

# 2012 Annual Report

## Westchester County Department of Public Safety



Westchester  
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**ROBERT P. ASTORINO**  
Westchester County Executive



**George N. Longworth**  
Commissioner-Sheriff

*On the front cover:*

*The Bearcat Armored Personnel Vehicle (left) and the Special  
Response Team Equipment Transport Vehicle*

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Robert P. Astorino  
County Executive

Department of Public Safety  
George N. Longworth  
Commissioner/Sheriff



## Message from the Commissioner

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In response to the economic downturn of recent years, the Department of Public Safety has worked very hard to develop strategies that are fiscally conservative and stretch every dollar. In 2012, through sound management and effective deployment of our resources, we continued to accomplish our core missions while reducing our reliance on the tax levy.

The good news financially is that federal and state funding to law enforcement has remained stable in recent years in the New York metropolitan area. We have been aggressive – and successful – in obtaining grant funding for critical programs and equipment.

In 2012, we were able to obtain a variety of vehicles and equipment that were fully grant-funded. Here is a quick snapshot of some of the important items that we obtained as a result of grant funding:

An interoperable radio communications system; radiation detection equipment; a radiation detection response vehicle; tactical vests; a license plate reader; a sophisticated camera system for the Marine Unit patrol boat; command vehicles for the Special Operations Division that enable us to respond to incidents involving Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosive materials; and radios, a robot and a response vehicle for the Hazardous Devices Unit.

In all, we received more than \$1.3 million in grants for equipment. This funding is critical to our participation in regional initiatives such as Secure the Cities and other homeland security efforts. Beyond that, these assets help us to keep the people of Westchester safe.

In addition, the reorganization that this Department implemented back in 2010 continues to pay dividends year after year. The changes we made then were permanent and resulted in the deployment of our personnel in the most cost-effective way.

By working harder and smarter, the members of our Department continue to get the job done. Our parkways continue to be safe for those who use them; accidents and accidents with injuries were down compared to the previous year.

Outside accreditation agencies also verify that we continue to meet the highest standards in law enforcement.

The Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) conducted a three-day visit to the Department of Public Safety in 2012, and conducted a top-to-bottom review of our operations. We are proud to say we were again accredited by DCJS – a distinction held only by about 25% of law enforcement agencies in the state. Our Civil Bureau, Forensic Investigation Unit and Digital Evidence section also hold prestigious accreditations from oversight agencies that focus on those specialized disciplines.

In addition, the Unified In-Service Training Program that was launched in 2010 became the first in-service training program in the state to be accredited by DCJS. In 2012, the program continued to grow, offering training to more officers and municipal departments than the previous year.

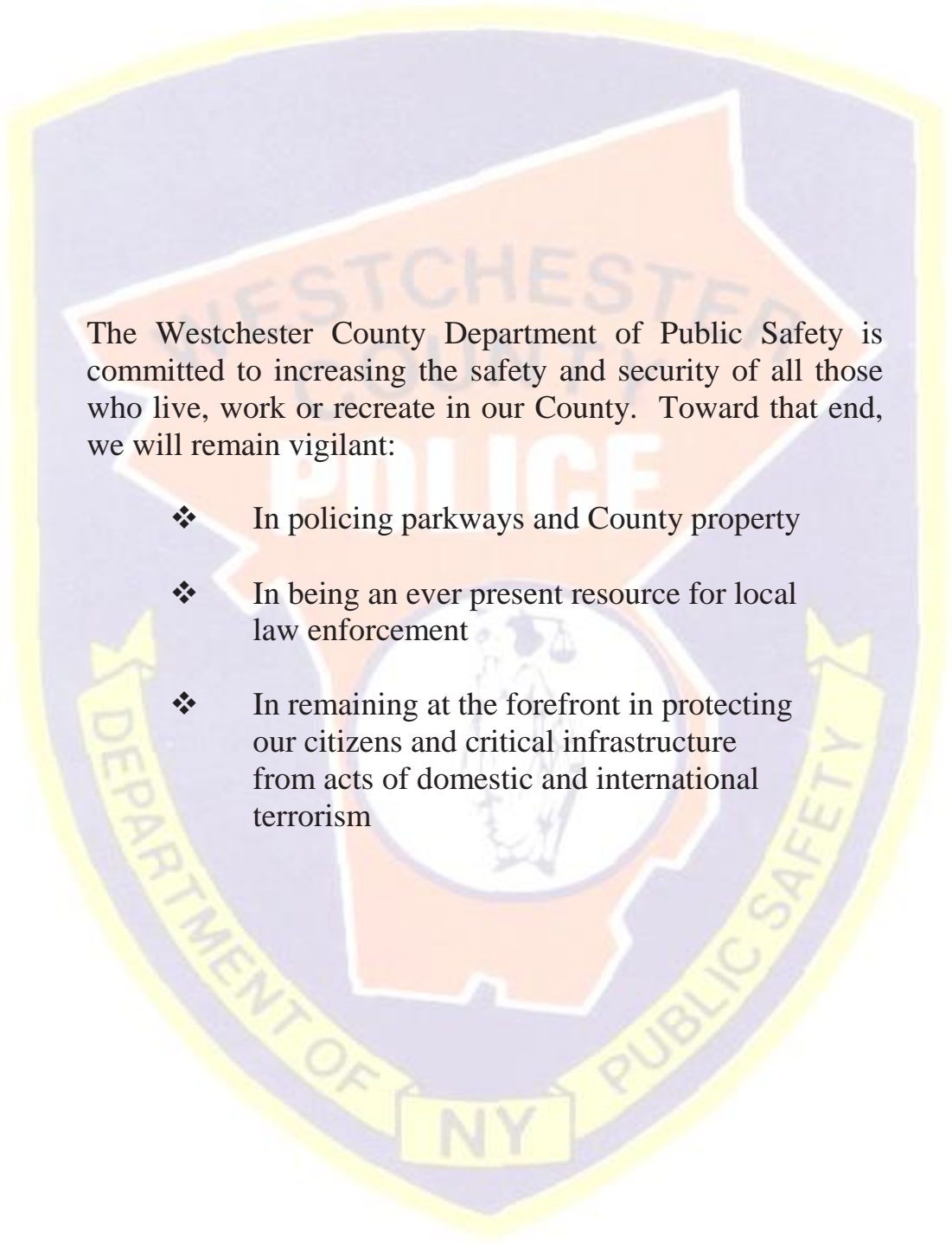
We are very proud of these accreditations which stipulate that the Department of Public Safety continues to meet the highest standards of excellence.

This Department is grateful to County Executive Robert P. Astorino for his leadership and continued support. The Board of Legislators is also an invaluable partner in our ability to provide the level of police service that the residents of Westchester deserve.

George N. Longworth  
Commissioner-Sheriff

## Mission Statement

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The Westchester County Department of Public Safety is committed to increasing the safety and security of all those who live, work or recreate in our County. Toward that end, we will remain vigilant:

- ❖ In policing parkways and County property
- ❖ In being an ever present resource for local law enforcement
- ❖ In remaining at the forefront in protecting our citizens and critical infrastructure from acts of domestic and international terrorism

## History

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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, K9 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 White Plains and Cortlandt.



**Headquarters Building**

**Westchester County Department of Public Safety**

**New York State Accredited Agency**



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

# **FIRST DEPUTY COMMISSIONER & CHIEF INSPECTORS**

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## **The Office of the First Deputy Commissioner:**

- Reports to the Police Commissioner



**1<sup>st</sup> Deputy Commissioner  
Joseph Yasinski**



**Chief Inspector  
John Hodges**

## **The Office of the Chief of Field Services is responsible for the:**

- Patrol Services Division
- Special Operations Division
- Office of STOP-DWI
- Taxi & Limousine Commission

## **The Office of the Chief of Support Services is responsible for the:**

- Police Academy
- Financial and Human Resources
- Fleet Unit
- Property Unit
- Building Maintenance
- Records Unit
- Information & Technology Unit



**Chief Inspector  
Martin McGlynn**



**Chief Inspector  
Roger Rokicki**

## **The Office of the Chief of Investigative Services is responsible for the:**

- Detective Division
- Civil Division
- Federal Task Force participation

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## Office of Professional Responsibility and Special Investigations

The Office of Professional Responsibility and Special Investigations (OPRSI) is responsible for investigating civilian complaints, internal administrative complaints and any other confidential or sensitive matters as directed by the Commissioner-Sheriff of the Department of Public Safety.

OPRSI provides the Commissioner-Sheriff with an investigative entity that is autonomous from other areas of the Department. This ensures unbiased investigations, which helps maintain the highest standards of integrity, ethics and professionalism. By thoroughly investigating allegations of corruption, misconduct and other inappropriate conduct, OPRSI helps to preserve the exceptional reputation of the Department of Public Safety and its members.

The manner in which members of the Department interact with the public plays an important role in this agency's success. Particular concern is placed upon civilian complaints filed against Department members. OPRSI maintains a comprehensive centralized index of all citizen complaints it receives, oversees each investigation and reviews the conclusions reached. The office evaluates statistical information gathered from complaints and allegations to identify patterns or trends of inappropriate behavior, suggests corrective courses of action or identifies training deficiencies of Department members.

