

2016 Annual Report

Westchester County
Department of Public Safety



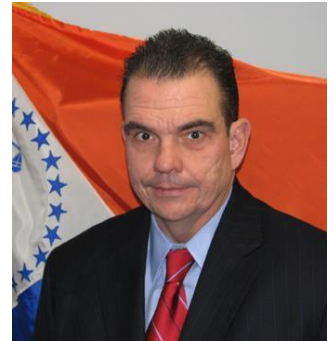
Cover photo: Marine Unit and Emergency Services Unit personnel at work at the scene of the March 2016 tugboat crash on the Hudson River.

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Robert P.
Astorino County
Executive

Department of
Public Safety
George N. Longworth
Commissioner/Sheriff



Message from the Commissioner

Most readers of this annual report have probably lived or worked in Westchester for quite a long time. Their familiarity with the Department of Public Safety is probably rooted in seeing our uniformed officers on patrol on our parkways, or at county parks and properties.

Less visible are the continually evolving ways, in a post 9/11 world, that our officers are working to keep our county safe. I'd like to share with you some of the new missions we have taken on because of complex threats we all face.

The Westchester County Police comprises about 300 men and women who are primarily assigned to three divisions: The Patrol Services Division, the Detective Division and the Special Operations Division. The uniformed members of the Patrol Division continue to fulfill the traditional mission of patrolling our parkways and keeping motorists safe. However, our patrol officers have seen their responsibilities grow significantly in recent years.

Patrol officers now carry radiation detection pagers which can detect a dirty bomb or radiological material being transported in our county. Our primary goal, of course, is to keep Westchester safe. But our Patrol officers are also a critical component of a larger federal initiative called Securing Our Cities.

A number of terrorist plots have been hatched in suburban areas, although the ultimate target was a large city. The goal was to transport vehicle-borne explosives, or potentially even chemical and biological devices, from the suburbs into a major city like New York.

Our officers are trained to detect those materials if they are being transported on our parkways and thwart an attack before it reaches its intended destination. We help provide a ring of security around the City of New York.

Patrol officers have also spear-headed our efforts to prepare schools, county government facilities, houses of worship and businesses for so-called active-shooter incidents. We are training people on how to secure their facilities to prevent such incidents or stay safe if something occurs.

The Detective Division is involved in a wide range of federal-local task forces that enhance our ability to keep our citizens safe. These partnerships give us access to critical resources and valuable information. For example, we have assigned a detective full-time to the FBI Joint Terrorist Task Force. That ensures that we always have access to real-time information about any credible threats to our county, including to its critical infrastructure, institutions and private industries.

We also have a detective from our bomb squad assigned to a federal Weapons of Mass Destruction Task Force. In fact, our bomb squad is formally known as the Hazardous Devices Unit. That's because it has been trained to deal with Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear materials and devices, not just explosives. That's the world we live in, and we have to be ready for anything.

We also recently assigned a detective to a federal Cyber Crimes Task Force. Computer crimes, from fraud and identity theft to attempts to hack into critical infrastructure, pose another area of danger to our citizens and business community. And so the county police are adapting yet again.

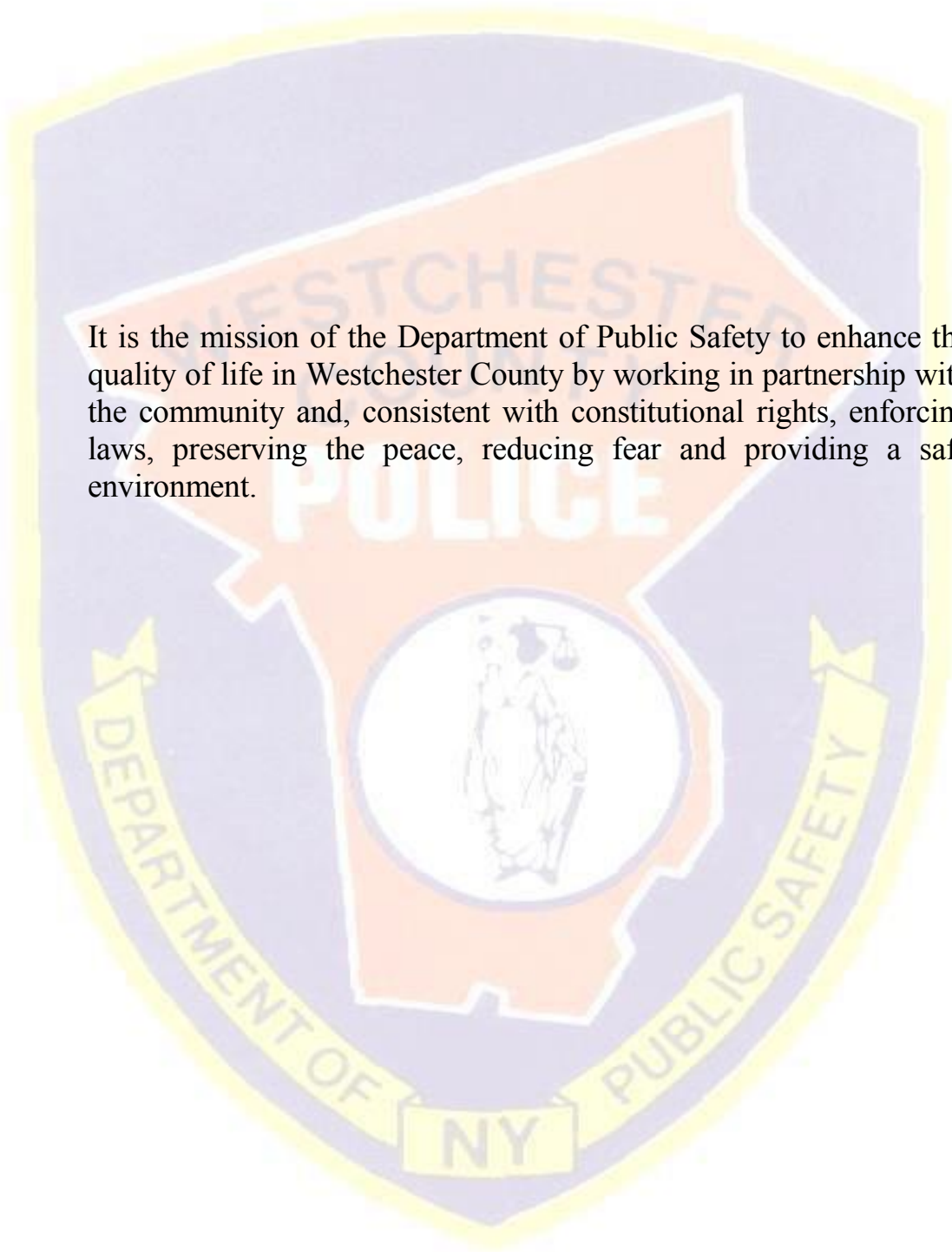
The abuse of heroin and opioid medications continues to be of great concern. Our Narcotics Unit has conducted numerous successful investigations into drug dealing in our communities. We also have committed to detectives to several FBI and DEA task forces that target the distribution and sale of larger suppliers of illegal narcotics.

