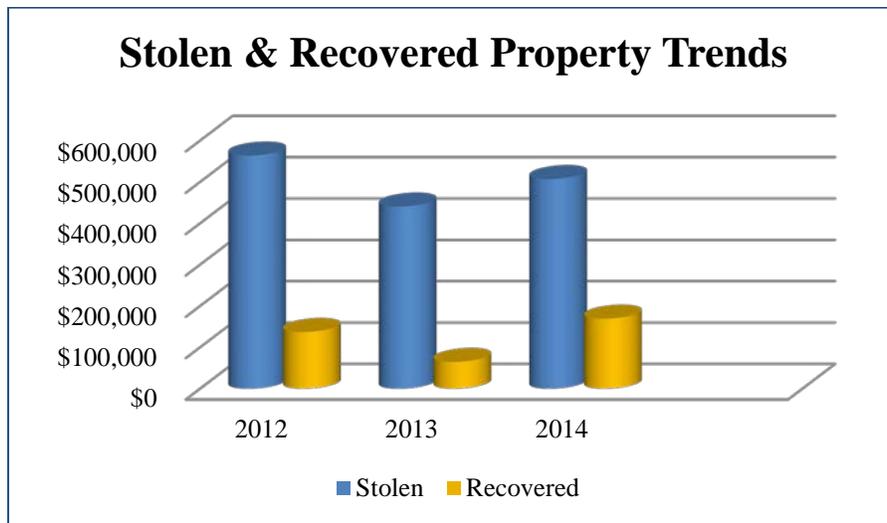
	2013	2014
Total # of Domestic Violence Incidents	411	441
# of Domestic Violence Incidents Involving Assaults	85	93
Temporary Restraining Orders Granted	51	78
Temporary Restraining Orders Violated	35	23
Total Criminal Complaints	129	118



Property Stolen and Recovered:

Property offenses include burglary, theft, criminal mischief and shoplifting. The exact amount of value in theft-related offenses is hard to determine, as officers and victims usually estimate the value of property stolen and recovered. Below reflects the estimated value of property stolen and recovered for the years 2012 through 2014.

	2012	2013	2014
Stolen	\$563,651	\$440,433	\$506,986
Recovered	\$137,097	\$64,672	\$169,279

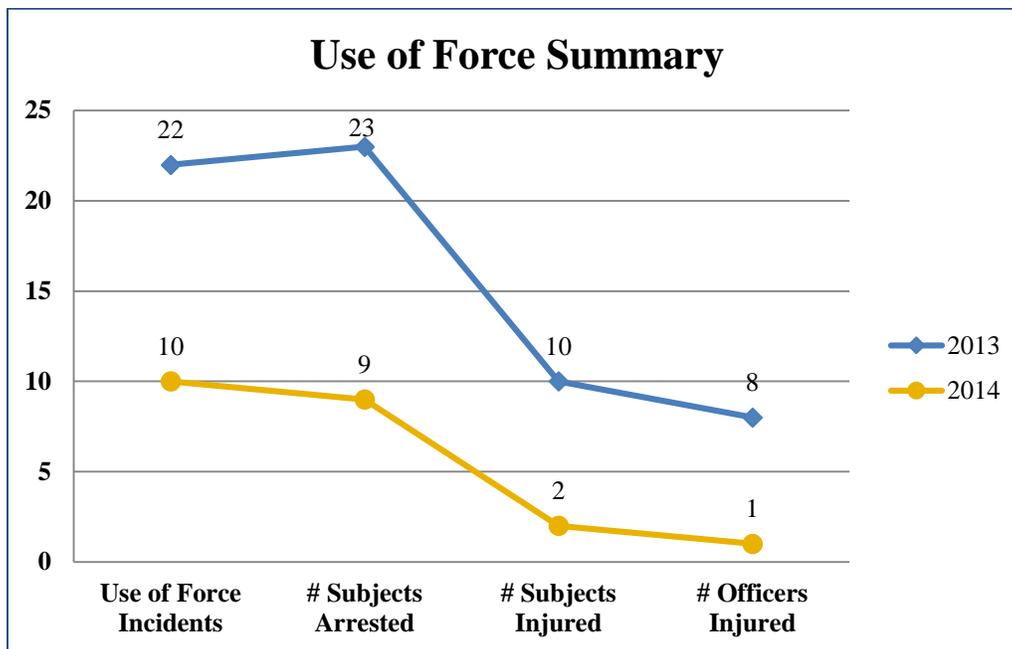


Use of Force Incidents and Reporting

As required by law, each officer who must use force above the norm in arresting or handling an individual must complete a state “Use of Force” reporting form. This report is supplied each year to the Cape May County Prosecutor’s Office.

In 2014, Lower Township Police reported a total of 10 Use of Force incidents. Of those incidents, 9 subjects were arrested, 2 subjects received injuries during the use of force, and 1 Lower Township Police Officer was injured during the arrests.

	2013	2014
Use of Force Incidents	22	10
# Subjects Arrested	23	9
# Subjects Injured	10	2
# Officers Injured	8	1



Injuries and Accidents

The Lower Township Police Department is insured under the Atlantic County Joint Insurance Fund for workers compensation claims. In order to ensure the proper level of police services for the citizens of Lower Township, 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 2014 there were ten (10) cases of work related injuries. There were fifty six (56) work days missed due to these injuries. Throughout 2014, our Police Officers were assaulted on three (3) separate occasions, as compared with fifteen (15) in 2013. These felonious assaults on law enforcement officers occurred while police were investigating the following incidents: domestic disturbances, other disturbances, traffic stops and suspicious persons.

The Lower Township Police Department logged many miles driven in department vehicles in 2014; resulting in one (1) traffic accident involving department vehicles. Because police officers are forced to drive in “emergency vehicle status” and given the amount of miles driven per year, having only one police accident during the year is commendable. Our police officers are recognized for demonstrating exceptional care, caution and most of all, sound judgment.

