

**To:** Brattleboro Select board  
**Via:** Peter Elwell, Town Manager  
**From:** Michael R. Fitzgerald, Chief of Police  
**Date:** 3 October 2018

**SUBJ: SEPTEMBER 2018 MONTHLY REPORT**

**Summary of Major Activities/Work Projects:**

Officers responded to 912 calls for service/incidents and made 47 arrests resulting in 74 criminal charges. Included in these calls for service were 6 overdoses with 1 resulting death. This does not mean there were only 6 overdoses in Brattleboro for this period. It merely means that these are the numbers that were responded to by police.

30 vehicle operation citations were issued along with 251 warnings. Officers spent approximately 203 hours on foot patrol in the downtown area as well as other neighborhoods and parks in Town.

**Cases of Interest:**

Brattleboro Police received a complaint of a motor vehicle break in on Main Street, during the incident the vehicle was damaged. After an investigation, police arrested James Douglas. Douglas was issued a citation to appear in court to answer the charges.

Brattleboro Officers responded to a residence on Brookside Dr. regarding Corey Archer violating an abuse prevention order. Archer left the area before officers arrived. Officers located Archer on Elliot St. and placed him under arrest for violating the order. Archer will appear in court to face the charge.

Brattleboro Police responded to the Harmony parking lot for a theft from a vehicle. Upon arrival, police met with a delivery truck driver who stated 5 money bags were stolen from the delivery truck. Through video surveillance police were able to identify Quadir N. Murray as the suspect who stole the bags from the truck. Murray was located and was issued a citation to appear in court to answer the charge.

Brattleboro Police received a complaint of a theft from a motor vehicle. The complainant was able to give an accurate time and location for the theft. Police viewed the surveillance footage and recognized the suspect as Nicholas D. Kane. Kane was issued a citation for Petit Larceny and will appear at the Windham County Superior Court to answer his charge.

Officers of the Brattleboro Police Department, while investigating a noise disturbance at a residence on Canal St., located Colleen Bagley. Bagley had outstanding warrants out for her arrest. Bagley was arrested and held in lieu of bail and appeared in Windham County Superior Court: Criminal Division to face the underlying charges.

A Brattleboro Police officer observed a vehicle traveling south on Canal Street with defective equipment. A traffic stop was conducted and the operator, Holly J Fiske, was found to be driving while under the influence. Fiske was arrested and transported to the Brattleboro Police Department where she was processed. Fiske was released on a citation ordering her to appear in Windham Superior Court to answer to the charge.

The Brattleboro Police Department responded to a report of a possible assault that had occurred at a residence on South Main St. Upon arrival, it was discovered that Jason D. Skibniowsky had

assaulted a female. Skibniowsky was arrested and held without bail. He will appear at Windham County Superior Court, Criminal Division to answer to this charge.

Brattleboro Police responded to Western Avenue for the report of suspicious activity. Through investigation it was determined Ahmed Jaafar was yelling and acting unruly in public, waking residents in the area. Jaafar was placed under arrest and transported the Brattleboro Police Department for processing. Jaafar was later released with conditions and a citation ordering him to appear at the Windham County Superior Courthouse to answer to the charge.

Brattleboro Police took a trespassing complaint from a downtown business. When police arrived, they found Qadir Murray had entered the property of the business after he had previously been trespassed. Murray was later located and issued a citation to appear in court.

The Brattleboro Police Department responded to a residence on Western Avenue for a report of an assault. Investigation revealed that Peggy Strobeck had committed domestic assault. She was arrested and transported to the Brattleboro Police Department for processing. Strobeck was released and will appear at Windham County Superior Court, Criminal Division.

The Brattleboro Police Department took a report of a male that had brandished a firearm and pointed it at another male. Brian L. Mason pulled a firearm on another male. No one was injured during this interaction. Mason was arrested for Aggravated Assault and later released to appear at Windham County Superior Court, Criminal Division.

The Brattleboro Police Department took a report of a vehicle that had driven away with a parking boot on it. It was discovered that the vehicle belonged to Walter I. White. The vehicle was located, and White was charged with Unlawful Mischief for the damage to the boot. He will appear at Windham County Superior Court, Criminal Division.

A family reported that their 78-year-old relative had walked away from their home. The woman, is of an age and condition that made it unsafe for her to be away from home without the care of others. Brattleboro police began a search of the area. A K-9 from Chester, VT came to the scene and assisted with a track, but she was not located. BPD stood up its Incident Command function to coordinate an investigation and search. A Brattleboro officer assigned to a search team located the woman behind a house near a wooded area about a mile from her home. It was apparent from her condition that she had been there for several hours. However, she was conscious and able to communicate with the officer. Rescue was summoned to the scene and transported her to Brattleboro Memorial Hospital. The woman did not suffer any life-threatening injuries. Approximately 25 personnel were involved in responding to this incident. BPD would like to thank the following agencies for their assistance: Brattleboro Fire Department – search teams and logistics, Vermont State Police – search teams and logistics, New England K-9 Search and Rescue – search teams and the Chester, VT Police – K-9 team.