Our department is grateful for the leadership and unwavering support of County Executive Robert P. Astorino. The Board of Legislators is also a critical partner in our efforts to keep Westchester a great place to live, work and visit.

George N. Longworth
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 investigations¹.

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



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

FIRST DEPUTY COMMISSIONER & CHIEF INSPECTORS

The Office of the First Deputy Commissioner:

- Reports to the Police Commissioner



**1st Deputy Commissioner
Joseph Yasinski**



Chief Inspector Roger Rokicki

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

- Patrol Services Division
- Special Operations Division
- Office of STOP-DWI

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 John Hodges

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

- Detective Division
- Civil Division
- Federal Task Force participation

Detective Division



Chief Inspector John Hodges
Commanding Officer

The Detective Division (DD) is comprised of 13 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 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.



GIU's commanding officer, Lt. Jeffrey Hunt (second from right) reviews an ongoing case with detectives.

During 2016, GIU conducted 1,514 criminal investigations in addition to 55 investigations requested by local agencies. The investigations conducted included 83 in the Town of Cortlandt, 287 in the Village/Town of Mount Kisco, 221 at the Westchester County Jail, 113 at the Grasslands Reservation, 86 Welfare/Medicaid fraud investigations and 62 sex crime/special victim investigations. There were also 106 Identity theft/retail fraud investigations. The unit also arrested 357 suspects on criminal charges resulting from field investigations and processed 460 persons on criminal charges.

Forensic Investigations Unit

The 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. FIU received full accreditation to the ISO/IEC 17025:2005 standard by the New York State Commission on Forensic Science and the American Society of Crime Lab Directors / Laboratory Accreditation Board in 2013; 2014 saw substantive efforts to expeditiously apply our accreditation rules in the best possible manner to serve the community. Considerable time and planning was required for the design and construction of a new laboratory at the Westchester County Police Academy. FIU relocated to that facility in 2015; the new laboratory offers increased space for personnel and new equipment. FIU remains the only Forensic Lab in New York State accredited in the disciplines of Firearms, Latent Print, Crime Scene, and Digital & Multimedia Evidence – and only one of 12 nationally.



ASCLD/LAB Certified

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 discharged 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.



D.S. Frank Nicolosi test firing a weapon.

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 2016, the Ballistics Section had thirteen (13) 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 388 cold hits connecting more than 368 cases in Westchester. These cases would likely not have been linked without this system. In 2016, the Ballistics Section processed a total of 339 cases involving the use of firearms. A total of 246 firearms and more than 2,700 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 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.



Detective Donald Palmer processes evidence in the FIU crime lab

In 2016, the Latent Print/Crime Scene Section investigated more than 477 cases. Latent Print detectives investigated 407 latent fingerprint cases and processed 65 crime scenes. In addition, as the Hudson East SABIS host, 90 latent print cases were submitted into SABIS in 2016 with 27 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.



Police Officer Cliff Aiola at work in the Digital Evidence Lab.

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 successful identification, arrest and conviction of dangerous offenders.

During 2016, the Digital Evidence Section investigated 44 cases and examined 265 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, working in conjunction with the Northern Westchester Task Force, provides assistance to local municipalities in several different capacities. Narcotics Unit detectives work closely with local officers by identifying, targeting and apprehending illegal narcotics sellers, and in some cases 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 to detectives, leading to additional targets and drug trafficking networks.