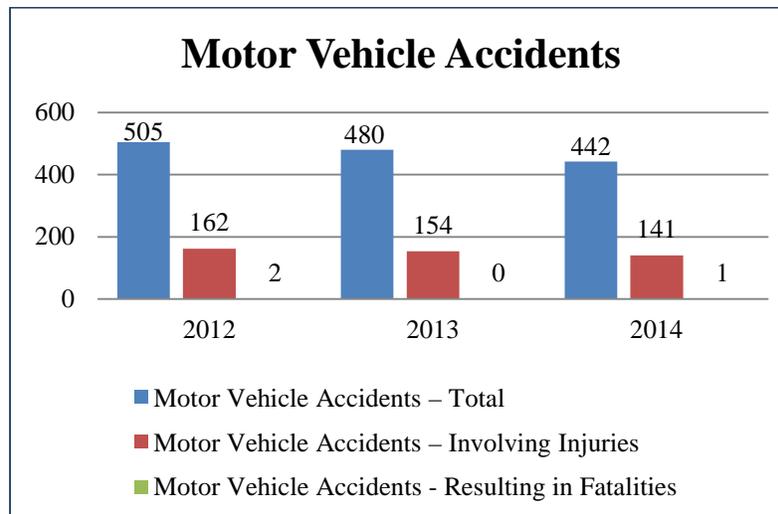


TRAFFIC RELATED INCIDENTS

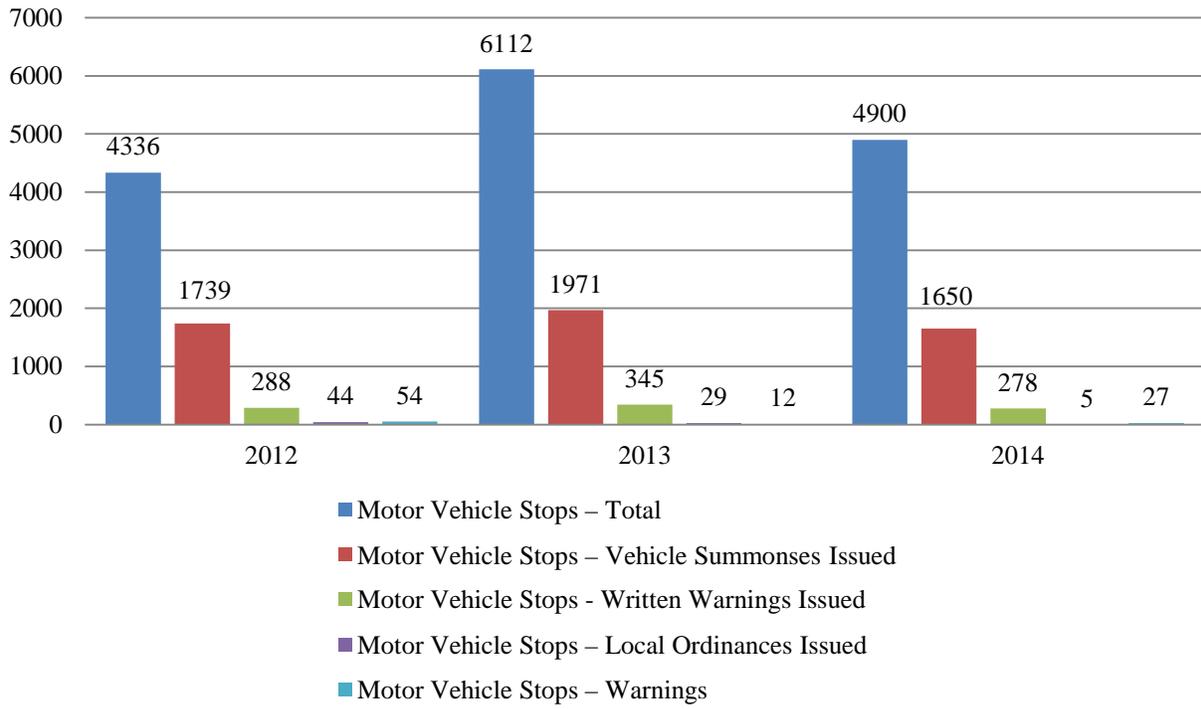


The Lower Township Police Department investigated 442 motor vehicle accidents and conducted 4,900 motor vehicle stops during the year of 2014. See the table below for a breakdown of the totals for 2012 through 2014.

Traffic Summary	2012	2013	2014
Motor Vehicle Accidents – Total	505	480	442
Motor Vehicle Accidents – Involving Injuries	162	154	141
Motor Vehicle Accidents - Resulting in Fatalities	2	0	1
Motor Vehicle Stops – Total	4336	6112	4900
Motor Vehicle Stops – Vehicle Summonses Issued	1739	1971	1650
Motor Vehicle Stops - Written Warnings Issued	288	345	278
Motor Vehicle Stops – Local Ordinances Issued	44	29	5
Motor Vehicle Stops – Warnings	54	12	27

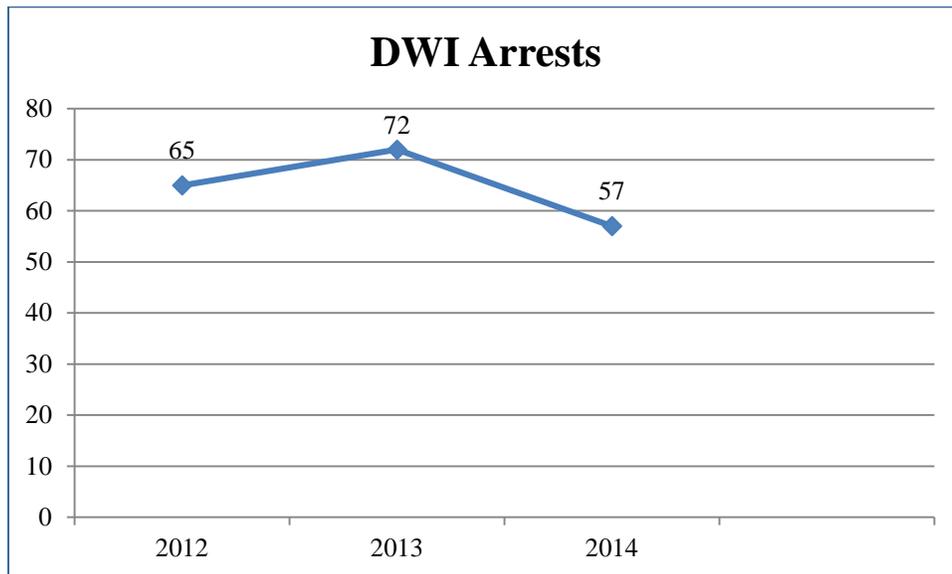


Motor Vehicle Stops



Driving While Intoxicated by Alcohol or Drugs (DWI):

	2012	2013	2014
DWI Arrests	65	72	57



Police Pursuits:

Lower Township Police Officers were involved in zero (0) pursuits during 2014.

ADMINISTRATION



The Lower Township Police Administration consists of four officers, including the Chief. The officers are Chief William Mastriana, Captain Thomas Beeby and Lieutenants Martin Biersbach and Patrick Greene.

Chief William Mastriana is responsible for the following:

- The efficiency of the day to day operations of the Police Department
- Administer and enforce rules and regulations and special emergency directives for the disposition and discipline of the force of the force and its officers and personnel
- Have, exercise and discharge the functions, powers and duties of the force personnel
- Prescribe duties and assignments of all subordinates and other personnel
- 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
- Report at least monthly, to the appropriate authority, in such form as shall be prescribed, on the operation of the force during the preceding month, and make such other reports as may be requested
- Issue policies/directives
- Meet with community, civic and religious groups
- Prepare and manage the Police Department's budget
- SOPs/Rules & Regulations (manage/update)

Captain Thomas Beeby serves as the Executive Officer and is responsible for overseeing the following functions:

- Internal Affairs
- CI / Confidential Files
- Manage the Agencies Early Warning System
- SOPs/Rules & Regulations
- Building Maintenance
- Public Information Officer
- JIFF Coordinator
- Emergency Management Officer
- Fleet Manager
- Staff Inspections of overall operations
- Training Records Inspections for Agency (Quarterly)
- On-Call Administrator
- Review all Employee Evaluations (Annually)
- Veteran Affairs
- Obtain and Review all use of force, vehicle pursuits and bias incident reports prior to final approval by Chief of Police
- Oversee Detective Bureau
- Oversee Patrol Commander
- Oversee Administrative Commander
- Oversee Hiring Process
- Oversee Records
- Manage Accident/Injury Reports (Workers Comp)
- Review Employee Evaluations

Lieutenant Martin Biersbach, Administrative Support Services, is responsible for overseeing the following functions:

- Supervisor of Dispatch – Communications Center
- Live Scan Fingerprint System
- Emergency Generator
- OPRA Requests
- Accreditation
- Power DMS Paperless System
- NJLearn Administrator
- Project Life Saver
- Court Liaison Officer
- Court Discovery Information and Requests
- Traffic/DWI Grants
- Radio System Administrator
- Manage Network and Computers at Headquarters
- Fire Department Liaison
- Nixle 360 Administrator
- Manage ALPR Training and Coordinator

- On Call Administrator
- Performance Evaluations
- Mobile Data Terminals Administrator
- In car/Body Camera Administrator
- Enforsys Coordinator
- Assistant Public Information Officer
- Revcord Audio Recorder Management
- Uniforms and Equipment

Lieutenant Patrick Greene/Patrol Commander is responsible for overseeing the following functions:

- State Mandated Jail Cell Inspections
- Code Enforcement
- Traffic and Statistical data
- Special Events
- Domestic Violence Response Team
- Commercial Vehicle License Inspection
- Extra Duty Contracts
- Approval of Permits
- Agency Training
- Volunteer Workers/Coach Applications
- Scheduling
- Monitor Traffic Grants
- School Liaison Officers Schedule
- Oversee Class II Officer Program
- Weekly Vehicle Inventory Packet
- Alcotest Machine
- DWI's, Accident Reports and Calls for Service
- Manage and Inspection of Tow Trucks and Logs
- Coordinate JV programs (DARE/Explorers, etc.) (*Officers Hickok and Barcas*)
- Assistant Public Information Officer
- Honor Guard Liaison (*Officers Hansberry and Barcas*)
- On-call Administrator
- Station Duties at the discretion of Chief and Captain
- Project Life Saver
- Traffic Coordinator (*Corporal Fisher*)
- County Court Liaison
- Infectious Control Officer (*Sgt. Chew*)
- Employee Evaluations
- Manage Neighborhood Watch Programs (*Corporal Whitten and Detective Perry*)
- Manage Interns Work Assignments