	2012	2011	% CHANGE/YEAR
<b>CIVILIAN COMPLAINT CASES</b>			
<b>Total New Cases Opened</b>	5	9	-44%
<b>Use of Force</b>	2	0	---
<b>Racial Profiling</b>	0	2	-100%
<b>Courtesy</b>	1	3	-67%
<b>Arrest, Search &amp; Seizure</b>	0	0	0%
<b>Driving Complaints</b>	0	1	-100%
<b>Property/Evidence</b>	0	1	-100%
<b>Performance/Other</b>	2	2	0%

Civilian complaints decreased from nine in 2011 to five in 2012. It is important to note that contacts with the public, represented by total blotter events created, increased from 110,464 in 2011 to 114,720 in 2012. This shows a low ratio of complaints vs. contacts with the public.

OPRSI also coordinates the Department's Random Drug Testing Program and oversees medical control for the department by tracking injury reports and the treatment of injured employees.

## Detective Division



Captain Christopher  
Calabrese  
Commanding Officer

The Detective Division (DD) is comprised of thirteen units and task forces. The primary function of the DD 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 all cold case homicides.

Additionally, GIU members are assigned to federal and countywide multi-jurisdictional task forces. Specially trained members of GIU provide technical and investigative assistance to local agencies in the more complicated aspects of criminal investigations including sex crimes, undercover investigations, homicide investigations, cold case/unsolved homicides, deception analysis, electronic surveillance, financial investigations, criminal enterprise

investigations and other long-term investigations. GIU also has detectives that are telephone analysis experts and provide this expertise to the Department and to any other agencies requesting assistance. GIU uses sophisticated telephone analysis during investigations to plot telephone activity to identify perpetrators, criminal associates and criminal organizations.

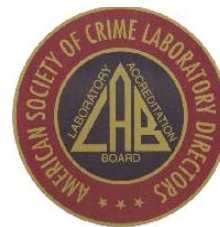


Detectives Edward Kelch and Glenna Lunn  
confer with PO George Ruiz (r.) on a case.

During 2012, GIU conducted 1,095 criminal investigations in addition to 67 investigations requested by local agencies. The investigations conducted included 106 in the Town of Cortlandt, 97 in the Town of Ossining, 156 at the Westchester County Jail, 110 at the Westchester County Medical Center, 27 welfare fraud investigations and 35 sex crime/special victim investigations. The unit also arrested 190 suspects on criminal charges resulting from investigations and processed 334 persons on criminal charges.

## **Forensic Investigations Unit**

**ASCLD/LAB**  
**Certified**



The Department of Public Safety Forensic Investigations Unit 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. During 2010, the Westchester County Forensic Investigations Unit received full accreditation by the New York State Commission on Forensic Science and the American Society of Crime Lab Directors, Laboratory Accreditation Board.

### **Ballistics Section**



Detective Arthur Holzman (r.) with  
Deputy Sheriff's Frank Nicolosi (c.) and  
Anthony Tota in the Ballistics Lab.

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 discharged cartridge casings recovered at crime scenes, hospitals or morgues. Test firing weapons for operability, examination of projectiles and the identification of tool marks and gunpowder residue are core functions of this Section.

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

In 2012, the Ballistics Section had 35 cold hits with the IBIS system where data was matched to information contained in the existing database. Since its inception, the Westchester County IBIS system has had 361 cold hits connecting more than 335 cases in Westchester. These cases would likely not have been linked without this system.

In 2012, the Ballistics Section processed a total of 319 cases involving the use of firearms. A total of 287 firearms and more than 3,082 additional 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. Additionally, the Ballistics Section offered expert testimony in numerous trials held in Westchester County, Nassau County and New York State Supreme Courts, as well as in both the Southern and Eastern U.S. District Courts.

## **Latent Print/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 Department's 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 Westchester County 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.



Detective Roger Piccirilli and Police Officer Shannon Reilly inspect a handgun for latent prints.

In December 2011, the Westchester County Forensic Investigations Unit became host site for the new Eastern Hudson Valley Statewide Automated Biometric Identification System (SABIS). The SABIS system will allow fingerprint examiners to electronically match prints recovered at a crime scene against those of arrested persons on file in the state and federal systems.

In 2012, the Latent Print/Crime Scene Section investigated more than 815 cases. Latent Print detectives investigated 668 latent fingerprint cases and processed 48 crime scenes. In addition, 78 latent print cases were submitted into SAFIS in 2012.

## **Digital Evidence Section**



Detectives Dana Faye and Jose Calero at work in the Digital Evidence lab.

The Digital Evidence Section conducts examinations of computers, cellular telephones, electronic storage devices, etc. 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, and distribution of child pornography, fraud and identity theft.

During 2012, the Digital Evidence Section investigated 42 cases, and examined 80 separate items of digital electronic evidence.

## **Armorer**

The Department Armorer is responsible for the maintenance of all Department-issued weapons and firearms, periodic firearms testing and related record keeping. The Armorer also conducts research and testing of new and/or improved firearms and ammunition. The Armorer may also extend his services and expertise to local law enforcement agencies that request assistance.

## **Narcotics Unit**

The Narcotics Unit aggressively investigates illegal drug activity within the county and surrounding areas. The unit provides assistance to local jurisdictions in several different

capacities. Narcotics Unit detectives work closely with local officers by targeting, identifying, and apprehending, illegal narcotics sellers. Undercover officers purchase illegal narcotics from these dealers, which ultimately leads to felony drug sale charges being lodged against them. Once apprehended, these dealers often provide valuable information to detectives, leading to additional targets. The Narcotics Unit also works closely with several federal law enforcement agencies as well as numerous multi-jurisdictional task forces.

During 2012, the Narcotics Unit made 245 drug buys and 187 arrests. Unit members also participated in a federal money laundering task force. Narcotics Unit detectives seized approximately 32 kilos of cocaine, 187 pounds of marijuana as well as large quantities of heroin, crack cocaine and pills, and numerous weapons.



\$150,000 seized by the Narcotics Unit as part of a joint task force involving WCPD, IRS and DEA.



Six kilograms of cocaine and a .357 magnum revolver seized during the course of a joint investigation.

### **Crime Analysis Unit**

The Crime Analysis Unit (CAU) 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. CAU plays a critical role in the dissemination of information necessary to identify pattern crimes, suspects and the latest officer safety bulletins and criminal investigation methods and techniques necessary to enhance law enforcement's detection and apprehension capabilities.

CAU holds a monthly intelligence sharing meeting to facilitate the exchange of information between the numerous police agencies in and around the County. Moreover, the Crime Analysis Unit utilizes a secure list server and website to give sworn law enforcement members immediate access to current and historical information and intelligence.

CAU investigations include counter-terrorism, registered sex offender, computer crime, bank fraud, stolen property, predicate felon and gun-related cases. These investigations are often conducted in conjunction with local law enforcement agencies, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Joint Terrorist Task Force, the New York City Police Department, the New York State Police, the Office of Homeland Security (OHS) and other agencies.

### **Surface Transportation Unit**

Detectives assigned to the Surface Transportation Unit (or Bus Detail) most often go undetected when policing Westchester's Bee-Line Bus System. With buses operating throughout the

County, serving an ever-increasing number of riders, a specialized unit like the Bus Detail is required to handle the security issues of a mass transit operation.

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. In 2012, the Bus Detail investigated 49 criminal cases and continued joint DHS-VIPR High Visibility inspections to ensure safety and improve the quality of service provided to bus riders.

### **Warrant – Fugitive Unit**

The mission of the Warrant – Fugitive Unit (WFU) is to locate and apprehend individuals who are the subject of a Westchester County Criminal Court Warrant. The warrants are issued for individuals facing criminal charges that include felonies and misdemeanors. In addition, the unit also investigates and enforces warrants issued by local Family Courts. WFU 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 to its primary role of apprehending fugitives, the Warrant-Fugitive Unit also assumes transport duties for prisoners that are under the province of the Westchester County Supreme Court, County Court and the various Family Courts. In executing this obligation, members of the unit conducted 184 prisoner transports by car in 2012.



Detective Douglas Walag reviews the case of an individual wanted by the Warrant-Fugitive Unit.

The Warrant-Fugitive Unit works closely with the Westchester County Integrated Domestic Violence Court to expedite the execution of Domestic Violence warrants. In 2012, the unit received 47 Domestic Violence Warrants and affected 27 arrests. The Warrant-Fugitive Unit also works closely with the Westchester County Department of Probation to expedite the execution of Violation of Probation warrants. In 2012, the unit received 111 Violation of Probation warrants and processed 100 arrests.

The Warrant-Fugitive Unit contributes one full time detective to the local U.S. Marshals Service Fugitive Task Force, a multi-agency collaboration aimed at coordinating efforts and sharing resources to locate and arrest transient fugitives. During 2012, this collaboration has resulted in the arrest of 52 fugitives, including 29 arrests for active Warrant-Fugitive Unit cases.

