

2021

# ANNUAL REPORT

WESTCHESTER COUNTY  
Department of Public Safety



Westchester  
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George Latimer, County Executive  
Thomas A. Gleason, Commissioner/Sheriff  
Department of Public Safety



Thomas A. Gleason  
Commissioner-Sheriff

*Cover photo: Commissioner Gleason (left) and County Executive Latimer (right) honor the Special Response Team for being recognized as one of the most physically fit tactical teams in the nation. Commissioner Gleason (left) and County Executive Latimer (right)*

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## Commissioner's Message:

Thomas A. Gleason, Commissioner/Sheriff



In 2021, our Department continued to face a variety of demands from the coronavirus pandemic that emerged the year before. Once again, our officers provided a wide range of service associated with the pandemic and still had great success in reducing crime, combatting illegal narcotics, taking illegal guns off our streets, keeping our parkways safe, and protecting Mount Kisco and Cortlandt, where we provide municipal police services.

We expanded our community policing initiatives, including adding Community Resource Officers in the Town of Cortlandt and at Westchester Community College. We were able to return to a more

robust program of community relations events and activities that were curtailed by the pandemic in 2020.

We also were able to implement a number of important suggestions made the previous year by the County's Police Reform & Reimagining Committee. These included: helping launch Project Alliance, which teams mental health professionals with police officers to respond to persons who are in crisis or have ongoing mental health issues; enhancing the training at the Police Academy on topics such as Implicit Bias, Crisis Intervention, De-Escalation, Procedural Justice and Cultural Diversity; increasing transparency by publishing our Department Manual (our policies and procedures) on our Department website along with the Age/Sex/Race documentation of motorists stopped for traffic infractions.

Our Department has kept this A/S/R data for more than two decades, and submits it to the County Executive and Board of Legislators for review on a quarterly basis. I encourage readers of this report to review that information as well. I believe it confirms that our officers have fairly and equitably enforced the law week after week, month after month, year after year, for decades.

The Patrol Services Division kept the public safe by apprehending impaired drivers, curbing speeding and other addressing aggressive driving behaviors. Our initiative to combat "obnoxious driving" offenses was widely applauded by motorists who observed us crack down on loud mufflers, tailgating, driving on the shoulder past slower traffic, and cutting the line at exits by driving across hazard markings.

Our uniformed Patrol officers also continued to do an exemplary job safeguarding the Westchester County Airport, the County's vast park system, the schools where we have School Resource Officers, and the Town/Village of Mount Kisco and the Town of Cortlandt.

The Detective Division had an outstanding year, targeting large-scale narcotics peddlers and the deadly fentanyl that we have seen on our streets. Using cutting edge, precision policing tactics, as well as inter-agency collaboration and intelligence sharing, the Narcotics Reduction Program has resulted in record breaking success.

Since June of 2020, investigators from the Narcotics Unit and the Real Time Crime Center have initiated narcotics cases that led to the seizure of: 453,422 bags of fentanyl packaged for individual sale; 94 kilograms of fentanyl packaged in bulk; 65 kilograms of cocaine; 34 vehicles equipped with aftermarket hidden compartments; and 26 firearms.

RTC also spearheaded a sophisticated investigation into the proliferation of so-called untraceable "ghost guns" in our County. More 100 weapons, including assault rifles and semi-automatic handguns, have been seized so far.

In the Special Operations Division, our tactical team, known formally as the Special Response Team, brought us national recognition in 2021. Police Officer Jayson Payne had the highest recorded score in the country on the Physical Fitness Qualification Test given by the National Tactical Officers Association. The SRT as a unit had the third highest cumulative score in the country.

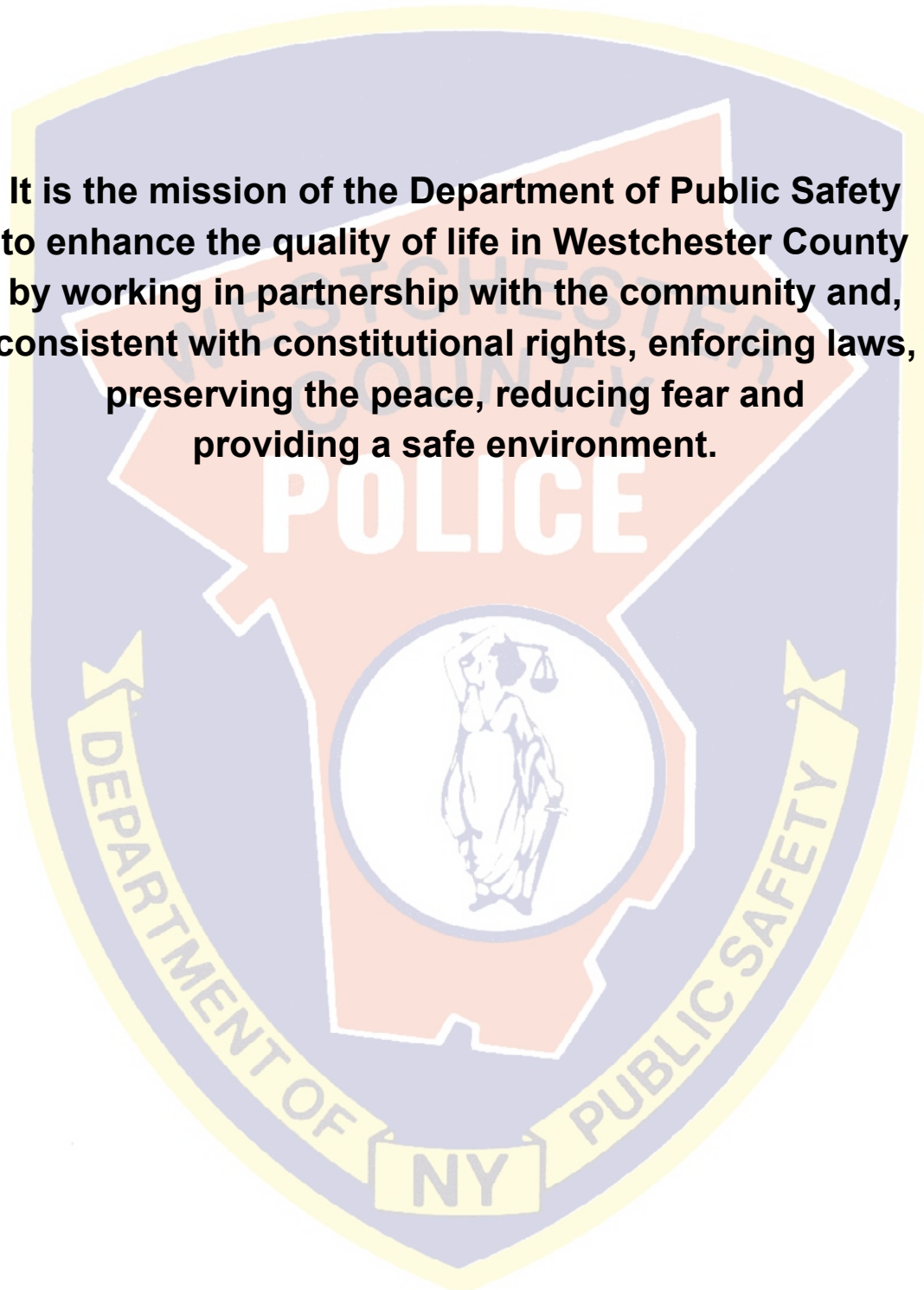
The successes of 2021 would not have been possible without the leadership of County Executive George Latimer. I am grateful to him, as well as to the members of the Board of Legislators, for their ongoing support of this Department.

Thomas A. Gleason  
Commissioner-Sheriff



# MISSION STATEMENT

**It is the mission of the Department of Public Safety to enhance the quality of life in Westchester County by working in partnership with the community and, consistent with constitutional rights, enforcing laws, preserving the peace, reducing fear and providing a safe environment.**



# HISTORY

The Westchester County Department of Public Safety was created on July 1, 1979, by the merger of the Westchester County Sheriff's Department and the Westchester County Parkway Police. Since that time, the Department has provided primary police coverage for County parks, parkways and facilities. Since inception, the Department has also provided specialized police services to neighboring jurisdictions.

Such specialized services include hazardous devices and ballistics technicians, aviation, marine patrol, tactical response, canines and STOP-DWI programs, as well as investigative support for narcotics, warrants and major case investigations<sup>1</sup>.

The Department of Public Safety is the second largest law enforcement agency in Westchester County and is unique as it is the only police department with countywide jurisdiction. Public Safety's Headquarters building is located in Hawthorne, New York, on the Saw Mill River Parkway and Route 9A. Satellite offices are located in Mount Kisco, White Plains and Cortlandt.

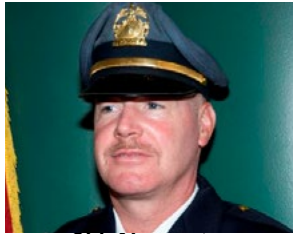


**Headquarters Building**  
Westchester County Department of Public Safety  
New York State Accredited Agency



<sup>1</sup> (Lavin, M. J., Donovan, F. J. Images of America: Westchester County Protect and Serve, Arcadia Publishing, Charleston, SC, 2001.)

# INVESTIGATIVE SERVICES BUREAU



Chief Inspector  
John Hodges

The Detective Division (DD) is comprised of 13 units and task forces. The primary function of the Division is to aggressively investigate crimes within the primary jurisdiction of the Westchester County Police and to provide specialized assistance when requested to Westchester County's local law enforcement agencies for problematic, long-range, large-scale or complex criminal investigations.



