

TUCKAHOE POLICE DEPARTMENT



ANNUAL REPORT

Police Department Report 2011

Threat Assessment Team

The Tuckahoe Police Department joined with the Eastchester Police Department, the Tuckahoe School District and the Eastchester School District to form a Threat Assessment Team. Collaboration between schools, police departments, and other agencies is a critical step in ensuring the safety of children. Interagency teams maintain an effective network for making better assessments about the needs of children, and the safety of schools and communities. Uniform guidelines are being established to be proactive in assessing threats, while staying within the rules and law governing information sharing. The formation and mobilization of a Threat Assessment Team is progressive and forward-thinking. TAT's help prevent or manage incidents. Relevant officials collaborate to appropriately assess and address threats in a coordinated fashion.

The Threat Assessment Team will meet Quarterly in order to be a proactive force within the community. The team will discuss safety planning, issues of concern, as well as continue to modify and revise the Team Policy and Procedures as the need arises.

Recipient of National Traffic Safety Award

The Tuckahoe Police Department was a recipient of the prestigious **Automobile Association of America's Gold Award** for superior programs and projects that address local traffic safety. This is the seventh consecutive year that the Department was recognized with one of the highest awards by the AAA. The award was given for the Police Department's effectiveness in addressing local traffic safety issues, which was statistically demonstrated by participation in programs such as:

- Safe Riders Day-Bicycle Safety Education
- STOP-DWI / Safe and Sober Campaigns-Driving Under the Influence enforcement and education
- Buckle Up New York / Operation ABC Mobilization-Adult and child restraint enforcement and education
- Operation Safe Stop – School Bus enforcement and education

These programs, among other efforts resulted in no DWI related fatal or serious injury accidents, no serious bicycle accidents, no serious school bus accidents and a high compliance rate of occupant protection for the past 10 years. Another commendation was received for 37 consecutive years without a pedestrian fatality.

Special Unit Reports

Emergency Response Unit

On April 4, 2011 Members of the Emergency Response Unit along with members of the Eastchester team conducted two simultaneous search warrants. This was done in conjunction with a Burglary that had taken place. Members entered the above locations and secured the area for the Tuckahoe Detectives to conduct their searches.

On May 19, 2011 Members of the Tuckahoe Team were called to service for a barricaded suspect. The alleged suspect in a domestic incident call had barricaded himself in his apartment. The suspect surrendered and the incident concluded successfully.

On May 22, 2011 Members responded to the Village of Pelham on the call of a barricaded suspect at an apartment building. The above members made entry into the apartment with members from Pelham, Eastchester and Mount Vernon Emergency Response Units. The suspect had fled prior to the team's entry.

On September 21st and 22nd all the members of the Tuckahoe Emergency Response unit attended a 2 day Law Enforcement Active Shooter course at the New York State Preparedness Training Center in Oriskany New York.

On November 23, 2011 the members of the joint Tuckahoe/Eastchester/ Pelham team participated in Operation Hercules which was coordinated through Zone 3 tactical teams. Participating teams included, WCDPS, MTA, Mount Vernon, White Plains and Viper teams from the Transportation Security Administration.

On December 30, 2011 the members of the Tuckahoe Emergency Response Unit participated in Operation Mass which was coordinated through Zone 3 tactical teams. Participating teams included, WCDPS, MTA, Mount Vernon and White Plains

Child Passenger Safety Unit

The CPS unit hosted a seat check event on June 18th at the Parkway Oval in conjunction with the department's bicycle safety event. The unit also participated in the Town of Eastchester Family Safety Day held on May 21st.

Forty (40) vehicles were checked by appointment or walk-in.

A total of forty-five (45) child safety seats were checked or installed in forty-four (44) vehicles over the year.

Bicycle Patrol Unit

The Bicycle Patrol Unit was in operation from May 1st through October 31st. The high profile proactive bicycle patrols are to promote positive public relations, deter serious crimes, address quality of life complaints and foster and maintain the commitment to the community policing philosophy. Members of the unit patrolled 145 tours.