In 2012, the Warrant-Fugitive Unit received 507 warrants for investigation. Also in 2012, the unit conducted a total of 14 extradition trips by air for various municipalities. In 2012, there were 299 arrests recorded and processed by the unit, which included 175 field arrests affected by members of the Warrant-Fugitive Unit. The unit also cleared 514 warrants and 587 cases in 2012.

### **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, US Marshals/Fugitive Task Force and the IRS/Money Laundering Task Force.

## Patrol Services Division



Captain Mark Busche  
Commanding Officer

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 Towns of Cortlandt and Ossining, the Westchester County Airport and county parks, office buildings and facilities. 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 face that appears at the scene of an emergency ready to help. Officers of the PSD are highly visible and ever-vigilant; in essence, they are the identity of the Department.

### Parkway Patrol



Sgt. Thomas Murphy at the front desk

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 continues to grow, so too do traffic and safety concerns. 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 unprecedented success. Parkway patrol 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.

In 2012, fatal accidents on the parkways patrolled by the PSD declined 50% as compared to the previous year. PSD's officers collectively drive over one million miles each year in order 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 to 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.

Assisted by funding from the Department's Office of Drug Prevention and STOP-DWI, experienced PSD officers often 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. Their efforts continue to make County roadways safer.

### **Municipal Patrol Operations**

The versatility of the Patrol Services Division is no better exhibited than by moving from its accomplishments and unique patrol function on the parkway system to its role as community police in the Towns of Cortlandt and Ossining.

Patrol services in Cortlandt are provided from the North Command 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. PSD officers in Cortlandt have gained the confidence of town residents by effectively addressing community concerns via several community policing initiatives.

PSD officers assigned to Cortlandt also have become actively involved in local neighborhood watch programs by providing basic training, advice, and observation techniques to watch captains and organizers. Specific officers have each taken an ownership of sorts in different areas of the town and have helped to foster and develop a professional relationship between the Department and the people it serves by also participating in community internet message boards and attending watch meetings at residents' homes.

Cortlandt officers' participation in an Enforcing the Underage Drinking Laws (EUDL) grant illustrates this Department's resolve to address community issues as well. PSD conducts 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 within the town that underage youths may congregate or gather to drink alcoholic beverages. The Patrol Services Division is a charter member of the Cortlandt Coalition that oversaw the success of the EUDL grant and now administers The Communities That Care Grant. Due to the success of the joint effort of PSD and the Coalition, another five-year grant was awarded with even more funding to continue the mission of protecting our youth from the dangers of underage drinking.



Town of Ossining Command



Town of Cortlandt Command

Patrol functions for the Town of Ossining are run out of the County's new Ossining Command. As in the Town of Cortlandt, officers assigned to Ossining turn out of the command in order to be closer to the community they serve as well as provide a convenience to residents if the need arises for them to come to a police facility to file a report, have a vehicle equipment inspection conducted, have a child seat installed, etc.

The County's current contract with Ossining provides for an increased amount of coverage than what was available with the previous Town of Ossining Police Department at a significant cost savings to local residents. This, in part with the continuation of the previous community policing programs put in place by the Town of Ossining Police, provide a realistic example of how consolidation of police services can work, and greatly succeed in the County.

The "Your Cop" program in the Town of Ossining is a great success with both officers and residents alike. In this program, the town is broken up in zones and a town officer is assigned to each of those zones. Residents have the officer's name, email address, and work telephone number and can call on the officer for neighbor/property disagreements, quality of life issues, as well as security checks of their residences while they are on vacation.

Ossining officers also provide other community-oriented services to families as well. Domestic violence follow-up visits are conducted to ensure that victims of such crimes are finding their way through the legal system without much difficulty, verifying that orders of protection were granted and filed, and providing references to shelters and counseling as well. Also, officers are stationed in Ossining that are certified child seat technicians who assist residents on a regular basis with seat installation, seat inspection, and information about vehicle and traffic laws pertaining to child seats.

Both towns also have School Resource Officers assigned to one of their local schools from this Department. Walter Panas High School in Cortlandt and Anne M. Dorner Middle School in Ossining enjoy the presence of trained Westchester County Police officers who specialize in liaising with the school itself, the school district, and of course, the students.

These officers provide a multi-faceted service of increased safety, education, and advisory capabilities to students, staff, and parents alike.

## **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 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 insure 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-owned-and-operated amusement park in the country. Tens of thousands of County residents and non-residents visit the parks year-round with 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 trail ways.



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 Buildings, Community College and Grasslands Reservation**

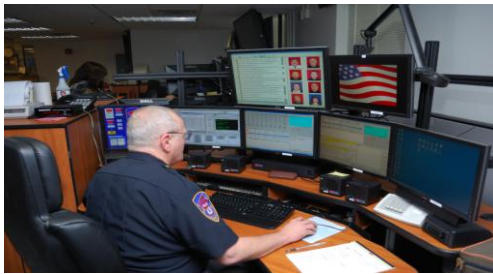
Uniformed officers of the PSD are charged with the security of the County Office Building in White Plains – the seat of County government – as well as the County's Department of Social Services offices located throughout Westchester. PSD officers also handle calls to Social Services housing developments 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 campus security to maintain order within the bustling college environment. Vehicle and foot patrols by patrol officers at WCC enhance the level of safety provided by private security.

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 and Firing Range, County Fire Training Center and other institutions. Round-the-clock patrols by the PSD continue to yield positive results and an uncompromised sense of security on the campus. In yet another example of enhanced community policing, PSD officers assigned to patrol the Grasslands campus work with employees and various administrators to maintain a safe and peaceful community.

## **Communications Unit**

The Communications Unit personnel of the Patrol Services Division provide the critical lifeline of communications between officers and County Police Headquarters. They 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.



Police Officer Robert Brown dispatches an officer to assist the public

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. PSD Communications Officers

facilitate a constant flow of information and coordinate police, fire, emergency medical services, Department of Transportation and tow company responses.

In 2012, WCPD Communications Operators handled close to 200,000 calls for service from the public.

## **Mobile Command Post**

The Department's Mobile Command Post (MCP) is outfitted with equipment to facilitate communication among emergency first responders. A radio interoperability system (RIOS) is installed in the vehicle. This system will enable radio communication between agencies operating on different frequencies.



The MCP is a self-sufficient unit and includes a communications dispatch area, a galley and a command area. Communication capabilities include VHF-High and Low, UHF, low band, cellular and satellite communications, marine and aviation frequencies, and audio-visual functions.

The MCP can also serve as a backup call taking center for the 911 system and provides communication redundancy in the event of a power failure.

## **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 Re-constructionists 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.



## **Future**

The Patrol Services Division continues to improve its standard of excellence. The PSD made 1,238 arrests in 2012. Aggressive 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. The accomplishments of the Patrol Services Division have only strengthened the resolve of the PSD officers to reduce motor vehicle accidents even further and find new ways to encourage safer driving.

## **Public Safety Emergency Force**

The Public Safety Emergency Force (PSEF) is an all 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 serve as reserve manpower for the Department of Public Safety and provide assistance to Westchester's many municipalities and police agencies in responding to emergencies or special events.



PSEF Chief John Elliot

In 2012, the Public Safety Emergency Force was deployed 98 times and logged 6,543 man hours rendering assistance to local municipalities throughout the County. The PSEF also worked a number of special assignments, including DWI checkpoints. In 2012, members logged 746 hours of training.

## Special Operations Division

The Special Operations Division (SOD) is comprised of the Aviation Unit, Hazardous Devices Unit, Special Response Team, Canine Teams, Hostage Negotiation Team, Marine Unit, Emergency Services, and the Environmental Security Unit. The specialized resources of SOD are utilized to support both the Department of Public Safety and local law enforcement in Westchester.



Captain Paul Stasaitis,  
Commanding Officer

### Aviation Unit



The Aviation Unit flies in formation with both Bell 407 helicopters

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 surrounding jurisdictions. Additionally, members of the Department of Public Safety and other County departments have become quite comfortable and adept while working with air support leading to enhancement of the overall efficiency and effectiveness of the unit. The primary focus of the Aviation Unit is to provide direct air support and assistance to police officers on the ground and to conduct aerial patrols of county properties, critical infrastructure and key resources.

In 2012, the Aviation Unit underwent restructuring after the retirement of its Chief Pilot. For the first time in the Unit's history, a supervisor has been assigned as the Commanding Officer and an additional pilot was added who is a New York Army National Guard Blackhawk pilot and Department police officer. The Department also acquired its second Bell 407 helicopter with no impact on the tax levy as it was purchased using Department of Homeland Security grants.

Operating two similar aircraft has improved the availability and standardized the capabilities of the Aviation Unit. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) scheduled inspections and required maintenance has virtually no effect on aircraft availability and results in limited out of service or downtime issues. Additionally, a common fleet ensures immediate and long term savings through: standardized training and attendance at only one factory training academy, similar

maintenance and tooling, a common parts and supply inventory and improved safety by the reduction of mishaps which are common in a mixed fleet.