Detective First Class Michael Majane is responsible for overseeing the following functions:

- Create and Monitor schedule for Detectives
- Ensure adequate coverage for on-duty and on-call periods
- Monitor Detective's caseload and assign cases
- Review written reports and operational actions
- Bias Crime Officer
- Megan's Law
- Oversee Evidence Unit
- Manage, Oversee and Train on the use of The Beast System (*DFC Majane/Det. McEwing*)
- Crime Analysis Officer
- Cape May County Child Protective Services liaison
- Magloclen Liaison (Middle Atlantic-Great Lakes Organized Crime Law Enforcement Network)
- Prosecutor's Office Liaison
- Coordinate Narcotic Operations
- Background Investigation of New Employees (Sworn and Non- Sworn)
- Manage Firearms Background Investigations
- Maintain Gang File
- VICAP Liaison
- Manage Firearms Training and Records
- Manage and Prepare Forfeiture Funds Reports
- Manage School Security Plans (*DFC Majane/Det. Perry*)
- Manage Stationhouse Adjustments
- Maintain necessary Operational Supplies for Detectives
- Conduct Annual Evaluations
- Prepare Annual Report of Unit Statistics
- Manage, Approve, and Audit Use of CI/Buy Funds
- Manage DWI/DVD Videos and Revcord for Evidence
- SRO Reports

PATROL DIVISION

The Patrol Division of the Lower Township Police Department is the largest of all the divisions within the agency. The Patrol Division is responsible for responding to all calls for service within the community.

The Patrol Division is responsible for responding to all 911 calls, motor vehicle crashes, first aid calls, man-made and natural disasters, fires, reports of crimes and disorderly person's offenses. They are also expected to provide proactive services such as traffic enforcement, crime detection and suppression, conducting business and property checks, and initiating contacts with community members so as to incorporate a spirit of cooperation with both the business community and citizens alike.

Officers are bi-annually trained in the use of firearms, pursuit driving and use of force.

Patrol Officers are responsible for initial investigation of all crimes that occur within the Township. Investigations that are too intensive or complex are turned over to the Detective Division for further follow up.

The Patrol Division utilizes black and white units as their primary vehicle on a daily basis. Also utilized are bicycles and plain clothes patrols to complete specific initiatives or to address specific concerns of the community.

Officers assigned to the Patrol Division are divided into 4 squads. These squads are responsible for 24-hour street coverage, seven days a week. Each squad is supervised by a Sergeant and has 6 patrol officers.

Lieutenant Patrick Greene is the Patrol Bureau Commander and may be reached at 609-886-1619, extension 114.

Class II Special Law Enforcement Officer

Currently the Lower Township Police Department has 10 Special Law Enforcement Class II Officers. Upon graduating, officers receive full New Jersey Police Training Commission Certification as Class II Special Law Enforcement Officers and have the same enforcement powers as full time officers while they work.

The program they attend consists of approximately 451 hours of training. The program includes courses in professionalism, ethics, history of law enforcement, the criminal justice system, New Jersey criminal and motor vehicle laws, laws of arrest, search and seizure, use of force, interviews, confessions and Miranda, laws of evidence, criminal investigation, narcotics, juvenile law, domestic violence, traffic enforcement, vehicle operations, stress management, first aid, community relations, physical fitness, defensive tactics, police baton, firearms and chemical agents. Additionally, officers are trained in practical exercises, training using marking firearm cartridges (real life decision making under live fire) and American Red Cross Community Water Certification. They additionally receive CPR certification through the American Red Cross.

Many officers use this program as a stepping stone to full time police employment. Officers can apply for sixteen college credits through Cape Atlantic Community College. You may contact the Lower Township Police Department (609) 886-2711 for information about applying as a Special Law Enforcement Officer, Class II.

Special Law Enforcement Officers (Class II Officers)

Michael James	Corey Scheid
James Collins	Thomas Ritterhoff
Joseph Mellina	Adam Hegarty
Paul Stadnicar	Andrew Fisher
Shawn Lafferty	Robert Martinelli



Field Training Officers (FTO):

All Police Officers hired by the Lower Township Police Department must attend and successfully complete a New Jersey State Certified Police Academy. This department predominantly uses the Cape May County Police Academy. Upon graduation from the academy, all officers return to the department and are required to successfully complete a Field Training Program. This FTO program is an additional 4 months of intensive training and evaluation in which the probationary officer is paired up with an experienced officer. This FTO officer 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.

Field Training Officers

Patrolman Douglas Whitten

Patrolman William Barcas *** Not Shown In Photograph*

Patrolman Robert Fessler *** Not Shown In Photograph*

Patrolman Michael Szemcsak

Patrolman Eric Coombs

Patrolman Charles Ryan

Officer Jennifer Anzelone

Patrolman Kevin Lewis

DETECTIVE DIVISION



The Lower Township Detective Division is comprised of highly trained and motivated officers who are schooled and instructed in various techniques of criminal investigations.

The primary function of the Detective Division is to review and conduct follow-up investigations on most reported crimes within the Township. Detective Division Officers are available 24 hours-a-day for serious crimes including, but not limited to, aggravated assault, robbery, arson, fraud, child endangerment, narcotics offences and sex related crimes. Also, specific detectives within the division specialize in narcotics investigations, special victim crime (juvenile, domestic violence crimes, and crimes against seniors), firearm applications, liquor sales licensing, precious metals licensing and internal affairs.

During 2014, the Detective Division was assigned to 240 investigations and conducted an additional 289 follow up investigations. The Detective Division assisted in 249 supplemental investigations that were generated by our patrol division. They also responded to 22 death investigations. The Detective Division conducted 73 Megan's law investigations. They assisted the Patrol Division in 11 missing person cases, where all parties were located safely.

The Detective Division conducted all firearms background investigations:

	2014
Total Number of Applicants/Investigations	263
Firearms ID Cards Only Issued	37
Firearms ID Card & Permits Issued	114
Permits Only Issued	107
Permit to Carry (Renewal) Issued	1
Application Denials	4
Total # of Permits Issued	405

The Detective Division also conducts any and all police recruit, police employment background investigations. The Division also assists the Lower Township Manager and his staff in conducting any and all needed internal township wide investigations.

The Detective Division is also task with handling Megan's Law registrants within the township. Detective Joseph Boyle primarily oversees the registrants with the assistance of other detectives. Registrants are required to re-register anytime they move to a new address within the township, even as minimal as a change to a different apartment or motel room. Registrant's must also register upon moving into Lower Township from another area as well as notify our agency when they are moving to another jurisdiction.

DFC Michael Majane is the Detective Bureau Commander and is responsible for the supervision of personnel assigned to the bureau. He can be reached at 609-886-1619, extension 117.

Members of the Detective Division include:

Detective First Class, Michael Majane
Detective Dallas Bohn
Detective Joseph Boyle
Detective Brian Mc Ewing
Detective Michael Perry

The Detective Division oversees and maintains all evidence within the police department. Presently, 1821 items are logged into the evidence system.

Primary Evidence Custodian	DFC Michael Majane
Secondary Evidence Custodian	Detective Brian McEwing

DETECTIVE BUREAU NOTABLE CASES

In January 2014, a 66 year old male was charged with sexually assaulting a child. Investigation led to search warrant of the residence. Evidence gathered during search warrant led to charge for aggravated sexual assault.

In February 2014, a 38 year old male was charged with sexually assaulting a child. Investigation led to the suspect who was living in Gloucester. Interviews were conducted in Gloucester by Lower Twp. Detectives. Detectives were able to obtain a confession from the suspect who was charged with aggravated sexual assault.

In January 2014, two suspects were arrested for armed robbery; one juvenile and one adult were charged. Suspects produced a weapon described as a snub nose 38 and struck the victim in the head while demanding money. Investigation led to both suspects being charged.