Bronxville **E**astchester **S**carsdale **T**uckahoe
Alcohol and **D**rug **E**nforcement

Task Force

“OPERATION SAFE SUMMER”

Underage Drinking and DWI Enforcement

In a collaborative effort by law enforcement agencies, the Town of Eastchester and the Villages of Scarsdale, Tuckahoe and Bronxville – partnered with undercover operations for the strict enforcement of underage drinking over the June 24th weekend. The task force focused on known public problem areas, as well as monitoring graduation house parties. In addition, highly visible and productive “Stop D.W.I.” roving patrols and stationary sobriety checkpoints were conducted to help insure safety on our local roadways.

The two-day event, carried out throughout the evenings and early mornings of June 24th to June 26th resulted in:

- OVER 50 MOVING VIOLATIONS, THE MAJORITY FOR SPEEDING
- 3 DWI ARRESTS
- 6 ABC VIOLATIONS FOR POSSESSION OF ALCOHOL, UNDER 21
- 3 AGGRAVATED UNLICENSED OPERATION OF A VEHICLE
- 3 POSSESSION OF MARIHUANA
- 1 EXPOSURE – URINATING IN PUBLIC

Police officers were also engaged in a wide-ranging informational effort, as each driver who passed respective checkpoints were given **“Operation Safe Summer”** brochures explaining, in straightforward terms, current DWI statutes and the potentially tragic consequences of driving under the influence.

The B.E.S.T.A.D.E. Task force was formed in 2005. The task force continues its vigilance in the enforcement of laws pertaining to the sale of illegal drugs and underage drinking. It will remain active throughout the summer months with additional STOP DWI efforts, as well as “sting” operations to prevent the sale of alcohol to minors. The STOP-DWI initiative is made possible through funding and coordination with the Westchester County STOP-DWI office.

Youth Services

Explorer Program

The Tuckahoe Police Explorer Program ended the 2011 year with **9 Explorers**. Post #2008 had approximately **26 regular meetings** throughout the year, with additional trips and community service opportunities for all of the enrolled Explorers. The Explorer Program runs every other Wednesday from 7PM-8:30PM, September-June at the Tuckahoe Police Department. The three Advisors are Lt. Belles, Officer Zirolnik and Officer Santiago.

In October of 2011, the Explorers competed at the Westchester County Police Academy. The Explorers won several awards ranging from 1st to 3rd place in categories such as Domestic Disputes, Customer Disputes, Unknown Response, Obstacle Course, and Career Development.

On January 26, 2011, the Tuckahoe Police Department accepted two college interns from Iona College, into our department Intern Program. These interns worked under the supervision of Lt. Margaret Belles and completed 104+ hours of internship hours.

In May, 2011 through June of 2011, the Tuckahoe Police Department accepted an Eastchester High School Student to complete his WISE internship under the supervision of Lt. Belles.

Youth Bureau

The Tuckahoe Police Department currently has **4 Youth Officers, Lt. Belles, Sgt. Cuccinello, P.O. Andrew Zirolnik, and P.O. Christopher Santiago.**

- There were **4 Youths mandated by the Village of Tuckahoe Court** to our Community Service Alcohol/Drug Awareness classes and Service Program in 2011. This year the Court imposed a \$75.00 Administrative fee for these classes. This fee is payable on the day of the class, and goes directly toward the cost of running this program. These classes are run by Lt. Belles and Officer Zirolnik at the Village of Tuckahoe Police Department.
- There were **10 Juveniles** who were **diverted from the Juvenile Justice System** by our Youth Division and given Community Service Classes and hours relevant to the offense in 2011.
- There were **6 Juvenile cards** forwarded to the Youth Division for follow up by our Patrol officers. These juveniles may have been involved in activity that would have constituted a crime, but due to their age were referred to the Youth Division for appropriate consequences. There were 3 other Juvenile Cases where cards were not completed, as a Youth Officer was on duty and completed the case investigation and Juvenile Activity reports. These youths were included in the above reported number of juveniles diverted from the Juvenile Justice System.
- Officer Andrew Zirolnik taught the 5th Grade DARE program to the William E. Cattle 5th Graders. There were approximately 100 students who received 13 weeks of

instruction utilizing this curriculum which will culminate with a graduation ceremony on Thursday, January 26, 2012.

