To: Brattleboro Select board  
Via: Peter Elwell, Town Manager  
From: Michael R. Fitzgerald, Chief of Police  
Date: 4 October 2019

SUBJ: SEPTEMBER 2019 MONTHLY REPORT

Summary of Major Activities/Work Projects:

Officers responded to 851 calls for service/incidents and made 53 arrests resulting in 73 criminal charges. Included in these calls for service were 9 overdoses with 0 resulting in death. This does not mean there were only 9 overdoses in Brattleboro for this period. It merely means that these are the numbers that were responded to by police.

40 vehicle operation citations were issued along with 271 warnings. Officers spent approximately 261 hours on foot patrol in the downtown area as well as other neighborhoods and parks in Town.

Cases of Interest:

Brattleboro Police Department responded to a business on Putney Rd for a report of a theft. The investigation showed that Laura L. Frankiewicz had stolen a large sum of money from the business. Frankiewicz was arrested for grand theft larceny.

Brattleboro Police Department responded to a business on Cotton Mill Hill for a report of theft. Subsequent investigation revealed that Aaron A. Aulis took a watch worth approximately $150.00 from a breakroom self. Aulis was arrested for Petit Larceny.

Brattleboro Police Department took a report of a burglary that occurred at a business on Flat Street. After an investigation, it was discovered that Jesse L. Johnson had smashed a window and stolen several items from the store. Johnson was arrested for Burglary, Grand Larceny and Unlawful Mischief.

Brattleboro Police responded to a business on Flat Street for a dispute. Through investigation it was determined that Kimberly A. Morgan caused a disturbance by yelling at employees inside the business. Morgan was located and arrested for Disorderly Conduct. Officers cleared the scene and a short time later, officers responded back to the business on Flat Street on a report that Morgan was back in front of the business yelling and swearing at staff. Morgan was once again arrested for Disorderly Conduct.
A Brattleboro Police Officer was flagged down by a taxi driver who reported a female in his cab appeared to be experiencing a medical issue and was not responsive. The officer located Carol Van Wormer in the back seat huffing on an aerosol can. It was determined that she did not have the means to pay for the taxi and later determined that she did not pay for the remaining cans of the electronics duster in her possession. She was arrested for Theft of Services and Retail Theft.

While on directed patrol on Putney Road, officers of the Brattleboro Police Department conducted a motor vehicle stop for defective equipment. Subsequent investigation revealed the operator of the vehicle, Richard J. Daigle, was wanted on a hold without bail warrant from Windsor County for Child Support Contempt. Daigle was arrested and held until the next court date to face the underlying charge.

Brattleboro Police Department responded Canal Street for a report of a theft and aggravated assault. Subsequent investigation revealed that Bobby Ray Smith had stolen money from a female’s backpack. The female sustained minor injuries and declined treatment. Smith was arrested and charged with Larceny from the Person. Smith was held on $1,000 dollars bail.

Brattleboro Police responded to a local motel on Route 5 for a report of a fight between a male and female. Investigation revealed that Jonathan Burdick had bitten a 25-year-old female. The female sustained a non-life-threatening injury and declined medical treatment on scene. Burdick was arrested and charged with the crime of Domestic Assault.

Officers of the Brattleboro Police Department responded to a Disorderly Conduct report at the intersection of Estey and Williams St. Subsequent investigation lead to the officers arresting Tatishana Mitchell, Courtney Jacobs, Heather Parker, Eric Hurlbert and 1 juvenile with Disorderly Conduct. The 4 adults will appear in Windham County Superior Court Criminal and the juvenile will appear in Windham County Court Family Division.

Brattleboro Police observed a traffic violation on Canal Street. Before the officer was able to conduct a traffic stop, the operator turned onto Brook Street and traveled through Frost Place at a high rate of speed. The operator, identified as Sean S. Wall then crashed into the side of the bridge spanning Elliot Street at Frost Place, as well as another vehicle traveling on Elliot Street. Wall was treated at the scene for minor injuries. Wall was arrested and charged with the offense of Negligent Operation of a Motor Vehicle. The operator of the other vehicle was not injured. There was damage caused to the bridge railing on Elliot Street. Officers on scene were assisted by members of Brattleboro Department of Public Works, Brattleboro Fire, and Rescue, Inc.

The Brattleboro Police Department, along with the Brattleboro Fire Department and Rescue Inc., responded to Justin Holden Drive for a report of man struck by a train. When officers arrived, they discovered James Dyer Jr. lying in the area with serious injuries. Dyer was transported to Brattleboro Memorial Hospital with serious injuries. Dyer was later transported to Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center in Dartmouth NH for further treatment. Investigation into the cause of the collision is ongoing. There are no criminal charges related to this incident at this time.

Brattleboro Police Department responded to a residence on Western Ave to investigate a possible domestic dispute. The complainant reported receiving a concerning phone message regarding a friend of his who may be in distress due to a subject violating a restraining order. Officers responded to the residence where it was determined that Carlos J. Rodriguez was in violation of an active abuse prevention order. Subsequent investigation led to further charges of sexual assault, burglary of an occupied dwelling, and aggravated stalking. Rodriguez was transported to the Brattleboro Police Department where he was lodged and ordered held without bail.
Brattleboro Police responded to a residence on South Main Street for a reported fight. The individuals involved left the scene prior to police arrival. The investigation revealed that Matthew Raymond engaged in fighting behavior throughout the day. Raymond returned to the scene and was arrested for disorderly conduct.