Police officer pilots maintain FAA commercial pilot certificates and train regularly to perform the highly technical missions required of airborne law enforcement. One pilot is designated a Certified Flight Instructor (CFI) by the FAA to expand the training capabilities of the unit members. Other police officers serve as Tactical Flight Officers (TFOs) and operate the myriad of specialized equipment including cameras, radios, computers, thermal imager and surveillance gear. One TFO is also an FAA certified aircraft mechanic holding ratings in Airframe and Power Plant (A&P) and is an FAA Authorized Inspector (IA). He is able to perform much of the routine maintenance and inspections required on the helicopters, which has greatly reduced the annual costs attributed to upkeep and repairs.



Air 3 on aerial patrol in Lower Westchester County

The unit utilizes an array of specialized equipment for missions that include surveillance, aerial photography, fire suppression, microwave video downlink, searches, external load operations such as rescues, cargo movement and personnel insertion. The support of the fire service throughout Westchester County is accomplished by utilizing the helicopters as a command and control platform and for direct fire suppression using the “Bambi-Bucket” to drop large volumes of water. This is especially useful during remote or hard to reach fire locations.

Vehicle pursuits and suspect searches are some of the most dangerous operations in law enforcement and the use of a helicopter during pursuits and perimeter containment improves both safety and success. From its vantage point, an aircrew can track and maintain visual contact of fleeing vehicles, enabling ground units to slow down to protect public safety.

During perimeter containment, the crew is able to quickly search large areas and limit the chances suspects will evade capture by ground units. This tactical advantage was exemplified in 2012 when the Aviation Unit responded to 1,536 calls for service and was directly involved in the arrests of 33 suspects.

## **Hazardous Devices Unit**



Explosives detection canines help HDU personnel to assess threats, detect volatile materials and keep the public safe



Detective John Nordone secures a land mine left at a Yonkers firehouse

The Hazardous Devices Unit, known more informally as the Bomb Squad, is one of only 13 bomb squads in the State of New York and is accredited by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Comprised of 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. Bomb squad members are also adept at examining explosive devices in order to identify persons responsible for manufacturing them.

Follow-up investigations are an integral part of the Bomb Squad function. Unit members are trained in advanced post-blast investigation. The Bomb Squad assists local jurisdictions in evidence gathering and crime scene processing. A considerable amount of time is spent analyzing data generated from explosive device investigations.

The Westchester County Police Bomb Squad conducts numerous training sessions and seminars on bomb and bomb threat procedures. The Bomb Squad provides training to local police departments, fire departments and many businesses located in Westchester. The Bomb Squad also assists the FBI and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives in providing regional counter-terrorism training to first responders.

## **Special Response Team**

The Special Response Team (SRT) is a group of highly trained and specially equipped police officers who respond to emergencies requiring advanced police tactics. The SRT is deployed for operations that involve high-risk warrant executions, forced building entries, hostage situations, 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 for response duties. An integral component of SRT training is cross-training sessions with tactical response teams of other departments. The SRT participates in multi-jurisdictional special response team training initiatives throughout the County.



BEARCAT armored vehicle



SRT Response Vehicle

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



SRT members after an airport tactical training exercise

### **Hostage Negotiation Team**

The Hostage Negotiation Team (HNT) consists of police officers trained by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and a police psychologist serving 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 utilizes a nationally recognized negotiation "team concept" technique that assigns specific interconnected support tasks throughout the negotiation process. Moreover, 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)**



A fleeing suspect is no match for canine Clint during a training exercise

The Department of Public Safety has twelve canine teams. Each team is comprised of a police officer handler and a specially trained canine. The teams provide this Department with the ability to detect virtually all types of explosives, a wide range of narcotics and the ability to track crime suspects or lost people. Each team is trained for a single law enforcement purpose (explosives, narcotics, tracking, or patrol).

In 2012, these teams performed more than 400 searches, seized significant quantities of marijuana and cocaine, apprehended criminal suspects and located lost or missing persons.

## **Marine Unit**



Marine 4 and Air 2 responding to a distress call on Hudson River

The Marine Unit provides primary maritime safety and security coverage and services along the Westchester County side of the Hudson River. In addition, the unit deploys assets, as needed to the Long Island to assist local agencies and the United States Coast Guard. The unit maintains a visible law enforcement presence as part of its effort to enhance boater safety, monitors fireworks displays and community celebrations, and provides waterfront security for communities along the shoreline.

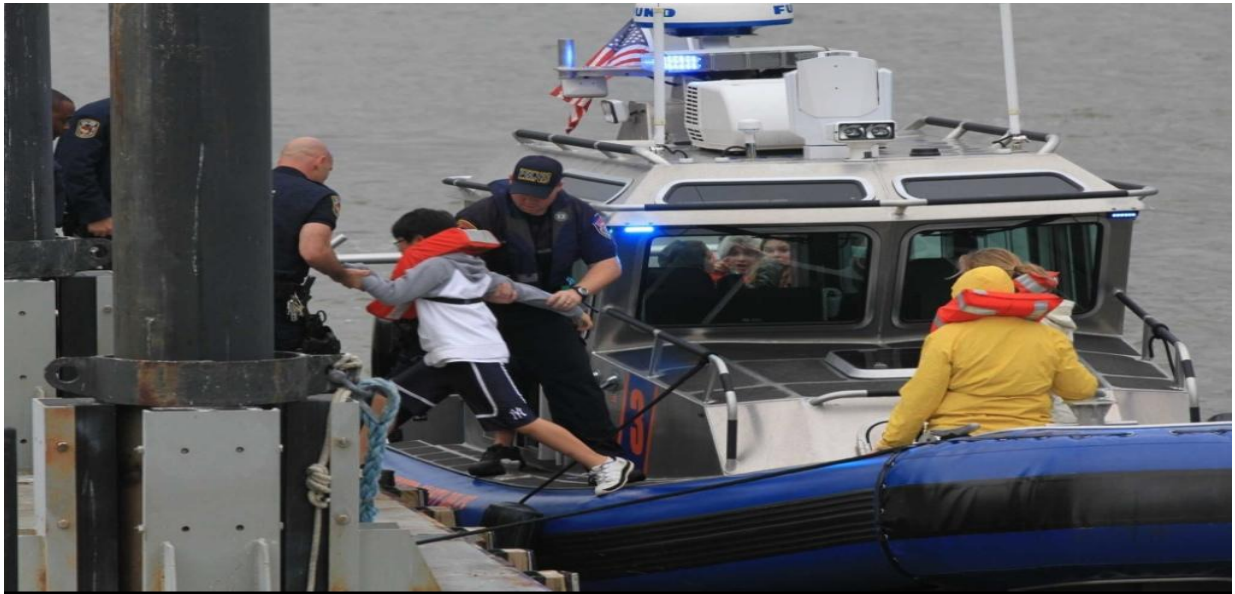
The Marine Unit conducts counter-terrorism patrols around critical infrastructure including the Tappan Zee Bridge, Indian Point nuclear energy center, ferry boats and terminals, fuel terminals, sewage treatment plants railroad lines. The unit interdicts Foreign Flagged boats as they transit county waterways to ensure they are in compliance with all laws and are free from contraband and illegal persons.



Marine 2

The Marine Unit conducts rescues of boaters or swimmers in distress and removes dangerous boaters or vessels from the water. The Unit also conducts vessel safety inspections for boaters to ensure their boats are seaworthy and are in compliance with applicable state and federal navigation laws. In addition to their traditional law enforcement duties, the Marine Unit conducts environmental patrols.

The Marine Unit operates a 31 foot SAFEBOAT, and a 36 foot SAFEBOAT that were purchased utilizing Port Security Grant funds. They also utilize a 27 foot Boston Whaler and a 12 foot inflatable boat for use in lakes and shallow water areas. All county police boats carry basic rescue equipment, first aid and safety gear, radiation detection equipment, dewatering pumps, firefighting equipment and an automated external defibrillator. The unit also maintains a side scanner and advanced underwater remote-operated vehicle.



Det. Westbrook and PO Nethercott transferring children that were rescued from the Sloop Clearwater

## **Emergency Service Unit**

The Emergency Service Unit (ESU) provides emergency response and support to the department's Patrol Services Division and Special Operations Division missions. These specialized officers are trained to handle vehicle extrications, vehicle lock outs, water rescue, low angle rescue, stuck elevators, emergency tree removal from obstructed roadways, canine tracking support, rabid or threatening animal cases and basic first aid.



ESU truck 1



PO Nabors conducts rope operations

## **Environmental Security Unit**

The Environmental Security Unit actively protects the county's environment and natural resources.

The Environmental Security Unit was established to protect and safeguard the environment and natural resources of Westchester through education and active enforcement.

The unit provides input on security measures at certain county facilities including parks, wastewater treatment plants, water supply structures and municipal waste transfer stations. The unit utilizes proactive measures to minimize adverse impact to the environment. Members of the unit conduct frequent and random environmental security inspections of county facilities as well as of other critical assets and infrastructure within the county.

The Environmental Security Unit works with agencies at all levels of government to conduct investigations and form the collaborative partnerships needed to respond to, investigate and remediate environmental incidents.