## GENERAL INVESTIGATIONS UNIT

Detectives assigned to the General Investigations Unit (GIU) conduct investigations of all matters of criminal activity reported to have occurred on county property or in local jurisdictions requesting GIU assistance. GIU is also tasked with the investigation of cold case homicides.

Additionally, GIU members are partnered with the FBI in two separate Task Forces. One investigates organized crime and the other investigates violent crimes. Specially trained members of GIU also provide technical and investigative assistance to local agencies in the more complicated aspects of criminal investigations and case enhancement.

These include sex crimes, crimes against children, homicide investigations, financial investigations and other felony crimes.



### **Detectives confer at scene of an investigation at Sprain Ridge Park in Yonkers.**

During 2021, GIU conducted 1,345 criminal investigations in addition to 26 investigations requested by local agencies. The investigations conducted included 105 in the Town of Cortlandt, 272 in the Village/Town of Mount Kisco, 137 at the Westchester County Jail, 96 at the Grasslands Reservation, 32 Welfare/Medicaid fraud investigations and 41 sex crime/special victim investigations. There were also 68 identity theft/retail fraud investigations.

In 2021, the Unit arrested 189 suspects on criminal charges resulting from field investigations.



# FORENSIC INVESTIGATIONS UNIT



The Forensic Investigations Unit (FIU) provides expert analysis and testimony in the forensic disciplines of Ballistics, Crime Scene, Digital Evidence and Latent Prints. The Forensic Investigations Unit is recognized as a public forensic laboratory under New York State Executive Law. FIU received full accreditation to the ISO/IEC 17025:2017 standard by the New York State Commission on Forensic Science and the ANSI National Accreditation Board to its AR3125 standard in 2020. Since relocating to a new and expanded crime laboratory in the Police Academy building in 2015, FIU has continued to expeditiously apply the accreditation rules in the best possible manner to serve the community. FIU remains the only Forensic Lab in New York State that is accredited in the disciplines of Firearms, Latent Print, Crime Scene and Digital & Multimedia Evidence – and only one of 12 nationally.

## BALLISTICS SECTION

The Ballistics Section assists investigators in processing crime scenes and analyzing evidence in cases that involve the use of firearms. Ballistics Section investigators identify types of weapons and ammunition, and conduct microscopic comparisons of bullets and cartridge casings recovered at crime scenes, hospitals or morgues. Test firing weapons for operability, examining projectiles and identifying tool marks and gunpowder residue are its core functions.

The Ballistics Section houses the state-of-the-art Integrated Ballistics Identification System (IBIS) computer search system, an image analyzing system for acquiring, storing, and comparing the images of bullets and cartridge cases. The IBIS system captures digital images of striations on bullets and tool marks left on cartridge cases, which are used to produce an electronic signature. These are compared with images stored in local and regional databases.



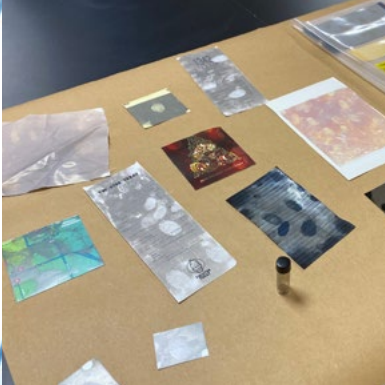
**Detective Holzman**  
**examines ballistics evidence**

In addition, the Ballistics Section has the ability to search databases nationwide, thus revolutionizing the way ballistics evidence is compared and connected.

The Ballistics Section had seventeen (17) cold hits with the IBIS system in 2021 where data was matched to information contained in the existing database, bringing FIU's grand total to 483 cold hits since inception. Also in 2021, 264 Firearms were tested, including 202 semiautomatic pistols, 35 revolvers, 22 rifles, and five shotguns. Twelve (12) of those semiautomatic pistols were found to be "ghost guns". "Ghost guns" can be manufactured at home, are not regulated by the ATF, have no serial numbers and are generally untraceable. Seven of the rifles were found to be assault weapons.

The Ballistics Section processed 385 cases in 2021 involving the use of firearms. In addition to firearms, an additional 3,385 items of firearms-related evidence were examined and tested. Ballistics personnel also conducted lectures and seminars at the Westchester County Police Academy and local colleges.

## LATENT PRINT AND CRIME SCENE SECTION



Investigators possessing highly specialized technical and analytical skills in the area of forensic investigation are assigned to the Latent Print/Crime Scene Section of the Forensic Investigations Unit. The investigative and technical support the Section provides includes certified latent fingerprint analysis, classification and comparison. Crime Scene processing, photography, computer-generated composite imaging and other types of forensic processing are also provided. The Department of Public Safety's Forensic Investigations Unit houses the Westchester County Crime Scene Unit and is utilized by the majority of law enforcement agencies in Westchester.

In 2021, the Latent Print/Crime Scene Section investigated 320 latent fingerprint cases and processed 63 crime scenes. In addition, as the Hudson East SABIS host, 60 latent print cases were submitted into SABIS in 2021 with 10 identifications made.



## DIGITAL EVIDENCE SECTION

The Digital Evidence Section conducts examinations of computers, cellular telephones, electronic storage devices and other items for local and federal agencies.

These examinations are conducted for various types of cases that include homicide, rape, sexual abuse, child exploitation, illegal gambling, narcotics, fraud, identity theft and the distribution of child pornography.

By their nature, Digital Evidence cases tend to be very lengthy and labor intensive investigations, but often result in the successful identification, arrest and conviction of dangerous offenders.

In 2021, Digital Evidence investigated 23 cases and examined 247 items of electronic evidence.





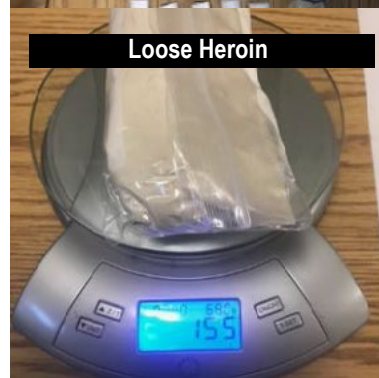
# NARCOTICS UNIT

The Narcotics Unit aggressively investigates illegal drug activity and narcotics trafficking within Westchester County and surrounding areas. The Narcotics Unit provides assistance to local municipalities in several different capacities. Narcotics Unit detectives work closely with local officers to identify and apprehend illegal narcotics sellers and purchasers. Undercover officers purchase illegal narcotics from these dealers, which ultimately leads to search warrants, arrests and felony drug sale charges. Once apprehended, these dealers and/or buyers often provide valuable information, leading to additional targets and drug trafficking networks.

The Narcotics Unit works closely with several federal law enforcement agencies, including the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Drug Enforcement Administration, to identify and apprehend multi-jurisdictional/state drug traffickers and firearms dealers. While working in conjunction with these federal agencies, the Narcotics Unit initiated wiretap investigations and purchased large quantities of heroin, and crack cocaine from targets in Westchester County and New York City. Targets in New York City were identified as sources of supply into Westchester County and New England.

During 2021, the Narcotics Unit made approximately 150 undercover drug buys and controlled buys using informants, resulting in numerous arrests for both state and federal criminal narcotics charges. The Narcotics Unit initiated, assisted and/or investigated in excess of 200 narcotics-related events. The Narcotics Unit detectives also seized illegal firearms, U.S. currency, heroin and cocaine, along with an abundance of prescription pills being possessed and sold illegally. The continued rise in heroin use, and the overdoses associated with fentanyl and opioid abuse throughout the County, continues to be a focus of Narcotics Unit.

During 2021, the Narcotics Unit partnered with, and assisted the City of Mount Vernon Police Department's Violent Crime Unit in suppressing the rise of violent crime within the city.



# WARRANT – FUGITIVE UNIT

The mission of the Warrant – Fugitive Unit (WFO) is to locate and apprehend individuals who are the subject of a warrant issued by Westchester County Supreme Court, Westchester County Court and Westchester County Family Court. The warrants are issued for individuals facing felony and misdemeanor criminal charges. In addition, the unit also investigates and enforces warrants issued by local Family Courts. WFO detectives are also called upon to represent the County in extradition cases where the defendant is apprehended in Westchester and is wanted by another state, or where the defendant is apprehended in another state and is wanted by Westchester County or any of its municipalities.

In addition, the Warrant-Fugitive Unit also assumes transport duties for prisoners that are under the province of the Westchester County Supreme Court, Westchester County Court and the various Family Courts. Members of the unit conducted hundreds of prisoner transports by car in 2021. WFO works closely with the Westchester County Integrated Domestic Violence Court to expedite the execution of Domestic Violence warrants. The unit also works closely with the Westchester County Department of Probation to expedite the execution of Violation of Probation warrants. The Warrant-Fugitive Unit contributes one detective to the U.S. Marshals Service Regional Fugitive Task Force, a multi-agency collaboration aimed at coordinating efforts and sharing resources to locate and arrest transient fugitives. During 2021, this collaboration resulted in the arrest of 31 fugitives. In 2021, the Warrant-Fugitive Unit received 481 warrants for investigation. The unit also cleared 343 warrants and cases in 2021. Also in 2021, the unit conducted a total of 15 out-of-state extraditions, including nine trips by air, and conducted 30 court-ordered transport. In addition, there were 169 arrests recorded and processed by the unit.





# CRIME ANALYSIS & INTELLIGENCE UNIT

The Crime Analysis & Intelligence Unit, which includes the Real Time Crime Center, also serves as the Westchester County and regional law enforcement intelligence and information hub connecting more than 100 local, state and federal law enforcement agencies in and surrounding Westchester County. The Unit plays a critical role in the dissemination of information necessary to identify pattern crimes and suspects. It also disseminates the latest officer safety bulletins and shares criminal investigation methods and techniques necessary to enhance law enforcement's capabilities.