The Narcotics Unit works closely with several federal Law Enforcement Agencies including the Internal Revenue Service, Drug Enforcement Administration, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Working in conjunction with the aforementioned Agencies, the Narcotics Unit is able to identify and apprehend multi-jurisdictional/state drug traffickers, firearms dealers, and drug money launderers. In 2016:

- The Narcotics Unit seized in excess of 1.2 million dollars of narcotics proceeds in the form of U.S. Currency working with the I.R.S.
- The Narcotics Unit purchased large quantities' of Heroin and loaded firearms from targets in Yonkers and the Bronx while working with the F.B.I
- The Narcotics Unit initiated at 17-month investigation in late 2015, continuing through 2016 with the Putnam County Sheriff's Office, D.E.A. and additionally NYPD. The targets were major suppliers of Heroin into Westchester County, and Putnam County. The investigation targeted fourteen (14) individuals for narcotics conspiracy, firearms trafficking and violent crimes.



Ruger LCP .380 and Hi-Cap magazine purchased along with 1 ounce of heroin



.40 S&W handgun purchased along with 1 ounce of heroin



Five (5) pounds of marijuana purchased from a target in Eastchester



\$460,000 in drug proceeds seized from a target in New Rochelle

During 2016, the Narcotics Unit made over 190 drug buys and 205 arrests. Narcotics Unit detectives also seized large quantities of heroin and cocaine along with thousands of prescription pills being possessed and sold illegally. The continued rise in heroin use, and the overdoses associated with opioid abuse throughout the County continues to be the primary focus of Narcotic Unit's activity.

Crime Analysis / Intel 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 and suspects. It also disseminates the latest officer safety bulletins and criminal investigation methods and techniques necessary to enhance law enforcement's detection and apprehension capabilities. During 2016, 1,738 Crime Analysis Bulletins were sent to over 1,300 e-mail recipients throughout the tri-state area. CAU monitors the County's Second Hand Precious Metal and Gem dealers in Westchester County to ensure compliance with County law by virtue of documenting transaction logs into a centralized database that is shared with our law-enforcement partners. In 2016, over 14,680 individual items were entered into the CAU database.

CAU holds a weekly intelligence sharing meeting to facilitate the exchange of information among 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 also facilitates in the placement of License Plate Reader cameras in Westchester County for the Westchester County Security Initiative. By the end of 2016, 112 cameras were installed in 33 locations in 12 communities.

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 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. 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.



Warrant – Fugitive Unit

The mission of the Warrant – Fugitive Unit (WFU) 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. 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. Members of the unit conducted 250 such prisoner transports by car in 2016.

The Warrant-Fugitive Unit works closely with the Westchester County Integrated Domestic Violence Court to expedite the execution of Domestic Violence warrants. In 2016, the unit received 50 Domestic Violence Warrants and affected 13 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 2016, the unit received 140 Violation of Probation warrants and processed 31 arrests.

The Warrant-Fugitive Unit contributes one detective to the regional 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 2016, this collaboration resulted in the arrest of 82 fugitives, including 26 arrests for active Warrant-Fugitive Unit cases.

In 2016, the Warrant-Fugitive Unit received 819 warrants for investigation. Also in 2016, the unit conducted a total of 10 extradition trips by air for various municipalities. In 2015, there were 302 arrests recorded and processed by the unit, which included 108 field arrests affected by members of the Warrant-Fugitive Unit. The unit also cleared 650 warrants and cases in 2015.

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, U.S. Marshals/Fugitive Task Force and the IRS/Money Laundering Task Force.

Patrol Services Division



Captain Paul Stasaitis
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 Town of Cortlandt, the Village of Mount Kisco, the Westchester County Airport and county parks, office buildings and facilities. The department also provides School Resource Officers for Walter Panas High School in Cortlandt and for the 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 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

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 great 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. PSD 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 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.



Patrol officers conduct an investigation on the parkway.

Assisted by funding from the 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.

The PSD made 813 arrests in 2016. 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.

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 Village of Mount Kisco.

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.



Traffic control outside the main terminal

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 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 trailways.

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 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.

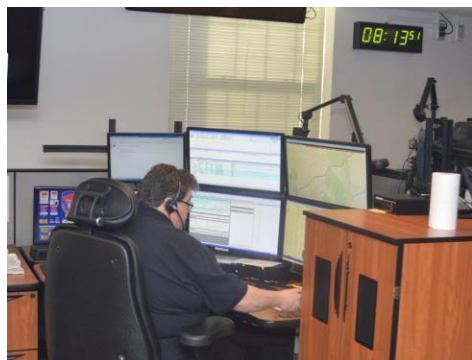
School Resource Officers

Westchester County Police provides one School Resource Officer (SRO) to Walter Panas High School in the Town of Cortlandt, two SROs to the Somers School District to cover all four schools in the district, and one SRO to the North Salem School District for its three schools. These officers have enriched their respective schools’ environment and added an extra level of security for both staff and students. SROs share similar duties in all schools where they serve, including 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 school 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 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.

Communications Unit



Communications Officer Thomas Ferguson handles a 911 emergency call.

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 2016, WCPD Communications Operators handled more than 160,00 calls for service from the public and more than 20,000 emergency calls via 911.

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 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.

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 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.

In 2016, the Public Safety Emergency Force was deployed 84 times and logged 5,500 man hours rendering assistance to local municipalities throughout the County. The PSEF also worked a number of special assignments, including DWI checkpoints.

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 Unit 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.

Aviation Unit



**Homeland Security patrols of the Tappan
Zee Bridge construction project**

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 quite familiar and adept at 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 serves to increase criminal apprehensions, assist with search and rescue, facilitate traffic management, control large scale public events, facilitate patrol and off-road enforcement of remote County properties, enhance homeland security and critical infrastructure patrols and increase level of fire protection.