The Environmental Security Unit conducts security inspections of County properties and other sensitive areas to assess compliance with environmental regulations and established security measures. Areas that receive this extra scrutiny include county transportation hubs, recreation areas and water supply systems. These inspections allow early detection of emerging conditions and greatly enhance law enforcement's ability to take prompt corrective actions.



Environmental Security Specialist Steve Carroll inspects a ruptured oil tank



Environmental Security Specialist Steve Carroll checking water quality in the Bronx River.

## Training Division/Police Academy

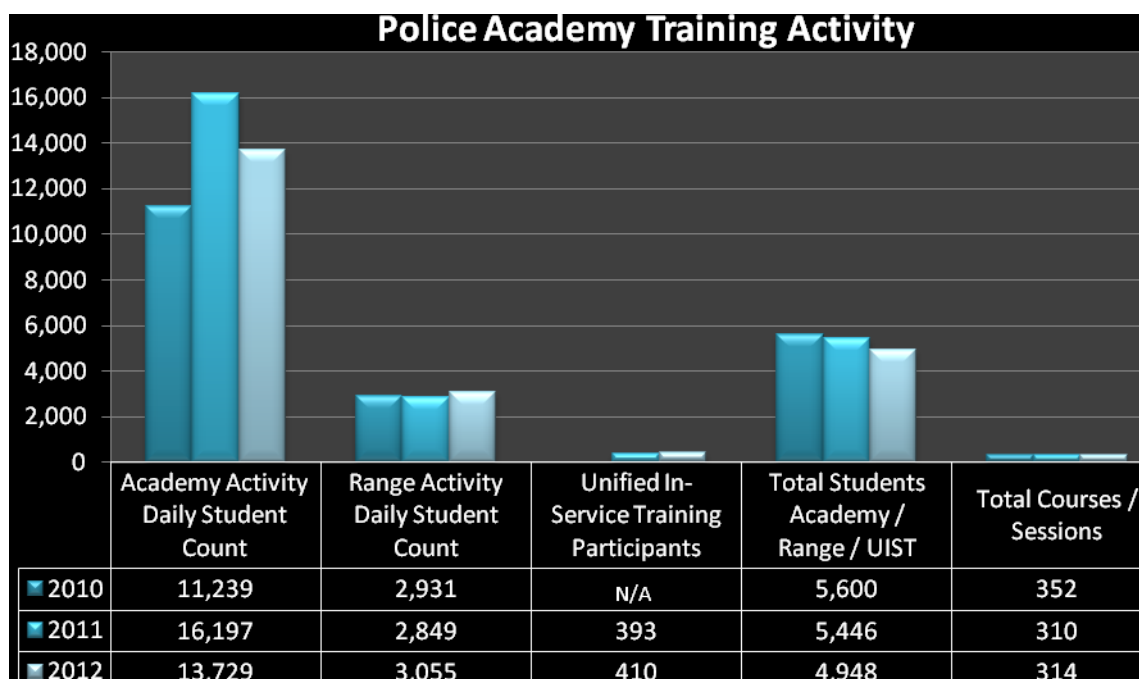


The Westchester County Department of Public Safety operates the New York State Zone 3 Police Training Academy, which serves the law enforcement communities of Westchester and Putnam Counties.

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.

During 2012, the Police Academy conducted 314 courses/sessions for 4,948 students, with an overall daily student count of 13,729.



### Courses offered are as follows:

#### 2012 Police Academy Training

Advanced Excel for Crime Analysis	Interview & Interrogation
ARIDE	IRS Criminal Investigation / Defensive Tactics Training
Arson K9 Intro	IRS Trigger Fish Training
ART 35	Kimber 1911 Transition Course
ASP Instructor Course	Kimber Instructor School - Model 1911
AT Solutions - Advanced Electronics	Less Lethal - SRT
Basic Course for Police Officers	Life Sustaining Equipment - Con Ed
Basic Law Enforcement Bicycle Course	Motorcycle In-Service
Basic Motor Vehicle Collision Investigation Course	Mutual Aid Drill
Breath Analysis Operator Course	NCIC Training
Breath Analysis Operator Instructor Course	Nuclear Threat Brief
Breath Analysis Operator Recertification Course	PRD, RIID and Backpack Courses
Cellular Investigative Program	Probation Simunition - Firearms Instructor Class & Tactical
Civilian CPR	Project Lifesaver Training
Collection and Packaging of Physical Evidence	PSEF In-Service Training
Course in Police Supervision	PSEF Training
Court Officer Security Training	PSEF's OC/Batan
Criminal Investigator Course	PSEF's Traffic Stops
Crisis Intervention Officer Training	Public Safety Media Training
DARE Annual Update Training	Radar Lidar Operator Course
DCJS Digital Evidence Working Group	Radar/Lidar Instructor Course

DCJS DNA Course  
 DEA Methamphetamine Clandestine Drug Laboratory Awareness  
 Defensive Tactics Seminar - Series 1  
 Defensive Tactics Seminar - Series 2  
 Defensive Tactics Seminar (Ground Fighting)  
 Detection, Documentation & Collection of Impression Evidence  
 Drug Recognition Expert Recertification Course  
 DWI Detection & Standardized Field Sobriety Testing  
 DWI / SFST (PSEF's)  
 Evidence Photography Workshop  
 Excel for Crime Analysis  
 FATS - Westchester Community College Criminal Justice  
 FBI Hazmat Evidence Collection Procedures Training  
 FBI Stabilization  
 FBI/HDU LVB Countermeasures Course  
 FBI-SOD Stabilization Training  
 Field Training Officer Course  
 Hamer Team - Hazmat Workshop  
 Hamer Team Try - Bio Agents  
 Hazmat Drill - Chem Suicide  
 Hostage Negotiation Course  
 Incident Command Board Training  
  
 Instructor Development Course  
 Instructor Evaluation Course  
 Internet for Investigators Seminar

Radiological Detection Kit Training  
 SAR Drill (Rope Operation Training)  
 Search Warrants  
 Seasonal Park Ranger Training for New Hires  
 Seasonal Park Ranger Training for Rehires  
 Sex Offender Management - DCJS Office of Probation  
 Sovereign Citizen (PSEF's)  
 Spanish for Law Enforcement Phase I  
 SRT D/T Make-Up  
 SRT In-Service Training Tactics  
 SRT Training  
 STC RIID Workshop  
 Suicide Prevention Instructor Course  
 SUNY PD Agility and Interviews  
 Tabletop Exercise #2 Conduct  
 Tabletop Exercise Conduct "Truck Stop"  
 Taser Instructor Course (New Instructors)  
 Taser Instructor Course (Recertification)  
 Unified In-Service Training  
 Vehicle Rescue & Extrication  
 Westchester County Department of Health - PBS Workshop  
 Westchester County Physical Agility  
 Westchester County Police Cultural Competency Training  
 12/5  
 X26 Taser User Course



Physical Fitness



Firearms instruction



Defensive Tactics



Classroom Training

In 2012, the Police Academy completed its second full year of the Unified In-Service Training program. A total of 23 sessions were conducted, training a total of 410 officers from 13 Westchester law enforcement agencies.

Continuing on 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: CPR/Automated External Defibrillator, Use of Force, Digital Evidence, Blood Borne Pathogens, Firearm Qualification, Less Than Lethal Equipment, Defensive Tactics, Police on Police Encounters, Elder Driver Awareness, Legal Updates and Incident Command System Training.

In addition to the above, the following topics were presented during an additional in-service training day devoted specifically to supervisors: Ethics, Suicide Prevention Screening, Suicide Bomber Awareness, Critical Incident Exercises and Responding to Chemical Suicide Incidents.

Based upon the success of the program over the past two years, a total of 23 sessions were again scheduled for 2013. In addition to the members of the Westchester County Department of Public Safety, it is anticipated that approximately 120 officers from at least 10 police departments will attend the 2013 Unified In-Service Training program. In addition, the Unified In-Service Training Program continues to exceed Department of Criminal Justice Services' standards pertaining to in-service training.



Pictured left to right: Det. Michael Wax, P.O. David Hecker, Sgt. Vincent Antonecchia, Ms. Blanca Marrero, Lt. Michael Cindrich, Det. Marc Moskalik and Det. Peter Farrell (P.O. Anthony DelPriore not pictured)

## 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;



Detective Michael Wax, an Academy Staff Range Instructor, demonstrates proper stance during annual patrol rifle requalification.

- 3,055 law enforcement personnel were trained at this facility in 2012. Those trained included members of the Departments of Public Safety, Correction and Probation, the District Attorney's Office and numerous local police agencies.

## Accreditation Program

In December 2012, the Department was reaccredited by the New York State Law Enforcement Accreditation Council for a fourth, five-year period. Accreditation covers 132 standards within the areas of administration, operations and training.

Of the 572 law enforcement agencies eligible to participate in this program in New York State, 142, or 25%, have been accredited. The Westchester County Department of Public Safety is proud to have achieved and maintained accreditation status since 1992.

The Chief of Investigative Services coordinates Policy and Procedure Development within the Department and maintains the standards set by the New York State Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission. The office also provides counsel for law enforcement accreditation for local municipalities.