In January 2014, five juveniles were arrested for burglary to four homes in the Villas section of Lower Township. The initial burglary was reported on the 200 block of Weber Avenue in the Villas, on January 16, 2014. Detectives responded to process the scene and conduct an investigation. During the investigation a suspect was established, which led to the discovery of three additional burglaries within the Villas section of Lower Township. These burglaries were on Weber Avenue, Oakdale Avenue and Beechwood Avenue. Lower Township Detective Bureau continued to track down leads, and on January 20, 2014 arrested and charged five juveniles with burglary, theft, and criminal mischief. Detectives recovered the stolen property from the residences and were able to return it to the homeowners.

In January 2014, a 30 year old female was arrested for sexual assault and child abuse of a juvenile victim. She was charged with (3) counts of sexual assault and (3) counts of child endangerment.

In February 2014, detectives were called to investigate a residential burglary in the area of Diamond Beach where forced entry was used to gain access and remove a flat screen TV. Further investigation with Middle Twp., North Wildwood, CMC Prosecutors Office and New Jersey State Police detectives, led to a search warrant in which stolen property was located. Lower Twp. detectives closed 30 residential burglaries within the township with the arrests of a 67 year old and 43 year old male in March 2014.

In March 2014, a robbery investigation lead to the arrest of a 26 year old female, after detectives used GPS information to track a cellular phone which belonged to the accused. The female was charged with robbery and conspiracy.

In May 2014, three subjects were arrested and charged with armed robbery, weapon offenses and burglary at the Townbank Manor Apartments. Weapons were recovered at the scene.

In July 2014, detectives investigated a report of child abuse which led to the arrest of a 17 year old juvenile male, who was charged with aggravated assault and child abuse. Detectives ascertain a tape recorded confession from the juvenile.

In September 2014, detectives responded to the Villas section of the township for the report of an armed robbery. During the investigation, patrol conducted a high risk motor vehicle stop which produced 3 firearms and narcotics. Later on during the investigation, detectives executed a search warrant in Middle Township which produced 1 firearm and a large amount of narcotics. A tape recorded confession was ascertained from one of the defendants. A total of 5 subjects were arrested for the robbery and conspiracy to commit robbery. Two of those individuals were also charged with weapons and narcotics related offenses.

In September 2014, detectives were called to the scene of a residential burglary in the Villas section of Lower Township. Upon further investigation at the scene, one white male subject was arrested from a shoe print that was lifted at the scene. The defendant subsequently gave a taped statement which produced 4 additional residential burglaries. A second defendant was also charged with 2 of the burglaries.

In October 2014, detectives responded to the Villas section of the Township for the report of a residential burglary. Detectives were able to process latent finger prints at the scene. The New Jersey State Police AFIS unit came back with a positive hit. One white male subject was charged for the burglary in November 2014.

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER PROGRAM



The School Resource Officer (SRO) Program has been in place for the past 22 years and continues today as a collaborative effort with both the Lower Township Elementary School District and the Lower Cape May Regional School District. Presently two officers are assigned as School Resource Officers. Patrolman Darrin Hickok is primarily assigned to the Elementary School District. Patrolman William Barcas is assigned to the Lower Cape May Regional School District. Both officers report to Lt. Patrick Greene, the Patrol Commander. The goal of the School Resource Officer Program is to assist the school district with implementation of all aspects of the D.A.R.E. program and other substance awareness/abuse programs and anti-bullying programs. The purpose of these programs is to increase communication among the schools, the police department and community agencies as support groups. Also, it is to provide students with an opportunity to get acquainted with a police officer in an informal, non-authoritarian setting and to assist school district personnel in the maintenance of a positive, proactive environment that focuses on the prevention of undesirable behaviors, attitudes and activities.

Qualifications:

- Full-Time Lower Township Police Officer
- Certified D.A.R.E. Instructor
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills



Reports To:

- Superintendent of School District
- Lower Township Chief of Police or designee when assigned to the Police Department

Duties and Responsibilities:

Teaches all D.A.R.E. classes and provides substance abuse awareness sessions for all sixth grade students.

- Plans and oversees D.A.R.E. graduation and related activities.
- Functions as program manager for the Lower Township D.A.R.E. program, Adopt a Police Officer program, Officer Phil program, Mentor program.
- Provides opportunities for students to get acquainted with the School resource Officer in an informal, non- authoritarian setting.
- Provides assistance with the peer mediation and peer-leadership program.
- Mediates disputes arising from students at assigned bus stops through home visitations to the involved parents/guardians or other community residents.
- Assumes responsibility for traffic control at schools on a daily basis as in deemed necessary. This includes special events such as back to school nights/school concerts/graduations.
- Presents safety and bullying programs on necessary issues and seasonal issues to students, grades kindergarten through sixth grade.
- Works along with allied agencies such as D.Y.F.S. (Division of Youth and Family Services) Prosecutors Office, Cape Mediation, Cape Counseling, etc. regarding issues of concern to the police department and or school district.
- Works in conjunction with Substance Abuse Coordinators and school counselors regarding school student issues.
- Process complaints received and when possible takes action to correct the problem. Processes reports regarding complaints in accordance with procedures established by the Lower Township Police Department and Lower Township Elementary Board of Education.
- Attends all Back to School Nights, Conference Nights, School Concerts and other school activities to assist as needed.
- Serves as a liaison between the Lower Township Police Department and Elementary School District.
- Investigates truancy cases through home visitations and advises parents/legal guardians of their legal responsibility to ensure school attendance.
- Counsels students regarding excessive absentees and tardiness to gain cooperation and identify any underlying problems that may warrant intervention.
- Works in conjunction with parents/guardians and school personnel to facilitate appropriate referrals to community agencies for needed assistance.
- Respects and maintain student confidentiality at all times.
- Confers regularly with administrators and other school personnel as appropriate.
- Maintains a daily log of all activities which is to be submitted to the Lower Township Police Department supervisor periodically or as needed.

- Maintains a police presence in all four elementary schools by wearing the proper uniform/clothing.
- Performs other duties as needed by the Chief of Police and Superintendent, by attending classes and schooling to help provide additional information that may be needed.
- Newly appointed bullying coordinator for the Elementary School District.
- Handles any criminal activity that accrues on school grounds during school grounds.
- Enforces any traffic concerns on school grounds.
- Coordinates and practices monthly lock down drills for all four Elementary schools.

Note: Both officers are reassigned during the summer months to supplement the patrol and detective bureaus.

D.A.R.E. PROGRAM



On February 26, 2014, Lower Township Police Officer Darrin Hickok received the State of New Jersey D.A.R.E. Officer of the year award. The award was presented at the D.A.R.E. New Jersey Annual Training Conference Program at the Caesar's Hotel and Casino in Atlantic City New Jersey.

Officer Hickok is a twenty year veteran of the Lower Township Police Department. During his eleven year tenure as a D.A.R.E. officer and instructor, he has dedicated himself to ensuring that the children of Lower Township are equipped with the skills necessary to resist the pressures to use drugs or become involved in gangs. In addition, Officer Hickok has also dedicated his time to a D.A.R.E. Leadership Camp each summer for the past eleven years, influencing and impacting countless lives.



The Lower Township Police Department has conducted the D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance and Education) Program in the Lower Township Schools since 1993. To date, over 5250 Lower Township students have gone through the D.A.R.E. Program which is now taught at the Sandman Consolidated School sixth grade. This program is 8 to 10 weeks long and trained officers visit their assigned class once a week and teach a prescribed curriculum.

Drug abuse resistance education (D.A.R.E) is a school based life skills program that became the model curriculum that is taught throughout the nation. The success and growth of the program has been attributed to many elements; however, the experts agree that the most positive influence of the program is the officers who are involved in the program.

The primary goal of Drug Abuse Resistance Education is to teach effective peer resistance and refusal skills so that adolescents can say “no” to drugs and their friends who may want them to use drugs. The secondary goals of the program are to build students social skills and enhance their self-esteem, as these are believed to be linked to adolescent drug use.

In 2014 approximately 265 students were taught the D.A.R.E. Program. The D.A.R.E. program is taught by Patrolman Darrin Hickok.