The Unit also monitors the County's Second Hand Precious Metal and Gem dealers in Westchester to ensure compliance with County law by virtue of documenting transaction logs into a centralized database. In 2021, over 15,000 individual items were entered into the database using Leads Online.

Sex Offender Management monitors NYS Registered Sex Offenders within the following jurisdictional areas of responsibility: the Westchester County Jail, the VOA shelter on the Grasslands Reservation, the VA Hospital in Montrose, and Cortlandt, Somers and Mount Kisco.



# REAL TIME CRIME



Westchester Putnam Real Time Crime (RTC) is a centralized technology center for the Westchester County Police and the regional law enforcement community. Its purpose is to give field officers and detectives instant information to help identify patterns and stop emerging crime. RTC is focused on monitoring, deterring and evaluating criminal activity in real-time through surveillance cameras, fixed and mobile license plate recognition (LPR) systems, crime analysis, and other law enforcement software and databases. The RTC provides investigative support to the first responders on scenes and to detectives handling follow-up investigations. Since its inception in 2017, RTC has proven itself as a valuable resource by continually providing information to officers on the street in a way that is both clear and actionable.

## RTC highlights in 2021:

- Expanded the RTC Task Force to include almost 50 departments and over 120 members of both local and regional agencies, working together cohesively within the Real Time Crime Center.
- Worked on more than 8,600 cases.
- Tracked over 1,300 stolen vehicles operating within Westchester County, leading to the recovery of 135.
- Continued and improved the use of SLACK- a communications platform to disseminate hotline information and stolen car notifications to law enforcement throughout Westchester County. There are currently 3,330 active law enforcement members utilizing SLACK.
- Installed 45 fixed LPR with 150 cameras as well as 34 Mobile LPRs.
- Purchased 10 gunshot sound detectors that were tested in "hotspots" within the County. The system led to the detection of 13 shootings in 2021.
- Worked with several agencies throughout the County after identifying a strong-armed robbery pattern that was targeting gas stations during the overnight hours. A plainclothes officer detail was in operation every night from 9 p.m. to 3 a.m. to gather Intel and locate the suspects. One suspect was arrested and several others were picked up in New Jersey, where the investigation is ongoing.
- Assisted the Mount Vernon Violent Crimes Unit on a weekly basis to increase patrols in targeted areas to deter violent crimes. RTC provided personnel on the streets, as well as ongoing Intel workups and analytics. Throughout the summer, this task force assisted in the seizure of 15 handguns and four rifles.





# REAL TIME CRIME



- Implemented a ZelloWork account to broadcast alerts in real time to officers throughout the County. Zello has also proven to be extremely useful for RTC multi-collaborative efforts that recently occurred including Operation Oxy-Lock and Operation Bad Santa. Channels were created specifically for these operations which made the communication among officers seamless.
- Assisted New York State Police with an investigation into a body that was discovered on the side of the Taconic State Parkway in Dutchess County. Using historical cell phone data from the victim provided by NYSP, RTC investigators (with the assistance of FBI Westchester Cellular Analysis Special Agent) were able to recreate a travel path of the vehicle carrying the body. By manually cross referencing this timeline with LPR data, RTC was able to identify a vehicle that matched the travel path of the victim's cell phone. Two suspects were identified and later apprehended.

Utilizing OpenALPR software, RTC has created a system to identify narcotics trafficking vehicles that travel through Westchester County thoroughfares. Working with the WCPD Conditions Unit, DEA, HSI and various law enforcement agencies, RTC was able to directly contribute to the seizure of the following in 2021:

- o 19 trap cars
- o \$2,131,608.00 USC
- o 61.5 pounds of marijuana
- o 10 kilos cocaine
- o 123,000 bags of heroin
- o 187 kilos fentanyl
- o 16 firearms

New additions to the RTC task force in 2021 include New Rochelle PD, New York State Department of Corrections and the Town of Mamaroneck PD.

## FEDERAL TASK FORCES

The Detective Division currently has numerous members assigned to the following multi-jurisdictional task forces: FBI/Organized Crime Task Force, FBI/Violent Crimes Task Force, FBI/Joint Terrorist Task Force, DEA/Local Task Force, DEA/Tactical Diversion Squad, FBI Cyber Crimes Division, and the U.S. Marshals/Fugitive Task Force.

# FIELD SERVICES BUREAU



Captain James Greer

## PATROL SERVICES DIVISION

The men and women of the Patrol Services Division (PSD) are the members of the Department that the public sees every day. Considered to be the backbone of the Department, the Patrol Services Division, comprised of Patrol and Communications, serves the public 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. The responsibilities of patrol are as diverse as the public it serves.

Uniformed members of the PSD patrol the parkways, the Town of Cortlandt, the Town/Village of Mount Kisco, the Westchester County Airport and county parks, office buildings and facilities. The department also provides School Resource Officers for the Lakeland, Hendrick Hudson, North Salem and Somers school districts. On any given day, a member of the Patrol Services Division may be called upon to perform an extensive range of assignments, from traffic enforcement to investigating accidents, from transporting prisoners to local courts to installing child seats for residents, from responding to reports of domestic violence to securing a crime scene. PSD members are the voice on the other end of a 911 call and the first responder that appears at the scene of an emergency ready to help. Officers of the PSD are highly visible and always vigilant; in essence, they are the identity of the Department.

## PARKWAY PATROL

While the functions of the Patrol Services Division continue to expand to meet the needs of the public, history will always tie the identity of the PSD officer to one of the Department's earliest roles: parkway patrol. As Westchester and its population continue to grow, traffic and safety concerns increase as well. The members of the PSD that patrol the Saw Mill River, Bronx River, Hutchinson River and Cross County parkways have aggressively addressed these concerns with great success.



Parkway officers keep motorists safe and traffic moving by conducting education and enforcement initiatives designed to minimize the loss of life, injuries and property damage caused by traffic accidents, dangerous driving practices and impaired motorists. PSD officers drive over one million miles annually to maintain the level of safety and service on which Westchester commuters rely.



In addition to routine patrols, the Patrol Services Division conducts various initiatives that focus on perennial threats to public safety on the parkways, including DWI, speed and hand-held cell phone enforcement. DWI enforcement efforts continue to be a top priority for PSD, with increased officer training to recognize drivers that may be impaired by alcohol or drugs. Initiatives on the part of PSD include targeted patrol enforcement and sobriety checkpoints.



**Officers rescue motorist submerged on the Saw Mill**

Assisted by funding from the Office of Drug Abuse Prevention and STOP-DWI, experienced PSD officers assist local police departments with DWI enforcement. The officers of the Patrol Services Division have a zero-tolerance policy for drivers who put themselves and the public at risk by driving while impaired.

The PSD made 808 arrests in 2021 and issued more than 20,000 summonses. Pro-active

traffic enforcement and sustained initiatives on the parkways have yielded clear results with DWI offenders taken off the road and aggressive and distracted driving curbed.

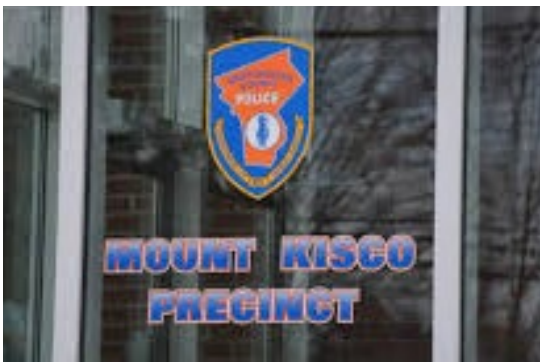
## MUNICIPAL PATROL OPERATIONS

The versatility of the Patrol Services Division is no better exhibited than by moving from its accomplishments on the parkway system to its role as community police in the Town of Cortlandt and the Town/Village of Mount Kisco.



**WCPD personnel with town officials outside the newly renovated Cortlandt Precinct**

Patrol services in Cortlandt are provided from the North Command precinct located at Cortlandt Town Hall. Officers assigned to patrol Cortlandt share that responsibility with the New York State Police in a working and effective partnership. In Mount Kisco, the precinct is based at the village's police-court facility on Green Street.



PSD officers in Cortlandt and Mount Kisco have gained the confidence of residents by effectively addressing community concerns via several community policing initiatives.

In both communities, officers are committed to providing the high-quality community police that residents expect and deserve. One example is their participation in an Enforcing the Underage Drinking Laws (EUDL) initiative to conduct

compliance checks to ensure that local businesses do not sell alcohol to persons less than 21 years of age as well as general directed patrols to inspect locations where underage youths may gather to drink alcoholic beverages.

# WESTCHESTER COUNTY AIRPORT

Since 9/11, airport security has been a significant public concern. The Westchester County Airport is a top priority for the Patrol Services Division due to the increasing volume of patrons the airport serves, the high profile of many of these patrons (including dignitaries and heads of state) and the airport's proximity to New York City. The PSD has adjusted to meet this growth and its impact on traveler safety as well as the safety of the greater Metropolitan Area.

PSD Officers assigned to the Westchester County Airport are responsible for assuring that vehicle and pedestrian traffic moves safely and efficiently, that passengers comply with boarding procedures monitored by the TSA, and that the security of hangars, fence lines and aircraft is not compromised. The Communicator, an alert system that notifies the entire airport in case of an emergency within 2-3 minutes of activation, is one tool at the disposal of PSD's airport patrols. Another is the "Cops and Ops" program. "Cops and Ops" is a joint inspection effort of PSD officers and civilian airport operations personnel to ensure the security of inner and outer airfield perimeters. The continued goal of the PSD at the Westchester County Airport is to facilitate air travel for airport patrons while maintaining the utmost level of security.