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



PO Brian Powers performs maintenance on Air2

Instructors (CFI) and have expanded the training capabilities of all Unit members. 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. One TFO is an FAA licensed aircraft mechanic holding ratings in Airframe and Power Plant (A&P) and is also an FAA licensed 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 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.

The support of the fire service throughout Westchester County and beyond 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.



Bambi-bucket filled during one of the five woodland brush fires fought during 2016

Vehicle pursuits and suspect searches are inherently uncertain and quite dangerous, so the use of a helicopter during pursuits and perimeter containment dramatically improves overall safety and success and acts as a force multiplier. From its unique vantage point, an aircrew can track and maintain visual contact of fleeing vehicles and suspects, enabling ground units to slow down to protect themselves and the 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 2016 when the Aviation Unit was directly involved in the arrests of 48 suspects, and responded to 560 missions and 15,136 specific events.

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 and is accredited by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Comprised of six 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.

In 2016, HDU deployed on forty-eight (48) explosive related incidents in the County which included suspicious packages, bomb threats, recovery of explosives or military ordinance, and actual improvised explosive devices.



HDU Technician during training

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



HDU robot being deployed to investigate a suspicious device in Yonkers

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 team is deployed for tactical operations that involve high-risk warrant executions, dignitary protection, 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 for response duties. An integral component of SRT training is cross-training sessions with the department's canine teams, Aviation Unit, Marine Unit and Hazardous Devices Unit as well as tactical response teams of other departments. The SRT participates in multi-jurisdictional special response team training initiatives throughout the County.



SRT members train with the Aviation

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.

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 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)

The Department of Public Safety has 13 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, accelerants used in arsons, and the ability to track crime suspects or lost people. In 2014, a new patrol canine team and a new tracking bloodhound were added to this group. Each team is trained for a single law enforcement purpose (explosives, arson, narcotics, tracking, or patrol).

In 2015, these teams performed more than 400 searches; seized significant quantities of marijuana and cocaine; apprehended criminal suspects and located lost or missing persons; and detected suspected cases of arson.



Tracking canine Sara gets ready to go to work.

Marine Unit

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 Sound 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. In addition to its traditional law enforcement duties, the Marine Unit conducts environmental patrols and handles most waterway hazardous material spills.

During 2016, the Marine Unit made 4 arrests, including one for boating while intoxicated. In addition, it issued 87 summonses for violations of the NYS Navigation and Vehicle and Traffic Laws. The Marine Unit conducted nearly 2300 counter-terrorism patrols around critical infrastructure including the Tappan Zee Bridge, Indian Point nuclear energy center, New York Waterways ferry boats and terminals, fuel terminals, sewage treatment plants and MTA and CSX railroad lines.

The unit interdicted 38 Foreign Flagged boats as they transited county waterways to ensure the vessels were in compliance with all laws and are free from contraband and illegal persons.



Marine Officers Moreira, Saez and Westbrook assist New Rochelle FD with boat fires at Wright Island Marina



Marine officers Lt Luciano and PO Moreira rescue numerous school children from Clearwater Sloop.

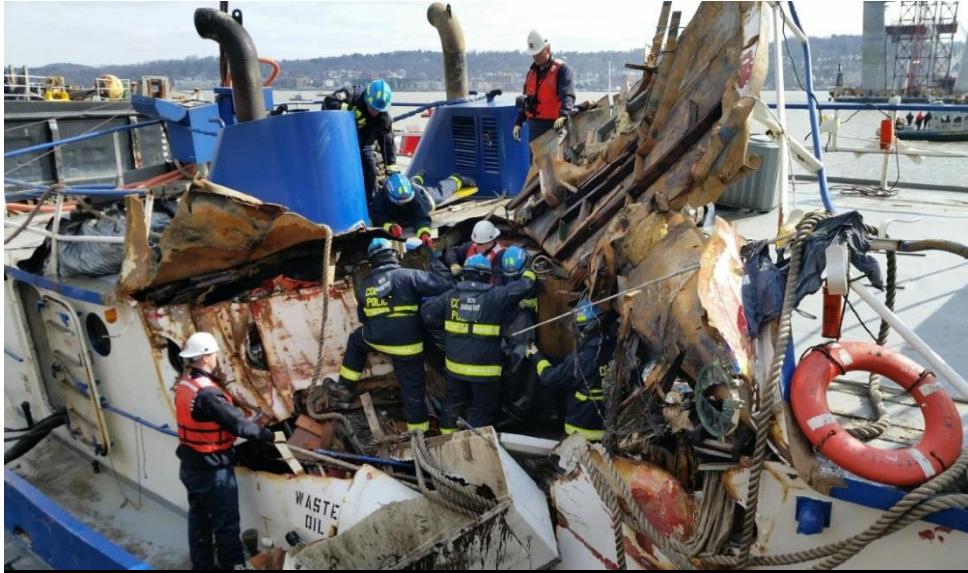
The Marine Unit also conducted 97 search and rescue missions (SARS) for vessels and/or swimmers in distress and assisted 42 disabled vessels. They also assisted local fire departments with fire suppression at 6 coastal brush fires.

The unit conducted 256 vessel safety inspections for boaters to ensure their boats were seaworthy and in compliance with applicable state and federal navigation laws.