RECORDS DIVISION

The Records Section of the Police Department supports the operational efforts of the Patrol and Investigative functions as well as performing a variety of other services, including but not limited to:

- Records/Reports – Type UIR, Supplemental, Sudden Death, Special Reports, etc.
- Firearms – FAID, Permit to Purchase, Permits to Carry & Voluntary Registrations
- Open Public Records Act
- Processing of Fingerprints (Criminal & Non-Criminal Prints)
- FBI/SBI File Index
- Motor Vehicle Accident Reports & Violations (Tickets)
- Burglar Alarm Registry
- Business Registry
- Correspondence Liaison
- Procurement of Equipment
- Payroll Preparation & Processing
- Human Resources
- Budget Planning and Preparation
- Grant Management
- Collect and Prepare Data for Command Approval
- Process Mail and Delivery
- Work Customer Window/Telephones
- Receives, logs & deposits monies from applications & other processing requests.
- Issuing Licenses for Coin Drop, Dumpsters, Moving Modulars, etc.
- Copy reports for Civilians, Attorneys, Law Enforcement Agencies and Insurance Companies
- Expungement Orders
- Prepare Monthly Statistics
- Prepare Uniform Crime Reports
- Archive Paperwork from all Sections of Police Department

The Records Section staff consists of the Following employees:

Susan Wilson
Aaren Senico
Joanne Budd

Deborah VanMourik
Karen Wolf

COMMUNICATIONS

The Lower Township Police Department Communications Center is staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week, by full time Public Safety Telecommunication Operators. They are the initial point of contact for a majority of the public requiring police services. They are an extremely vital component in delivering effective police services to the community and their dedication and importance should not be overlooked. Often times they are required to maintain a reassuring and calming demeanor in the face of extraordinary circumstances in order to assist the caller and the police officer responding to an emergency. All of the Public Safety Telecommunication Operators are required to receive and maintain certification by the Office of Emergency Telecommunications Services in the Department of Law and Public Safety. Some of the examples of work performed include:

- Emergency 911 System
- Radio/Telephone Communications for Police, Fire, Rescue, Emergency Management, Animal Control
- CJIS
- NCIC/SCIC Look Up
- ATS/ACS System
- CAD Entries
- Log Maintenance
- Training
- Receive and respond to telephone requests for emergency services
- In response to medical emergencies, provide first aid or CPR instructions to stabilize the medical condition of persons until the arrival of medical assistance
- Relay all vital information to responding police officers
- Utilize radio, telephone, or other electronic equipment to dispatch specific law enforcement, fire department or medical units to the scene of an emergency
- Refer non-emergency situations to the appropriate public or private agencies
- Make data entries into the Police Departments computer system as well as various systems databases such as the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) and the State Crime Information Center (SCIC), stolen vehicle file and missing persons file



The Lower Township Police Department currently employs eight (8) full time Telecommunication Operators and several additional part time relief communications operators.

Current qualified operators:

Senior/TAC Communications Operators:

Jennifer Saunders

Lauren Anzelone

Communications Operators:

Paul Hildreth

John Piggott

Jonathan Scheck

Jennifer Saunders

Suzanne Gamble

Kristi White

Lauren Anzelone

Tiffany Labar

During 2014, the Lower Township Police Department Telecommunications Operators processed 39,782 calls for service into the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system.

Operators answered a total of 9,261 emergency 911 calls for service; those calls were answered in an average time of 4.2 seconds.

The Communications Operators also monitor and answer calls coming into headquarters of the department's main operating phone number, (609) 886-2711.



NIXLE 360°

Lower Township has partnered with Nixle to implement its Community Notification System to alert residents in real-time for localized emergency situations and relevant community advisories from the Township.

Through Nixle, the township will be able to provide residents with the latest alerts, advisories and community notifications that our previous emergency alert service provided. Nixle 360° is designed to consolidate several notification systems into one easy to use platform. This new service will streamline the public notification process by providing information to the community by text message, email, voice calls and social media. Nixle also includes a component for citizens to report anonymous tips.

All Alerts will be targeted geographically, allowing residents to receive localized, relevant alerts from Lower Township. Nixle Alerts can be received via Text, Email, Voice, Web, Social Media and the Nixle Mobile App in an instant. Nixle is partnered with NLETS for superior data security, as well as the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, the National Blue Alert Network and Google for unmatched reach and two-way information exchange. For law enforcement, Nixle enables community-policing outreach in new ways. Building a communications structure can help solve crimes, build safer communities and promote a positive dialogue and partnership between residents and law enforcement.

Citizens can register for emergency notifications on the Lower Township Police website, www.lowertownshippolice.com.

CITIZEN COMPLAINTS INTERNAL AFFAIRS

The Lower Township Police Department is committed to providing law enforcement services that are fair, effective and impartially applied. Officers are held to the highest standards of official conduct and are expected to respect the rights of all citizens. Officer's 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 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. The confidence engenders community support for the police department. Improving the relationship between 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 officer's compliance with department policies and procedures. Adherence to established policies and procedures assist 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 officers.

In 2014 the Lower Township Police Department investigated a total of 11 complaints regarding on and off duty actions and/or conduct of Lower Township Police Officers and Dispatch as compared with 16 in 2013. Of the 11 investigations handled in 2014, 7 resulted in disciplinary action taken against an officer or employee.

Below is a list of the type of cases and their dispositions received in 2014:

2014 Dispositions -

Excessive Force (0)

Improper Arrest (1) (1) - Not Sustained

Improper Entry (0)

Improper Search (1) (1) - Exonerated

Other Criminal Violation (0)

Differential Treatment (0)

Demeanor (1) (1) – Sustained

Domestic Violence (0)

Other Rule Infractions (7) (6) – sustained, (1) – unfounded

Of the 16 in 2013, 0 remained pending in 2014. Of the 11 investigations handled in 2014, only 1 remains open for 2015.

In 2014, there were no Major Discipline Disclosures.

The Lower Township Police Department works closely with the Cape May County Prosecutors Office and many of the internal affairs investigations are worked jointly between both departments. This is to ensure that the highest quality of investigation is conducted.

The Internal Affairs Division is commanded by Captain Thomas M. Beeby.

LAW ENFORCEMENT GRANTS

The Lower Township Police Department relies on grant funding to help off-set and supplement patrol operations. The following is a partial list of grants applied for, and received by the Lower Township Police Department during the year of 2014:

The Lower Township Police Department received a grant in the amount of \$4000 from the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety, to pay for overtime patrols to enforce the usage of seat belts by all operators and passengers of motor vehicles. (*Click It or Ticket*)

The Lower Township Police Department received several grants in the amount of \$19,885.80 from the NJ Division of Highway Traffic Safety to pay for overtime patrols to enforce and combat DWI offenses. (*Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over and DDEF Drunk Driving Enforcement Fund*)

The Lower Township Police Department received federal money in the amount of \$1200 from the Division of Highway Traffic Safety and dispersed through the NJ Attorney General's Office, Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control for the COPS IN SHOPS - 2014 Summer Shore Initiative. This initiative is to enforce undercover police officers to work cooperatively with retail establishments to stop under age purchases of alcohol.

The Lower Township Police Department received two separate Body Armor Grants in 2014 one from the Division of Criminal Justice in the amount of \$3,958.41 and the other from U.S. Department of Justice Bulletproof Vest Partnership \$8,558.65

TRAINING AND EDUCATION

One of the most important responsibilities of a law enforcement agency is the training and education of all its personnel. The Police Department has in place a comprehensive policy that addresses the organization and administration of the entire training process, including recruit training, in service training, roll call training and specialized training.

Captain Thomas Beeby is the Department Training Coordinator. Duties are to keep track of all the department training, mandatory as well as any additional in-service training officers receive, and to maintain all training records for each officer in the agency. Lieutenant Patrick Greene assists with training and education as well.