Brattleboro Police were called to 77 Flat St; Brattleboro Transportation Center, for a report of an intoxicated male. Upon arrival Police located Curtis Henry. Henry had previously been trespassed from the Transportation Center for drug usage. Henry was placed under arrest and transported to the Brattleboro Police Department. Henry was released on a citation, and will appear at Windham County Superior Court to answer his charge

Brattleboro Police responded to a pharmacy on Putney Rd for a prescription fraud. Upon arrival police viewed the prescription, which had been altered. Investigation revealed that James J. Harris, from Newport Center, VT, had altered a valid prescription. Harris was issued a citation for falsifying a prescription. Harris will appear in court to answer his charge.

The Brattleboro Police responded Elliot Street for a report of a fight taking place between two individuals. After investigating, it was determined that Ryan C Moran 34, of Enfield Connecticut

had assaulted another male while attempting to take some of his belongings. Both the victim and Moran sustained non-life threatening injuries. Moran was arrested and is being held at Southern State Correctional Facility on \$5000 bail. He is scheduled to appear in Windham County Superior Court to face the charges.

Brattleboro Officers responded to a business on Canal Street on a report of a dispute. Upon arrival, Officers learned that a vehicle had left the scene with damage to its windshield. Officers conducted a search of the area and located the vehicle. They contacted its occupants and identified the operator as Tameeka L Ellis. Ellis was found to be operating a motor vehicle with a Criminally Suspended Driver's License. She was arrested and transported to the Brattleboro Police Department where she was fingerprinted and photographed. She was issued a Citation and is scheduled to appear in Windham County Superior Court to answer to the charge.

The Brattleboro Police Dept. responded to a local business for a report of shoplifting. The business advised they had a female in custody. The female was identified as Linda L. Wainwright and a records check did show she had been previously issued a trespass warning for this business. Wainwright was arrested and transported to the Brattleboro Police station where she was fingerprinted and photographed for this incident. Wainwright was released on citation to appear at the Windham Superior Court, Criminal Division.

Brattleboro Police encountered Bobby Bethune, a 18 year old male from NJ. Bethune had an active arrest warrant and was arrested. Bethune was also charged with possession of a controlled substance, along with violating his court ordered conditions of release. Bethune was transported to the Brattleboro Police Department, where he was processed, and lodged in lieu of bail for the warrant. Bethune will appear at Windham County Superior Court to answer his new charges.

Officers of the Brattleboro Police Department responded to a business on Canal St in Brattleboro for a report of a suspicious male subject. The subject was located behind the business and identified as Denny R. Bills Sr. A records check showed Bills had been previously trespassed from the business 2 days prior. Bills was arrested and transported the Brattleboro Police station where he was processed for this offense. Bills was released on citation to appear at the Windham Superior Court, Criminal Division.

Officers of the Brattleboro Police Department located Phyllis Parent in a public building on Flat St., in violation of a No Trespass Warning and Court-ordered conditions of release. Parent was arrested and later released with a citation. Parent will appear in Windham County Superior Court: Criminal Division to face the charge.

Brattleboro police responded to an Elliot Street business for a reported dispute. When they arrived, an investigation took place and police arrested Nathan Heist for attempting to steal beer and assaulting two store clerks at the business. Heist was transported to the Brattleboro Police Department for processing and then released on a citation to appear in court to answer to the charges of retail theft and simple assault times 2.

Officers of the Brattleboro Police Department were on foot patrol downtown when they observed suspicious activity in a public building on Flat St. Subsequent investigation revealed that Michelle Bibens was in possession of crack cocaine and other drugs regulated by the state of Vermont and was trespassing. Bibens was issued a citation and released and will appear in Windham County Superior Court: Criminal Division to face the charges.

Officers of the Brattleboro Police Department responded to a residence in Brattleboro for a report of a dispute. A male victim reported he had been sprayed in the face with air freshener, causing eye pain, by a female roommate. The male victim did not require medical attention for his injury. The female roommate was identified as Katie Comeau. Comeau was arrested and transported to the Brattleboro Police station. She was later released on conditions of release and a citation to appear at the Windham Superior Court, Criminal Division.

The Brattleboro Police observed a vehicle traveling north in the south bound lane on Route 30. A traffic stop was conducted and the operator, Aaron A Jacobs was found to be driving while under the influence. Jacobs was arrested and transported to the Brattleboro Police Department where he was processed. Jacobs was released on a citation ordering him to appear in Windham County Superior Court to answer to the charge.

A female reported to the Brattleboro Police Department that she had just been assaulted by her boyfriend, who was later identified as Harrison E. Rouleau, a 21-year-old male from Bellows Falls, VT. Investigation revealed that Rouleau had harmed the female, and attempted to cause serious bodily injury. The victim was treated at the hospital for non-life-threatening injuries. Rouleau was located and placed under arrest for 1<sup>st</sup> degree aggravated domestic assault, and for an active warrant. Rouleau was transported to the Brattleboro Police Department, where he was issued a citation and held in lieu of bail. Rouleau will appear at the Windham County Superior Court to answer his charges.