## PARKS PATROL

The Westchester County Parks system spans 18,000 acres and consists of more than 50 parks, nature centers, hiking and biking trails, six 18-hole golf courses, six commercial pools, three beaches and Rye Playland, the only government-operated amusement park in the country. Tens of thousands of county residents and non-residents visit the park system year-round, including a huge spike in attendance in the summer.

The Patrol Services Division maintains patrols of these parks throughout the year and redeploys officers as well as seasonal park rangers to the parks during the summer months to accommodate the sharp increase in visitors. Bicycle and all-terrain vehicle patrols are an important element of the PSD's effectiveness within the parks and along the extensive county trailways.



On patrol at Croton Point Park

The county Parks Department and its patrons rely on the PSD to respond as needed to the safety concerns that arise throughout the year within the vast parks system.

The presence of both PSD officers and seasonal park rangers assure park visitors of a safe and enjoyable experience. County police officers also provide security for sporting events, concerts and other events held at the Westchester County Center in White Plains.



# COUNTY BUILDINGS, COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND GRASSLANDS RESERVATION

Uniformed officers of the PSD are charged with the security of the County Office Building in



County Office Building, White Plains

White Plains – the seat of County government – as well as the county’s Department of Social Services offices located throughout Westchester. PSD officers also handle calls to Social Services housing developments including the Coachman Family Center in White Plains. Officers assigned to patrol these facilities make regular inspections and monitor the safety needs of management and clientele.

The PSD also regularly patrols the main campus of Westchester Community College (WCC) in Greenburgh. The college serves over 20,000 full-time, part-time and continuing education students and requires the same community policing efforts as a town. The PSD works with college administrators and campus security to maintain order within the bustling college



PO Armstrong, the North Salem SRO, with school staff on a school bus safety details

environment. Vehicle and foot patrols enhance the level of safety provided by private security. In 2021, a Community Resource Officer was assigned to WCC to provide a consistent presence on campus rather than rotating different officers to the campus. The 512-acre Westchester County campus (Grasslands Reservation) in Valhalla is home to the Westchester Medical Center, County Jail, New York Medical College, Woodfield Cottage Juvenile Detention Center, the Westchester

County Police Academy, Fire Training Center and other institutions. Patrols by the PSD continue to create an uncompromised sense of security on the campus.

## SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS

Westchester County Police provides three School Resource Officers (SROs) to the Lakeland School District for its schools in the Town of Cortlandt, four SROs to the Somers School District, and one SRO each to the North Salem and Hendrick Hudson school districts. These officers have enriched their respective schools’ environment and added an extra level of security for both staff and students. Duties include school security, student education and general support for administration and staff. In addition to the general duties of an SRO, these officers also get involved with the community itself and take on responsibilities inherent to their particular schools. In this way, the officers weave themselves into the fabric of the educational environment of their schools and are able to enhance the learning environment for students and staff. SROs teach classes and administer programs such as law enforcement clubs, junior police academies, Communities That Care (student anti-drug and alcohol education efforts) and career days. They also serve as primary members of their respective schools’ Emergency Response Teams in conjunction with administrators, teachers and staff.

## SURFA19E TRANSPORTATION UNIT

Officers assigned to the Surface Transportation Unit (or Bus Detail) most often go undetected when policing Westchester's Bee-Line Bus System. Plainclothes officers address the concerns of bus drivers and passengers by blending in with bus patrons to enforce quality-of-life violations. These problems include disorderly conduct, graffiti and the use of drugs and alcohol in buses and around transportation centers and bus stops.

## COMMUNICATIONS UNIT

The Communications Unit of the Patrol Services Division provides the critical lifeline of communications between officers and County Police headquarters. The unit's members are the first voice the public hears when calling for help. Communications is an integral part of all aspects of the Patrol function, and the communication officers are adept at prioritizing calls and dispatching officers to people who need help. In addition to communicating with patrol officers, civilian and police, Communications personnel field a variety of calls from the public at all hours, giving information on road closures and vehicle impounds and receiving information on criminal activities, medical cases, motor vehicle accidents, suspicious activity and roadway conditions. Communications officers facilitate a constant flow of information and coordinate police, fire, and emergency medical services, and Department of Transportation and tow company responses. In 2021, WCPD Communications Operators handled almost 130,000 calls for service from the public, including 21,099 emergency calls via 911.





## ASSISTING MUNICIPALITIES

The PSD is often called on to assist Westchester's municipal police departments in a variety of ways. From assistance on vehicle stops to emergency crowd control, the PSD continues to provide officers when requested. Breath Test Operators (used to process DWI arrests), Drug Recognition Experts, Accident Investigators and Accident Reconstruction experts are examples of specialized PSD officers consistently requested to assist other departments. In addition, as the guardians of the parkway system, PSD officers are usually at an advantage to intercept suspects fleeing from local crime scenes as the parkways are always an attractive means of escape. In 2021, our department provided more than 50,000 hours of support to local jurisdictions.



## PUBLIC SAFETY EMERGENCY FORCE

The Public Safety Emergency Force (PSEF) is a volunteer, fully trained, peace officer contingent of the Department of Public Safety. The PSEF, formerly known as the Sheriff's Emergency Force, has a proud history that dates back to 1918. During World War II, PSEF members assisted in guarding county office buildings and the reservoir system properties throughout Westchester. In 1950, the PSEF was reorganized from a wartime civil defense unit into a peacetime emergency police reserve organization. Today, its officers are sworn part-time deputy sheriffs of the Department. The PSEF's principle mission is to provide assistance to Westchester's many municipalities and police agencies in responding to emergencies or special events. In 2021, the Public Safety Emergency Force was deployed 53 times and logged more than 5,000 man-hours rendering assistance to local municipalities throughout the county.

# SPECIAL OPERATIONS DIVISION

- Aviation Unit
- Emergency Services Unit
- Environmental Security Unit
- Hazardous Devices Unit
- Canine Teams
- Marine Unit
- Special Response Team



Chief Inspector  
James Luciano

The unique and specialized resources of the Special Operations Division are utilized to support both the Department of Public Safety and local law enforcement in Westchester and provide Counter-Terrorism mitigation and response.

## AVIATION UNIT

The Aviation Unit provides assistance to all emergency service disciplines, including, but not limited to, police, fire, EMS and emergency management throughout Westchester County and the surrounding region.

Members of the Department of Public Safety and other police departments throughout the region have become very familiar and accustomed to working with air support, thus enhancing the overall efficiency and effectiveness of the unit.

The primary focus of the Aviation Unit is to provide direct air support to police officers on the ground. This increases criminal apprehensions, assists with search and rescue, facilitates traffic management, controls large-scale public events, facilitates patrol and off-road enforcement of remote county properties, enhances homeland security and critical infrastructure patrols and provides an increased level of fire protection.



Aviation preparing to drop water on a fire.



Police Officer pilots maintain FAA commercial pilot certificates and train regularly to perform the highly technical missions required of airborne law enforcement. Two pilots are FAA Certified Flight Instructors (CFI) and have expanded the training capabilities of all Unit members. Additionally, all Unit pilots hold an FAA Remote Small Unmanned Aerial System certificate. Other police officers serve as Tactical Flight Officers (TFOs) who operate the myriad of specialized onboard equipment including cameras, radios, computers, thermal imager and surveillance gear. The Unit is very fortunate to have a sworn member who is an FAA licensed aircraft mechanic holding ratings in Airframe and Power Plant and is also an FAA licensed inspector (IA). He is able to perform most of the routine maintenance and inspections required on the helicopters. His position has greatly reduced the annual costs attributed to mandatory maintenance and repairs.

The Unit utilizes an array of specialized technology for missions that include surveillance, aerial photography, fire suppression, video downlink, infrared searches, external load operations, radiation detection, rescues, cargo movement and personnel and/or specialized equipment insertion.

Support for fire departments throughout Westchester County and beyond is accomplished by utilizing the helicopters as a command and control platform and for direct fire suppression using “Bambi- Buckets” to drop large volumes of water. This is especially helpful at remote or hard-to-reach fire scenes.

Vehicle pursuits and suspect searches are inherently unpredictable and quite dangerous, so the use of a helicopter during pursuits and perimeter containment dramatically improves overall safety and success and undoubtedly acts as a force multiplier. From the aerial vantage point, an aircrew can track and maintain visual contact of fleeing vehicles and suspects, enabling ground units to slow down, thus protecting themselves and the general public.

During perimeter containment, the crew is able to quickly search large areas and limit the chances that suspects will evade capture by ground units. This unique tactical advantage was demonstrated regularly in 2021 when the Aviation Unit was directly involved in the arrests of 70 suspects and responded to 530 missions and 13,006 specific incidents.



**Westchester County Police helicopter inserting members of the Special Response Team.**

# HAZARDOUS DEVICES UNIT

The Hazardous Devices Unit (HDU), known more informally as the Bomb Squad, is one of only 13 bomb squads in the State of New York. The unit is accredited by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the National Bomb Squad Commanders Advisory Board.

Comprised of seven highly skilled and exceptionally trained technicians, the unit responds to calls for service that include possible improvised explosive devices, bomb threats, military ordinance, volatile chemicals, deteriorated explosives and dangerous fireworks. HDU utilizes specialized equipment to approach, inspect, disarm and/or remove all types of explosive devices. HDU members are also adept at examining explosive devices in order to identify persons responsible for manufacturing them.