The men and women of the Lower Township Police Department attended a wide variety of in service training courses throughout 2014 including but not limited to:

- Beast Evidence System Training (Storage and Evidence Tracking System)
- Alcotest 7110 MKIII-C Initial Operators Course
- DWI Detection and SFST Course
- Alcotest 7110 MKIII-C Recertification Course
- Spring Firearms Qualifications
- Vehicular Pursuit
- Use of Force
- OC Spray and Baton
- Records Management for Law Enforcement
- EMD In-Service
- CBRNE Awareness
- ICS 100
- CPR Recertification
- Document Fraud for Law Enforcement
- Crisis Communication Training
- School Security Training Program
- Field Training Officer Course
- Criminal Investigation Program
- FBI Ethics for the Police Executive
- Search and Seizure Updates
- JV Law Updates
- Legal Updates
- Firearms Laws and ID Application Training
- Zoom-In on Crime Scene and Evidence Photography
- Advanced Crime Scene Investigation
- Active Shooter Response
- NJSP Crash I
- Physical Conditioning Instructor Training
- DARE NJ Conference Committee
- Prescription Drug Conference

- DARE Training Conference
- Sports-Special Events Incident Management Training
- Prescription Drug Investigations
- Accident Investigation for Patrol Officers
- Child First/Finding Words-New Jersey
- NJSP Uniform Crime Reporting Training
- SANE / SART Activation Training
- Documenting Discipline & Dealing with Difficult Employees
- NJ Internal Affairs Association Meeting
- Methods of Instruction
- Annual Crime Victims Rights Week Conference
- CJIS TAC Training
- ICS 300
- ICS 400
- Basic Drug Recognition for Police Officers
- Records Management for Law Enforcement
- Managing Multiple Priorities
- Critical Incident Negotiations Level II
- CALEA Accreditation Managers
- Cross-Systems Mapping and Taking Action for Change
- Anti-Bullying & School Safety Conference
- Pedestrian Decoy Training
- Police Stress Management Workshop
- Active Shooter Workshop
- 2014 Outlaw Motorcycle Gang Symposium
- Special Officer Patrol Practices
- NJSACOP Front Line Supervision Program
- Bus Security and Safety for Law Enforcement
- Bullying and DV Conference
- 2014 Emergency Medical Dispatch II
- We Check for 21
- Arrest Search and Seizure Refresher
- Rapid Assessment in NIBIN
- Conductive Energy Device Recertification
- Cape May County Emergency Preparedness Conference
- Narcan Train the Trainer Program
- Active Shooter Instructor Certification
- Policing the Police
- Analyzing the Revised Attorney General IA Policy and Procedure

- Fall Firearms Qualifications
- Vehicular Pursuits
- Use of Force Training
- Domestic Violence Training
- Active Shooter Building Clearing and Movements
- Reid Interview and Interrogation Technique
- Radar Instructor Training
- Missing Children Dynamics and Response / CART Training
- Telecommunications Operator Role in Active Shooter Events
- DDACTS Workshop
- Guardian Tracking Training
- Intro to Gang ID and Investigation

Police Department members who hold the rank of Instructor:

In addition to their normal work duties, several Lower Township Police Officers have attained the position of being an instructor in a specific field or multiple fields. These officers conduct interdepartmental in-service training to department members. Many of them are also instructors at the Cape May County Police Academy. Officers who are instructors are as follows:

Chief William Mastriana	Boxing Instructor, Physical Training Instructor and Defensive Tactics Instructor
Sergeant John Chew	Firearms Instruction and Defensive Tactics Instructor
Sergeant Ernest Macomber (<i>retired</i>)	Radar Departmental
Corporal Dave Fisher	Defensive Driving/Radar Instructor Departmental
Corporal T. Shaun Whittington	Physical Training Instructor, Firearms Instructor Defensive Tactics Instructor, Chemical/Less Lethal Munitions Instructor
Corporal Douglas Whitten	Defensive Tactics Instructor
Corporal David Fisher	Radar Departmental
DFC Michael Majane	Physical Training Instructor Firearms Instructor and Defensive Tactics Instructor
DFC Marlin Hedum (<i>retired</i>)	Firearms Instructor Departmental and Police Academy Criminal Investigation and Defensive Tactics Instructor
Patrolman Michael Szemcsak	Physical Training Instructor
Patrolman Ryan Hansberry	Firearms Instructor

COMMUNITY ORIENTED PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS CONDUCTED BY LOWER TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT IN 2014

- Officers maintained an informational show booth at the annual Whale of a Day Festival in July.
- Fourth of July Fireworks
- Coordinated the annual and very successful National Night out against Crime event in August.
- Periodic Cop Stop Program held at local convenience stores to facilitate police/citizen interaction.
- Lower Township Kids Christmas
- Police Unity Tour
- “Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day”
- Annual Torch Run for Special Olympics
- Lower Township Christmas Parade
- Escape the Cape Triathlon
- Lower Township Community Health Fair
- Chaplains Luncheon



D.A.R.E. DAY - 2014



NATIONAL NIGHT OUT - 2014



LOWER TOWNSHIP KID'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM - 2014



TORCH RUN 2014



On February 20, 2014, in the presence of family members, friends, county American Legion Commanders and staff, and fellow Lower Township Police Officers, Lower Township Class Two Officer Corey Scheid was presented with a Medal of Valor. Officer Scheid was honored for his heroic actions on November 7, 2013. While off duty at his home, Scheid heard a loud explosion which came from a nearby residence. Officer Scheid responded to the blast, believing that survivors may still be trapped inside. Scheid, along with other neighbors, began removing debris, at one point freeing a female survivor seconds before a fire ensued. The Medal of Valor was presented by American Legion commander Norman Marlin, at the monthly county American Legion post 524 meeting hall in Ocean City New Jersey.



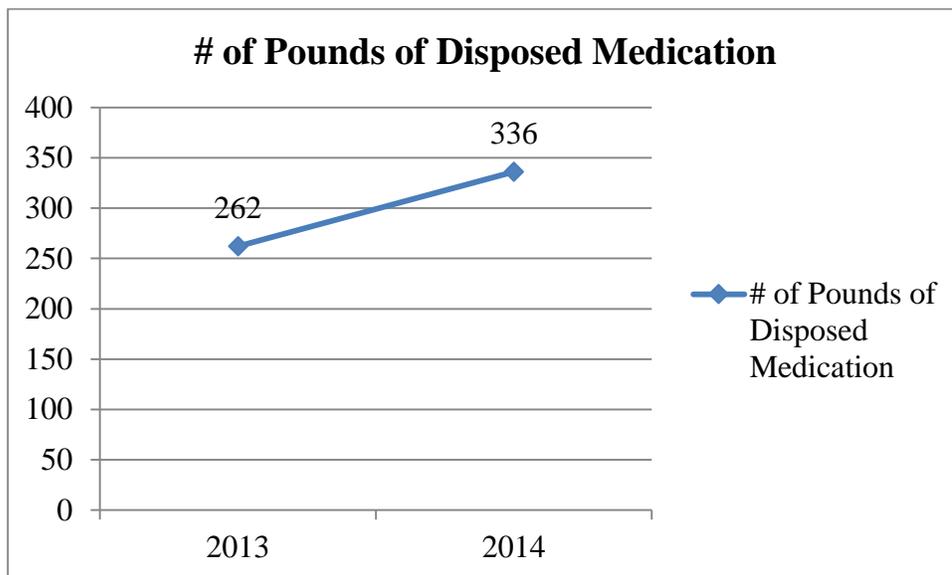
PROJECT MEDICINE DROP

Project Medicine Drop is an initiative involving the installation of "prescription drug drop boxes" at participating New Jersey police departments.

For safety reasons, the Project Medicine Drop boxes can **only** accept solid medications such as pills, patches, inhalers, and similar objects. The boxes **cannot** accept liquids, medical waste, or syringes. Consumers wishing to dispose of these objects should speak with their doctors or pharmacists to find the safest and best ways to dispose of them. It should also be noted that consumers may only dispose of **legal** prescription or over-the-counter medications.

During 2014, the Lower Township Police Department collected and disposed of 336 pounds of unwanted prescription and over-the-counter medications through Project Medicine Drop. This is a 28.2% increase from 2013.

	2013	2014
# of Pounds of Disposed Medication	262	336



SPECIAL UNITS



SWAT Team (Special Weapons and Tactics)

The Lower Township Police maintained and operated its own SWAT Team for approximately 25 years. In 2006, the Cape May County Prosecutor's Office with the cooperation of the Cape May County Chiefs of Police Association formed a Regional Countywide SWAT Team. The County Team is now divided into two geographical regions; Mainland and Island divisions. Every police department in the county has representation on the team.