## Crime Prevention & Physical Security Unit

The Crime Prevention & Physical Security Unit (CPPSU) surveys County-owned or leased properties to evaluate security systems and procedures, and provides recommendations to enhance physical security. This unit conducted 36 security surveys and assessments during 2011.

The members of the unit addressed more than 500 employees of county departments, private sector groups and security agencies on crime prevention and security matters. The CPPSU also monitors and evaluates the performance of protective services providers contracted by Westchester County.

## **Pistol License Unit**

The Pistol License Unit serves the County by processing and investigating applicants for concealed carry pistol licenses, dealer licenses and gunsmith licenses. The Pistol Licensing Unit also has an ongoing program to locate pistol license holders who have allowed their licenses to lapse.

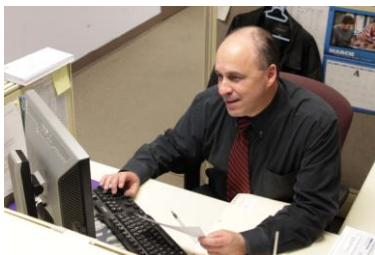
Investigative efforts in 2012 resulted in the closing of 411 “delinquent” license cases and the securing of 928 firearms.

### **PISTOL LICENSING UNIT ACTIVITY**

<i>Activity</i>	<i>2010</i>	<i>2011</i>	<i>2012</i>
Original Applications	735	722	940
Amended Applications	220	167	180
Revocation Orders	40	25	18
Orders to Show Cause	4	1	3
House Inspections	137	110	139
Weapons Secured	1,267	1,612	928
County Attorney Referrals	75	47	40
Criminal Record Inquiry	7,154	3,602	3,110

## **Civil Unit**

The Civil Unit 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 vehicle for other state and federal jurisdictions where service is required within Westchester County. The Unit is located at 110 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Room L-217, in White Plains.



Civilian clerk Neil Galeota inputting one of the thousands of checks received by the Civil Unit each month.

The Civil Unit processes the following actions:

- Income and property executions;
- Service and enforcement of Family Court orders;
- The processing and service of summonses, complaints, subpoenas and petitions;
- The execution and enforcement of various court orders;
- Civil arrests;
- The enforcement of orders of seizure, attachments, and warrants of eviction.

## CIVIL UNIT ACTIVITY

<i>Type</i>	<i>2010</i>	<i>2011</i>	<i>2012</i>
Summonses	1,720	1,525	1,422
Executions (Income & Property)	9,110	8,436	7,943
Attachments/Seizures	72	21	12
<b><i>Total Civil Processes</i></b>	<b><i>10,902</i></b>	<b><i>9,982</i></b>	<b><i>9,377</i></b>

The Civil Unit in 2012 collected more than \$13,690,000 in judgments and fees of which more than \$1,100,000 in fees were turned over to Westchester County Finance.

<i>Type</i>	<i>2010</i>	<i>2011</i>	<i>2012</i>
Total Funds Received	12,221,800	14,475,121	13,690,855
Disbursed to County	1,186,968	1,246,818	1,144,191
Disbursed to Litigants	11,009,727	13,074,547	12,504,715

In 2012, the Civil Unit continued its policy to vigorously follow-up on stagnant Executions to recover all monies that were due to litigants and to the County. This has resulted in another record-breaking year of financial activity in the Civil Unit.

### **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.



During 2011, a total of 670 children and *SAFE CHILD ID* cards were processed. Since the inception of this program by this agency in 2005, a total of 9,109 children have been processed and issued ID cards.

### **Westchester County Taxi & Limousine Commission (WCTLC)**

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 Chairperson/Chief Executive Officer is responsible for overseeing day-to-day operations. The Department serves as the enforcement arm of the WCTLC.



Barbara Z. Monohan  
Chair / Chief Executive Officer

County police officers inspect base stations, conduct safety and compliance checks, investigate complaints, assist with applicant screening, conduct prom safety details and patrol the roadways to ensure compliance with the County's For-Hire Vehicle Law.

In 2012, the WCTLIC saw increasing interest in the County's shared service opportunities through municipalities using WCTLIC to license their taxi drivers, resulting in passenger safety and cost savings to the communities. To date, municipal taxi driver licensing by the WCTLIC includes the following municipalities: Bedford, Croton-on-Hudson, Dobbs Ferry, Irvington, Mount Pleasant, Pleasantville, Port Chester, Sleepy Hollow, Tarrytown and Tuckahoe.

To further benefit local municipalities and expand upon efforts ensuring the safety of the riding public, 2012 saw the WCTLIC enter into Inter-Municipal Agreements (IMAs) with Bedford, Irvington, Rye Brook, Sleepy Hollow, Tarrytown and Tuckahoe, whereby the municipalities will assist in enforcing the County's For-Hire Vehicle Law and in return receive a portion of the fines collected from the TLC summonses that are written.

Further, in 2012, the WCTLIC created another class of For-Hire (Livery) Vehicles known as Muni-Cars (Municipal Cars), which will be authorized to operate in participating municipalities and in those areas of the County where there are no present taxi regulations. This affords the riding public an even greater level of safety in areas where there is no formal licensing of taxis by ensuring all of the safeguards that go along with WCTLIC requirements that protect passengers. WCTLIC Muni-cars would have the authority for inter-municipal travel including trips to the County Airport.



#### ACTIVITY BY YEAR

Type	2010	2011	2012
<b>Total Applications</b>	5274	5531	5258
<b>Base Station Inspections</b>	277	288	284
<b>Consumer Complaints</b>	7	6	13
<b>Summonses Issued</b>	3129	4301	4817
<b>Total Fines Collected</b>	\$208,077	\$288,135	319,834

## **Fleet Management**

The Department fleet is comprised of more than 253 ordinary and specialty vehicles. During 2012, fleet personnel placed 22 new vehicles in service, including two new SRT vehicles: the Armored Bearcat and a Freightliner response vehicle. Also a new Forensic Investigations Unit response vehicle was placed in service.



Mechanics - Curtis Yarborough, Frank Auger, Jay Hayiland, & Oscar Pennacchio

## **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 or, when no owner can be located, the property is turned over to the Bureau of Purchase & Supply for auction.

In 2012, PCU continued its program to upgrade and replace all Department-issued body armor as part of a continuous five-year cycle. PCU also assisted in numerous projects designed to increase the efficiency and professionalism of the Department. Such projects included the creation of up-to-the-minute inventories of critical supplies and materials as well as enhancements to the physical security of evidence, property and Departmental equipment and supplies.

The Property Control Unit continues to make improvements in all areas of its operation in order to maximize efficiency and effectiveness.

## **Building Maintenance**

The Building Maintenance Unit is responsible for providing a clean and safe working environment for Department members and the general public. This includes grounds keeping and landscaping of over 400,000 square feet of property.



Building Maintenance Staff (from left) – Eric Johnson, Daniel Hebert, Thomas Gropp and Louis Torres

## **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 2012, these reports consisted of 3,035 accident reports, 20,796 uniform traffic summonses, and appearance tickets and marine summonses generated by police officers in the field.

The Records Unit prepared 355 DWI cases for trials in local courts, scheduled 5,621 court appearances for police officers, completed 1,357 vehicle impound releases, submitted in excess of 868 supporting depositions, prepared more than 55 pieces of trial evidence and received \$102,015.00 in bail.

By direction of local courts, the Records Unit processed 529 bench and arrest warrants. The Records Access Officer received 307 Freedom of Information Act requests and processed 44 civil subpoenas for Departmental records.

## Office of Drug Prevention and STOP-DWI



Vito J. Pinto  
Director of Office of  
Drug Prevention and  
STOP-DWI

For more than 27 years, Westchester County's Special Traffic Options Program for Driving While Intoxicated (STOP-DWI) has developed programs and strategies to help reduce alcohol and drug-related traffic crashes and fatalities. In 1981, New York State adopted legislation empowering county governments to coordinate local efforts to reduce alcohol and other drug-related traffic crashes within the context of a comprehensive and financially sustaining alcohol and highway safety program, and permitting the counties to retain DWI fines and put those funds to use locally. Since then, alcohol-related fatalities have plummeted. The strategy of providing additional funding for local law enforcement, coupled with educational programs and public information campaigns, continues to be effective.

County Executive Robert Astorino appointed former County Legislator, Vito Pinto, to the post of Director of Drug Prevention and STOP-DWI, in 2010. Mr. Pinto continues to oversee the mission of the STOP-DWI office.