Unit members are trained in advanced post-blast investigation and can assist local jurisdictions in evidence gathering and crime scene processing. A considerable amount of time is spent analyzing data generated from explosive device investigations both locally and elsewhere through the U.S. Bomb Data Center.

HDU also assists the FBI and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives in providing regional counter- terrorism training to police and other first responders.



HDU conducting robot training.





**In 2021, HDU responded on 49 operational deployments involving:**

- Suspicious packages
- Bomb threats
- Fireworks recovery
- Explosives or military ordinance, and
- Improvised explosive devices.



## SPECIAL RESPONSE TEAM

The Special Response Team (SRT) is a group of highly trained, specially equipped police officers who respond to emergencies requiring advanced police tactics and technologies. The team is deployed for tactical operations that involve armed-active violence situations, high-risk warrant service, dignitary protection and escorts, hostage rescue situations, armed barricaded subjects and other incidents requiring specialized weapons, tactics or equipment. As with all services offered by the County Police, the SRT is available to assist and support all law enforcement agencies in Westchester County.

SRT members train regularly in order to remain tactically proficient with their skills. An integral component of SRT training is cross-training sessions with other tactical teams as well as the Canine teams, Aviation Unit, Marine Unit and Hazardous Devices Unit.



In 2021, the NTOA recognized the WCPD SRT for top performance for physical fitness qualifications.

SRT also has a Precision Rifle/Marksman element that consists of marksmen/observers, whose primary function is to augment the Special Response Team. This provides real-time intelligence in critical situations by deploying to strategic observation points of premises and utilizing optical enhancement devices. The team provides cover and operational support to SRT officers and other special response personnel as they mobilize during a deployment.



WCPD SRT members at the NYS Preparedness Center



## 2021 YTD SRT callouts

Armed Persons - 8

Barricades/EDP confined -4

Search Warrant/Arrest Warrant Executions -3

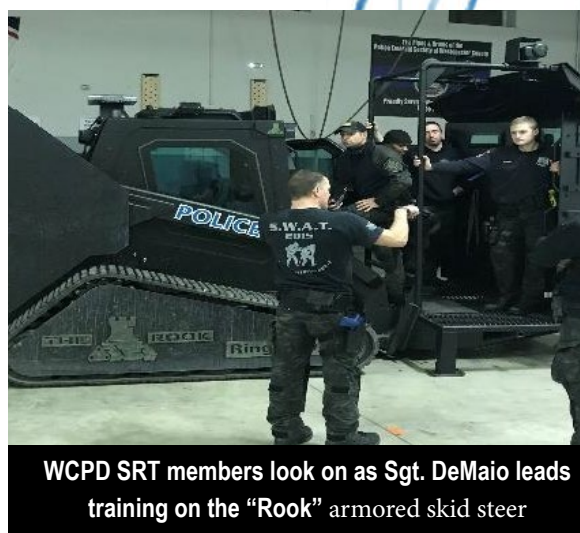
Dignitary Protection/Escorts -4

Critical Infrastructure Key Resource Patrols – 4

OJ Assist for Mass Gatherings -1

Suspect Searches=6

Building Searches = 0



WCPD SRT members look on as Sgt. DeMaio leads training on the “Rook” armored skid steer

## HOSTAGE NEGOTIATION TEAM

The Hostage Negotiation Team (HNT) consists of police officers trained by the Federal Bureau of investigation and a police psychologist who serves as a mental health consultant in negotiation techniques. The purpose of the HNT is to intervene in crisis situations and to minimize the potential for loss of life by attempting to resolve incidents using negotiation skills. Generally, the HNT is deployed wherever there may be an armed, barricaded subject within the County’s jurisdiction. The HNT has also been called upon by other law enforcement agencies requiring this specialized service.

The HNT conducts joint training exercises with the FBI and is often deployed together with our Special Response Team in the execution of high-risk search warrants or arrests where a hostage or armed barricade situation may evolve.

## CANINE TEAMS (K-9)

The Department of Public Safety has 15 canine teams. Each team is comprised of a police officer handler and a specially trained canine.

The teams provide the Department with the ability to detect virtually all types of explosives, a wide range of narcotics, accelerants used in arsons, electronic storage devices and the ability to track criminal suspects or lost people. Each team is trained for a single law enforcement purpose (explosives, arson, narcotics, tracking or electronic device).

In 2021, these teams performed more than 2,300 searches; seized significant quantities of illegal drugs and USC associated with criminal activity; tracked and apprehended criminal suspects and located lost or missing persons some of whom were vulnerable or endangered; and detected suspected cases of arson.



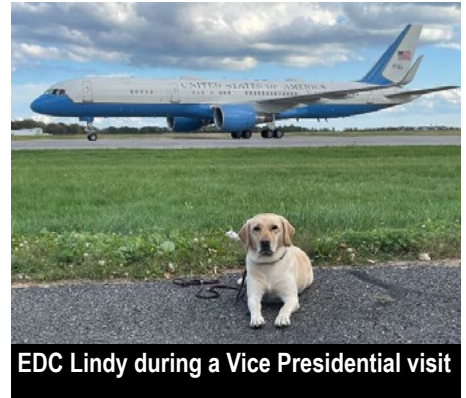
## 2021 Canine Unit calls for service:

Narcotics K9 - 95

Tracking K9 - 115

Arson K9 - 57

Explosive K9 – 2,112



EDC Lindy during a Vice Presidential visit

## MARINE UNIT

The Marine Unit provides primary maritime safety and security coverage and services along the Westchester County side of the Hudson River as well as secondary maritime support in the Long Island Sound to assist local agencies and the United States Coast Guard. The unit members are highly trained to handle a variety of emergencies both on and off the water. All members are NYS EMTs, have extensive HAZMAT technician and technical rescue training.

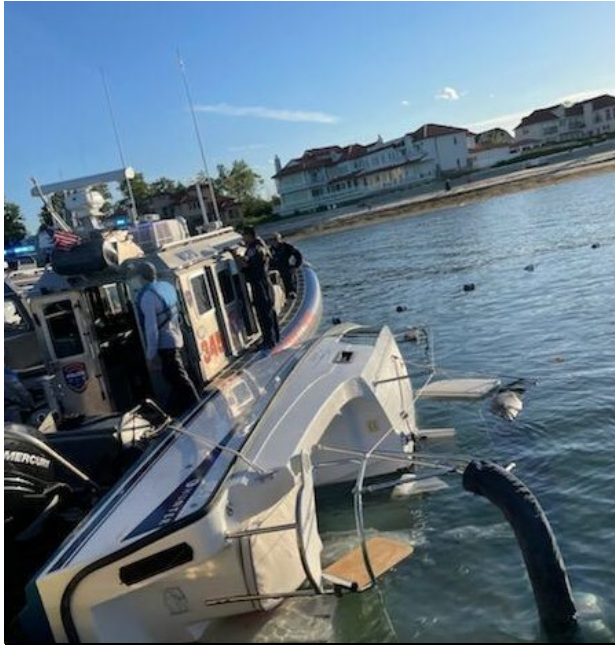


The unit maintains a highly visible law enforcement presence as part of its effort to enhance boater safety, protect critical infrastructure, monitor fireworks displays and community celebrations, and provides waterfront security for communities along the shoreline. In addition to its traditional law enforcement duties, the Marine Unit conducts environmental patrols and handles most waterway hazardous material spills.

Due to the high caliber of Maritime Safety and Security personnel at WCPD, members assist NYS with instructing at the yearly Marine Patrol Vessel Operators Course.

During 2021, the Marine Unit logged over 8,200 hours of Marine Law Enforcement activities. Officers issued 86 summonses for violations of the NYS Navigation and Vehicle and Traffic Laws. The Marine Unit conducted over 3,800 counter-terrorism patrols/inspections around critical infrastructure including the Mario M. Cuomo Bridge, Indian Point nuclear energy center, New York Waterways ferry boats and terminals, fuel terminals, County sewage treatment plants and parks, and MTA and CSX railroad lines.

The unit interdicted 13 Foreign Flagged boats as they transited county waterways to ensure that the vessels were in compliance with all laws and were free from contraband and illegal persons. This was a significant decrease over past years and again attributed to the COVID 19 pandemic with cross border travel.



WCPD Marine 3 works with Sea Tow Long Island Sound to recover capsized vessel in Larchmont

The Marine Unit also conducted 119 search and rescue missions (SARS) for vessels and/or swimmers in distress and assisted 32 disabled vessels. It also assisted local fire departments with fire suppression at three coastal brush fires and three vessel fires. The unit conducted 91 vessel safety inspections for boaters to ensure their boats were seaworthy and in compliance with state and federal navigation laws.



## EMERGENCY SERVICE UNIT

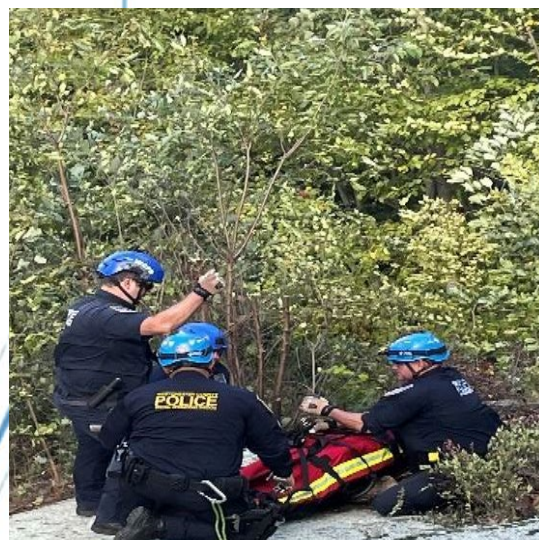
The primary function of the Emergency Service Unit (ESU) is to provide specialized assistance and support to the department and local jurisdictions during incidents which may be beyond the normal scope of uniformed patrol duties. These incidents may include, but are not limited to, emergency medical/first aid needs, Aviation/ Marine/HDU support, persons suffering from mental health

crisis, barricaded subjects, technical rescues, motor vehicle accident/ trapped persons extractions, hazardous material incidents, animal control, natural disasters or other serious incidents such as explosions, civil disorder control and public demonstrations.