In addition, on March 12, 2016, the Marine Unit responded to a major commercial vessel accident involving a Tug boat, on the Hudson River at the Tappan Zee Bridge. The unit initiated and commanded the search and rescue effort. As a result of the accident, the captain and two crew members lost their lives. For nearly two weeks the tug boat laid on the river bottom. On March 24, as the tug boat was salvaged to the surface, Marine Unit and ESU members extricated the last crew member from the mangled wreckage.

Emergency Service Unit

The primary function of the ESU is to provide specialized assistance and support to the department and local jurisdictions during incidents which may be beyond the normal scope of patrol duties. These incidents may include, but are not limited to, emergency medical needs, Aviation/Marine/HDU support, emotionally disturbed persons, barricaded subjects, technical rescues, motor vehicle/ trapped persons extrications, hazardous material incidents, animal control, natural disasters or other serious incidents such as explosions, civil disorders and public demonstrations.



ESU members work with the Marine Unit at the scene of the Tappan Zee tug boat crash

2016 Emergency Service Unit Activity:

Personal injury motor vehicle accidents -63
Motor Vehicle extrications – 17
Medical Aided Cases – 190
Technical Rescues – 3
HDU Assists- 8
HAZMAT Calls – 12
Scene Support (AI's, crime scenes) –15
Building/open Area Searches – 20
Assists other Jurisdictions - 13

Property Damage motor vehicle accidents - 74
Emotionally Disturbed Persons - 90
Animal Control Cases- 22
K9 Tracking assist - 38
Marine Unit assists - 19
Vehicle Lockouts - 26
Tree Removals/clearing –20
Elevator Rescues -3

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.

2016 POLICE ACADEMY TRAINING

ALERRT/ATRIC (active Killer response)	Criminal Investigator Course
Motor Vehicle Collision Investigation	Automated External Defibrillator
Special Response Team Training	Basic Course for Peace Officers
Initial Firearms Course for Peace Officers	School Resource Officer
Basic Course for Police Officers	Basic Pistol Combat Course
Basic Shield	SWAT Operator Course
CPR	Evidence Photography Course
FBI Stabilization Training	Field Training Officer
HIDTA Undercover Operations	HIDTA Gang Prosecutions
HR Police Agility Test	Human Trafficking
Instructor Development Course	Criminal Investigator Course
Standardized Field Sobriety Course	Personal Radiation Detector
Project Lifesaver Training	Breath Analysis Operator
Article 35	Seasonal Park Ranger Training
SRT Annual In-Service Training	STC Incident Management
TASER Operator and Instructor	Technical Motor Vehicle
Collision	
Unified In-Service Training	WCPD New Hire Training
Advanced Supervision and Management	Covert Entry Training
FARO 3D Scene Modeling	DWI Documentation and Testing
Crime Scene Training	Digital Evidence Technical Group
Aquatic Death Investigations	Property and Evidence
Collection	
Alternate Photography Light Source	Public Safety Media Relations
NYS Course in Police Supervision	Social Media Seminar
Patrol Rifle Qualification	Intergraph Dispatch System
Aerosol Subject Restraint (OC) Instructor	Crisis Intervention
Law Enforcement Bicycle Course	Below 100 Seminar
Collection and Packing of Impression Evidence	ATF E-Trace Ballistics
DCJS Commercial Vehicle Enforcement	RADAR/LIDAR
Domestic Violence Instructor	Electronic Measuring Devices
Tactical Emergency Casualty Care	Commercial Vehicle Weight
Laws	
FBI Crime Scene School	Basic Crime Analyst Course
FBI LEEDA Trilogy	Cell Phone Investigations
NTOA SWAT Commander Course	Disability Awareness for LE
Tactics in Traffic	Caseload Explorer
Effectively Responding to Emotional Crisis	Interview and Interrogation
Evidence Photography Workshop	Physical Fitness Instructor
Heroin Overdose Investigations	Rescue Medic Certification
DCJS Search Warrant Course	Data Analysis and Policing
K-9 Training	Tru-Narc Device Course

In 2016, the Police Academy hosted the much acclaimed FBI LEEDA management and leadership courses. Three courses dealing with the supervisory, command, and executive aspects of police leadership were well attended with a total of 22 officers of varying ranks and organizations completing the “Trilogy” program with more officers attending one or two of the aforementioned courses.

2016 also saw the beginnings of bringing Westchester County Law Enforcement into a County-wide active killer response standard known as ALERRT (Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training) which is quickly becoming the national standard. Combining integrated active-killer response with basic and more advanced tactical casualty care (depending on the officer’s response role), ALERRT covers and improved many facets of active killer response.

In 2016, the Police Academy completed its sixth full year of the Unified In-Service Training program. A total of 86 training sessions were conducted, training a total of 581 officers from 20 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: First Aid, CPR, AED, Emergency Vehicle Operation, Taser, Firearms Requalification, Defensive Tactics, Law Enforcement Response to Persons With Autism, Legal Updates, Disorder Control, and Use of Force/Article 35.

In addition to the above, the following topics were presented during an additional in-service training day devoted specifically to supervisors: Westchester Intelligence Center Functions, Social Media, Police Response to Bombing and Bomb Threats, and Supervisory Overview.

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;
- 3,723 law enforcement personnel were trained at this facility in 2016. 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

The Department was reaccredited in December 2012 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. 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 Field 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.

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 2016 resulted in the closing of multiple “delinquent” license cases and the securing of 62 firearms.