Team members undergo a very rigorous training schedule, tactically, mentally and physically. These members work with their respective agencies as officers doing normal duties, and when necessary are called upon to conduct SWAT operations. They are on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The position of a SWAT member is voluntary. Selection to become a member of the team is very competitive. Their own department must select officers. These officers are selected based upon their past performance and attitude. Then they must attend a rigorous two-week SWAT course.

Team operators are required to train at least twelve 12 hours per month for a total of 144 hours a year. Training sessions are held two times per month with an additional 6 hours training per month for the sniper element. The Cape May County SWAT Team was called out on 52 operations in 2014.

Lower Township Police Officers assigned to the Regional Swat Team include:

Corporal T. Shaun Whittington
Patrolman Kevin Lewis
Patrolman Charles Ryan

DFC Michael Majane
Patrolman Michael Perry

HONOR GUARD



The Lower Township Police Department maintains a formal Police Honor Guard. The purpose of the Honor Guard is to formally represent the Lower Township Police Department at official functions. The Honor Guard performs its task with a military regime; the members wear a formal uniform blouse.

Members of the Honor Guard include:

Patrolman Ryan Hansberry
Detective Brian McEwing
Patrolman Charles Ryan
Patrolman James McNulty
Patrolman Kevin Lewis

Patrolman William Barcas
Patrolman Michael Perry
Patrolman Michael James
Patrolman Louis Bartleson
Officer Kaitlin Black

CRASH TEAM

Members of the Lower Township Crash Investigation Team have specialized training to investigate serious motor vehicle crashes. Their training is through Northwestern University and Institute of Police Technology and Management. The courses are: Crash I, Crash II, Pedestrian Crash, Motorcycle Crash, Heavy Vehicle Crash, Vehicle Dynamics and Traffic Crash Reconstruction.

These training courses allow the unit complete, if necessary the following at a crash scene:

- Scaled computer diagramming
- Mathematical analysis
- Damage evaluations
- Seatbelt, headlamp and tire examination
- Scene measurements
- Documentation of road type and tire friction
- High and low speed collision

- Bicycle collisions
- Motorcycle collisions
- Semi truck/commercial vehicle accidents

The Lower Township Crash Team uses the following equipment, if necessary, to assist with crash investigations: Laser Impulse, Recon Data Recorder, Map Star System Angle Encoder, Prism and Pole, Drag Boot, Power and Lighting Equipment, Laptop with Crash Zone, Measuring Tapes, Marking Paint, Chalk, and other miscellaneous equipment.

The Crash Team meets periodically during the year for training updates and familiarization with the equipment. Some Lower Township Police Crash Team members respond with the Cape May County Fatal Unit to assist with other serious crashes throughout the county. The Crash Team is led by Corporal David Fisher.

Members include:

Detective Sergeant Ernest Macomber (*retired*)
 Lieutenant Patrick Greene
 Corporal David Fisher
 Patrolman Eric Coombs
 Detective Brian McEwing

POLICE EXPLORERS PROGRAM

National Director: Marty Walsh

Police Officer Advisors: Detective Michael Perry, Corporal David Fisher,
 SRO William Barcas



Law Enforcement Career Exploring is open to young men and women ages 14 (and completed the 8th grade) through 20 years old with an interest in learning more about careers in the field of Law Enforcement.

Law enforcement exploring provides educational training programs for young adults on the purposes, mission, and objectives of law enforcement. The program provides career orientation experiences, leadership opportunities, and community service activities. The primary goals of the program are to help young adults choose a career path within law enforcement and to challenge them to become responsible citizens of their communities and the nation.

LOWER TOWNSHIP POLICE CHAPLAINS



(Pictured above from left to right) Captain Thomas Beeby, Reverend Andrew Ervin - Seashore Community Nazarene, Reverend Bill Salvia - First Assembly of God Cape May, Reverend Leo Dodd - First Assembly of God Cape May, Dr. Charles Gates - Seashore Community Nazarene, Father Robert Fritz - St. John Newman, Reverend John Mitchell - Church of the Advent Cape May and Chief William Mastriana. Absent from photo are: Pastor Scott Durbin – Cape Fellowship of Middle Township, Reverend Glen Scheyhing – Tabernacle United Methodist Church.

The Chaplain Program began as an innovative approach to meeting several needs in our community. Chaplains of all faiths work with law enforcement personnel on a professional level by making themselves immediately available as trained and caring professionals who can assist in times of loss, confusion, depression, or grief to people in crisis situations. The Chaplains provide this service not only to the community, but also to all department employees and their families as well.

The Chaplain Program is administered by The Chief of Police and coordinated by Chaplain Charles Gates. The Chaplain must be ordained or commissioned.

There are ten (10) volunteer Chaplains who participate in the program. They are provided with necessary training and resources in return for hundreds of hours of volunteer service.

The duties of the Police Chaplain may include, but are not limited to:

- Riding along with officers on routine patrol on various shifts
- Accompanying a police officer to assist with notification of any suicide, death or serious injury
- Working with police officers to assist in any kind of crisis situation where the presence of a trained chaplain might help

- Counseling Department members in response to stress or family crisis problems. Any such assistance will be privileged and confidential between the officer and chaplain involved
- Visiting with sick or injured members of the Department at their home or in the hospital.
- Offering prayers at special occasions such as recruit graduations, award ceremonies and dedications of buildings, etc.
- Serving on review boards and/or other committees
- Advising the Chief of Police in all matters of a religious nature involving the Police Department and performance of law enforcement duties in the community
- Chaplains shall act as liaison with local ministerial associations and on matters pertaining to the moral, spiritual, and religious welfare of police personnel
- Assisting the Police Department in the performance of appropriate ceremonial functions.
- Providing practical assistance to victims
- Assisting at suicide incidents

CHAPLAINS LUNCHEON 2014



NJSACOP ACCREDITATION PROGRAM



The Lower Township Police Department is an accredited agency that participates in the New Jersey Law Enforcement Accreditation Program. This is a voluntary state program developed by the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police and is modeled after the CALEA national program. The accreditation program requires compliance with a series of 105 professional standards designed specifically for New Jersey law enforcement agencies. The program promotes the best practices in law enforcement.

The Department was initially accredited in 2009 and reaccredited in 2013.

NEW CAPITAL PURCHASES IN 2014

- 1. SWAT Team Ballistic Vest**
A specific ballistic vest required by our officers that are SWAT team members
- 2. Vehicle Outfitting Truck Vault**
For Sergeant and Corporal vehicles and includes a built in Incident Command Board
- 3. Weapons Storage Cabinets for Departmental Weapons**
Aids in the proper storage and security of long rifles and repair equipment
- 4. Variable Message Board with Radar**
Used throughout the township to advise of upcoming events and to caution citizens on road construction/detours.
- 5. Fixed/Mounted Radar Speed Displays**
Aid in the reduction of speeding in areas that receive numerous complaints.
- 6. Digital Camera and Case**
Used daily in criminal investigations and crime scene processing.
- 7. Glock Armorers, S Kit**
Aids in the repair of duty weapons.
- 8. AR-14 / M4 Armorer's Kit**
Aids in the repair of patrol rifles.
- 9. Radar Units**
Purchased 6 Bee III Radar Units
- 10. New ID Card System**
Used for the issuance of official Police and Township employee Identification Cards.
- 11. Replacement Desktop Computers**
Used to replace identified technology needs within the department
- 12. Tough Book Lap Top Computer**
Used by the Detective Division while working in the field conducting investigations.
- 13. Radio Power Supply**
Used to support continual power for departmental radios
- 14. Two All Wheel Drive Utility Vehicles**
Equipped with a full police package and will be used to support our current fleet of vehicles.

2014 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- **Replaced Sonicwall Firewall with a Sophos UTM Firewall Solution**

The new Firewall integrates well into the current Antivirus product, and provides a high level of security for the LTPD network. It also allows for a highly secure remote access solution for those employees who need access.