ESU Officers assist local DEA Office with extracting large quantities of drugs from steel containers



ESU members preparing an injured hiker for WCPD Helicopter hoist in Pound Ridge Park

### 2021 Emergency Service Unit Activity:

Personal injury motor vehicle accidents -131  
Property Damage MV accidents -40  
Motor Vehicle extrications – 17  
Emotionally Disturbed Persons - 67  
Medical Aided Cases –98 Animal Control Cases- 30  
Technical Rescues –7 K9 Tracking assist - 56  
HDU Assists- 8 Marine Unit assists -18  
HAZMAT Calls – 15 Vehicle Lockouts - 42  
Scene Support (AI's, crime scenes) –113  
Tree Removals - 35  
Building/open Area Searches – 10  
Elevator Rescues -3  
Assists other Jurisdictions - 60



# OFFICE OF THE FIRST DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PISTOL LICENSE UNIT



D.C. Terrance Raynor

The Pistol License Unit serves the County by processing and investigating applicants for concealed carry pistol licenses, dealer licenses and gunsmith licenses. The Pistol License Unit also has an ongoing program to locate pistol license holders who have allowed their licenses to lapse. Investigative efforts in 2021 resulted in the closing of a large number of “delinquent” license cases.

PISTOL LICENSE UNIT ACTIVITY				
	2018	2019	2020	2021
Original Applications	775	1124	706	1316
Amended Applications	393	384	290	213
Recertification Applications	1444	6429	3229	2029
Criminal Record Inquiry	3292	6987	7397	4118
House Inspection Orders	139	166	288	65
Weapons Secured	222	301	423	223
County Attorney Referrals	69	54	55	31

## CIVIL UNIT

The Civil Unit is a mandated function of the Office of the Sheriff and is responsible for the service and execution of civil orders, judgments and mandates emanating from the State Supreme Court, the County Court and local courts in Westchester. The Civil Unit also serves as the enforcement arm of other state and federal jurisdictions where service is required within Westchester County. The Unit is accredited by the New York State Sheriffs' Association and is located at 110 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., Room L-217, in White Plains.

### The Civil Unit processes the following actions:

- Income and property executions;
- Service and enforcement of Family Court orders;
- Service of summons complaints, subpoenas and petitions;
- Civil arrests;
- Enforcement of orders of seizure, attachments and warrants of eviction.
- Execution and enforcement of other court orders.

The Civil Unit in 2021 collected more than \$9.7 million in judgments and fees of which more than \$676,000 in fees was turned over to the Westchester County Finance Department.

CIVIL UNIT ACTIVITY				
	2018	2019	2020	2021
Summons/Evictions/Arrests	1917	1430	607	658
Executions (Income & Property)	4224	4697	2489	2957
Attachments/Seizures	10	4	4	5
Total Civil Process	6151	6131	3100	3620

# WESTCHESTER COUNTY TAXI & LIMOUSINE COMMISSION

The Westchester County Taxi & Limousine Commission (WCTLC) is responsible for overseeing the licensing and regulation of the for-hire industry in Westchester County. Its mission is to provide safe and quality livery services for the riding public.


The commission is comprised of 11 members appointed by the County Executive and the Board of Legislators. The Chair/Chief Executive Officer is responsible for overseeing day-to-day operations. The Department serves as the enforcement arm of the WCTLC. County police officers inspect base stations, conduct safety and compliance checks, investigate complaints, assist with applicant screening, conduct prom safety checkpoints and patrol the roadways to ensure compliance with the County's For-Hire Vehicle Law.



**Leandra Eustache,  
Chairperson/CEO**



Local governments and municipalities are taking advantage of WCTLC shared-service process for the licensing of taxi drivers. Local benefits include cost savings, decreased liability and passenger safety. To date, municipal taxi driver licensing by the WCTLC includes the following municipalities: Bedford, Croton-on-Hudson, Dobbs Ferry, Irvington, Mount Pleasant, Pleasantville, Port Chester, Tarrytown and Tuckahoe.

 To further enhance its renewal process, WCTLTC launched the online driver application renewal system to offer an alternative to renewing by mail or at the service window. Renewing online is quick and drivers may track the progress of their application by logging into their online account. Renewing driver permits online improves the turnaround time for a renewed permit and shortens waiting periods to receive their new permit.

# OPERATION SAFE CHILD

Operation SAFE CHILD was created by the Governor's Office to raise awareness about child safety. Using equipment that contains the latest digital fingerprint technology and high resolution photography, officers produce a SAFE CHILD ID Card. Each card contains a child's name, biographical information, physical description, fingerprint images and a photograph. The card is produced within minutes and is provided to parents at no cost. In the event a child is missing, this card can be presented to law enforcement immediately.



Since the data can also be stored in a digitized file, it is available to be transmitted immediately to other law enforcement agencies, to assist Amber Alert notification and to the media to aid in investigations.

Since the inception of this program by this agency in 2005, more than 10,000 children have been processed and issued ID cards.

# SUPPORT SERVICES BUREAU

- Fleet Management
- Facilities Management
- Capital Projects
- Grant Management Unit
- Property Control & Evidence
- Records Unit
- Inspections Unit



Captain William McGuinness

## FLEET AND FACILITIES

### FLEET

The Department fleet comprises more than 260 standard police and specialty vehicles. During 2021, fleet personnel coordinated an inspections and preventive maintenance program of all Department vehicles and tactical equipment.

### FACILITIES

During 2021, Facility Management identified and made corrections to several work areas which were in need of interior upgrading, realignment and expansion. Facility maintenance staff continuously work to maintain a clean, safe and healthy work environment.

### CAPITAL PROJECTS

The Westchester County Capital Budget provides funds for long-term physical improvements, such as the acquisition, construction, or improvement of buildings and for the purchase of certain types of equipment. The Department of Public Safety has proposed and identified a number of projects that enhance its ability to provide optimum police and public safety services to the residents of Westchester County.

Long-range Department planning projects are delineated in the heading 'Buildings, Land & Miscellaneous' category, and include the following projects:

- BPS15 – Renovation of Public Safety Facility in Hawthorne.
- BPS28 – Emergency Generator Replacement, Public Safety Headquarters, Hawthorne.
- BPS29 – New SOD Vehicle Storage Facility, Valhalla Campus.
- BPS30 – Impound Yard Upgrades, Public Safety Headquarters, Hawthorne.



## GRANTS MANAGEMENT UNIT

The Grants Management Unit is responsible for the management and administration of eligible grant programs for the WCDPS. The grants include Homeland Security Grant Funds received from the Federal government through the New York State Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Services. These grants include the Urban Area Security Initiative, State Homeland Security Program, State Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program, as well as several targeted grant programs such as the Bomb Squad Initiative, Tactical Team and Explosive Detection Canine grants. The Grants Management Unit also is responsible for the management and administration of grants obtained through the Bureau of Justice Assistance as well as several COVID relief and legislative assistance grants.

In 2021, the GMU secured federal grant funding which helped to acquire and sustain counter terrorism equipment for the Aviation Unit, Marine Unit and Hazardous Devices Unit and also helped fund counter-terrorism training for police officers. The unit also administers grant funding for our Counter-Terrorism Zone 3 law enforcement partner agencies to fund training, exercises, equipment purchases and Critical Infrastructure and Key Resource Patrols.

In 2021, the Department of Public Safety actively sought and obtained Federal, State, Local and other grant funds totaling \$13,290,892.00. These funds were utilized to support our core mission and enhance the safety and quality of life for all people living, working, visiting or doing recreational activities in Westchester County.

These Grant Funds funded the following programs: Driving While Intoxicated (STOP-DWI), Forensics and Aid to Labs Accreditation, Parkway Patrol, Westchester County Drug Enforcement Administration Task Force, Westchester County Police Narcotics Unit, Westchester County Police General Investigations Unit, Town of Cortlandt Patrol, Town/Village of Mount Kisco Patrol, Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Programs, Bomb Squad Initiative, Explosive Detection Canine Team, Operation Impact, Firearm Lab Capacity Enhancement Initiative Program, Buffer Zone Protection Plan and Traffic Safety.

## PROPERTY CONTROL UNIT

The Property Control Unit (PCU) receives, maintains and disposes of all evidence and property recovered by members of the Department. This evidence and property includes narcotics, weapons, money, vehicles and other items of all description. Found property is safeguarded until it can be returned to the rightful owner; when no owner can be located, the property is turned over to the Bureau of Purchase & Supply for auction.

In 2021, intake was up 14.8%. Vehicles impounded to HQ were up 16.9%. In actual numbers, PCU took in 1,524 items of evidence/property during 2021 while destroying or releasing 1,230 of items no longer needed to be stored.



## INSPECTIONS UNIT

The Inspections Unit conducts ongoing reviews and audits of Department operations and resources in order to determine whether the Department's policies, procedures and resources are being properly implemented and utilized, and whether these are adequate to attain the Department's goals and objectives. The Inspections Unit addresses any deficiencies in integrity, training, morale or supervision and helps the Department's operating line units plan their line inspections.