PISTOL LICENSE UNIT ACTIVITY

<i>Activity</i>	<i>2013</i>	<i>2014</i>	<i>2015</i>	<i>2016</i>
Original Applications	1,136	805	816	1289
Amended Applications	370	545	608	701
Revocation Orders	19	39	15	7
Orders to Show Cause	2	16	65	32
House Inspections	77	13	191	181
Weapons Secured	186	143	90	62
County Attorney Referrals	32	41	112	76
Criminal Record Inquiry	4,238	10,171	6154	6303

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 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., 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.

CIVIL UNIT ACTIVITY

<i>Type</i>	<i>2014</i>	<i>2015</i>	<i>2016</i>
Summonses	1,454	1,027	1,015
Executions (Income & Property)	6,193	5,694	4,892
Attachments/Seizures	4	3	4
<i>Total Civil Processes</i>	<i>7,651</i>	<i>7,392</i>	<i>6,768</i>

The Civil Unit in 2016 collected more than \$13,000,000 in judgments and fees of which more than \$1,000,000 in fees was turned over to the Westchester County Finance Department.

In 2016, 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.

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, almost 10,000 children have been processed and issued ID cards.

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.

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. In 2015, the Mamaroneck Village Board passed a Local Law for WCTLC to license taxi drivers in the Town of Mamaroneck. To date, municipal taxi driver licensing by the WCTLC includes the following municipalities: Bedford, Croton-on-Hudson, Dobbs Ferry, Irvington, Mt. Pleasant, Pleasantville, Port Chester, Tarrytown, Tuckahoe.



To further enhance WCTLC's renewal process, WCTLC launched the online driver application renewal system. WCTLC driver permit holders may renew expiring permits online, completing the same requirements for renewals by mail or at the service window. Renewing on line is quick and a driver may track the progress of their application by logging into their online account. Renewing driver permits online improves the turnaround time of a renewed permit and shortens waiting periods to receive their new permit.

Support Services Division

- Facilities and Fleet Management Unit
- Grant Management Unit
- Planning and Technology Unit
- Property Control Unit
- Records Unit



Inspector Thomas Gleason
Commanding Officer

Fleet Management

The Department fleet is comprised of more than 250 standard police and specialty vehicles. During 2016, fleet personnel placed 29 new vehicles in service, among them K-9/Hazardous Device Unit vehicles and the latest designed Ford Interceptor Sedan and Utility SUV's as the newly adopted patrol vehicles equipped with enhanced safety features i.e. reverse monitoring cameras and surveillance mode security.

Grants Management Unit

The Grants Management Unit is responsible for the administration of 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 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. The Grants Management Unit also annually reviews and rates applications submitted by numerous not for profit organizations throughout the county for Homeland Security Grant funding.

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 2016, the Property Control Unit undertook to establish an almost entirely paperless property/evidence voucher system. At the close of November 2016, such a system was in-place throughout the Department, and is currently functioning quite effectively, with improvements being made as the unit learns what works best.

Also in 2016, the Property Control Unit regularized and streamlined its disposal procedures. The combined effect of the paperless intake and streamlined disposal has allowed the unit to consistently dispose of more items than it takes in each month, which was previously a very rare occurrence.

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 2016, these records consisted of 3,973 accident reports, 24,988 uniform traffic summonses, including appearance tickets and marine summonses generated by police officers in the field.

The Records Unit prepared 248 DWI cases and 671 Patrol Arrests for trials in local courts, scheduled 4,771 court appearances for police officers, completed 902 vehicle impound releases, submitted 1148 supporting depositions to local courts, and processed \$31,570 in bail for local courts. We received and processed 682 Temporary Orders of Protection, 383 warrants for vehicle and traffic violations and Local Law violations. We handled 43 subpoenas for records and 85 requests for Audio and Video.

In addition, the Records Unit completed 784 background checks for the purpose of employment from other agencies and other county departments, prepared 418 Freedom of Information Law responses and collected \$38,790 in fees related to the processing and release of accident reports to members of the public.

The records unit is also responsible for the archiving of all of the department records. In 2016 we took in 79 boxes of records from other units for archiving and purged 252 boxes of records that had previously been archived and now were beyond their retention date.

Office of Drug Abuse Prevention and STOP-DWI



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

STOP-DWI stands for "Special Traffic Options Program for Driving While Intoxicated." The STOP-DWI Program 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.

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 groups and 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, at any level, 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 out 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 – 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 breath testing equipment and offers specialized 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.