- **The Use of Narcan**

In 2014, all Lower Township Officers were trained in the use and carry of Narcan. Narcan is a trademarked version of the drug Naloxone, which is an opiate antidote. Opioids include heroin and prescription pain pills like morphine, codeine, oxycodone, methadone and Vicodin. When a person is overdosing on an opioid, breathing can slow down or stop and it can be very hard to wake them from this state. Narcan™ (naloxone) is a prescription medicine that blocks the effects of opioids and reverses an overdose. It cannot be used to get a person high. If given to a person who has not taken opioids, it will not have any effect on him or her, since there is no opioid overdose to reverse. In 2014, Lower Township Officers utilized Narcan 5 times for drug overdose incidents. In an effort to remove these prescription drugs off the street, Lower Township has set up several mobile drop off locations throughout the township along with our Project Medicine Drop Off site that is available 24/7 to anyone who would like to discard unused medication.

- **Decrease the number of work related accidents and injuries by 10% in 2014**

This goal was achieved by providing employees with several defensive driving courses which were completed on line. Some of the courses were located through the Joint Insurance Fund (JIF). In 2013 Lower Township Police officers were involved in seven (7) motor vehicle accidents. After a careful administrative review process, It was learned that five (5) of the seven accidents were a result of driver inattention (backing up). We further learned that four of the five accidents involved officers with less than 1 year as a patrol officer. This issue was addressed during an intensive field training process which each new officer is required to participate in. Each FTO was briefed on this information and training was provided. Additionally in 2014, there was a 22.2% reduction in work days missed due to work related injuries.

- **Improve Time Management skills for Supervisors:**

Through consistent monitoring and quarterly one on one meetings between Patrol Sergeants and the Patrol Bureau Commander, open lines of communication were established enabling a vast amount of information sharing in relation to the goal of improving time management skill for our supervisors. During these meetings, Sergeant roll call logs were inspected along with supervisor logs. Careful analysis was done on officers monthly reports, which show the type of proactive policing they engaged in as well as their assigned tasks. The information gathered was put through a vetting process to determine what activities and/or procedures were conducive to streamlining our operation. As a result of this process, reports have completed in a more timely and accurate manner. Less time was spent reviewing reports 2 and 3 times before being finalized. Because of this more efficient manner of operation we were able to concentrate on proactive ways of improving our agency to continue moving forward. Officers were provided with more time to do proactive community policing.

GOALS FOR 2015

Patrol Division Goals

- **Guardian Tracking System**

The Lower Township Police department will implement The Guardian Early Warning Tracking System. This will allow us to monitor Employee Performance and Documentation Early Intervention & Recognition the System Software allows us to monitor and electronically track a variety of day to day activities. Our goal with this system is to be able to address potential problems through the use of appropriate management and supervisory strategies, before formal discipline is warranted. Similarly, want to recognize the outstanding performances of our officers and encourage those types of behavior through positive reinforcement techniques.

- **Implementation of mobile in car cameras and body worn cameras**

We have begun sampling body worn cameras and have deployed at least one camera to an officer to be worn during his/her patrol shift. Our goal is to acquire enough body cameras to provide one to each officer on a shift. In addition, we anticipate placing in car cameras in each front line patrol vehicle. We have opted to utilize both the body worn camera and the in car cameras to document all police/citizen encounters. We are confident these actions will demonstrate our transparency and openness in our officer's interactions with the citizens of our community.

- **Replacement of mobile Data Computer with Panasonic Toughbooks**

We are committed to our citizens to remain current with technology as it advances and improves law enforcements ability to protect the public and enforce our laws. We will replace the existing Mobil Data Terminal (MDT) currently in our police vehicles with the more modern and practical Panasonic Tough book computers. These new computers are better equipped to handle the multiple computerized tasks that our officers are required to do in the performance of their duties. Some of those tasks include report writing, electronic transferring of reports to assorted agencies, obtaining background information and research for a particular person, residence or vehicle.

- **Replacement of in car radar systems**

We are also in the process of replacing the aging radar units in our patrol vehicles. To date we have replaced six of the units with the most current Bee III radar units.

- **Community outreach initiative**

To facilitate our community outreach initiative and provide timely alerts to the members of our community, we have implemented the Nixle program. Nixle is a Community Information Service that is dedicated to helping the citizens of Lower Township stay connected with the information about community events, severe weather alerts, traffic disruptions, and other community information that is most important to the them and their families. The registration and alerts are free to the community and can be received by email, text message or recorded voice message on either a home telephone, cell phone or both. *See page 37 for registration details.*

- **Data-Driven Approaches to Crime and Traffic Safety (DDACTS)**

The Lower Township Police Department will be moving forward in implementing DDACTS. DDACTS is a Data-Driven Approach to Crime and Traffic Safety. (DDACTS) is a law enforcement operational model supported by a partnership between the Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and two agencies of the Department of Justice, the Bureau of Justice Assistance, and the National Institute of Justice. DDACTS integrates location-based crash, crime, calls for service and enforcement resources. By identifying areas, through temporal and spatial analysis, with high incidences of crime and crashes, DDACTS employs highly visible traffic enforcement strategies. By targeting high crash hot spots that are within high crime areas with high visible traffic enforcement, the DDACTS model affords communities the dual benefit of reducing traffic crashes and crime thus reducing overall social harm. Drawing on the deterrent value of highly visible traffic enforcement and the knowledge that crimes often involve the use of motor vehicles, the goal of DDACTS is to reduce the incidence of crashes and crime, and thus reducing social harm in communities across the country.

- **Improve Employee Recruitment and Retention**

Develop strategies to recruit/retain competent effective employees and enhance employee satisfaction and staff development. Provide literature inviting citizens to consider a career in Law Enforcement with the Lower Township Police Department and distribute that literature at events such as our Cop Stop Program, Job Fair, Genesis Health Fair, National Night Out or any other of the numerous community events for which we are present. Connect with local college students through an Internship program to recruit students studying for a career in Law Enforcement. Ensure our current employees are well prepared to provide the best service to the members of our community by developing and ensuring mandatory levels of training for each stage in their development are met. Encourage input from the members of our department and invite them to take part in the development of that input. By doing so, it would initiate a dialogue between the administration and the employees. Employee input can be a source of constructive criticism which may help the administration to reveal many hidden issues with current attitudes and or trends which could be a deterrent to a healthy work environment.

Detective Division Goals

- **Increase the number of Narcotics Investigations**

This goal can be achieved by working closely together with other agencies such as the Cape May County Prosecutors Office Gangs, Guns, and Narcotics Task Force as well as neighboring jurisdictions. This will build a better working relationship with these agencies and increase the amount of information sharing. The development and use of confidential informants will further assist the division in meeting this goal. Recently a new detective was assigned to the Detective Division. He was previously sent on loan to the Cape May County Prosecutors Office Gangs, Guns, and Narcotics Task Force and attended the New Jersey State Police Top Narcotic Investigation School where he learned advanced techniques in narcotics investigations.

- **Enhance Detective Training**

We will continue to evaluate the comprehensive training program for newly assigned detectives, as well as advance and specialized training for experienced detectives. Through the review of the present training program for newly assigned detectives it has been determined that several training classes will be mandatory for all newly assigned detectives. Mandatory classes are as followed: Basic Investigators Course, Crime Scene and Evidence Photography, Crime Scene and Advanced Crime Scene Investigation Techniques, Sex Crime Investigation, and Search Warrant and Consensual Interception Course. We will determine which specialized training is needed for experienced detectives to ensure our detective division operates proficiently, and is current on modern technology. We will ensure all assigned personnel are thoroughly trained and proficient on all specialized equipment and periodically train and evaluate their knowledge on this equipment. On a quarterly basis the detective division will have training on all equipment that is already utilized so all members of are proficient with the equipment operations.

Communication and Technology Goals

- **New Live-Scan Fingerprint machine with Photo Capability**
As technology increases so to must we adapt and conform to the requirements. As the State will no longer accept manually printed fingerprint cards, we will be able to continue to transfer fingerprint cards electronically, in addition to photos.
- **Replace current Email Provider**
Either move email in-house, or move it to a reliable cloud based email provider. Additionally, a new solution will improve LTPD's storage situation on the new servers.
- **Improve Data backup**
An Enterprise level backup solution is required for security of the LTPD data. We are currently investigating options available to meet LTPD's needs.