Additional duties of the Inspections Unit include maintaining oversight of the Department's Policy Manager System, the Annual Personnel Evaluations, the Language Access Plan, as well as serving as liaison to the Westchester County District Attorney's Office. The Inspections Unit also serves as the Department's Workplace Violence representative and the Department Vehicle Accident Coordinator.

## RECORDS UNIT

The Records Unit is the primary repository of police reports and is responsible for the processing, storage, retrieval and effective management of police records. In 2021, these records consisted of 3,442 accident reports, 2,719 uniform traffic summonses, including appearance tickets and marine summonses generated by police officers in the field.



The Records Unit prepared 1087 Arrest case files for trials in local courts, scheduled 1,509 court appearances for police officers, completed 1140 vehicle impound releases, submitted 1123 supporting depositions to local courts, and processed bail in only one arrest. It received and processed 499 Temporary Orders of Protection, 244 warrants for vehicle and traffic violations and Local Law violations.

In addition, the Records Unit completed 847 background checks for the purpose of employment from other agencies and other county departments, prepared 423 Freedom of Information Law responses and collected \$47,655 in fees related to the processing and release of accident reports to members of the public.

## ACCREDITATION PROGRAM

The Department was reaccredited in December 2017 by the New York State Law Enforcement Accreditation Council for a five-year period. Accreditation covers 133 standards within the areas of administration, operations and training. The Department of Public Safety is proud to have achieved and maintained accreditation status since 1992.

# TRAINING DIVISION / POLICE ACADEMY



The Department of Public Safety operates the New York State Zone 3 Police Training Academy, which serves the law enforcement communities of Westchester and Putnam Counties.

The primary function of the Police Academy is to provide entry level and in-service training to police and peace officers within Zone 3. The training is designed to develop or enhance specialized skills for recruit and veteran police and peace officers.

The Police Academy, although primarily staffed with police officers from the Department of Public Safety, regularly utilizes certified police instructors from local law enforcement agencies within Zone 3. This collaborative effort enables the Police Academy to use local experts and provide superior training opportunities to law enforcement officers throughout Westchester and the surrounding area.



2021

# POLICE ACADEMY TRAINING

Advanced ALERRT/ATRIC instructor  
Criminal Investigator Course  
Motor Vehicle Collision Investigation  
Special Response Team Training  
Initial Firearms Course for Peace Officers  
Basic Course for Police Officers  
Basic Shield  
CPR  
FBI Stabilization Training  
HIDTA Undercover Operations  
HR Police Agility Test  
Instructor Development Course  
Standardized Field Sobriety Course  
Project Lifesaver Training  
Article 35  
SRT Annual In-Service Training  
TASER Operator and Instructor Training  
Covert Entry Training  
FARO 3D Scene Modeling  
Crime Scene Training  
Property and Evidence Collection  
Alternate Photography Light Source  
NYS Course in Police Supervision  
Patrol Rifle Qualification  
Aerosol Subject Restraint (OC) Instructor  
Law Enforcement Bicycle Course  
Collection and Packing of Impression Evidence  
DCJS Commercial Vehicle Enforcement  
Domestic Violence Instructor  
Tactical Emergency Casualty Care  
Basic Crime Analyst Course  
FBI LEEDA Trilogy  
NTOA SWAT Commander Course  
Tactics in Traffic  
Effectively Responding to Emotional Crisis  
Evidence Photography Workshop  
Heroin Overdose Investigations

DCJS Search Warrant Course  
Officer Resilience Course  
Tactical Emergency Casualty Care  
Automated External Defibrillator  
Basic Course for Peace Officers  
School Resource Officer  
Basic Pistol Combat Course  
SWAT Operator Course  
Evidence Photography Course  
Field Training Officer  
HIDTA Gang Prosecutions  
Human Trafficking  
Criminal Investigator Course  
Personal Radiation Detector  
Breath Analysis Operator  
Seasonal Park Ranger Training  
STC Incident Management  
Unified In-Service  
WCPD New-Hire  
DWI Documentation and Testing  
FEMA Crowd Control  
Media Relations and Social Media  
Intergraph Dispatch System  
Crisis Intervention  
TI Scenario Building  
ATF E-Trace Ballistics  
RADAR/LIDAR  
Electronic Measuring Devices  
Commercial Vehicle Laws  
Cell Phone Investigations  
Disability Awareness for LE  
Principled Policing  
Interview and Interrogation  
Physical Fitness Instructor  
Rescue Medic Certification  
Data Analysis and Policing Training

In 2021, the Police Academy fully integrated the Principled Policing Program as part of its in-service program and recruit curriculum. This program covers a multitude of topics including, but not limited to, procedural justice, implicit bias, community policing, community engagement, ethical policing, transparency, and the impact of the history of policing in different communities.

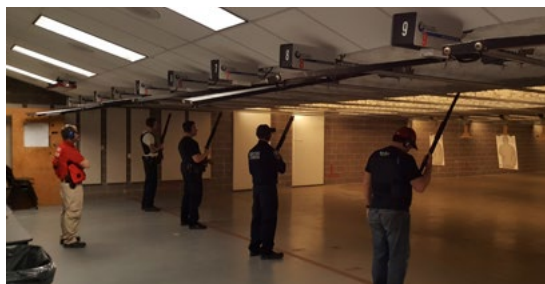
The Police Academy completed its 11th full year of the Unified In-Service Training program. A total of 88 sessions were conducted, training a total of 1251 officers from 36 Westchester police agencies and 4 Putnam County agencies.

Continuing its initiatives to reduce local agency training costs and to better equip agencies to work together during joint initiatives and mutual aid responses, the following topics were covered in the Unified In-Service Training Program: First Aid, CPR, AED, Procedural Justice/Principled Policing, Implicit Bias, Mental Health/Crisis Intervention, Taser, Firearms Requalification, Defensive Tactics, Legal Updates, Active Shooter Response and Use of Force, and de-escalation.



## FIRING RANGE

- An 18-position, 25-yard indoor firing range;
- Automated lighting and target system allows for an infinite variety of shooting scenarios;
- Classroom with audio-visual system seats up to 60 students;
- 5,625 law enforcement personnel were trained at this facility in 2020. Those trained included members of the Departments of Public Safety, Correction and Probation, the District Attorney's Office and numerous local police agencies.



# FINANCIAL AND HUMAN RESOURCES

The Financial & Human Resources Unit's (FHR) mission is to enhance the performance of the Department of Public Safety by ensuring that administrative functions and support services are performed effectively and efficiently. Responsibilities of this Unit include:

- Preparing and managing the Department's operating and capital budgets;
- Overseeing personnel and payroll functions;
- Processing all requisitions for approved equipment items and supplies;
- Developing and managing Department contracts and grants; and
- Managing financial concerns.

The FHR Director advises the Commissioner in the aforementioned matters and acts as liaison with other County departments. The Director is also instrumental in developing new initiatives and projects within this agency and with other County departments. FHR staff members are also involved in the implementation of new proprietary public safety software applications.

Department of Public Safety's revenue is generated through police services that are provided to the Westchester County Airport, Westchester Community College, various school districts for providing School Resource Officers and overtime reimbursement from construction details etc. Additional interdepartmental revenue comes from specific police services for individual County departments, such as providing patrol services in County parks, bus transportation enforcement and security at Department of Social Services district offices and other County facilities.

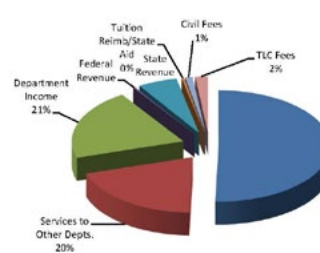
The County's Taxi & Limousine Commission generates departmental revenue from fees collected for the annual licensing of limousines, base stations, drivers and vehicles in Westchester County.

Additional revenue is generated from photographic reproduction and subpoena fees charged to individuals requiring such services. Fees are established based upon an hourly rate for each service, plus mileage and other costs that are incurred by the request. The Department also leases space to commercial firms on police radio towers and collects civil fees from the enforcement of court orders and civil judgments.

Finally, the Department of Public Safety receives federal and state aid to fund specific law enforcement initiatives and programs. Federal aid helps to support the Drug Enforcement Agency and Fugitive Task Forces. State aid helps support parkway patrol, seat belt enforcement and the Highway Emergency Local Patrol (HELP) Program.

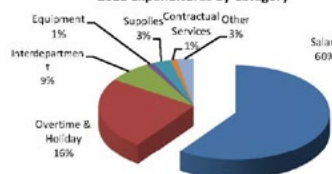
**2021 Budget Overview**

**Revenues**



Funding Source	Dollars (in 000's)
Tax Levy	\$32,547
Services to Other Depts.	\$12,701
Department Income	\$13,274
Federal Revenue	\$174
State Revenue	\$3,677
Tuition Reimb / State Aid	\$238
Civil Fees	\$677
TLC Fees	\$1,193
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$64,481</b>

**2021 Expenditures by Category**



Category	Dollars (in 000's)
Salary	\$38,614
Overtime & Holiday	\$15,786
Interdepartmental	\$4,804
Equipment	\$796
Supplies	\$1,892
Contractual Services	\$721
Other	\$1,868
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$64,481</b>



# WESTCHESTER COUNTY OFFICE OF DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION AND STOP-DWI

The STOP-DWI (Special Traffic Options Program for Driving While Intoxicated) was enacted by the New York State Legislature in 1981 for the purposes of empowering county governments to coordinate local efforts to reduce alcohol and other drug-related traffic crashes within the context of a comprehensive and financially self-sustaining alcohol and highway safety program.