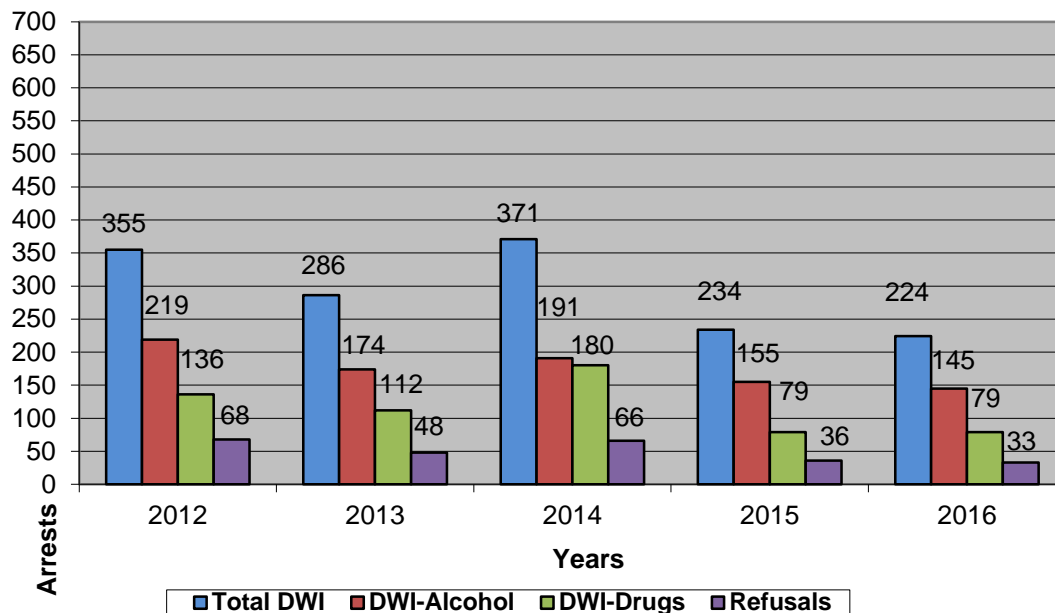
ENFORCEMENT

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 necessary tools including specialized breath testing equipment.

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 training for recertification is also offered and supported by the STOP-DWI Program.

According to the latest data, in 2016, Westchester County police officers made 224 DWI arrests. This is down from 234 arrests in 2015. (see chart below)

**WESTCHESTER COUNTY STOP DWI ARRESTS
2012-2016**



In addition, the County Police work closely with local municipalities to ensure the County roads are monitored and the roads are safe. In 2016, 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.

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. The details are a collaborative effort by state, county and local law enforcement.



Enforcement details, organized by the Patrol Services Division, include an officer trained as Drug Recognition Expert who assists in identifying and apprehending those impaired by drugs other than alcohol. In the 2015-2016 grant year, 8 coordinated details (including Super Bowl Sunday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Halloween and the holiday period from Thanksgiving through New Year's Day) were carried out with other local municipalities. 234 V&T (Vehicle and Traffic) summons were issued and 66 arrests were made.

Prom 2016 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 2016, over 6,750 students from 39 schools arrived at their proms safely.

PROBATION

The STOP-DWI Program works with the county Probation Department to support its efforts in working with its DWI cases. Probation's DWI Felony and DWI Evening Units consist of 17 DWI Officers and 3 DWI supervisors. DWI evening teams monitor high-risk felony and misdemeanor offenders. Probation Officers assigned to these teams maintain specialized caseloads in order to provide enhanced supervision. This includes surveillance, unscheduled field visits, close monitoring of treatment progress and increased Also-Sensor testing and urine screening.

In 2016, the Probation Department had approximately 2,023 cases under its supervision. These cases, included 1,234 misdemeanor DWI offenders and 789 Felony DWI offenders. DWI offenders who have lost their driving privileges due to court-imposed conditions of probation may be allowed to obtain driving privileges through the installation of an approved ignition interlock device. The Probation Department monitored over 1,008 conditional discharge cases where ignition interlock was ordered.

In addition, support is given to assist the Probation Department with the supervision of the 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 driving under the influence of alcohol or other drugs. Attendees are mandated by the courts to attend the Victim Impact Panel. A non-confrontational presentation is given by crime victims telling their own personal stories of how impaired drivers forever changed their lives. During 2016, six sessions were conducted and 1,567 attendees participated.

PROSECUTION/COURT RELATED

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. An Assistant District Attorney is assigned to coordinate the preparing and prosecution of all DWI cases in Westchester County. In 2016, the DA's Office handled 1,881 cases of which 1,678 were misdemeanors/violations and 215 were felony cases.

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. Some of these programs are:

- TIPS Alcohol Server Training Program to on premise (bars, taverns) and off-premise (caterers) establishments and continued training of licensed establishments on the prevention of impaired driving;
- Community outreach efforts via public speaking engagements, presenting booths at health fairs and trade shows and by making available videos, information about the STOP-DWI phone app, displays and printed materials 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. In the 2015-2016, over 2,492 high school students who are just beginning to drive (generally 10th grade) participated in this program;
- Numerous training seminars are given for prosecutors, police, educators and treatment professionals who deal with various aspects of the drunk/drugged driving issues;

- **DWI 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. In 2016, the Simulator was brought to 28 schools and community forums throughout Westchester County affording well over 1,615 students the opportunity of learning hands-on about driving safety;



- **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 Youth to Youth, 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;
- **MedReturn Units Program Initiative:** The Office of Drug Abuse Prevention & Stop-DWI in conjunction with the Westchester Coalition for Drug & Alcohol Free Youth, local municipal coalitions and the County Department of Environmental Facilities purchased MedReturn Units for Westchester County Police Departments. There are now 39 units in police departments and other facilities throughout Westchester County where residents are able to drop off and dispose of their unused medications in a safe and proper manner. In 2016, over 7,639 lbs. of medications were collected by the participating police departments. The successful program has drawn widespread interest and has ensured that the drugs and medications are disposed of properly.