Brattleboro Police department responded to a motor vehicle crash on Main St. It was reported a truck had struck 2 unoccupied parked vehicles. A witness on scene reported the truck left the scene but was able to provide a registration number. The witness reported the suspect's truck sustained damage to the passenger front wheel. Dept of Motor vehicle records indicated the suspect vehicle was registered to William Laporte of Guilford. A truck matching the description was located several hours later on a trailer being towed behind another truck. The plates had been removed, the damage still visible. Laporte was operating the second truck and admitted to having been involved in the crash. Laporte was arrested for Leaving the Scene of an Accident.

Brattleboro Police responded to a report of a male and female arguing in the area of Main Street and Flat Street. Responding officers observed a female chasing a male. The male left the area before he could be detained and identified. The female identified as Kristin B Pierce, continued to scream and cause a disturbance in the area. Pierce was arrested for Disorderly Conduct.

Officers of the Brattleboro Police Department were on patrol on Putney Road. Officers located a subject in the middle of the roadway creating a traffic hazard. The subject was not allowing a vehicle to pass on Putney Road which is a public highway. The subject was also not listening to commands given by the officers. Justin A. Kidd. Kidd was placed under arrest for Disorderly Conduct and transported to the Brattleboro Police Department where he was ordered to be held until sober.

Brattleboro Police observed a vehicle parked in a lot on Canal St. This lot is known to Police for high criminal activity. Police contacted the operator of the vehicle, Shenandoah Gilbert, a 43-year-old female from Vernon, VT. Investigation revealed that Gilbert was in possession of heroin. Gilbert was placed under arrest and transported to the Brattleboro Police Department. There she was processed and released on a citation.

Brattleboro Police Department conducted a motor vehicle stop on Oak Grove Avenue for an illumination required violation. The operator of the vehicle was identified as Ryan Cobb. Subsequent investigation revealed that Cobb’s driver’s license was suspended in Vermont. Cobb also gave a fictitious name. Cobb was arrested for Driving with a criminally Suspended License, and false reports to law enforcement authorities.

Brattleboro Police were conducting a foot patrol in the area under the Elm St. Bridge. While on patrol, they observed a female displaying indicators of drug usage. Investigation revealed that Tamsyn Maskell was in possession of heroin. Maskell was arrested for possession of the heroin.

Officers of the Brattleboro Police Department were on directed foot patrol when they were dispatched to a report of a male exposing their genitals to a female in the Harmony parking lot. Subsequent investigation lead to the arrest of Shawn P. Gallagher. Gallagher was transported to the Brattleboro Police Department where he was held on $1,000 bail.

Brattleboro Police Department received a report of 2 males fighting on South Main St. Upon arrival of officers one of the subjects had left the scene. Subsequent investigation led to the arrest of James Douglas Jr. and James Douglas Sr. Both were arrested for Disorderly Conduct.
The Brattleboro Police Department responded to a complaint that Carol VanWormer would not get out of a vehicle on Canal St. The owner of the vehicle stated that he gave a ride to VanWormer and once they arrived at Canal St., he wanted her to get out of the vehicle, but she refused. When the officers arrived VanWormer was still in the vehicle and exited once they directed her to. Once VanWormer exited the vehicle she was seen inhaling a can of electronic duster. VanWormer was arrested for Disorderly Conduct.

Brattleboro Police responded to a residence on Cottage St. to assist another agency with a compliance check. Upon searching Akey’s residence it was found that he was in possession of heroin, crack cocaine, and multiple prescription pills that he did not have a prescription for. Akey was also in possession of a stolen iPad. Akey was arrested on multiple charges.

The Brattleboro Police Department was on patrol on Putney Rd. An officer located a vehicle that had crashed into a small ravine in the area of the rotary. Investigation revealed that John Burch was traveling on Putney Rd when he drove off the travel portion of the road, drove through a light pole and ended up in the ravine. Further investigation led to the arrest of Burch for driving under the influence of alcohol. The Police Department was assisted on scene by the Brattleboro Fire Department, Rescue Inc and A’s Towing.

The Brattleboro Police Department responded to a local motel for a report of a family fight. Subsequent investigation revealed that Timothy Calkins had assaulted a family member on three separate occasions spanning approximately 4 months and on one of those occasions held the family member against their will. Nobody was treated for injuries on scene. Calkins was arrested for Second Degree Aggravated Domestic Assault x 3 and Unlawful Restraint. Calkins was transported to Southern State Correctional Facility where he was held without bail per the order of the court.

Special Meetings/Communications/Events:

Officer’s and staff continue to make numerous appearances to meet and discuss the concerns of the citizens at the senior center, elementary schools, with various organizations and community centers. The topics included personal safety, crime trends, homelessness and internet safety. The Brattleboro Police Department continues to make strides in educating and informing the citizens of our activity and to solicit their feedback on how we can improve our services.

Budget Concerns/Impacts:

Monitoring the FY 2020 budget. Preparing for the FY2021 budget.

Staffing:

One officer completed the Brattleboro Police Department’s 12-week Field Training Program and is assigned to the 2nd shift.

We currently have two recruits attending the Vermont Police Academy 108th Basic class.

The Department is short 3 positions. We are continuously accepting applications as we will anticipate filling vacancies from turnovers and retirements.