The Program is based on the philosophy that innovative local efforts are the key to solving impaired driving problems.



Patricia McCarthy Tomassi  
Office of Drug Abuse  
Prevention & STOP-DWI

## OVERVIEW

Since 1982, the Westchester County Office of Drug Abuse Prevention & STOP-DWI Program has existed to educate the community regarding the dangers of impaired driving. The Office coordinates local efforts to reduce alcohol and drug related issues by developing programs and strategies as well as providing funds to organizations engaged in activities related to alcohol and other drug-related traffic safety issues.



Funding for the STOP-DWI Program comes entirely from court-imposed fines collected for alcohol and drug related traffic offenses occurring in its jurisdiction. No tax dollars are used to support these activities. The program's self-sufficiency allows it to operate freely of local budget constraints, while helping to maintain highly visible law enforcement campaigns, support prosecution and probation efforts, lobby for tougher laws to deal with DWI offenders while, at the same time, develop an education and public awareness campaign to keep the issue in front of the public.

Westchester County's STOP-DWI Program develops and coordinates a comprehensive DWI countermeasures program that places a priority on general deterrence and the prevention of drunk driving through the increased certainty of arrest and conviction. To that end, STOP-DWI funds extra police patrols that are dedicated to DWI enforcement. STOP-DWI also provides specialized testing equipment and offers training for the law enforcement and community agencies as well. The District Attorney's office receives funds to hire an additional prosecutor to specialize in DWI cases. STOP-DWI also supports the Westchester County Probation Department to deal with recidivist DWI offenders.

In addition, STOP-DWI funds public awareness campaigns in order to heighten awareness and educate the public about the dangers of drunk driving, the increased certainty of arrest and harsh penalties one faces if convicted.

# ENFORCEMENT

With the focus placed on deterrence, the STOP-DWI Program, through its enforcement task force, funds highly visible law enforcement campaigns that use specially marked patrol vehicles along with extra police patrols that are dedicated to DWI enforcement. The STOP-DWI program also enters into agreements with 41 local municipal police departments in the county to fund extra DWI patrols and provide enforcement equipment when needed.

Regular training sessions are offered to the law enforcement community at the Westchester County Police Academy. Efforts are being made to streamline the DWI/DWAI arrest process and since 2004, every police recruit taught at the Westchester County Police Academy is trained in Standardized Field Sobriety Testing. Supported by the STOP-DWI Program, this, as well as other refresher and recertification courses such as ARIDE (Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement), BAO (Breath Alcohol Operator Certification), and DRE (Drug Recognition Expert) are offered on a regular basis to ensure the officers' skills are up to date. In addition, training on current trends in drug recognition, conducting traffic stops and court testimony are offered to all law enforcement personnel.

In 2021, Westchester County police officers made 201 DWI arrests. That figure was up substantially from 74 in 2020, when there was a significant reduction in traffic volume and enforcement due to the Covid-19 pandemic that year. The County Police work closely with local municipalities to ensure the county roads are monitored and the roads are safe. Since 2012, the STOP-DWI Program has received a grant from New York Governor's Traffic Safety Committee and the STOP-DWI Foundation, to conduct DWI enforcement-related high visibility checkpoints and road patrols. These special details target enforcement of DWI laws to increase highway safety and further reduce the incidence of drunk and impaired driving.



## PROM 2021 DETAIL

Working with the county police officers assigned to the Taxi and Limousine Commission, special emphasis is given to the prom and graduation seasons as extra patrols are put on the road to ensure that young people are alcohol and drug free and are kept safe. The monitoring ensured that in 2021, over 10,000 students from 90 schools arrived at their proms safely.

## PUBLIC EDUCATION

STOP-DWI sponsors education and public awareness campaigns to keep the issue out in front of the public. These educational programs heighten awareness and educate the public about the dangers of drunk driving, the increased certainty of arrest and harsh penalties one faces if convicted.



# PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE

The Public Information Office is headed by a civilian Director/Public Information Officer (PIO) who is the Department's liaison to the media and other governmental agencies. The PIO is responsible for responding to media inquiries, coordinating press conferences and public events, assisting police personnel with media relations at crime scenes and other field locations, and serving as the Department liaison on public relations matters.



**PIO Kieran O'Leary**

The PIO highlights the Department's significant initiatives and achievements, and disseminates accurate and timely information through media contacts, press releases, the Department website, social media, a mobile app and the annual report. The PIO also makes department commanders and members available to the media on a wide range of topics. The PIO also coordinates video production for documentaries and news stories of special interest, assists police personnel in developing promotional materials, and helps maintain and update the Department website.

In addition, the PIO is a New York State-certified Police Academy instructor on media relations and also conducts PIO and media-related training for command staff personnel at police and fire agencies in Westchester.

## SOCIAL MEDIA

The PIO oversees a robust social media program that utilizes multiple social media platforms to engage the public. Information is regularly shared on the Department's activities and community relations initiatives.

These platforms and the search terms to find them are as follows:

 [\*\*facebook.com/WCPolice\*\*](https://facebook.com/WCPolice)

 [\*\*twitter.com/wcpdny\*\*](https://twitter.com/wcpdny)

 [\*\*instagram.com/wcpdny\*\*](https://instagram.com/wcpdny)

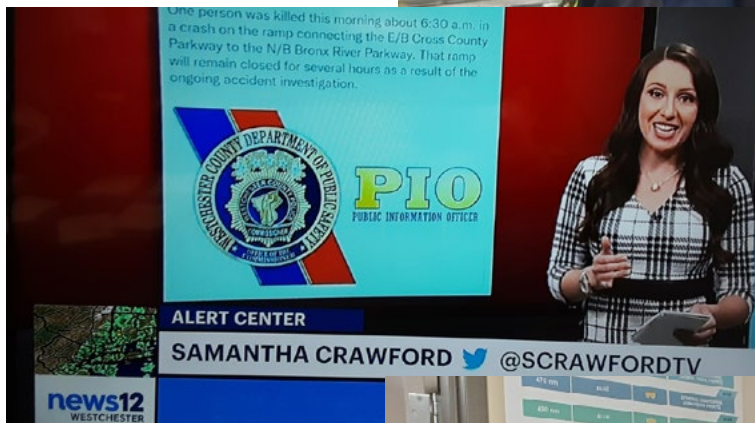
 [\*\*youtube.com/channel/\*\*](https://youtube.com/channel/)

In addition, the Department also has a mobile app that is available for download to iPhones and Android devices. Find it by entering Westchester County PD in the app store search bar.



## IN THE MEDIA

As Westchester County is located in the nation's largest media market, the PIO received hundreds of media inquiries in 2021 from reporters from local media, New York City media and national media outlets. From breaking news stories to enterprise and feature stories, the Department of Public Safety was represented in a broad range of media coverage.





# IN MEMORIAM

## Westchester County Police Department Officers Who Have Given Their Lives in the Line of Duty

Deputy Sheriff Isaac Smith	1792
Police Officer Raymond Tehan	1925
Special Police Officer John Murphy	1928
Police Officer George Segnit	1929
Police Officer Clifton Cypher	1930
Police Officer Michael Erdley	1933
Police Officer Manuel Borgos	1938
Police Officer Reuben Conklin	1943
Police Officer Carlos Bishop	1946
Police Officer John Chabala	1948
Police Officer George Ruthven	1954
Police Officer Francis Bradley	1960
Police Officer James Groark	1966
Deputy Sheriff William Fitzgerald	1968
Police Officer John Gonda	1969
Deputy Sheriff Kieran Grant	1979
Police Officer Gary Stymiloski	1985
Sergeant Charles Rice Jr.	2009

# GOVERNING BODIES

George Latimer, Westchester County Executive  
Westchester County Board of Legislators

<b>Legislator</b>	<b>Legislative District</b>
Colin D. Smith (D)	Buchanan, Cortlandt, Peekskill, Yorktown
Erika L. Pierce (D)	Bedford, Lewisboro, Mount Kisco, North Salem, Pound Ridge, Somers
Margaret A. Cunzio (C)	Mount Pleasant, Pleasantville, North Castle
Vedat Gashi (D)	Somers, Yorktown, New Castle
Benjamin Boykin (D)	White Plains, Scarsdale, Harrison
Nancy E. Barr (D)	Harrison, Port Chester, Rye Brook
Catherine Parker (D)	Rye, Village and Town of Mamaroneck, Larchmont, New Rochelle
Jewell Williams Johnson (D)	Sleepy Hollow, Tarrytown, Greenburgh, Elmsford
Catherine Borgia, Chairwoman (D)	Briarcliff Manor, Cortlandt, Croton-on-Hudson, Town and Village of Ossining, Peekskill
Damon R. Maher (D)	Eastchester, New Rochelle, Tuckahoe
Terry Clements (D)	New Rochelle, Pelham, Pelham Manor
MaryJane Shimsky (D)	Irvington, Dobbs Ferry, Hastings-on-Hudson, Ardsley, Greenburgh
Tyrae Woodson-Samuels (D)	Mount Vernon (Part)
David J. Tubiolo (D)	Yonkers, Mount Vernon
James Nolan (R)	Yonkers, Bronxville
Christopher A. Johnson (D)	Yonkers
Jose I. Alvarado (D)	Yonkers

## **Department of Public Safety Police Board**

Richard G. Wishnie, Chairperson  
Peter D. Kamenstein  
Robert Tucker  
Fernando Mateo  
Paul Hood  
Carola Bracco  
Lori Belfiore  
Olney Reynolds  
Legislator Colin D. Smith (ex-officio member)







Westchester County Department of Public Safety

New York State Accredited Agency



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