WESTCHESTER COALITION FOR DRUG AND ALCOHOL FREE YOUTH

Westchester Coalition for Drug and Alcohol Free Youth: Funded by a grant from the Department of Health and Human Services, the Westchester Coalition for Drug and Alcohol Free Youth is a program administered by the Office of Drug Abuse 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. Each year the Coalition sponsors a youth leadership conference for students in Westchester County. In 2016, over 300 high middle school students participated in the full day program at the County Center. 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 and identifying false identification cards. On the April 20, 2016, for Marijuana Prevention Day, the Westchester Coalition joined with 26 local coalitions to celebrate and support Westchester County youth who are making healthy decisions. April 20th was proclaimed by the County Executive as 'Healthy Teen Brain Day' in Westchester County.

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, social media, public service announcements 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 informational and promotional materials, and helps maintain and update the Department website.

In addition, the PIO is a 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.

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 2016 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.

Below: PIO O'Leary briefs the media about a drowning that occurred in June 2016 at Croton Point Park in Croton-on-Hudson.





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 have won 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 14 boys and girls and is under the direction of Detective Thomas Camerino, post advisor.



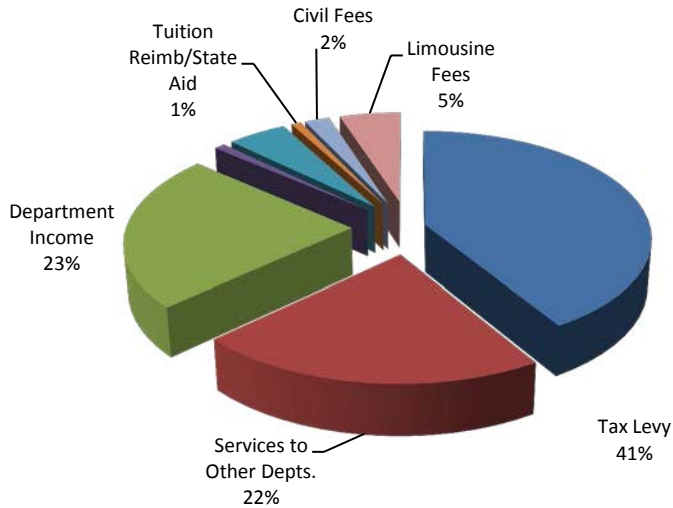
Explorer Advisors: PO David Hecker, Det. Nicholas Autorino, PO Shannon Reilly, Det. Thomas Camerino & Sgt. Vincent Antonecchia



Members of Explorer Post 2007

2016 Budget Overview

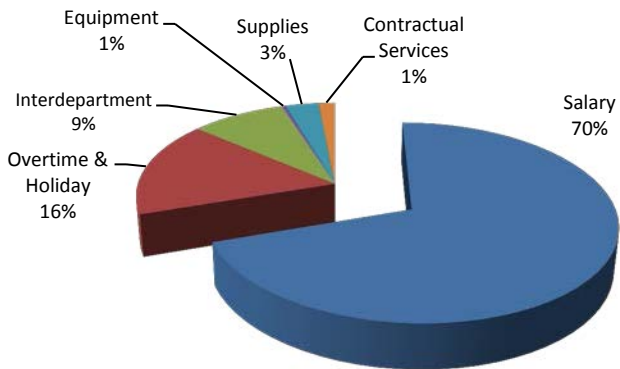
Revenues



Funding Source	Dollars (In 000's)
Tax Levy	\$20,505
Services to Other Depts.	10,842
Department Income	11,599
Federal Revenue	450
State Revenue	2,436
Tuition Reimb/State Aid	406
Civil Fees	1,022
Limousine Fees	2,486
Total	\$49,746

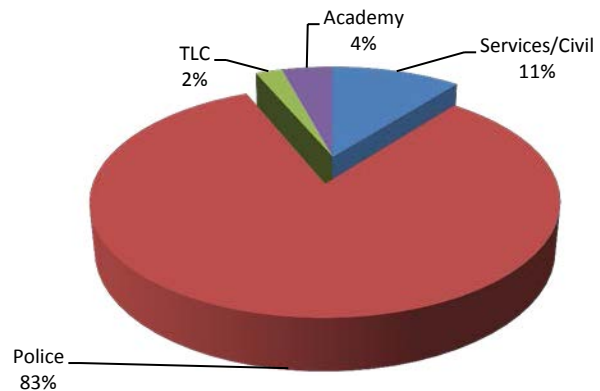
Expenditures

2016 Expenditures by Category



Category	Dollars (In 000's)
Salary	\$33,910
Overtime & Holiday	8,009
Interdepartmental	4,255
Equipment	196
Supplies	1,483
Contractual Services	713
Other	1,180
Total	\$49,746

2016 Expenditures by Division



Division	Dollars (In Millions)	Budgeted Positions
Services/Civil	\$5.3	36
Police	41.2	312*
TLC	1.1	11
Academy	2.1	10
Total	\$49.7	369

*Includes Grants (36)

Grants & Trusts

In 2015, the Department of Public Safety actively sought and obtained state, federal and other grant funds totaling \$8,955,997. 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, Village of Mount Kisco 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.

- BPS15 – Renovation of Public Safety Facility in Hawthorne
- BPS18 – Armory/Public Safety Academy Upgrade
- BPS22 – Heavy Equipment.
- BPS23 – Vehicle acquisition and Replacement.

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
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

Robert P. Astorino, Westchester County Executive

Westchester County Board of Legislators

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

Department of Public Safety Police Advisory Board 2016



Lawrence Otis Graham, Chairperson
Peter D. Kamenstein
James Burke
Fernando Mateo
Joseph Paresi

Watching Over



Westchester

Westchester County Department of Public Safety
New York State Accredited Agency