Officers from the Brattleboro Police Department responded to a local business for a report of a theft. The complainant reported a male subject had stolen a donation box. The male subject fled from the establishment, breaking the box on the sidewalk outside, taking the money, and then continued away from the business where he was apprehended by witnesses. The subject was identified on scene as a female, James Douglas 28 of Brattleboro. After Douglas was advised she was under arrest, and while being placed into handcuffs she pulled away from the officer and attempted to free herself from the officer's hold. Douglas was then placed in police cruiser while the witnesses were being interviewed. During this time, she escaped from the cruiser and fled the scene on foot. Douglas was later located and taken back into custody. Douglas was issued conditions of release and held on lack of \$1,000 bail. She was issued citation to appear at the Windham Superior Court, Criminal Division.

Brattleboro Police responded to an establishment on Canal St for a report of a stolen car. During the investigation, it was determined that the complainant, Dana Leclair, a 30-year-old female from Brattleboro, had lied to police to cover up actions that she had committed. Leclair was issued a citation for false information and will appear at Windham County Superior Court.

The Brattleboro Police Department responded to a residence on Clark Street for a report of a male throwing bottles off of a balcony onto the street. Upon arrival there were several broken beer bottles on the street. Contact was eventually made with Dylan Brooks. Brooks used profane language and disrupted the flow of vehicular and pedestrian traffic in the public space of his apartment as well as on Clark Street where people were present. Brooks was issued a citation to appear in Windham Superior Court: Criminal Division.

Officers from the Brattleboro Police Department responded to a residence on Williams Street for a report of Thomas Stetson breaking car windows. Upon investigation it was determined that Stetson smashed out the window of a vehicle as well as threatened individuals at the residence. Stetson was arrested and processed at the Brattleboro Police Department. He was temporarily

lodged at the police department and later released on a citation to appear at Windham Superior Court Criminal Division.

Carlos Rosa, a 61-Year-Old Male from Staten Island, NY requested that the Brattleboro Police Department help him in unlocking his vehicle. Upon arrival, Police observed suspected heroin inside the vehicle. After successfully unlocking the vehicle, Police attempted to place Rosa under arrest. Rosa resisted, and was quickly placed into custody. Rosa was transported to the Brattleboro Police Department, where he was processed. Rosa was issued a citation for Possession of Heroin and Cocaine and resisting arrest. Rosa will appear at Windham County Superior Court to answer his charges. Rosa was held in lieu of \$5,000.00

The Brattleboro Police responded to a local parking lot for a report of a smashed vehicle window. Upon investigation, it was determined that Peter M. James committed the offense of unlawful mischief by smashing the passenger's side window of a parked vehicle. James was issued a citation for this offense and will appear at Windham Superior Court to face the charge.

The Brattleboro Police responded to a local business on Canal Street for a report of a male being disorderly. Upon investigation, it was determined that Justin, E. Clough was yelling and swearing at an employee of the business and blocking the entrance way. Clough was arrested for disorderly conduct and issued a Trespass for this incident. Clough will appear in Windham Superior Court to face the charge.

Officers of the Brattleboro Police Department responded to a business on Putney Rd. for a report of an intoxicated male. Subsequent investigation revealed that Denny Bills was trespassing at the business. Bills was issued a citation for Unlawful Trespass and will appear in Windham County Superior Court: Criminal Division to face the charge.

Officers of the Brattleboro Police Department noticed suspicious activity involving two people near a public building on Canal St. Officers approached the two, and one, Nathan Hazlett, was preparing to use heroin. Hazlett was arrested and later released with a citation for possession of heroin and will appear in Windham County Superior Court: Criminal Division to face the charge.

#### **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:**

We are continuing to monitor the FY 2019 budget. Along with other members of the Town's staff, we are preparing the FY2020 budget.

#### **Staffing:**

The Department currently has no open positions. Historically we average a turnover average of 2.5 officers per year. These loses can be attributed to numerous factors such as resignations, retirements, and terminations to just name a few. We are still accepting applications as we will anticipate filling vacancies from the turnover. The next available seats at the Vermont Police

Academy is for the August 2019 108<sup>th</sup> class. If successful in all training modules, candidates of the 108<sup>th</sup> will be certified to work independently at their departments in March of 2020.

This September, two officers completed their full training and are assigned to shifts.

We hired a Vermont certified officer looking to make a lateral move from their agency. The officer is currently undergoing the 12-week FTO program. Completion date is anticipated to be in late December 2018 or early January 2019.

There are 3 candidates attending the 106<sup>th</sup> class at the Vermont Police Academy. They are scheduled to graduate in November and will start the 3 week post Basic course. It is anticipated that they will be back at the BPD in late December. At that time, they will begin their 12-week FTO training with a completion date in late March 2019.

We currently have two applicants registered to attend the 107<sup>th</sup> class at the Vermont Police Academy starting in February 2019.