- Sgt. John Cuccinello taught the DARE Middle school curriculum to the Tuckahoe Middle School's 7th grade class. There were approximately 100 students who received 6 weeks of instruction in the Middle School curriculum.
- Lt. Margaret Belles created new curriculum for the Tuckahoe High School Law Related Education Program which will be taught to 100 students in a 4 Lesson block of instruction in the spring of 2012.

Community Outreach Efforts

The Tuckahoe Police Department hosted **“Safe Rider’s Day”** which focuses on Bicycle Safety instruction and courses, Car Seat installation, crime prevention, Raffles and games. The event was held in June and there were approximately 150 attendees over the course of the event.

The Tuckahoe Explorer Post assisted during the event. The Mount Vernon Police Department attended this event along with their Explorer Post.

The Tuckahoe Police Department also hosted **“The Cops For Kids Annual Kickball/Softball Tournament”** event. There were approximately 115 children who participated in the games and about 70 adults in attendance. There were approximately 23 Tuckahoe Police Officers who participated in both of these events.

The Tuckahoe Youth Division/DARE Officers hosted the annual DARE Picnic at Lake Isle last June for the 5th and 7th grade DARE students. Swimming, Lunch, snacks, beverages and dessert were provided for all students and faculty.

The Tuckahoe Police Department hosted **National Night Out Against Crime and Drugs** in August. There were approximately 300+ people in attendance over the course of the event. This event had almost 100% participation from our Officers. Sgt. Cuccinello taught Cyber Bullying to the Middle School over the course of several assembly presentations.

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- Sgt. Cuccinello taught **Cyber Bullying** to the Middle School over the course of several assembly presentations.
- Lt. Belles and Sgt. Cuccinello presented two workshops to the Middle School and High School Parents on **Binge Drinking, Cyber-Bullying, Bullying and the Law**.

2011 Blotter Reports

Total Calls for Service: 3,554

Alarms: 224

Fire Responses: 176

Medical Aided: 348

Motor Vehicle Accidents: 109

Domestic Incidents 101

Assault 6

Robbery 0

Burglary 6

Larceny 45

Motor Vehicle Theft 2

Drug Offenses 6

Criminal Mischief 28

DWI/ DWAI 9

Liquor Law Violations 4

Fraud – Identity Theft: 21

All Others: 40

Criminal Cases: 272

Adult Arrests: 150

Juvenile Arrests:

3

Traffic Citations

Moving Violations:

• Speeding	231
• Red Light	45
• Seatbelt	130
• Unlicensed Operator	79
• DWI / DWAI	9
• No Comm. Traffic	35
• Registration Offenses	54
• Stop Sign	146
• One Way	21
• Pass School Bus	6
• No Inspection	76
• Light Defect	137
• Improper Lane Use	113
• No Right Turn	87
• Mobile Phone Use	122
• Other Offenses	100

Total: **1,449**

Parking Violations: **10,479**

Police Department Grants

Traffic Safety

1. Selective Enforcement Program: (Governor's Traffic Safety Committee)	\$1,600	Police Overtime
2. STOP-DWI Program: (Westchester County)	\$8,400	Police Overtime
3. Bicycle Safety Event (The Community Fund)	\$3,000	Event Materials

Youth Programs

4. Drug Prevention/D.A.R.E. (NYS Office of Children and Family Services)	\$1,699	Education/Prevention Programs
5. D.A.R.E. (The Community Fund)	\$1,700	Education/Prevention Programs
6. Community Outreach (The Community Fund)	\$4,500	Events

Storm Recovery

7. FEMA	\$9,652	Police Overtime Protective Measures
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Total: \$30,551

Personnel

Retirements: **Detective Fred Cioffi** retired after serving the department faithfully for over 12 years. His career was ended due to injuries sustained in the line of duty.

Appointments: **Charles Weinstein** was appointed to Detective.

Francisco Valencia was appointed a Police Officer.

Officer Recognition Award

The Officer Recognition Award is awarded in acknowledgment of a patrol officer's outstanding police work. Officers are chosen for professional dedication, consistent performance at an exceptional level, accomplishments of note-worthy deeds, extraordinary performance of duty, leadership, community participation, and continued learning. The picture and name of the recipient is prominently displayed in Village Hall. The recipient for the year 2011 was:

Police Officer Andrew Zirolnik