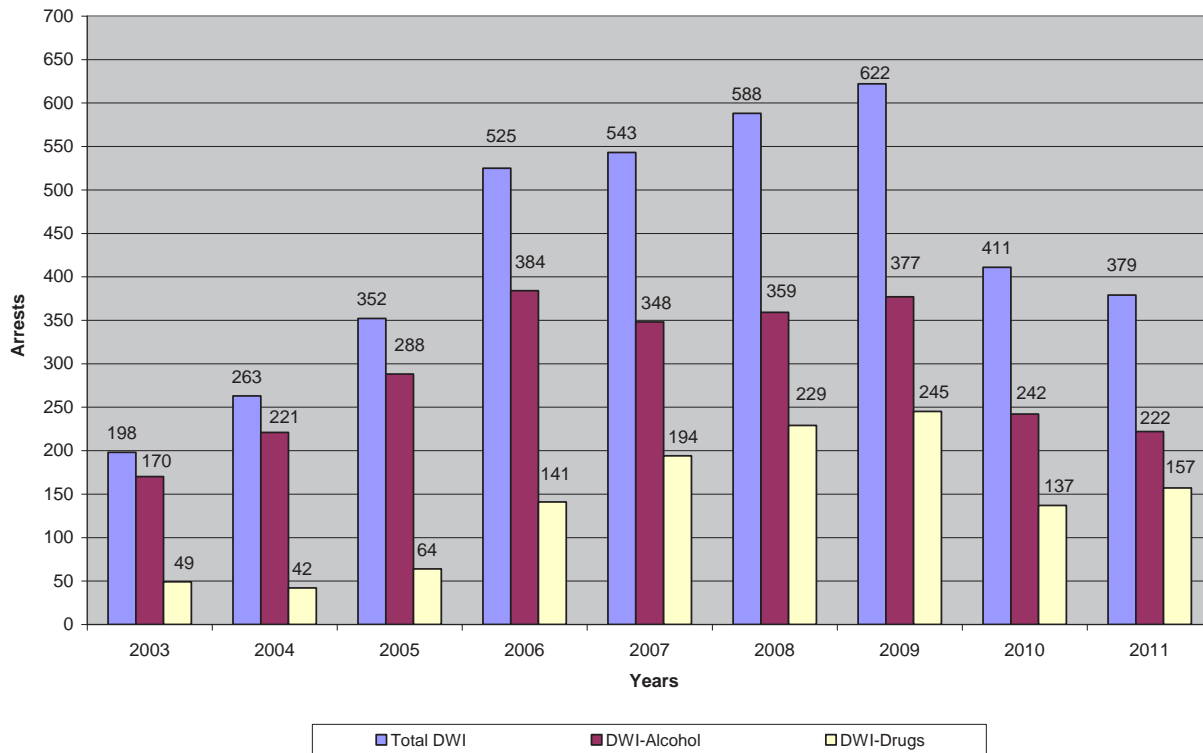
The STOP-DWI Program is a comprehensive program that places a priority on preventing drunk and drugged driving through the increased certainty of arrest and conviction. Programs that target alcohol and drug abuse are created and funded through enforcement, prosecution, probation, and public information efforts.

### **Enforcement**

With the focus placed on deterrence, the STOP-DWI Program, through its enforcement task force, funds a highly visible law enforcement campaign that uses specially marked patrol vehicles along with extra police patrols that are dedicated to DWI enforcement. The STOP-DWI program enters into contracts with all law enforcement agencies in the county to fund money for extra DWI patrols and provides necessary tools including specialized breath testing equipment to police agencies. In addition, through the county Police Academy, regular training is offered to the law enforcement community. Since 2004, every police recruit at the Westchester County Police Academy is trained in Standardized Field Sobriety Test (SFST) techniques. Continued training for recertification is also offered and supported by the STOP-DWI Program.

In 2011, county, state and local police officers in Westchester County made approximately 5,000 DWI/DWAI arrests. Although arrests are increasing, alcohol- and drug-related vehicle fatalities remain low.

### WESTCHESTER COUNTY STOP DWI ARRESTS 2003-2011



The table above represents the Westchester County Police Department's arrests over the last nine years. The County Police have been working closely with local municipalities to ensure the county's roads are monitored and remain safe. In 2011, several multi-agency sobriety checkpoints were conducted. Sobriety checkpoints not only remain effective as a law enforcement operation, they are extremely effective in demonstrating to the public that enforcement is actually taking place. In addition, law enforcement maintains a continuous vigilance throughout the year with special saturation patrols and checkpoints. These enforcement periods include Super Bowl Sunday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Halloween and the holiday period from Thanksgiving through New Year's Day.

Working with the County Police officers assigned to the Taxi and Limousine Commission, patrol officers give special attention to prom and graduation activities to ensure that young people are alcohol and drug free and are kept safe.

**Enforcement of Underage Drinking Laws (EUDL):** In 2007, Westchester County Police, the District Attorney's Office and local police departments created the Alcohol Compliance Enforcement (ACE) task force. Throughout 2011, the ACE task force conducted hundreds of compliance checks to ascertain if local merchants were complying with Alcohol Beverage Control Laws and selling alcoholic beverages only to those 21 years or older.

### **Probation**

The STOP-DWI Program works with the Probation Department to support its efforts in working with DWI offenders. In addition, support is given to assist the department with Victim Impact Panels. Sponsored by MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving), the panels, which are conducted in English and Spanish, are part of an awareness program for offenders convicted of misdemeanor charges of driving under the influence of alcohol or other drugs. Attendees are mandated by the courts to attend the Victim Impact Panel.

The panels consist of probation officers, court representatives, addiction counselors as well as emergency room professionals. A non-confrontational presentation is given by crime victims telling their own personal stories of how impaired drivers forever changed the victims' lives.

### **Prosecution**

The STOP-DWI Program works with the District Attorney's Office to support the vigorous prosecution of DWI offenders and increase the conviction rates for drunk and drugged driving offenses.

### **Public Education**

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

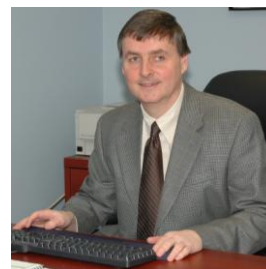
Some of the programs sponsored by the STOP-DWI office are:

- TIPS Alcohol Server Training Program is provided to on-premise (bars, restaurants) and off-premise (caterers) establishments and continued training of licensed establishments on the prevention of impaired driving;
- Community outreach efforts via public speaking engagements, booths at health fairs and trade shows, and videos, displays and printed materials made available to schools and other organizations;
- Funding of the ROADD (Reduce Our Adolescent Drinking/Drugging & Driving) Program that provides support to health educators to teach high school students about the hazards of alcohol and other drugs on their driving abilities;
- Numerous training seminars are given for prosecutors, police, educators and treatment professionals who deal with various aspects of the drunk driving issues;
- Driving Simulator: Since 2006, thousands of high school students ages 15-18 years of age have gone through and received instruction on the Westchester County Driving Simulator. This trailer-mounted system has two complete driving stations that can simulate various driving scenarios and conditions, including urban and rural, highway and street, clear weather or rain and snow, day and night, and sober, impaired and intoxicated. This program has been so successful that a Web-based version was created for use in Westchester County high schools beginning in 2009.
- Westchester County Area College Consortium: The Westchester County Area College Consortium on alcohol and drug abuse is represented by faculty members from colleges and universities in and around Westchester. Its mission is to help address the underage drinking problem both on and off campus. STOP-DWI also co-sponsors a semi-annual countywide leadership training program for Resident Advisors (RAs). RAs from every college are invited, and more than one hundred participate. This important leadership training, to observe and recognize alcohol and drug abuse problems among students, continues to be an important piece of the County's overall strategy to reduce underage drinking.
- Student Activities: STOP-DWI develops and coordinates middle school, high school and college projects to elicit and foster student efforts to deter drinking, drugging and impaired driving. The Westchester County Teen Drinking Action Council, Students Against Destructive Decisions, a youth leadership training and development conference, and prom and graduation activities are a few of the venues used to provide students with a way to promote alcohol and drug free activities and ideas.

- **Westchester Coalition for Drug and Alcohol Free Youth:** Funded by a grant from the Department of Health and Human Services through their Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, the Westchester Coalition for Drug and Alcohol Free Youth is a program sponsored by the Office of Drug Prevention and STOP-DWI. The Coalition acts as a resource for local coalitions by not only providing speakers, training workshops and information on available grants but also as a vehicle to share information. More than 30 local coalitions are members of the countywide Coalition. The program has been effective in providing additional enforcement activities during prom and graduation season. The Coalition has also assisted in providing training to law enforcement personnel in conducting compliance checks, party patrols and identifying false identification cards. Additionally, it supports a comprehensive electronic and print advertising campaign to promote awareness about the DWI issue.

## Office of Public Information

The Office of Public Information is headed by a civilian Public Information Officer (PIO) who is the Department's liaison to the media and to 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, public service announcements, the Department newsletter and the annual report. The PIO also makes department commanders and members available to the media on a wide range of topics. Lastly, the PIO coordinates video production for documentaries and news stories of special interest, assists police personnel in developing informational and promotional materials, and helps maintain and update the Department website.

### In the Media



As Westchester County is located in the nation's largest media market, the Office of Public Information received hundreds of media inquiries in 2011 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.

Photo left: WCBS-2 reporter Lou Young interviews Chief Inspector John Hodges outside the Police Academy.

## Explorer Post



The Westchester County Department of Public Safety established a Law Enforcement Explorer's Post in 2007 in the Town of Cortlandt for youth interested in law enforcement careers. Law enforcement exploring is a worksite-based program for young men and women who have completed the eighth grade and are between the ages of 14 and 20. This program helps youth gain insight into law enforcement career activities and offers experiential learning and fun-filled activities.



Detective Thomas Camerino, Post Advisor

Explorers study police procedures, first aid, CPR and forensics. They participate in role-playing situations that police officers frequently encounter, such as motor vehicle stops, domestic disturbances and customer disputes. Throughout the year, Explorers engage in a variety of community service activities, including the Town of Cortlandt Community Day, bicycle helmet safety day and child safety events.

Members of Explorer Post 2007 won have numerous awards at regional competitions that pitted them against Law Enforcement Explorer Posts from Massachusetts, Connecticut and New York. The competitions are designed to test the Explorers' judgment, leadership abilities and law enforcement skills. Explorer Post 2007 is comprised of 11 boys and girls and is under the direction of Detective Thomas Camerino, post advisor.



Explorer Advisors: PO David Hecker, Det. Nicholas Autorino, PO Shannon Reilly, Det. Thomas Camerino & Sgt. Vincent Antonecchia



Members of Explorer Post 2007

## Financial Overview

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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;
- Managing financial concerns;
- Developing, preparing and managing Department contracts and grants;
- Overseeing personnel and payroll functions; and
- Processing all requisitions for approved equipment items and supplies.



Director Christopher Burkart

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.



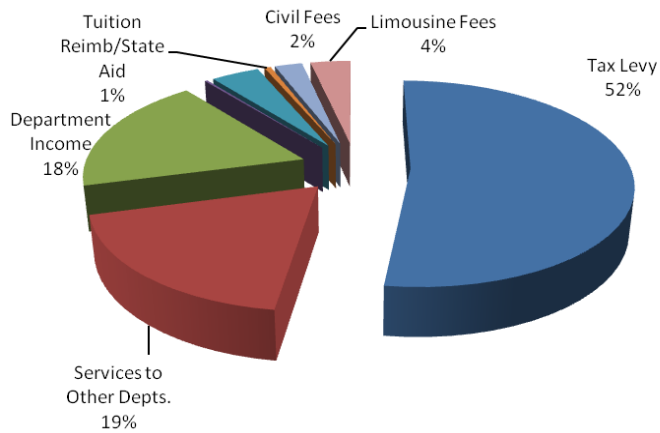
FHR members from left to right:  
back row: Connie Sirena, Esther Torres, Julie Sweeney & Lauren Cassella  
front row: Mike Dennin & Lou Codella

Department of Public Safety revenue is generated through police services that are provided to the Westchester County Airport, Westchester Community College, overtime reimbursement from construction details, voluntary overtime details at Sprout Brook and E-911 funds. 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 limousine 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. Moreover, the Department 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.

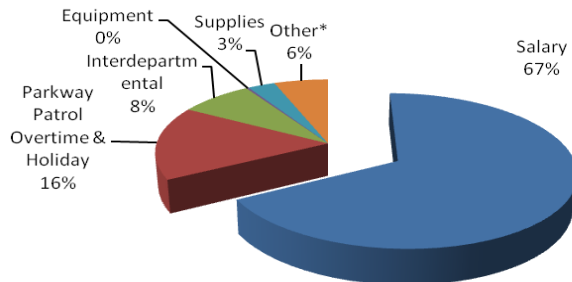
## 2012 Budget Overview

### Revenues



Funding Source	Dollars (In 000's)
Tax Levy	\$25,031
Services to Other Depts.	8,916
Department Income	8,811
Federal Revenue	114
State Revenue	1,992
Tuition Reimb./State Aid	270
Civil Fees	1,144
Limousine Fees	1,650
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$47,928</b>

### 2012 Expenditures by Category

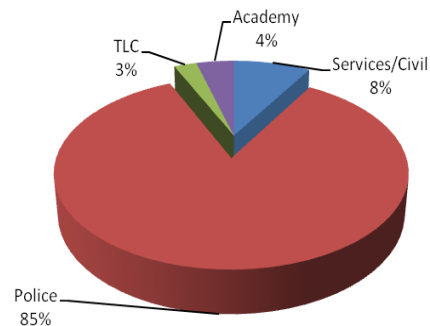


Category	Dollars (In 000's)
Salary	\$32,172
Parkway Patrol Overtime & Holiday	7,765
Interdepartmental	3,746
Equipment	132
Supplies	1,389
Other*	2,724
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$47,928</b>

Division	Dollars (In Millions)	Budgeted Positions
Services/Civil	\$4.7	33

### Expenditures

### 2012 Expenditures by Division



Other	Dollars (In 000's)
Travel	\$ 125
Educational Training	187
Utilities	291
Telephone	93
Equip Service Rental	509
Postage	119
Investigations	50
Contractual Services	1,188
Books	10
Fees	8
Repairs	91

Police	39.8	285
TLC	1.2	11
Academy	2.2	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$47.9</b>	<b>340</b>

Memberships	4
Rental Space	0
Prisoner Transport	59
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,724</b>

## Grants & Trusts

In 2012, the Department of Public Safety actively sought and obtained state, federal and other grant funds totaling \$4,479,168. These funds were utilized to support our mission and enhance the safety and quality of life for all people living, working, visiting or recreating in Westchester County. This aid funded the following programs:

Driving While Intoxicated (STOP-DWI), Forensics and Aid to Labs Accreditation, Parkway Patrol, Westchester County Drug Enforcement Administration Task Force, Town of Cortlandt Patrol, Town of Ossining Patrol, Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program, Operation Impact, Firearm Lab Capacity Enhancement Initiative Program, Buffer Zone Protection Plan, Traffic Safety.

## 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 citizens of Westchester County. Long-range Department planning projects are delineated in the heading Buildings, Land & Miscellaneous category, and include the following projects.

- BPS11 – Heavy Equipment
- BPS15 – Renovation of Public Safety Facility in Hawthorne
- BPS16 – Communications Room and Equipment Upgrade
- BPS17 – Tactical Village
- BPS18 – Armory/Public Safety Academy Upgrade
- BPS20 – Consolidate Public Safety/Emergency Services Communication Centers

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

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	<b>Police Officer Raymond Tehan</b>	<b>1925</b>	
	<b>Police Officer George Segnit</b>	<b>1929</b>	
	<b>Police Officer Clifton Cypher</b>	<b>1930</b>	
	<b>Police Officer Michael Erdley</b>	<b>1933</b>	
	<b>Police Officer Manuel Borgos</b>	<b>1938</b>	
	<b>Police Officer Reuben Conklin</b>	<b>1943</b>	
	<b>Police Officer John Chabala</b>	<b>1948</b>	
	<b>Police Officer George Ruthven</b>	<b>1954</b>	
	<b>Police Officer Francis Bradley</b>	<b>1960</b>	
	<b>Police Officer James Groark</b>	<b>1966</b>	
	<b>Deputy Sheriff William Fitzgerald</b>	<b>1968</b>	
	<b>Police Officer John Gonda</b>	<b>1969</b>	
	<b>Deputy Sheriff Kieran Grant</b>	<b>1979</b>	
	<b>Police Officer Gary Stymiloski</b>	<b>1985</b>	

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## Governing Bodies

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### Robert P. Astorino, Westchester County Executive

#### Westchester County Board of Legislators 2012

Legislator	Legislative District
John G. Testa (R)	Buchanan, Cortlandt (Part), Peekskill, Yorktown (Part)
Peter B. Harckham (D)	Bedford, Lewisboro, Mount Kisco, North Salem, Pound Ridge, Somers (Part)
Michael J. Smith (R)	Briarcliff Manor (Part), Mount Pleasant, Pleasantville, Greenburgh (Part), Harrison (Part), North Castle
Michael B. Kaplowitz (D)	Somers (Part), Yorktown (Part), New Castle
William J. Ryan (D)	White Plains (Part), Scarsdale
David B. Gelfarb (R)	Harrison (Part), Port Chester, Rye Brook
Judith A. Myers (D)	Rye, Rye City, Village and Town of Mamaroneck, Larchmont
Alfreda A. Williams (D)	Sleepy Hollow, Tarrytown, Greenburgh (Part), Elmsford, White Plains (Part))
Catherine Borgia (D)	Cortlandt (Part), Croton-on-Hudson, Town and Village of Ossining, Briarcliff Manor (Part)
Sheila Marcotte (R)	Eastchester, New Rochelle (Part), Tuckahoe
James Maisano (R)	New Rochelle (Part), Pelham, Pelham Manor
MaryJane Shimsky (D)	Irvington, Dobbs Ferry, Hastings-on-Hudson, Ardsley, Greenburgh (Part)
Lyndon D. Williams (D)	Mount Vernon (Part)
Bernice Spreckman (R)	Yonkers (Part), Mount Vernon (Part)
Gordon A. Burrows (R)	Yonkers (Part), Bronxville
Kenneth W. Jenkins, Chairman (D)	Yonkers (Part)
Virginia Perez (D)	Yonkers (Part)

#### Department of Public Safety Police Advisory Board 2012



Lawrence Otis Graham, Chairperson  
Peter D. Kamenstein  
Dr. Giulio Cavallo  
Spiro Gianopoulos  
James Burke

Watching Over



Westchester

Westchester County Department of Public Safety  
New York State Accredited Agency

